



**Macedon
Ranges**
Shire Council

ATTACHMENTS

**Council Meeting
Under Separate Cover**

Wednesday 23 August 2023

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**Planning
Panels
Victoria**

**Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Amendment C145macr
Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment**

Panel Report

Planning and Environment Act 1987

22 June 2023



How will this report be used?

This is a brief description of how this report will be used for the benefit of people unfamiliar with the planning system. If you have concerns about a specific issue you should seek independent advice.

The planning authority must consider this report before deciding whether or not to adopt the Amendment.
[section 27(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the PE Act)]

For the Amendment to proceed, it must be adopted by the planning authority and then sent to the Minister for Planning for approval.

The planning authority is not obliged to follow the recommendations of the Panel, but it must give its reasons if it does not follow the recommendations. [section 31 (1) of the PE Act, and section 9 of the *Planning and Environment Regulations 2015*]

If approved by the Minister for Planning a formal change will be made to the planning scheme. Notice of approval of the Amendment will be published in the Government Gazette. [section 37 of the PE Act]

Planning Panels Victoria acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung People as the traditional custodians of the land on which our office is located. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Panel Report pursuant to section 25 of the PE Act

Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Amendment C145macr

Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment

22 June 2023



Sarah Carlisle, Chair

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Glossary and abbreviations

catchment	Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment
CMP	<i>Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Management Plan, North Central Catchment Management Authority and Coliban Region Water Corporation, 2019</i>
Coliban Water	Coliban Region Water Corporation
Council	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (former)
MRRA	Macedon Ranges Residents Association
PE Act	<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>
Practitioner's Guide	<i>A Practitioner's Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes Version 1.5, April 2022</i>
Waterway Identification Guidelines	<i>Waterway Identification Guidelines 2022, DELWP</i>

Overview

Amendment summary	
The Amendment	Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Amendment C145macr
Common name	Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment
Brief description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 (ESO4) to modify the matters requiring planning permission on land within the Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment - Modify referral requirements for permit applications under the ESO4 - Include the <i>Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Management Plan</i> as a background document in the Planning Scheme
Amendment land	Land within the Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment – see Figure 1
The Proponent	Coliban Regional Water Corporation
Planning Authority	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Authorisation	22 July 2022 with conditions
Exhibition	20 October to 24 November 2022
Submissions	Number of Submissions: 16 Opposed/requesting changes: 12

Panel process	
The Panel	Sarah Carlisle
Directions Hearing	26 April 2023 online
Panel Hearing	23 May 2023 online
Site inspections	Not required
Parties to the Hearing	<p>Council represented by Matthew Buckmaster of Niche Planning Studio</p> <p>Coliban Water represented by Joseph Monaghan of Holding Redlich, calling the following expert evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Duncan Wallis of RM Consulting Group in catchment water quality <p>P. Rush and M. Holt represented by Nicholas Rush</p> <p>Victorian Farmers Federation represented by Lisa Gervasoni</p>
Citation	Macedon Ranges PSA C145macr [2023] PPV
Date of this report	22 June 2023

Executive summary

The Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment is an open water catchment that provides raw drinking water supplies to over 130,000 people. It is one of a number of strategic water resources within the Macedon Ranges. The catchment is currently protected by the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 (ESO4).

Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Amendment C145macr (the Amendment) seeks to update the ESO4 to provide an improved balance between the needs of the catchment and the needs of landowners and occupiers by:

- ensuring the need for a planning permit has a clearer relationship to the need to protect the water quality and health of the catchment
- providing clearer application requirements
- requiring permit applications to be referred to the water authorities with responsibility for the catchment (including Coliban Water).

The updated ESO4 triggers permits for activities that pose a higher risk to water quality, and provides exemptions for lower risk activities. The permit triggers and exemptions are informed by the Upper Coliban Catchment Management Plan, which is based on commissioned research into pathogen risk (as well as common understandings of activities that present a higher contamination risk). This is an appropriate and strategically justified approach to balancing the protection of water quality within the catchment, and the reasonable use and development of land within the catchment. The Panel supports the Amendment, subject to some adjustments to the wording of the ESO4.

The first adjustment relates to the environmental objective in Clause 2.0 of the ESO4, and Coliban Water's proposed additional decision guideline in Clause 5.0 of the ESO4. These imply an obligation on private landowners to take active steps toward restoring and enhancing the catchment, rather than just minimising impacts on water quality and quantity. This is not the responsibility of private landowners – this is the responsibility of the water authorities and catchment management authorities.

The second adjustment relates to the application requirements in Clause 4.0 of the ESO4, and the decision guidelines in Clause 5.0 of the ESO4. While the Panel largely supports these, some elements of the requirements do not have a clear rationale. These should be removed.

Submitters raised concerns over specific permit triggers and exemptions. The Panel concludes:

- it is appropriate to remove the exhibited permit trigger for fencing
- the exhibited permit triggers and exemptions for vegetation removal are appropriate
- additional exemptions for farm infrastructure or public works are not justified.

In relation to the mechanics of the Amendment, the Panel concludes:

- it is appropriate to define a waterway by reference to the definition in the *Water Act 1989*, and to refer to the *Waterway Identification Guidelines 2022* as providing further guidance
- it is appropriate for Coliban Water (and Goulburn Murray Water) to be specified as determining referral authorities for all permit applications under the ESO4
- neither the Upper Coliban Catchment Management Plan nor the *Waterway Identification Guidelines 2022* need to be included as background documents in the Planning Scheme.

Recommendations

Based on the reasons set out in this Report, the Panel recommends:

- 1. Adopt Amendment C145macr to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme as exhibited, with the changes recommended in this report.**

The following detailed recommendations have been consolidated and re-ordered, but are substantively the same as the recommendations that appear in each Chapter:

- 2. Amend the exhibited Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 as shown in Appendix D:**
 - a) provide further clarification on what constitutes a waterway
 - b) in Clause 2.0, delete 'restores and enhances'
 - c) in Clause 3.0, remove the permit trigger for all forms of fencing
 - d) in Clauses 4.0 and 5.0, remove application requirements and decision guidelines for which no clear rationale has been provided
 - e) in Clause 5.0, include the following additional decision guideline:

The impacts of the proposed development on the natural environment and on the quality and quantity of water in the catchment.
- 3. Amend the exhibited Schedule to Clause 66.04 as follows:**
 - a) amend the Table in Clause 1.0 to read 'relevant water ~~authority~~ authorities' in column 3 and determining referral authority' in column 4.
- 4. Amend the exhibited Schedule to Clause 72.08 as follows:**
 - a) delete the reference to the *Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Management Plan*, North Central Catchment Management Authority and Coliban Region Water Corporation, 2019.

1 Introduction

1.1 The Amendment

(i) The Amendment land

The Amendment applies to land shown green in Figure 1, which includes all land within the Macedon Ranges Shire that is within the Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment (the catchment).

Figure 1 Amendment land



Source: Council's Part A submission

(ii) Amendment description

The Amendment land is currently within the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 (ESO4). The Amendment proposes to update the ESO4, to provide an improved balance between the needs of the catchment and the needs of landowners and occupiers by:

- ensuring the need for a planning permit has a clearer relationship to the need to protect the water quality and health of the catchment
- providing clearer application requirements.

Specifically, the Amendment proposes to:

- update the permit triggers and exemptions in the ESO4
- update the application requirements in the ESO4

- amend the Schedule to Clause 66.04 to require all permit applications under the ESO4 to be referred to the relevant water authorities as determining referral authorities
- make the *Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Management Plan* (the CMP) a background document in the Planning Scheme.

The Amendment has been prepared by Macedon Ranges Shire Council (Council) at the request of Coliban Regional Water Corporation (Coliban Water).

(iii) The catchment

The Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment is an open catchment which provides raw water for drinking water purposes for over 130,000 people. The catchment extends west into Hepburn Shire, and north into the City of Greater Bendigo and Mitchell Shire.

The Coliban River flows north through the catchment to meet the Campaspe River which then flows into Lake Eppalock.

The catchment is made up of four sub-catchments:

- the Upper Coliban River catchment
- the Lower Coliban River catchment
- the Campaspe River catchment
- the Wild Duck Creek catchment.

The Amendment land includes parts of the Upper Coliban and Campaspe River sub-catchments. The remainder of the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment is in Hepburn Shire, and is covered by the ESO1 in the Hepburn Planning Scheme. The remainder of the Campaspe River sub-catchment is in the City of Greater Bendigo and Mitchell Shire.

Three water storage reservoirs are located in the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment, on the Coliban River:

- Malmsbury
- Lauriston
- Upper Coliban.

There are two water authorities with responsibility for the Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment:

- Coliban Water as regional water authority
- Goulburn Murray Water as rural water authority.

(iv) The catchment management plan

The CMP was prepared by the North Central Catchment Management Authority and Coliban Water in 2019 to achieve a coordinated approach to managing the catchment. The CMP applies to the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment only.

1.2 Updated versions of the proposed controls

Council advised in its Part A submission that it proposed two post-exhibition changes in response to submissions:

- updates to the ESO4 to remove the permit trigger for constructing a fence
- updates to the Schedule to Clause 66.04 (referral requirements) to correct the reference to a 'determining referral authority' (rather than 'determining authority').

The changes are shown in Council's updated ESO4 (Document 2).

On 19 May 2023, Coliban Water provided its preferred versions of the Amendment documents with its submissions, including:

- an updated version of the ESO4 with various changes (Document 7)
- an updated version of the Schedule to Clause 66.04 with the change proposed by Council in Document 2, plus an additional change to specify 'relevant water authorities' (rather than authority) as referral authorities, given there are two water authorities with responsibility for the catchment (Document 8)
- an updated version of the Schedule to Clause 72.08 to add the *Waterway Identification Guidelines 2022*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) as a background document (Document 9).

On 23 May 2023, Coliban Water provided a further updated version the ESO4 (Document 12), and explained that after discussing the changes with Council, it no longer wished to pursue most of the changes in its earlier version (Document 7).

The Panel has had regard to all of the different versions of the Amendment documents in forming its advice and recommendations.

1.3 Key issues

Key issues raised in submissions were:

- whether the Amendment may result in a deterioration of water quality in the catchment
- what amounts to a waterway for the purposes of the ESO4
- whether the buffer distances from waterways are appropriate
- whether the environmental objectives, application requirements and decision guidelines of the revised ESO4 are an 'overreach'
- whether the proposed permit exemptions (in particular in relation to vegetation removal, agricultural fencing and public works) are appropriate
- whether the Amendment would impact property owners' ability to discharge stormwater
- concerns over Coliban Water's status as determining referral authority.

Some submissions raised issues that are not relevant planning matters:

- the impact of the Amendment on property values
- whether the Amendment may result in Coliban Water charging service levies
- past complaints about alleged failures to properly maintain a particular waterway
- whether the relationship between Council and Coliban Water is at arms length.

1.4 The Panel's approach

The Panel has assessed the Amendment against the principles of net community benefit and sustainable development, as set out in Clause 71.02-3 (Integrated decision making) of the Planning Scheme.

The Panel considered all written submissions made in response to the exhibition of the Amendment, and submissions, evidence and other material presented to it during the Hearing. It has been selective in referring to the more relevant or determinative material in the Report. All submissions and materials have been considered by the Panel in reaching its conclusions, regardless of whether they are specifically mentioned in the Report.

This Report deals with the issues under the following headings:

- Strategic and policy issues
- Permit triggers and exemptions
- Mechanics of the Amendment.

2 Strategic and policy issues

2.1 Planning context

This chapter identifies the relevant planning context. Appendix C provides more detail.

Table 1 Planning context

	Relevant references
Victorian planning objectives	Sections 4 and 4AB of the PE Act
Planning Policy Framework	State planning policy clauses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12.03-1S (River and riparian corridors, waterways, lakes, wetlands and billabongs) - 12.05-1S (Environmentally sensitive areas) - 12.05-2S (Landscapes) - 13.03-1S (Floodplain management) - 14.02-1S (Catchment planning and management) Local planning policy clauses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21.02-2 (Environmental and Landscape Values) - 21.03-2 (Land use vision) - 21.03-3 (Strategic framework plans) - 21.04 (Settlement) - 21.06-2 (Soil degradation and contamination) - 21.07-3 (Water) - 21.09-2 (Rural residential) - 21.12-3 (Rural infrastructure)
Other planning strategies and policies	- Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy
Planning scheme provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clause 42.01 (Environmental Significance Overlay) - Clause 52.17 (Native vegetation)
Ministerial directions	- Ministerial Direction 11 (Strategic Assessment of Amendments)
Planning practice notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning Practice Note 46: Strategic Assessment Guidelines - Planning Practice Note 55: Planning in open drinking water catchments

2.2 The issues

The strategic issues are whether:

- the Amendment is consistent with policy and strategically justified
- the Amendment will appropriately protect water quality in the catchment
- the buffers are appropriate
- the Amendment is an 'overreach'
- the CMP provides an appropriate strategic basis for the Amendment
- the controls in the ESO4 are consistent with those that apply to other parts of the catchment.

2.3 Consistency with policy and strategic justification

(i) Evidence and submissions

Coliban Water explained that the Amendment was informed by the CMP, which aims (among other things) to help:

- improve river health
- provide reliable and safe supplies of raw water for drinking water purposes
- provide the local community with the opportunity to develop while minimising the risks to natural resources
- provide broader biodiversity outcomes for the catchment.

The CMP was informed by research into pathogen risks which identified activities in the catchment that pose higher risks to water quality. The research confirmed a 'multiple barrier approach' is appropriate, as no single barrier is effective against all conceivable sources of contamination, 100 per cent of the time. Coliban Water submitted that the ESO4 is an "*integral part*" of the multi-barrier approach, by minimising the risks of contamination of raw water in the catchment, thereby reducing reliance on the 'infrastructure barrier' (treatment plants) to remove pathogens and improve water quality.

Coliban Water submitted that the Amendment achieves an appropriate balance between facilitating reasonable use and development of land within the catchment, and protecting the health of the catchment and water quality within the catchment:

The proposed control achieves this balance by focusing only on matters that may detrimentally affect the health of the catchment which may include farm critical infrastructure if it is too close to a waterway and generates additional wastewater.

Coliban Water called Duncan Wallis of RM Consulting Group to give evidence. His evidence was that there is "*strong justification*" for a water corporation seeking to control the highest risk developments in the catchment areas of their water supply systems. He considered the ESO4 "*will establish a common and accepted tool that will help achieve protection of the Macedon Ranges part of the wider catchment from a water quality perspective*".

Mr Wallis highlighted two elements that he said are common to all water quality risk management:

- the multiple barrier approach, which applies multiple barriers to a degradation in raw water quality, appropriate to the level of potential contamination facing raw water supply within the catchment

- the precautionary principle, which requires the application of a considered risk management approach.

Mr Wallis considered the ESO4 was an appropriate and strategically justified element in a multi-barrier approach. The ESO4 would act as a barrier by triggering permits for higher risk activities and thereby minimising the contamination of raw water entering the water treatment plants at Sandhurst, McCay, Kyneton, Heathcote and Trentham. His evidence was the success of these infrastructure barriers depends on the quality of the raw water flowing into them.

Coliban Water collaborated with Goulburn Murray Water, the rural water authority responsible for the catchment, in preparing the Amendment. Goulburn Murray Water (Submitter 14) supported the Amendment.

Mr Rush submitted that the Amendment should have stronger regard to other parts of the Planning Policy Framework and Planning Scheme, including:

- Clause 11.02-1S (Supply of urban land)
- Clause 16.01-1S (Housing supply)
- Clause 17.01-1S (Diversified economy)
- Clause 35.03 (Rural Living Zone), the purpose of which is to provide for residential use in a rural environment
- Clause 35.07 (Farming Zone), the purposes of which are to provide for the use of land for agriculture, and to encourage the retention of employment and population to support rural communities.

By way of example, he pointed out that large parts of the township of Malmsbury are within 100 metres of one or more waterways, and the Amendment would make developing this land for housing more difficult.

(ii) Discussion

The Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment is one of a number of strategic water resources within the Macedon Ranges.

There is strong policy support throughout Clauses 12, 13 and 14 of the Planning Policy Framework for the protection of water quality in the Shire's water supply catchments, and the prevention of pollutants and contaminants entering raw drinking water supplies.

Objective 3 of the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy is:

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.

One of the key strategies to support this objective is to discourage development that contributes to the degradation of water quality and quantity. This is reinforced by a multitude of clauses in the local Planning Policy Framework, in particular Clause 21.07.

The Panel is satisfied that the multi barrier approach to protecting water quality outlined in the CMP is sound. The multi-barrier approach is universally recognised as foundation for ensuring safe drinking water and protecting water quality and catchment health in both open and closed drinking water catchments. It is consistent with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.¹

¹ Prepared by the Australian Government, National Health and Medical Research Council and Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council in 2011, updated in September 2022.

The Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment is an open water supply catchment. A significant portion of the land within the catchment is private land, where some level of land use and development is inevitable. The ESO4 will help manage higher risk activities on private land that could lead to contamination of raw water supplies, consistent with various parts of the Planning Policy Framework that call for the protection of catchments and raw drinking water supplies. Lower risk activities will no longer require a permit. This is an appropriate and strategically justified approach that achieves an appropriate balance between policies that support agricultural activity, and those that support the protection of water quality in catchments.

With regard to Mr Rush's submission, the Panel acknowledges that various parts of the Planning Policy Framework encourage the provision of adequate land supply for residential and agricultural purposes. It does not, however, consider that the Amendment strikes the wrong balance in its emphasis on policies that seek to protect water quality. The Amendment does not prevent the residential or agricultural use of land within the catchment, it merely seeks to ensure that any such use or development has proper regard to the need to protect water quality.

2.4 Water quality

(i) Evidence and submissions

Coliban Water submitted the ESO4 was already an integral part of protecting water quality within the catchment, and the Amendment would further improve water quality by focussing on higher risk activities. It submitted:

- Clause 1.0 of the ESO4 (the statement of environmental significance) now properly emphasises that:
 - cumulative impacts of development in the catchment have the potential to degrade water quality and quantity
 - protecting waterways from inappropriate development is essential to enhancing and protecting the health of the catchment environment, habitat, vegetation and the community.
- Clause 2.0 (the objective) now better identifies the outcomes to be achieved (development that protects and enhances the catchment and mitigates detrimental impacts on water quality and quantity).
- Clause 3.0 (the permit exemptions) now appropriately targets the activities that pose a higher risk to water quality.

Coliban Water suggested including an additional decision guideline in Clause 5.0 of the ESO4 that reads:

Whether the proposed development restores or enhances the natural environment in a way that will contribute to improving the quality and quantity of water in the catchment.

Mr Wallis' evidence was that the permit controls in the ESO4 will not eliminate all risks to water quality, but will protect water quality by focussing permit requirements on a 60 metre wide corridor along the waterways, which impacts the most on water quality and waterway health. He considered that the permit triggers appropriately focus on higher risk uses outside the 30 metre buffer, namely:

- new and altered on-site wastewater systems and substantial buildings and works, both of which are commonly identified as risks to water quality

- proposals that increase wastewater or discharge stormwater within 100 metres of a waterway.

He noted that grazing, stock access to waterways and intensive animal industries are higher risk activities that are not specifically mentioned in the ESO4, but he considered that their impacts would be appropriately controlled by the requirement for a permit for developments that increase wastewater or discharge stormwater within 100 metres of a waterway.

Mr Wallis pointed out that the ESO4 complements other land management and vegetation controls in the Planning Scheme including Clause 52.17 (Native vegetation), as well as other legislative requirements – for example, requirements for septic tanks permits, compliance with Australian Standard AS/NZ 1547 *Onsite Domestic Wastewater Management*, and the general environmental duty under the *Environment Protection Act 2020*). His evidence was:

The planning controls provided through ESO4, together with broader integrated catchment planning initiatives, will provide Coliban Water (and its 150,000 drinking water customers) with the surety that the necessary and cost-effective catchment “Barrier” initiatives are being implemented consistent with the drinking water risks and the type of water treatment processes in place.

Macedon Ranges Residents Association (MRRA) was concerned about the proposed changes to the decision guidelines in Clause 5.0 of the ESO4, which include deleting references to several matters to be considered when assessing a permit application, including:

- vegetation retention in recharge areas
- septic tanks within 100 metres of a watercourse
- existing degradation
- density of septic tanks in the area
- litter traps
- local landcare policies.

It submitted:

These matters have been endorsed as important in Macedon Ranges Shire through various panel hearings. It is not clear that they continue to be embraced in [the Amendment's] changes.

Other submitters asserted that Coliban Water had not, to date, adequately protected water quality, by virtue of accidental releases from sewage treatment infrastructure under its management.

Several submitters expressed concern that Coliban Water is a commercial organisation, and its protection of water quality in the catchment may be compromised by commercial imperatives.

(ii) Discussion

The general approach of triggering permits for higher risk activities (and providing exemptions for lower risk activities) is appropriate to protect water quality within the catchment. As noted in Chapter 2.3, the permit triggers and exemptions are informed by the higher risk and lower risk activities identified in the CMP, which are based on commissioned research into pathogen risk (as well as common understandings of activities that present a higher contamination risk). They are consistent with the higher risk activities identified in Council's Biodiversity Strategy.²

² Document 10(a).

As pointed out by MRRA, the Amendment proposes to remove specific reference to several higher risk activities in the decision guidelines in the ESO4. However, the Panel does not consider that this will negatively impact on water quality. The important thing is to ensure that the permit triggers in Clause 2.0 capture the higher risk activities.

Coliban Water's suggestion of adding an additional decision guideline to Clause 5.0 specifically referencing water quality will assist in focussing the minds of decision makers on the overall objective of the ESO4, being to preserve water quality and catchment health. This will go some way to addressing the MRRA's concerns. The Panel supports Coliban Water's additional decision guideline, subject to some modification to address the issue of 'overreach' discussed in Chapter 2.6.

Regarding concerns in relation to Coliban Water's status as a commercial organisation, Coliban Water (while a corporation) is not a commercial organisation. It is a state owned enterprise with specific functions, powers and obligations under the *Water Industry Act 1994*.

Regarding concerns in relation to sewage leaks from Coliban Water's treatment plants, submitters provided no evidence of these other than some unreferenced newspaper articles. In any event, this does not, of itself, render the Amendment strategically unsound.

2.5 Buffers

(i) Evidence and submissions

Coliban Water submitted the 30 and 100 metre buffers reflected in the ESO4 are appropriate to protect water quality. It noted that the 30 metre buffer (within which a permit is required to remove vegetation) is consistent with the requirements of Clause 14.02-1S of the Planning Scheme, which encourages maintaining vegetated buffer zones of 30 metres either side of a waterway to:

- maintain the natural drainage function, stream habitat and wildlife corridors along waterways
- minimise erosion of stream banks and verges
- reduce polluted surface runoff from adjacent land uses.

(ii) Discussion

A 30 metre vegetated buffer (60 metre corridor) is wider than the buffers sought to be established and maintained in the CMP, which aims to see a continuous vegetated riparian corridor of at least an average of 20 metres each side of various specified waterways (including the Upper Coliban River) where land availability permits. The CMP contemplates a vegetated buffer of 10 metres each side of smaller waterways.

The Panel asked both Coliban Water and Mr Wallis what the evidence base was for the 30 metre and 100 metre buffers specified in the ESO4. Neither were able to provide a comprehensive answer. That said, there is a wide body of research and literature that sits behind the buffers, particularly the 30 metre vegetated buffer, which is reflected in Clause 14.02-1S (Catchment planning and management) of the Planning Scheme. The buffers are also consistent with those specified in the ESO1 in the Hepburn Planning Scheme, and nothing presented to the Panel suggested that wider buffers are required in this part of the catchment.

The Panel is satisfied that the buffers are appropriate.

2.6 Overreach

(i) Evidence and submissions

Mr Rush raised a concern that the ESO4 seeks to protect more than just the quality or volume of water within the Eppalock catchment, and represents an ‘overreach’ of the intent of the original ESO4. He was concerned that this will conflict with the purpose of the Farming Zone. He submitted that the reference in Clause 2.0 of the ESO4 to ‘restore and enhance natural resources’:

... outlines the intention of Coliban Water to use this amendment to dictate revegetation of private land. We consider this an onerous obligation on applicants and will reduce land use.

The Victorian Farmers Federation raised a concern that the statement of environmental significance in the ESO4:

... clearly indicates that this is a land management issue for [Coliban Water] to help them comply with the *Water Act 1989*. Therefore, it should be an action under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*, with compensation calculated and provided for. At no stage does it focus on a land use / development objective – purely a land management one.

Coliban Water responded that the updated Statement of environmental significance at Clause 1.0 of the ESO4 is consistent with the CMP’s identification of the environmental values to be protected. It submitted:

The underlying intent of this Amendment is to protect the health of the Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment. To do this a number of matters needed to be updated including the relationship between waterway health and the ecological health and natural value of the catchment.

(ii) Discussion

The objectives of the Amendment, and what it seeks to protect, are set out in both Clause 1.0 (Statement of environmental significance) and Clause 2.0 (Environmental objective to be achieved) of the ESO4.

The purposes of the ESO are:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To identify areas where the development of land may be affected by environmental constraints.
- To ensure that development is compatible with identified environmental values.

With one qualification, the Panel does not consider that the objectives of the Amendment are an ‘overreach’, or that they are more appropriately dealt with under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* rather than the PE Act. The objectives relate to protecting and restoring the health of the natural resources and environmental systems within the catchment. This is entirely consistent with the Victorian planning objectives, the policy objectives in the Planning Policy Framework, and the purposes of the ESO.

That said, the Panel has some concern that the references to ‘restoring and enhancing’ in Clause 2.0 may imply an obligation on private landowners to take active steps toward restoring and enhancing the catchment, beyond measures necessary to manage the impacts of their proposed development. Broader restoration and enhancement of the catchment is the responsibility of the water authorities and catchment management authorities under the *Water Act 1989* and the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*. It is not the responsibility of landowners.

To address this issue, the Panel recommends Clause 2.0 be amended by deleting the words “restores and enhances”.

2.7 The catchment management plan as a strategic basis

(i) Evidence and submissions

MARRA submitted the CMP does not provide an appropriate basis for the Amendment. It submitted the Amendment applies to both the Upper Coliban and Campaspe River sub-catchments, but the CMP only addresses the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment:

This generates great concern in regard to the Amendment’s proposals to remove permit requirements for vegetation removal and for development and works by authorities and on public land within both the ... catchments.

Coliban Water responded that the Amendment does not propose to modify the extent of the ESO4 as it currently applies. While the updates to the ESO4 are based on work undertaken for the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment, the requirements are such that they are suitable for other catchment areas in the Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment. It submitted that modifying the extent of the ESO4 to only include the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment area “*is likely to be to the detriment of the other areas*”.

Mr Wallace’s evidence was:

Applying the controls across the whole of the Macedon Ranges part of the Lake Eppalock catchment area (as is proposed and is already the footprint for the ESO4) seems a logical and defensible approach. Even though [the CMP] focussed on a subset area (being the Upper Coliban catchment within which sit the three Coliban River Storages), drinking water offtakes feeding supply channels and water treatment plants are located throughout the catchment, so applying the provisions across the whole catchment (as is proposed) makes sense. The fact that the whole of the Lake Eppalock catchment is a special water supply catchment also supports this view.

(ii) Discussion

The Panel notes that the Amendment does not change the extent of ESO4.

The Panel acknowledges that the CMP only applies to the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment, not to the whole of the ESO4 area. However, the Panel supports consistent controls across both the Upper Coliban River and Campaspe River sub-catchments. It was not persuaded that a specific assessment of conditions within the Campaspe River sub-catchment is required before the Amendment can proceed.

The CMP identifies broad principles for the protection of water quality within catchments, including the use of a multi-barrier approach and the precautionary principle. These principles are equally applicable in the Campaspe River sub-catchment as they are in the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment.

Further, it is reasonable to expect that the higher risk activities in the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment identified by the CMP are also occurring in the Campaspe River sub-catchment, given the land uses are broadly similar in both catchments (demonstrated by the land use maps provided in Mr Wallis’ evidence).

2.8 Consistency across the catchment

(i) Evidence and submissions

Mr Wallis noted that the controls in the ESO4 are similar (but not identical) to the ESO1 in the Hepburn Planning Scheme, which applies to that part of the catchment in Hepburn Shire.

(ii) Discussion

The Panel is satisfied that the Amendment adopts a consistent approach to that in the Hepburn Planning Scheme to the protection of that part of the catchment in the Hepburn Shire. Coliban Water prepared the revised ESO schedules in both planning schemes. The ESO1 in the Hepburn Planning Scheme, which was introduced by Amendment C80hepb, is worded slightly differently to the ESO4 but applies consistent controls to the part of the catchment in Hepburn Shire.

No material was put before the Panel in relation to the controls protecting those parts of the catchment in the City of Greater Bendigo or Mitchell Shire. The Panel therefore makes no findings on consistency with controls in the Greater Bendigo or Mitchell Planning Schemes.

2.9 Conclusions and recommendations

For the reasons set out in this report, the Panel concludes that the Amendment:

- is supported by, and implements, the relevant sections of the Planning Policy Framework
- is consistent with the relevant Ministerial Directions and Practice Notes
- is well founded and strategically justified
- should proceed subject to addressing the more specific issues raised in submissions as discussed in the following chapters.

The Panel recommends:

Adopt Amendment C145macr to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme as exhibited, with the changes recommended in this report.

Amend the exhibited Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 as shown in Appendix D:

- a) in Clause 2.0, delete 'restores and enhances'
- b) in Clause 5.0, include the following additional decision guideline:

The impacts of the proposed development on the natural environment and on the quality and quantity of water in the catchment.

3 Permit triggers and exemptions

3.1 Background

Current and proposed permit triggers and exemptions under the ESO4 are summarised in Table 2.

Table 2 Current and proposed permit triggers and exemptions

Current	Proposed
Buildings and works	
<p>Does not require a permit <u>except</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for accommodation (including a dwelling) that is not connected to reticulated sewerage - for intensive animal husbandry 	<p>Does not require a permit <u>if</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for a dwelling more than 30 metres from a waterway and connected to reticulated sewerage - more than 30 metres from a waterway <u>and</u> meets the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - does not generate additional wastewater - does not require substantial site cut or excavation - does not discharge stormwater within 100 metres of a waterway except to street drainage or a legal point of discharge - extensions that do not encroach on the capacity of an existing effluent disposal field - by or on behalf of a Minister, government department, public authority or municipal council - on public land by or on behalf of the public land manager
Fences	
<p>Does not require a permit</p>	<p>Exhibited: Does not require a permit <u>if</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - more than 10 metres from a waterway - a temporary fence to protect vegetation, work sites or waterways - constructed by or on behalf of a Minister, government department, public authority or municipal council <p>Post-exhibition: Does not require a permit</p>
Subdivision	
<p>Requires a permit</p>	<p>Does not require a permit <u>if</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - subdividing an existing building or land into two lots connected to reticulated sewerage - the subdivision creates lots of 40+ hectares - the subdivision is by or on behalf of a Minister, government department, public authority or municipal council

Current	Proposed
Vegetation removal	
Requires a permit <u>except</u> : - removal of vegetation for the construction of VicRoads roadworks.	Requires a permit <u>only if</u> native vegetation within 30 metres of a waterway (unless by or on behalf of a Minister, government department, public authority or municipal council, in which case no permit is required)

3.2 Fences

(i) The issue

The issue is whether fences should be exempt only in certain conditions (as exhibited), or whether all fences should be exempt (as proposed in Coliban Water's post-exhibition changes).

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Submitters raised a number of questions about the fencing trigger. Some appeared to have misinterpreted the trigger as a requirement to fence waterways, rather than a requirement to seek a planning permit if fencing was proposed within 10 metres of a waterway. Others raised questions about whether replacement of existing fencing would require a permit, or whether specific types of fences would require a permit.

Several submitters raised concerns that a permit trigger for fencing within 10 metres of a waterway (as exhibited) would place an undue restriction on farming and agricultural activity. For example, the Victorian Farmers Federation submitted that the introduction of a permit trigger for farm fencing impacts lawful land use and ability to comply with other statutes:

If a common sense approach was taken to the decision guidelines, then there should not be a permit for a farm fence within 10 metres of a waterway. The only potential issue would be a minimal chance for erosion, which is far negated by the ability to minimise the impact from livestock in an area.

Other submitters considered that the trigger for fences only within 10 metres of a waterway did not offer adequate protection from stock, and fences further than 10 metres should also require a permit.

Coliban Water revised their position in response to submissions, and proposed removing the fences trigger altogether (which is consistent with the current ESO4). Coliban Water considered this would not impact the health of the waterways, and noted that a permit trigger could impede current riparian revegetation efforts by discouraging landowners from erecting fences to protect riparian areas due to the cost, time and uncertainty in obtaining planning approval.

Council supported Coliban Water's position to remove the permit trigger for fences.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel notes that fencing and revegetation of riparian corridors are among the actions nominated in the CMP's 10 year action plan.³

³ Document 4(a2) at pages 12 to 14

The default position under the ESO is that a fence only requires a permit if specified in the schedule to the clause (see Clause 42.01-2). The exhibited ESO4 included a permit trigger for fences within 10 metres of a waterway (with some exceptions). Coliban Water's post-exhibition version (Document 12) removed references to fences in Clause 3.0 of the ESO4, so that the default position under Clause 42.02-1 (no permit is required) prevails.

While the Panel notes the exhibited permit trigger for fences is consistent with the ESO1 in the Hepburn Planning Scheme, it supports Coliban Water's proposal to remove the permit trigger for fences altogether. Fencing of riparian corridors to protect vegetation and revegetation from stock and the spread of weeds is an important part of protecting the corridor and the water quality within the waterway. The benefits to water quality of fencing riparian corridors outweigh the risks posed by the construction of fencing (which is a low impact activity). Including a permit trigger for fences could disincentivise fencing near waterways.

(iv) Conclusion and recommendation

The Panel concludes:

- It is appropriate to remove the permit trigger for fencing.

The Panel recommends:

Amend the exhibited Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 as shown in Appendix D:

- a) in Clause 3.0, remove the permit trigger for all forms of fencing.**

3.3 Vegetation removal

(i) The issues

The issues are whether:

- it is appropriate to exempt vegetation removal beyond 30 metres from a waterway
- vegetation removal within the 30 metre buffer should be exempt in event of flood or storm debris, damage or fire risk.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Several submitters, including MRRRA, were concerned that removing the permit trigger for vegetation removal more than 30 metres from a waterway would lead to greater vegetation loss, and a consequent deterioration in the waterways. MRRRA submitted that this would be inconsistent with the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy and other environmental protection policies.

Coliban Water responded that:

... vegetation within 30 metres of waterways is the most important to enhance and maintain. Regulation of vegetation outside of this area is less likely to protect waterways and will constitute excessive burden on landowners, Council and the relevant Water Corporations.

Mr Wallace's evidence was:

... vegetation works will only need a permit if within 30 metres of a waterway rather than across the whole catchment. From a water quality perspective this change seems logical, given that there are other more targeted vegetation controls in the scheme.

Council submitted that the proposed ESO4 supports additional consideration of vegetation removal *“in those areas where such removal is more likely to adversely impact the health of the catchment”*. Vegetation removal outside the 30 metre buffers would remain regulated by Clause 52.17 (Native vegetation), which *“is the appropriate provision to provide broad protection for native vegetation”* and *“provides an appropriate balance between the protection of native vegetation and the need to support reasonable exemptions”*.

Mr Rush requested that further exemptions be provided for removal of vegetation within 30 metres of a waterway, similar to the exemptions provided in Clause 52.17 (which include removal of dead vegetation, removal of native vegetation by stock grazing, and maintenance lopping and pruning). Submitters 6 and 11 raised concerns that the proposed ESO4 does not provide exemptions to remove, destroy or lop vegetation in the event of flood or storm debris, damage or fire.

Coliban Water responded that the ESO head clause (Clause 42.01-3) sets out exemptions in relation to vegetation removal which include emergencies and bushfire protection. It pointed out that removal of vegetation that was either planted or grown as direct seeding for crop raising or grazing animal does not require a permit. It submitted:

... while the proposed ESO4 would require a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation within 30 metres of a waterway, as a whole it decreases regulation of vegetation across the extent of the ESO4 compared to the current ESO4.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel is satisfied that the exhibited vegetation removal permit triggers are appropriate. It is well accepted (and confirmed by Mr Wallis' evidence) that native vegetation within 30 metres of a waterway is far more protective of riparian corridor health and water quality than vegetation beyond this distance. It is therefore appropriate that native vegetation removal within 30 metres of a waterway should trigger a permit under the ESO4 (as well as under Clause 52.17).

The Panel agrees with Council and Coliban Water that Clause 52.17 is the appropriate tool to regulate native vegetation removal beyond the 30 metre buffer.

The Panel notes the concerns of Submitters 6 and 11 about exemptions for vegetation removal required in an emergency, but considers that the exemptions provided in Clause 42.01-3 for emergency works and fire protection are appropriate to address these concerns. Nor was the Panel persuaded that any of the general exemptions in Clause 52.17 should be applied to removal of vegetation within 30 metres of a waterway. The ESO4 is specifically targeted at protecting water quality. More restrictive controls within 30 metres of a waterway than those that would otherwise apply under Clause 52.17 are therefore justified.

(iv) Conclusion

The Panel concludes:

- the exhibited permit triggers and exemptions for removing, destroying or lopping vegetation are appropriate.

3.4 Agricultural activities

(i) The issues

The issues are whether the Amendment:

- will impose an undue burden on farming activities
- should apply a permit trigger for farm dams.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Some submitters were concerned that the Amendment would negatively impact their ability to use their land for farming. Submitter 3 submitted that farm critical infrastructure such as pumps, sheds or slabs should be exempt from requiring a permit.

In oral submissions at the Hearing, the Victorian Farmers Federation submitted that the Amendment had been prepared without having regard to the need for farmers to be able to undertake essential agricultural activity. Their main concerns seemed to be in relation to the permit trigger for fencing, which is addressed in Chapter 3.2.

Coliban Water submitted:

The importance of not impeding primary production is understood; however, there is a balance that needs to be achieved between this and the protection of the health of the catchment and its waterways. The proposed control achieves this balance by focusing only on matters that may detrimentally affect the health of the catchment which may include farm critical infrastructure if it is too close to a waterway and generates additional wastewater.

It pointed out that the existing ESO4 requires a permit for buildings and works and vegetation removal (including dead vegetation), and that the Amendment is more likely to reduce the burden on those using their land for farming by expanding permit exemptions. It went on:

Where ESO4 does require a permit, the development in question is likely to have potential to harm water quality and thus the burden is justified ...

Coliban Water pointed out that under the ESO4, buildings and works outside the 30 metre buffer do not require a permit if they do not:

- generate additional wastewater that is not connected to a reticulated sewerage system
- require substantial site cut or excavation works
- result in additional stormwater being discharged within 100 metres of a waterway that is not connected to the street drainage system or a legal point of discharge
- encroach on the capacity of an existing effluent disposal field.

It pointed out that general exemptions also apply under Clause 62.02 of the Planning Scheme.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel is not persuaded that the Amendment will necessarily reduce the burden on farmers, as Coliban Water suggested. The current ESO4 only requires a permit for buildings and works for intensive animal husbandry, or accommodation (including dwellings) that are not connected to reticulated sewerage. The revised ESO4 proposes a permit trigger for all buildings and works, unless they meet the requirements set out in the ESO4 (summarised in Table 2 above), or the general exemptions in Clause 62.02.

However, the Panel considers that the Amendment strikes an appropriate balance between protecting agricultural activities and protecting water quality and the health of the catchment.

Permits are only triggered for activities that pose a higher risk to water quality and catchment health. Apart from the exemption for fencing, the Panel was not persuaded that any additional exemptions are justified, other than those already contained in the exhibited ESO4 and in Clause 62.02.

Regarding dams, the Panel asked Coliban Water whether the intention of the exemptions relating to site cuts and excavation was to capture, or exempt, farm dams. Coliban Water made it clear that it did not intend for the ESO4 to regulate farm dams, and indicated that a further amendment to its final preferred version of the ESO4 (Document 12) might be appropriate to make this explicit. The Panel does not consider that this is necessary. Clause 62.02 of the Planning Scheme contains a general exemption for buildings and works associated with a dam if a licence is required to construct the dam or to take and use water from the dam under the *Water Act 1989*.

(iv) Conclusion

The Panel concludes:

- additional exemptions for farm infrastructure are not justified.

3.5 Public works

(i) The issue

The issue is whether the exemptions for public works are appropriate.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

MRRRA raised concerns that the exemptions for public works are too broad and that consequently, the health of the catchment will not be sufficiently protected.

Coliban Water responded that Ministers, government departments, public authorities, municipal councils and public land managers all have regulatory compliance requirements and other constraints and oversight that “*make these permit requirements redundant*”. It submitted:

From a practical perspective the issues with the health of water in the catchment do not result from the action of these agencies. In addition, there are other mechanisms available to catchment management authorities to deal with such issues that are more appropriate when dealing with public agencies.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel was not persuaded that a permit trigger for public works is justified. Most public works are exempt under the existing ESO4, and no evidence was presented to the Panel to suggest that this would no longer be appropriate. The Panel is also mindful of the need to avoid unnecessary administrative burdens on public authorities, and to not repeat in planning controls matters that are already regulated under other legislation.

(iv) Conclusion

The Panel concludes:

- additional permit triggers for public works are not justified.

4 Mechanics of the Amendment

4.1 Definition of a waterway

(i) The issue

The issue is whether references to a 'waterway' in the ESO4 are sufficiently clear.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Coliban Water submitted that the meaning of the term 'waterway' is essential in the operation of the proposed ESO4, as the proposed permit triggers apply to activities within 30 metres or 100 metres of a waterway. It explained that the ESO4 gives 'waterway' the same meaning as under section 3 of the *Water Act 1989*:

- a) a river, creek, stream or watercourse; or
- b) a natural channel in which water regularly flows, whether or not the flow is continuous; or
- c) a channel formed wholly or partly by the alteration or relocation of a waterway as described in paragraph (a) or (b); or
- d) a lake, lagoon, swamp or marsh, being:
 - (i) a natural collection of water (other than water collected and contained in a private dam or a natural depression on private land) into or through or out of which a current that forms the whole or part of the flow of a river, creek, stream or watercourse passes, whether or not the flow is continuous; or
 - (ii) a collection of water (other than water collected and contained in a private dam or a natural depression on private land) that the Governor in Council declares under section 4(1) to be a lake, lagoon, swamp or marsh; or
- e) land on which, as a result of works constructed on a waterway as described in paragraph (a), (b) or (c), water collects regularly, whether or not the collection is continuous; or
- f) land which is regularly covered by water from a waterway as described in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) but does not include any artificial channel or work which diverts water away from such a waterway; or
- g) if any land described in paragraph (f) forms part of a slope rising from the waterway to a definite lip, the land up to that lip.

Coliban Water submitted that its interpretation of this statutory definition is guided by the *Waterway Identification Guidelines* released by DELWP in 2022 (the Waterway Identification Guidelines), and suggested that these be added as a background document to guide the operation of the ESO4.

Council pointed out that neither the PE Act nor the Planning Scheme provide a definition of a waterway. It pointed to the definition in section 3 of the *Water Act 1989*, and agreed that the Waterway Identification Guidelines provide further assistance to support decision-making.

Mr Rush was concerned that the ESO4 requires the responsible authority to consider matters that are more than just 'waterways', including references to drainage lines, water supply reservoirs and springs, and buffers to and from drainage lines, gullies, property boundaries and effluent disposal areas.

Coliban Water responded that while there may be some discussion of terms or meaning based on individual facts and circumstances (especially when dealing with a natural feature), it is "prudent to

minimise these ambiguities as much as possible". It submitted that 'gullies' and 'water supply channels' would likely fall within the meaning of 'waterway', and references to these could be removed. In relation to other terms, it submitted:

... 'drainage lines', 'water supply reservoirs' and 'springs' and 'ground water' have meanings beyond 'waterway' and are proposed to be retained as the terms fulfil important purposes within the proposed ESO4 to protect water health in the catchment.

(iii) Discussion

In the absence of a definition of waterway in the PE Act or the Planning Scheme, the Panel considers it is appropriate to apply the definition in section 3 of the *Water Act 1989*.

The Panel acknowledges the concerns of submitters that the definition of waterway is unclear. This is demonstrated by the fact that the Waterway Identification Guidelines are needed to provide clarification of what constitutes a waterway for the purposes of the *Water Act 1989*.

The Panel explored with Council, Coliban Water and Mr Wallis whether there was an appropriate and comprehensive mapping of Victorian waterways that could be referred to, in order to provide clarification or certainty as to whether a particular feature constitutes a waterway. Neither Council or Coliban Water, nor Mr Wallis, were able to point the Panel to a reliable mapping resource.

On that basis, the Panel supports reference to the Waterway Identification Guidelines as providing guidance for decision makers as to whether a waterway exists or not. It recommends specifically referencing the Guidelines in the ESO4.

References to drainage lines, gullies, springs and water supply channels create confusion. It is not clear from the drafting of the ESO4 whether or not these are intended to be references to waterways. If these features meet the definition of a waterway, it is appropriate that the ESO4 regulate activities that potentially impact on them. If these features do not meet the definition of a waterway, permit requirements are not triggered and no clear rationale was presented as to why they should be considered under the ESO4. The Panel has included amendments in Appendix D to remove this potential source of confusion.

(iv) Conclusions and recommendation

The Panel concludes:

- it is appropriate to define a waterway by reference to the definition in the *Water Act 1989*, and to refer to the Waterway Identification Guidelines in the ESO4 as providing further guidance
- further clarification to the drafting of the ESO4 is needed to avoid confusion as to what constitutes a waterway.

The Panel recommends:

Amend the exhibited Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 as shown in Appendix D:

- a) provide further clarification in relation to what constitutes a waterway.

4.2 Application requirements and decision guidelines

(i) The issues

The issues are whether:

- the application requirements are too onerous
- the decision guidelines are appropriate to the matters that the ESO4 seeks to regulate.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Council explained that the revised application requirements in Clause 4.0 of the ESO4 now include matters that were previously identified as decision guidelines. The rationale for this change is to more clearly identify the information that is needed for Council and referral authorities to undertake and complete a proper assessment of applications.

Coliban Water explained that the updated application requirements now require the information necessary for it to adequately assess, consider and determine its referral response for permit applications under the ESO4. It explained that under the current ESO4, permit applicants would often not address the risks to catchment and waterway health from development, prompting further information requests. This information is clearly required from the outset under the updated requirements, reducing the administrative burden on Coliban Water and Council, and reducing the processing time for permit applications.

Mr Rush raised a concern relating to the application requirement for:

A plan to be implemented as part of the development outlining measures to protect and enhance the natural environment of the area, including:

- Proposed vegetation retention and revegetation including native vegetation buffers along waterways, drainage lines and property boundaries.

He submitted that what he understood to be a mandatory requirement to revegetate native vegetation along property boundaries and drainage lines is excessive and onerous, would represent a significant cost on applicants, and does not take into account the need to manage bushfire risks.

Coliban Water responded that native vegetation works close to waterways can have implications for catchment water quality. In addition, the requirement for plans to show revegetation, rather than mere retention, is consistent with the new objective in the ESO4 – to restore and enhance natural resources and environmental systems, rather than simply to protect and maintain water quality.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel agrees with Council and Coliban Water that the new application requirements are better targeted to the environmental objectives sought to be achieved under the ESO4. They should ensure that applicants provide sufficient information with their applications for both Council and Coliban Water to properly assess the application, minimising the potential for further information requests and the associated delays and administrative burdens.

That said, the Panel agrees with submitters, including Mr Rush, that some of the application requirements and decision guidelines are too onerous, and appear to have no direct relationship with the environmental objective set out in Clause 2.0 of the ESO4 (as modified in accordance with the Panel's recommendation in Chapter 2).

No clear rationale was presented for application requirements and decision guidelines relating to:

- vegetation more than 30 metres from a waterway (given vegetation outside the 30 metre buffer has a much more limited impact on waterway health)

- vegetation along property boundaries and drainage lines that do not constitute a waterway (unless perhaps the drainage line feeds directly into a waterway)
- a geotechnical report (Coliban Water clarified in the Hearing that this is an error and is not required).

The application requirements and decision guidelines should be amended to remove these references. The Panel has made appropriate changes in Appendix D.

The Panel acknowledges Mr Rush's concern that the reference to 'revegetation' in the final application requirement could imply revegetation obligations as part of any permit application under the ESO4. On balance, the Panel considers this is a low risk. Applications need to be assessed on their merits. The absence of revegetation is not grounds for refusing a permit, provided the impacts of the proposed buildings and works are acceptable without revegetation.

The risk is further reduced by the Panel's recommended changes to the environmental objective in Chapter 2, to remove the possible implication that it is the responsibility of private landowners to ensure their development restores and enhances the catchment (rather than minimises detrimental impacts on water quality).

(iv) Conclusion and recommendation

The Panel concludes:

- broadly speaking, the application requirements and decision guidelines are appropriate and justified and should improve the operation of the ESO4
- however, some modifications are required to remove references to matters for which no clear rationale has been provided, or which are outside the scope of responsibility of individual landowners.

The Panel recommends:

Amend the exhibited Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 as shown in Appendix D:

- a) remove application requirements and decision guidelines for which no clear rationale has been provided.**

4.3 Coliban Water as a determining referral authority

(i) The issue

The issue is whether Coliban Water should be a determining referral authority for applications under the ESO4.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Some submitters raised concerns that Coliban Water's role as a determining referral authority for permit applications under the ESO4 may lead to negative environmental outcomes and inappropriate development. Some appear to have assumed that if Coliban Water is nominated as the determining referral authority, Council is no longer ultimately responsible for assessing and determining the permit application. Mr Rush submitted that Coliban Water may "*act as a 'blocker' unless the permit is within their interest to approve which will reduce development within areas affected by the ESO4 area*".

Coliban Water submitted:

Coliban Water considers that all applications for buildings and works that are not exempt under Clause 3.0 of the ESO4 pose a level of risk to water quality. Accordingly, it is appropriate that all of these applications are referred to Coliban Water for consideration.

Council explained that under Clause 66.02-5 of the Planning Scheme, and relevant legislation including the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* and the *Water Act 1989*, the relevant water authority is always a determining referral authority for Special Water Supply Catchments. It pointed out that Council's role as a responsible authority under the PE Act means Council can refuse a permit even where Coliban Water as the determining referral authority does not object to the permit being granted.

(iii) Discussion

It is appropriate that Coliban Water (and Goulburn Murray Water) are determining referral authorities for applications under the ESO4. They are the water authorities responsible for managing the catchment. Determining referral authority status is consistent with their statutory responsibilities for the catchment under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* and the *Water Act 1989*.

As Council pointed out, the responsible water authorities are always determining referral authorities for permit applications within their catchments. It is important that the referral requirements in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme remain consistent with other planning schemes (and other statutory requirements).

Submitters who raised concerns about inappropriate development being allowed as a result of Coliban Water being a determining referral authority provided no basis for their assertions. In any event, as Council pointed out, Council (as responsible authority) remains the ultimate decision maker in relation to permit applications, and may refuse an application even if Coliban Water supports the application.

Regarding Mr Rush's concern that Coliban Water would 'block' permit applications within the catchment that are not 'in their interests', the PE Act requires Coliban Water to act reasonably and within the purposes for which it is the referral authority. If it acts improperly in refusing permit applications, appeal rights exist.

The Panel supports the corrections to the Schedule to Clause 66.04 proposed in Council's and Coliban Water's post-exhibition versions (see Chapter 1.2 for more detail).

(iv) Conclusion and recommendation

The Panel concludes:

- it is appropriate for Coliban Water (and Goulburn Murray Water) to be specified as determining referral authorities for all permit applications under the ESO4.

The Panel recommends:

Amend the exhibited Schedule to Clause 66.04 as follows:

- a) amend the Table in Clause 1.0 to read 'relevant water authority authorities' in column 3 and determining referral authority' in column 4.

4.4 Background documents

(i) The issues

The issues are whether the following documents should be background documents to the Planning Scheme:

- the CMP
- the Waterway Identification Guidelines.

(ii) Background

Clause 72.08 (Background documents) states:

A background document may:

- Have informed the preparation of, or an amendment to, this planning scheme.
- Provide information to explain the context within which a provision has been framed.
- Assist the understanding of this planning scheme.

A background document does not form part of this planning scheme.

A Practitioner's Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes Version 1.5, April 2022 (Practitioner's Guide) states that background documents:

- provide information that helps to understand why a particular policy or provision has been included in the planning scheme
- must not be directly relied on for decision making (if it contains content necessary for decision making these must be extracted and placed in the relevant control).

(iii) Should the CMP be a background document?

The authorisation for the Amendment included a condition that the CMP be included as a background document. Coliban Water supported including the CMP as a background document, noting that it:

- informed the preparation of the Amendment
- provides information to explain the context within which the Amendment has been framed
- assists the understanding of the Amendment, particularly the proposed ESO4.

While the Panel does not disagree that the CMP informed the preparation of the Amendment, it does not consider that the CMP needs to be listed as a background document. The ESO4 is clear on its face, and there is no need to refer to the CMP to understand the ESO4, or the context in which it has been framed.

Further, the CMP does not apply to the whole of the catchment – it only applies to that part within the Upper Coliban River sub-catchment. Including it as a background document may cause confusion.

Finally, the CMP is not included as a background document in the Hepburn Planning Scheme, despite having informed the preparation of the ESO1. The Panel considers it preferable to have a consistent approach.

The Panel therefore recommends that the CMP not be included as a background document.

(iv) Should the Waterway Identification Guidelines be a background document?

The exhibited Schedule to Clause 72.08 did not include the Waterway Identification Guidelines. This was proposed as a post-exhibition change by Coliban Water, to “*bring the existence of the [Guidelines] to the attention of users of the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme*”. Coliban Water submitted that the Waterway Identification Guidelines:

- guide Coliban Water’s interpretation of the definition of a ‘waterway’ in section 3 of the *Water Act 1989*
- informed the preparation of the ESO4
- would assist users of the Planning Scheme to understand the operation of the proposed ESO4.

The Panel considers a better approach is to directly reference the Waterway Identification Guidelines in the ESO4, rather than including them as a background document. While they may have informed the preparation of the Amendment, and may explain the context in which the ESO4 was framed, their primary purpose is to guide decision making on the operation of the control. Consistent with the Practitioner’s Guide, they should therefore be directly referenced in the control.

(v) Conclusion and recommendation

The Panel concludes:

- neither the CMP nor the Waterway Identification Guidelines need to be included as background documents.

The Panel recommends:

Amend the exhibited Schedule to Clause 72.08 as follows:

- a) delete the reference to the *Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Management Plan, North Central Catchment Management Authority and Coliban Region Water Corporation, 2019.***

4.5 General drafting improvements

Coliban Water’s preferred version of the ESO4 (Document 12) included a number of general drafting improvements which the Panel supports. These have been included in the Panel’s recommended version of the ESO4 in Appendix D.

Appendix A Submitters to the Amendment

No	Submitter
1	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (former)
2	Stephen Daunt
3	Peter Crabbe
4	James Walsh
5	Ben Gill
6	Nicholas Rush for P Rush and M Holt
7	V B Puta
8	Helen Buchanan
9	Macedon Ranges Residents Association
10	Karan Hayman
11	Denis Buttler
12	Graham Connell
13	Department of Transport (former)
14	Goulburn Murray Water
15	Lenka Thompson
16	Victorian Farmers Federation

Appendix B Document list

No.	Date	Description	Provided by
1	26 Apr 23	Panel Directions and Hearing Timetable (version 1)	Planning Panels Victoria (PPV)
2	28 Apr 23	Post-exhibition version of the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 (ESO4)	Council
3	11 May 23	Hearing Timetable (version 2)	PPV
4	16 May 23	Council Part A submission with attachments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a1. Riparian Land and Bushfire resource document a2. Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Management Plan b. Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy c. Agenda and minutes of Council meeting on 9 March 2023 d. Post-exhibition version of the ESO4 (duplicate of Document 2) e. Submissions received in response to exhibition 	"
5	18 May 23	Expert witness statement – Duncan Wallis, RM Consulting Group, catchment water quality	Coliban Water
6	19 May 23	Coliban Water submissions with attachments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Strategic assessment report for the ESO4, Tract, 28 Oct 2021 b. proclaimed land use categories in the Eppalock Water Supply Catchment c. Panel report Hepburn PSA C80hepb [2021] PPV d. various VCAT cases 	"
7	"	Coliban Water preferred version of the ESO4	"
8	"	Coliban Water preferred version of the Schedule to Clause 66.04 (referral authorities)	"
9	"	Coliban Water preferred version of the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (background documents)	"
10	22 May 23	Council Part B submission with attachments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Macedon Ranges Shire Council Biodiversity Strategy 2018 b. Waterway Identification Guidelines, DELWP, 2022 	Council
11	"	P Rush and M Holt submissions	N Rush
12	23 May 23	Coliban Water final preferred version of the ESO4, tracked against Document 7	

Appendix C Planning context

C:1 Planning policy framework

Council's Part A submission comprehensively outlined the Planning Policy Framework, which the Panel has summarised below.

Victorian planning objectives

The State policy objectives are set out in section 4 of the PE Act. They include to:

- provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land
- provide for the protection of natural and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity
- secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria
- protect public utilities and other assets and enable the orderly provision and co-ordination of public utilities and other facilities for the benefit of the community
- facilitate development in accordance with the above objectives
- balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.

Statement of Planning Policy

The Macedon Ranges region has been declared as a Distinctive Area and Landscape under the *Planning and Environment Amendment (Distinctive Areas and Landscapes) Act 2018*, and a Statement of Planning Policy has been prepared and implemented for the region.

Section 4AB of the PE Act sets out the obligations of the Head of the Department of Transport and Planning in relation to a declared area. The Department Head:

- must not act inconsistently with any part of a Statement of Planning Policy that is expressed to be binding on the Department Head
- must have regard to those parts of the Statement of Planning Policy not expressed to be binding on the Department Head
- must have regard to the principles set out in section 46AZL, which are:
 - consult with all relevant levels of government and government agencies when making planning decisions
 - use best practice measures to protect and conserve the unique features and special characteristics of the declared area
 - undertake continuous improvement to enhance the conservation of the environment in declared areas.

The Vision set out in the Statement of Planning Policy includes:

Strategic water resources flow from the many mountainous and forested areas of the declared area. These form impressive riparian landscapes and biodiversity corridors, and they also provide drinking water for local people, regional and metropolitan Melbourne use.

Objective 3 in the Statement is:

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.

Strategies to implement this objective include:

- 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.
- 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.
- Review and improve regulation and monitoring of groundwater licences and surface water diversions.

Other objectives and strategies in the Statement of Planning Policy emphasise the following themes:

- conserving and enhancing native vegetation and revegetation, particularly along riparian areas
- supporting and encouraging agricultural land uses that strengthen the area's economy and contribute to the rural landscape
- encouraging and supporting innovations in agricultural practices such as sustainable farming and water reuse
- encouraging measures to ensure agricultural practices protect and enhance soil quality, water quality, biodiversity and native plants and animals
- managing growth of settlements consistent with protection of the area's catchments, biodiversity, ecological and environmental values.

State planning policy

The planning policy framework includes the following policy objectives:

- **Clause 12.03-1S (River and riparian corridors, waterways, lakes, wetlands and billabongs)**, the objective of which is to protect and enhance waterway systems including river and riparian corridors.
- **Clause 12.05-1S (Environmentally sensitive areas)**, the objective of which is to protect and conserve environmentally sensitive areas with significant recreational value (including the Macedon Ranges) from inappropriate development.
- **Clause 12.05-2S (Landscapes)**, the objective of which is to protect and enhance significant landscapes and open spaces that contribute to character, identity and sustainable environments.
- **Clause 13.03-1S (Floodplain management)**, the objective of which is to assist the protection of:
 - life, property and community infrastructure from flood hazard, including coastal inundation, riverine and overland flows
 - the natural flood carrying capacity of rivers, streams and floodways
 - the flood storage function of floodplains and waterways
 - floodplain areas of environmental significance or of importance to river, wetland or coastal health.
- **Clause 14.02-1S (Catchment planning and management)**, the objective of which is to assist the protection and restoration of catchments, waterways, estuaries, bays, water bodies, groundwater, and the marine environment.

Strategies in Clause 12.03-1S include:

- designing and siting development to maintain and enhance the waterway system and hydrological systems
- addressing the impacts of use and development on drought and flooding events at a catchment and site scale to protect the health and natural function of waterway systems and their surrounding landscape and environment
- protecting geomorphology, bank stability and flood management capacity to strengthen the environmental value and health of waterway systems
- considering locating development and earthworks, including dams, a minimum of 30 metres from waterway systems
- considering the views of floodplain and waterway managers.

Strategies in Clause 13.03-1S include:

- locating use and development that involve the storage or disposal of chemicals or wastes (including intensive animal industries and sewage treatment plants) outside floodplains.

Strategies in Clause 14.02-1S include:

- ensuring the continued availability of clean, high-quality drinking water by protecting water catchments and water supply facilities
- considering the impacts of catchment management on downstream water quality and freshwater, coastal and marine environments
- retaining natural drainage corridors with vegetated buffer zones at least 30 metres wide along each side of a waterway to:
 - maintain the natural drainage function, stream habitat and wildlife corridors and landscape values
 - minimise erosion of stream banks and verges, and
 - reduce polluted surface runoff from adjacent land uses
- requiring appropriate measures to filter sediment and wastes from stormwater prior to its discharge into waterways
- ensuring development at or near waterways provides for the protection and enhancement of the environmental qualities of waterways and their instream uses
- ensuring use and development minimises nutrient contributions to water bodies and the potential for the development of algal blooms
- requiring appropriate measures to restrict sediment discharges from construction sites
- ensuring planning is coordinated with the activities of catchment management authorities
- ensuring water quality infrastructure is designed to minimise risk of harm to surface waters and groundwater.

Clauses 12.03-1S and 14.02-1S require consideration of regional catchment strategies and catchment management plans.

Local planning policy

Clause 21.07-3 (Water) is the key part of the Municipal Strategic Statement that is relevant to the Amendment. The overview states:

The protection of water quality is a significant issue in the Shire. Extensive areas of the Shire fall within proclaimed local and regional water catchments (Special Water Supply Catchments) which supply drinking water. Water supply within the Shire is subject to increasing demand and development pressures which can affect quality through the

intensification of wastewater and septic discharges, and changing land management practices. A number of the Shire's unsewered settlements are in catchment areas, which also contributes to water quality issues.

Inappropriate management may cause a decline in water quantity and quality, leading to increased treatment costs (and higher water tariffs) as well as a loss of recreation opportunities in reservoirs and watercourses.

Relevant objectives include:

- To retain and improve water quality and yield in the Special Water Supply Catchments, waterways and groundwater.
- To ensure the development and use of agricultural land does not adversely impact water quality in the catchments.

There are many strategies that support this objective, key themes of which are:

- discouraging use and development in Special Water Supply Catchments that have the potential to reduce water quality (including septic systems and intensive animal husbandry)
- requiring on site property works that enhance water quality, such as fencing and revegetation of gullies and waterways.

The clause states it is policy to not support the clearance of vegetation within 20 metres of a watercourse without the consent of the relevant water authority.

Clause 21.07-3 specifically supports the application of the ESO4 to protect and maintain water quality and yield in the Eppalock Proclaimed Catchment.

Other relevant parts of the Municipal Strategic Statement include:

- **Clause 21.01 (Municipal Profile)** notes that:
 - the Shire is within the catchments of the Campaspe and Coliban Rivers and that extensive areas are declared Special Water Supply Catchments
 - a significant portion of the Shire is designated for agricultural purposes, and that farming areas make a valuable contribution to the Shire's economy
 - traditional farming activities are declining in favour of more intensive agriculture, such as vineyards and other horticultural pursuits.
- **Clause 21.02-2 (Environmental and Landscape Values)** notes the presence of open potable water catchments in the Shire, and highlights the need for planning to address the important regional issue of maintenance of and improvement to water quality and quantity.
- **Clause 21.03-2 (Land use vision):**
 - describes agriculture as an important part of the character and economy of the Shire
 - states that effective land management is a key priority
 - states that protection of water quality, especially potable water supply, is fundamental
 - states that it is policy to:
 - minimise land use and development, particularly un-serviced development, in open water supply catchments
 - manage land use and development to ensure water quality is not compromised
 - retain native vegetation (balanced with fire protection considerations).
- **Clause 21.04 (Settlement)** states that development will be restricted and discouraged in the rural areas and small, unsewered settlements in order to protect water quality, agricultural activities and environmental and landscape values.

- **Clause 21.06-2 (Soil degradation and contamination)** seeks to avoid significant land disturbance, and includes a strategy to ensure wastewater management systems are only located on land with appropriate capability.
- **Clause 21.09-2 (Rural residential)** discourages the creation of rural residential lots in catchment areas due to the potential impact on water quality.
- **Clause 21.12-3 (Rural infrastructure)** seeks to protect rural and agricultural infrastructure such as roads and water supply, and to ensure rural use and development does not adversely impact on the water supply network.

Strategic framework plans

Clause 21.03-3 (Strategic framework plans) sets out a vision and strategic direction for rural areas shown on the rural framework plan, which includes the following:

- **Living forests:** Enhance the significant and sensitive environmental assets – including Mount Macedon, forested areas around Woodend, the Cobaw Ranges and special water supply catchments. Limit residential development on existing lots where positive environmental outcomes are achieved and existing vegetation will not be compromised by requirements for dwelling sites, fire protection buffers and other associated infrastructure.
- **Northern and southern catchments:** Protect water quality and quantity, agricultural productivity in the northern catchment and encourage rural residential only in the more fragmented southern catchment where detailed land capability studies demonstrate there is no negative impact on water quality or agricultural uses.

These areas are not mutually exclusive and overlap; where conflicts are present, the catchment provisions prevail.

C:2 Planning scheme provisions

Environmental Significance Overlay

The ESO4 is the primary provision in the Planning Scheme that provides protection for the water catchment.

The ESO4 contains a statement of environmental significance, and environmental objectives.

The current ESO4 states:

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

Lake Eppalock is a major water storage and recreational facility located within the Campaspe River catchment. It is a major source of water for irrigation, stock and domestic and urban water supplies for towns within the municipality.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

To ensure the protection and maintenance of water quality and water yield within the Eppalock Water Supply Catchment Area as listed under Section 5 of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.

This is proposed to be updated to state:

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

The cumulative impacts of development in declared special water supply catchments has the potential to gradually diminish the quality and quantity of water in the catchments. Diminished water quality also increases the risk to human health and the health of all communities that rely on water from the catchment.

The protection, restoration and enhancement of all waterways (as defined by section 3 of the *Water Act 1989*) within the catchment is an essential component in ensuring the continued availability of water quantity and quality, while also protecting and restoring the health of the natural resources and environmental systems within the catchment.

The management of land in the catchment must:

- Focus on the long-term protection of the natural resources and environmental systems.
- Encourage the implementation of measures to minimise detrimental impacts on the quality and quantity water within a declared special water supply catchment.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

To ensure development protects, restores and enhances natural resources and environmental systems and minimises detrimental impacts on the quality and quantity of water in the catchment.

Native Vegetation

Clause 52.17 of the Planning Scheme is the primary provision protecting native vegetation. Its purposes are:

To ensure that there is no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation. This is achieved by applying the following three step approach in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017) (the Guidelines):

1. Avoid the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.
2. Minimise impacts from the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation that cannot be avoided.
3. Provide an offset to compensate for the biodiversity impact if a permit is granted to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

To manage the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation to minimise land and water degradation.

Clause 52.17 requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including dead native vegetation, unless a specific exemption applies.

C:3 Ministerial Directions, Planning Practice Notes and guides

Ministerial Directions

The Explanatory Report discusses how the Amendment meets the relevant requirements of Ministerial Direction 11 (Strategic Assessment of Amendments) and *Planning Practice Note 46: Strategic Assessment Guidelines*, August 2018 (PPN46). That discussion is not repeated here.

Planning Practice Notes

Planning Practice Note 55: Planning in open drinking water catchments provides guidance to responsible authorities, water corporations and landowners about how open drinking water catchments are protected through guidelines, codes of practice, legislation, subordinate legislation (planning schemes) and model permit conditions. It provides context, but does not directly influence the selection or drafting of the planning tools proposed to be applied by the Amendment.

Practitioner's Guide

A Practitioner's Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes Version 1.5, April 2022 (Practitioner's Guide) sets out key guidance to assist practitioners when preparing planning scheme provisions. The guidance seeks to ensure:

- the intended outcome is within scope of the objectives and power of the PE Act and has a sound basis in strategic planning policy
- a provision is necessary and proportional to the intended outcome and applies the VPP in a proper manner
- a provision is clear, unambiguous and effective in achieving the intended outcome.

Appendix D Panel preferred version of the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4

[Tracked Added](#)

~~Tracked Deleted~~

Tracked against the exhibited version

SCHEDULE 4 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO4.

EPPALOCK SPECIAL WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENT

Interpretation

[In this Schedule, 'waterway' has the same meaning as in section 3 of the Water Act 1989, as updated from time to time.](#)

[Additional guidance is provided in the *Waterway Identification Guidelines 2022*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, as updated from time to time.](#)

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

The cumulative impacts of development in declared special water supply catchments has the potential to gradually diminish the quality and quantity of water in the catchments. Diminished water quality also increases the risk to human health and the health of all communities that rely on water from the catchment.

The protection, restoration and enhancement of all waterways (~~as defined by section 3 of the Water Act 1989~~) within the catchment is an essential component in ensuring the continued availability of water quantity and quality, while also protecting and restoring the health of the natural resources and environmental systems within the catchment.

The management of land in the catchment must:

- Focus on the long-term protection of the natural resources and environmental systems.
- Encourage the implementation of measures to minimise detrimental impacts on the quality and quantity water within ~~a declared special water supply~~ [the](#) catchment.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

To ensure development protects, ~~restores and enhances~~ natural resources and environmental systems and minimises detrimental impacts on the quality and quantity of water in the catchment.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is not required to:

- Construct a building or construct or carry out works that is connected to a reticulated sewerage system and located more than 30 metres from a waterway for:
 - A dwelling.

- An extension to an existing dwelling.
- Construct a building or construct or carry out works that are located more than 30 metres from a waterway, if all of the following are met:
 - The building and works do not generate any additional wastewater unless it is connected to a reticulated sewerage system,
 - Any site cut required is less than one metre in depth.
 - Any site cut required is less than 300 square metres in area.
 - No stormwater is discharged within 100 metres from a waterway unless it is discharged into the street drainage system or into a legal point of discharge.
 - The buildings and works are an extension to an existing building and the extension does not encroach on the capacity of the existing effluent disposal field.
- Remove, destroy, or lop vegetation including dead vegetation unless the removal, destruction or lopping involves native vegetation on land within 30 metres of a waterway.
- Subdivide land for either:
 - An existing building or into two lots connected to a reticulated water and reticulated sewerage system.
 - A lot of 40 hectares or greater.
- Construct a building, construct or carry out works, ~~construct a fence, the removal, destruction or lopping of~~ remove, lop or destroy any vegetation, or to subdivide land that is undertaken by or on behalf of a Minister, government department, public authority or municipal council.
- Construct a building or construct or carry out of works associated with any activities conducted on public land by or on behalf of the public land manager under the relevant provisions of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*, *Fisheries Act 1995*, *Forests Act 1958*, *Land Act 1958*, *Local Government Act 1989*, *National Parks Act 1975*, *Reference Areas Act 1978*, *Water Act 1989* or *Wildlife Act 1975*.
- ~~Construct a fence.~~

4.0 Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- A scaled and dimensioned site context plan showing the site and surrounding land including the location of:
 - all waterways
 - ~~any~~ drainage lines, water bodies or springs that feed directly into a waterway
 - ~~all and~~ vegetation within 30 metres of a waterway.
- A scaled and dimensioned plan showing the location and use of existing and proposed buildings and works, including proposed or existing waste water disposal areas and vehicle access.
- A ~~geotechnical report and~~ land capability assessment prepared by a suitably qualified person(s) demonstrating:
 - Details of degree and direction of slope, soil type, vegetation and drainage systems on the site.
 - That the land is capable of absorbing effluent generated on the lot.

- The likely impact of any on-site wastewater treatment system on surface and ground water resources and how such impact is to be mitigated.
- A plan to be implemented as part of the development outlining measures to protect and enhance the natural environment of the area, including:
 - Stormwater treatment and management including how the development plans reduce the volume and velocity of stormwater exiting the property.
 - Proposed vegetation retention and [any](#) revegetation ~~including native vegetation buffers along proposed within 30 metres of a~~ waterways, ~~drainage lines and property boundaries~~.

5.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The potential impact of the development on the quantity and quality of water in waterways, ~~drainage lines, and~~ water supply reservoirs ~~and springs~~.
- Whether the development provides buffers to and from waterways, [any](#) drainage lines, ~~gullies or water bodies or springs that feed directly into a waterway or water supply reservoir~~.
- [Whether the development has the potential to impact on the efficient functioning of](#) ~~property boundaries and~~ any existing or new [effluent](#) disposal areas or systems.
- Whether the development minimises the detrimental impacts of nutrient loads, turbidity and siltation in waterways, ~~drainage lines~~ and water supply reservoirs through improving the filtration and infiltration of water.
- How the development decreases or reduces the velocity of stormwater into waterways, ~~drainage lines~~ and water supply reservoirs.
- Whether the development provides measures to prevent erosion of ~~natural features, including~~ banks, streambeds and adjoining land [within 30 metres of a waterway](#).
- Whether sewage, sullage, stormwater and other wastes can be treated on site without polluting waterways or ground water.
- [The impacts of the proposed development on the natural environment and on the quality and quantity of water in the catchment](#).

Local Law Review 2023

Community Engagement Summary



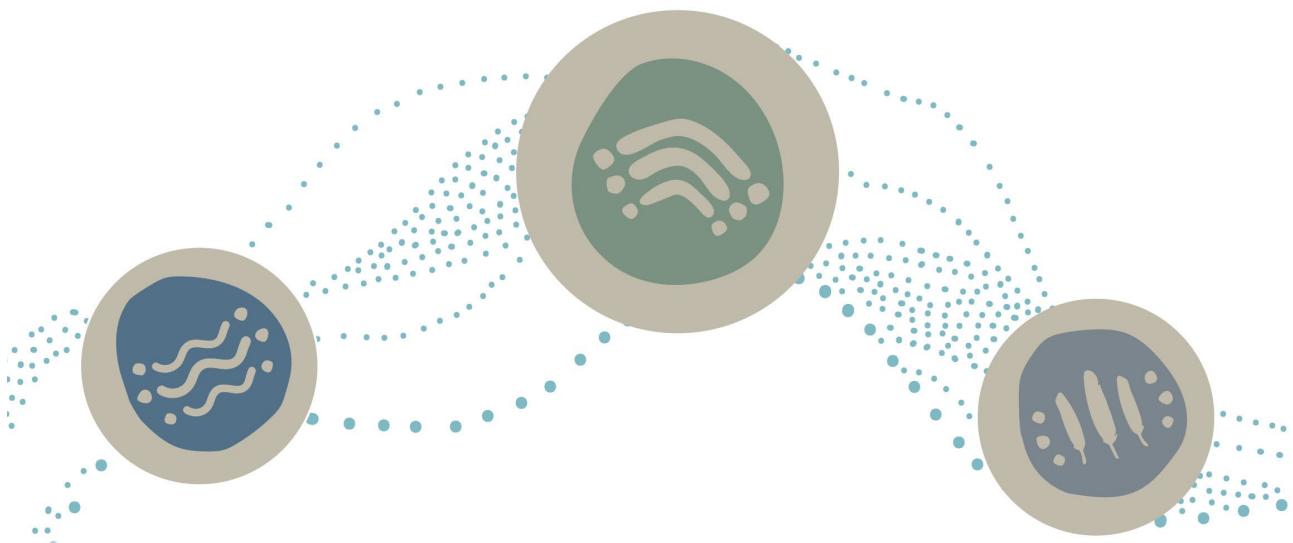
Acknowledgment of Country

Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pays respect to their Elders past, and present.

Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.

Artwork by Taungurung artist Maddi Moser

“Both artworks talk about our connection, connection to Country, connection to places and connection to each other. This is signified by the whimsical circles that form the ‘rivers; that wrap around our lands and ourselves. It reminds us that we should look out for one another.”



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Overview

From permits, to rubbish, to pets – our Local Law covers a wide range of activities that impact our community.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has a legislative obligation to review and prepare a new Local Law every ten years. Council's *General Purposes and Amenity Local Law No.10 of 2013* will sunset in September 2023.

The revision and preparation of a new Local Law ensures we can continue to respond to local issues, protect our public and private space, and maintain the health and safety of our community.



Background

Internal review phase

Council staff conducted an internal review of our *General Purposes and Amenity Local Law No.10 of 2013* during late 2022 – early 2023, liaising with key internal and external stakeholders about how we can continue to respond to local issues, protect public and private space, and ensure safety and amenity, all while keeping in mind current and emerging issues.

The main focus of the review was towards ensuring the health, wellbeing and amenity of our community, further reducing our impact on the natural environment and its resources, enhancing liveability and ensuring we are up to date with other state-based acts and legislation.

Council officers also consulted with a number of other local councils who had recently undertaken a review of their own Local Law.

Following this review, a newly proposed draft *Community Local Law 2023* was developed in preparation to seek community feedback.

Community consultation phase (March 2023 – June 2023)

Council sought community feedback on the proposed new draft *Community Local Law 2023*, inviting all members of the community to have their say from 28 March through to 30 April 2023.

Council received 179 responses to an online 'Have your say' survey and 20 individual submissions. Of the 20 individual submissions received, one represented the views of the Macedon Ranges Residents Association and one was a letter of multiple signatures (referencing a petition of 4,630 signatures in support of a fireworks ban).

Details of the consultation process and findings are outlined later in this report.

Project timeline

Timing	Activity
Late 2022 – early 2023	Internal review of Local Law
Wednesday 22 March 2023	Draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i> endorsed for consultation by Council
Tuesday 28 March – Sunday 30 April 2023	Community consultation of draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i>
May – June 2023	Working group consider submissions and propose amendments
July 2023	Councillors consider submissions and any proposed amendments
July – August 2023	Preparation of final version of <i>Community Local Law 2023</i>
August 2023	Presentation of final <i>Community Local Law 2023</i> to Council meeting to adopt
September 2023	Public notice of new <i>Community Local Law 2023</i>

Community consultation process

Consultation purpose

The purpose of the community consultation was to seek community and stakeholder feedback on the proposed draft *Community Local Law 2023* in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and Council’s *Community Engagement Policy*.

The engagement opportunity was open to the Macedon Ranges community including all residents, local business owners and employees, traditional owner groups, seniors, parents, youth/students, motorists, those working in the shire and any visitors/tourists to the region.

Scope of consultation

Under Council’s *Community Engagement Policy*, a requirement is to include consideration of any submissions received as part of any statutory community consultation under applicable legislation.

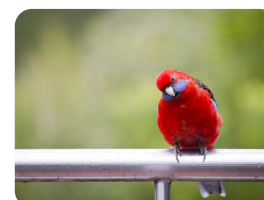
Our level of engagement for this project was set as “Inform” and “Consult” (consistent with Council’s *Community Engagement Policy*), with the following methods chosen to engage our community.

Level of Engagement	Methods
Inform	Fact sheet, dedicated web page and regular updates on Council’s website, newspaper advertisements, newsletter inclusions, e-newsletter, posters, DL flyers/postcards, social media posts.
Consult	Survey (Inc. online and manual entry options). Information displays (including hard copy surveys) at Council offices, Visitor Information Centres and libraries in the shire. Staff at festivals/markets – handing out information. DLs/ postcards to be handed out to commuters at train stations. Local Laws Coordinator/Safer Communities Manager to present at local stakeholder group meetings where requested/required.

Communication methods and techniques

The period of community engagement for the proposed draft *Community Local Law 2023* (Tuesday 28 March – Sunday 30 April 2023) was promoted via the following communication methods and techniques:

Method / technique	Engagement
Council's website – including the Local Laws page and dedicated 'Have Your Say' engagement page	> 1.5K views See Appendix.1 for further details
Online Survey – via Council's 'Have Your Say' engagement website page	179 surveys completed
Council's social media platforms – including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn	> 19.5K reach See Appendix.1 for further details
eNews – including various MRSC-initiated newsletters	See Appendix.1 for details
Signage – posters at key locations in the shire	N/A
Consultation displays – at Council offices, Visitor Information Centres and Goldfields Libraries within the shire	N/A
Paid and unpaid advertising – in local print media, community and school newsletters	See Appendix.1 for details
In-person/staffed promotional activities – including at farmers markets, train stations, local events and meetings held with relevant groups and organisations throughout this time	See Appendix.1 for details



Participant profile

A total of 199 participants took part in the draft *Community Local Law 2023* community consultation phase. This included 179 responses to the online 'Have Your Say' survey and 20 individual submissions received (18 by email and two by phone).

The below table shows the participation levels by postcode and Council ward for the 107 survey participants who provided this information.

NOTE: 72 survey participants skipped this question when asked to indicate their postcode.

Survey participants by Council Ward

Postcode	Ward	Responses	Ward Totals
3926	N/A	1	
3537	N/A	1	
3531	N/A	2	4 (non MRSC)
3446	West Ward	1	
3444	West Ward	10	
3442	West Ward	18	29 (West Ward)
3441	South Ward	1	
3440	South Ward	1	
3438	South Ward	3	
3437	South Ward	22	27 (South Ward)
3435	East Ward	8	
3434	East Ward	34	
3431	East Ward	5	47 (East Ward)
Not specified	Unknown	72	72 (Unknown)

The below table shows the participation levels by postcode and Council ward for the 20 submissions received.

NOTE: 7 submitters did not supply their location details.

Submissions received by Council ward

Postcode	Ward	Responses	Ward Totals
3434	East Ward	3	3 (East Ward)
3437	South Ward	4	
3438	South Ward	1	
3440	South Ward	2	7 (South Ward)
3442	West Ward	1	
3444	West Ward	2	3 (West Ward)
Not specified	Unknown	7	7 (Unknown)

As shown in these tables, there was a fairly even spread of participation from all Macedon Ranges Shire Council wards throughout the consultation period.

When looking at the participants (both survey and submitters) who indicated their location (60 per cent overall), the majority of East Ward participants were from the 3434 postcode (which includes the suburbs Cherokee, Kerrie, Romsey and Springfield), the majority of West Ward participants were from the 3444 postcode (which includes the suburbs Kyneton, Baynton, Lauriston, Pipers Creek, Tylden etc.) and the majority of South Ward participants were from the 3437 postcode (which includes the suburbs of Bullengarook and Gisborne).

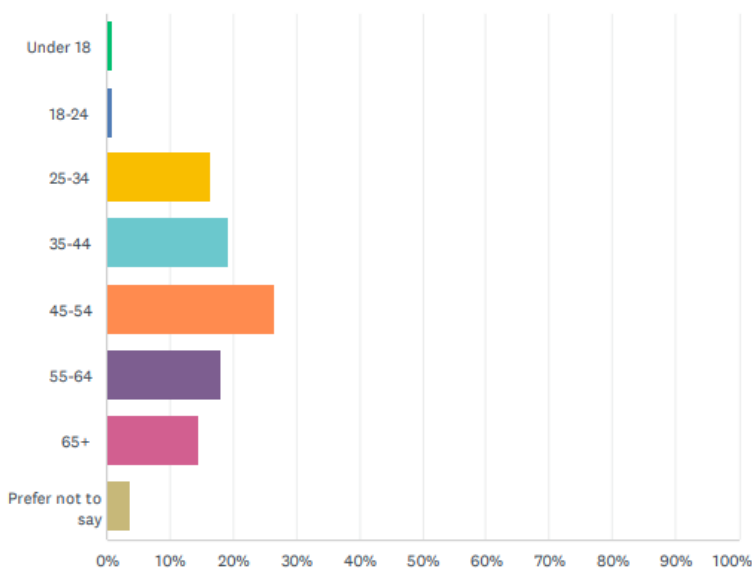
About 40 per cent of participants chose to either skip the survey question asking their postcode, or did not supply their address as part of their submission.

Further profiling of survey participants

- When asked ‘What is your age group’, survey participation proved to include a good mix of most age groups (as shown below). However Council did only receive two responses from both the Under 18 and 18-24 age groups, despite direct promotional attempts to engage this age group in the consultation.

Q66 What is your age group?

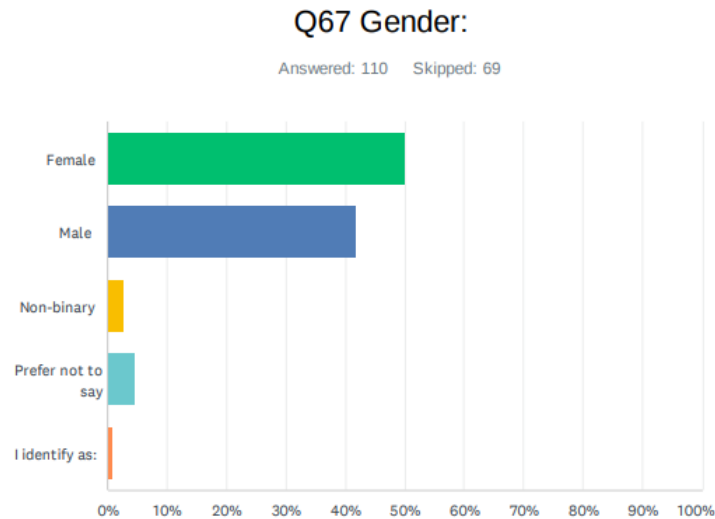
Answered: 110 Skipped: 69



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.91%	1
18-24	0.91%	1
25-34	16.36%	18
35-44	19.09%	21
45-54	26.36%	29
55-64	18.18%	20
65+	14.55%	16
Prefer not to say	3.64%	4
TOTAL		110

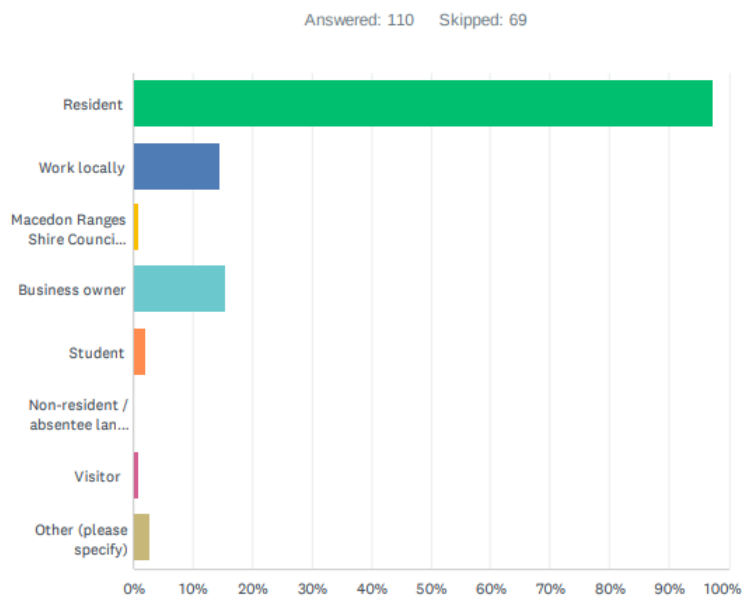
- Survey participants included a fairly even mix of genders with 55 female participants, 46 male participants, three non-binary participants, one participant who identified as ‘Other’

and five participants preferring not to say (noting that 69 participants also skipped this question).



- When asked about their connection with the Macedon Ranges, the majority of survey participants indicated they were residents, then followed by local workers or business owners (noting again, that 69 survey participants chose to skip this question).

Q69 What is your connection with the Macedon Ranges Shire?



Consultation findings and Council's response

Following the community engagement period, Council officers – along with an external lawyer and legal team working on the project – considered all community submissions and survey responses in great detail. Having considered all feedback, some minor amendments were made to the *Community Local Law 2023*, as outlined in the following tables.

These tables show a summary of the key feedback themes and issues gathered from the 179 survey responses and 20 submissions, along with an overview of Council's response.

As the *Community Local Law 2023* is separated into Parts 1 – 5 and relevant clauses, so too are each of the tables. Participants of the survey were given the opportunity to comment on or 'skip' each part.

NOTE: Some community feedback received did not fall within the scope of the Local Law review and has therefore not been included in this report.




PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Do you support the proposed objectives?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 80 per cent</p> <p>No – 20 per cent</p> <p>Key issues that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desire to reference climate change. • Importance of protecting Council assets and maintaining a harmonious and peaceful amenity for residents and the natural environment surrounding many of our properties in the shire. • A suggestion was made to distribute a copy of the <i>Community Local Law 2023</i> to all new residents of the shire. • Feedback was also received for matters such as wood heaters, noise from loud music, speed limits on rural roads and Romsey Airfield. 	<p>Council notes an overwhelming response in support of the proposed alternative objectives, which is consistent with our Council Plan and core objectives of the Local Law.</p> <p>In addition to this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the communications plan for this project, Council has included a note to consider providing copies of (or a website link to) the new Local Law to all new residents. • Feedback received for matters such as wood heaters, noise from loud music, speed limits on rural roads and Romsey Airfield are dealt with through other legislation and/or the planning scheme.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Do you support additions and updates to the definitions and terms listed on pages 2 – 7 of the draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i>?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 72 per cent</p> <p>No – 28 per cent</p> <p>The key points that emerged (survey and submission):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eight (8) of the survey responders and one (1) submitter who provided comment suggested either additional definitions be added or requested further clarification/improvement of some existing definitions. 	<p>Council notes the majority of responses support the definitions and terms proposed.</p> <p>Specific feedback received however, led to the following minor alterations in order to better clarify meaning and intent for this clause:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended definitions for: ‘Advertising sign’, ‘Building work’ (addition of the word ‘major’), ‘Caravan’ (addition of the words ‘wheeled’ and modified attachments to ‘includes any annexe or similar structure attached to or used in conjunction with that caravan whilst it is stationary’), ‘Domestic Waste’ (addition of the word ‘FOGO’), ‘Clothing bin’ (now ‘Donation bin’), ‘Gambling advertisement’ (removed the word ‘advertisement’) referencing the meaning of gambling as per the <u><i>Gambling Regulation Act 2003</i></u>, ‘Heavy vehicle’ and ‘Long vehicle’ (definitions now worded specifically), ‘Toy vehicle’ (now Recreational device)

We asked	You said	Our Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition of the following new definitions: 'Commercial filming', 'Corporation', 'Nature strip', and 'Nuisance'. • Definitions are now listed in correct alphabetical order. • <u>NOTE:</u> Having reviewed all feedback provided, there are still some definitions for which Council will rely upon the 'ordinary meaning', thus, these have not been included at Clause 6. 'Definitions'.
<p>Please provide feedback on any other sections in Part 1</p>	<p>Survey responses: No relevant responses received</p> <p>The key points that emerged (submissions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One (1) Objection to the 'Title' received – preference for old name ('General Purposes and Amenity' Local Law). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor addition to <i>Clause 4. Commencement, Revocation and Application</i> to provide clarity around the use of notes in parts of the Local Law (addition of Subclause 4. (3)). • Feedback about the new title is noted. Council decision made for the new Local Law to be titled '<i>Community Local Law 2023</i>'.

PART 2 – COUNCIL LAND AND ROADS


We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE addition of clause (9) - Events, filming and busking Do you support this change?</p> 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 44 per cent</p> <p>No – 41 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/ Neutral – 15 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine (9) survey responders raised concerns about buskers being subjected to permits. • Ten (10) survey responders raised concerns about this being too restrictive and/or too broad. • Three (3) responders (survey and submission) raised concerns regarding the definition of filming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor amendment made to Subclause 9. (c) of <i>Clause 9. Events, filming and busking</i> as follows: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(c) engage in busking, except in areas designated by Council as not requiring a permit.</p> <p><i>Where Council may (in the future) designate areas of council land as not requiring a permit for busking, under certain conditions.</i></p> • This clause relates to ‘Council land’ and not to all areas of the shire. It excludes (for example) private land. • Regarding concerns around busking, most buskers within the shire currently busk on private land. This clause does not apply to private land. Thus, provided the owner of the private land on which a person busks is happy for them to do so, the Local Law does not prevent this from occurring.

We asked	You said	Our Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding filming – Council has added a definition for 'Commercial Filming' to provide clarity around the circumstances in which this clause applies (noting, it does not impact private filming).
<p>RE addition of clause (12) - Gambling advertisements</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 81 per cent</p> <p>No – 10 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/ Neutral – 9 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nine (9) survey responders commented strongly in support of this change. Ten (10) survey responders raised concerns around issues with location, types of gambling and impact on economic development within the shire. Two (2) submissions raised concerns around the definition of gambling advertising. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council notes overwhelming support for the introduction of this clause. To provide more clarity and be clearer about the intent, Council has made minor amendments to this clause to clarify that it applies to any form of gambling, which is the intent. This clause supports a Council-specific goal, as outlined in Council's <i>Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021 -2025</i>: "Goal 4: A community that strives to reduce harm resulting from gambling, tobacco, alcohol and other drugs" and further supports an action within the same plan to "Explore opportunities to better regulate the advertising or

We asked	You said	Our Response
		<p>promotion of gambling on Council land and roads in future reviews of Council’s Local Laws”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOTE: This clause does not limit advertising on private land, even if visible from Council land.
<p>Re: Update of Clause 17 - Collecting Wood</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 49 per cent</p> <p>No – 39 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/ Neutral – 11 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty (20) survey responders expressed their views that the community should be allowed to assist with tree clearing. Some responders raised concerns around limiting access to firewood in a cold region and management of general fire risk. Concerns were also raised about landowners adjacent to Council-managed roads needing to remove branches that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although not showing overwhelming support, it should be noted that less than half of the responders oppose this change. Minor amendment made to add a 2 (c) to <i>Clause 17 Collecting Wood</i> to provide for an ability to remove wood/vegetation that has fallen from privately owned land onto Council land (e.g. tree fallen over/through fence). Otherwise no further changes made to this clause which aligns with Council’s <i>Biodiversity Strategy 2018</i> and the <u>Roadside Conservation Management Plan 2021</u>.

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<p>fall across their boundary fences and onto the Council verge.</p>	
<p>Re: Additional requirements in Clause 20 –</p> <p>Shopping Trolleys</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 59 per cent</p> <p>No – 19 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/ Neutral – 22 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey and submissions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of comments were provided. Some in support of the addition, some questioning the need for this addition and others questioning the additional cost/regulatory burden it poses for retailers. • The use of the term “Public Place” was noted as a major issue (given no definition for ‘public place’ within the Local Law). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council notes the majority of responses support this clause, therefore the clause remains as initially proposed. • Council has retained the use of ‘Public place’ at this clause as it is related to trolleys in a public place, including in/near waterways that might be managed by water authorities and in/on parkland/reserves which may be Crown land. • ‘Public place’ is defined under the <i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i> (and reference to this definition included at <i>Clause 6. Definitions</i>).

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Please provide feedback on any other sections in Part Two</p> <p>Feedback RE: Clause 7 – Use of Council Land and Roads:</p> <p>Feedback RE: Clause 8 – Trading on Council Land or a Road:</p>	<p><i>Feedback received for all other sections of Part Two are outlined below (by clause).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General concerns around definitions and impact on limiting use of Council land. • Concerns were raised about applications of this clause during elections and general potential limitation of public activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to feedback received, Council has made some minor amendments to this clause and more accurately defined 'toy vehicle' as 'recreational device', for additional clarity and intent. • Minor amendment made to remove the reference to use vehicles for advertising, as this is dealt with in another clause (already covered in <i>Clause 11. Moveable or Temporary Advertising Signs</i>) • No further changes have been made to this clause.


We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Feedback RE: Clause 11 – Moveable or Temporary Advertising Signs:</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns were raised about the regulatory burden on the community. 	<p>In response to the feedback received, Council has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> amended a minor typo at Clause 11.(1) (Correction of the word 'toad' to 'road') updated the definition of 'Advertising sign' provided an exclusion for vehicles displaying business logos whilst being used in the passage of travel, or for genuine business-related purposes.
<p>Feedback RE: Clause 14 – Vehicle Crossings:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions were raised about the clarity and drafting of this clause and specifically the requirement for a bond. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback is noted and a minor amendment (with respect to 'culvert') has been made to Clause 14. (1) (a) for further clarity. Bonds are addressed through a standalone clause (<i>Clause 72. Bonds</i>).
<p>Feedback RE: Clause 15 – Council Drains:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions were raised about the clarity and drafting of this clause. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal advice has confirmed no concerns in relation to this clause. No changes were made.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Feedback RE: Clause 16 – Obstructions to the Safe Use of the Road:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns raised around the use of the term “public place”. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received, Council has reworded this clause so it applies only to Council land and roads. ‘Public place’ is defined under the <u>Summary Offences Act 1966</u> (and reference to this definition included at <i>Clause 6. Definitions</i>).
<p>Feedback RE: Clause 18 – Planting on Nature Strips:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns included use of non-native vegetation on road side and increase of application of this clause to all Council zones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further change made to the Local Law, noting that Council’s <i>Nature Strip Landscaping Policy</i> outlines allowances and restrictions for planting on nature strips.
<p>Feedback RE: Clause 19 – Grazing and Driving Livestock:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback received focused around driving stock on different categories of road. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change made since consultation. The requirement for a permit is consistent with the <i>VicRoads Manual for Traffic Control at Stock Crossings</i>




We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Feedback RE: Clause 22 – Toy vehicles and bicycles:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns around the definition of 'toy vehicle'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received, 'Toy vehicle' is now referred to as 'Recreational device' within the 'Definitions', with this clause also amended accordingly.

PART 3 – USES AND ACTIVITIES ON LAND (INCLUDING PRIVATE LAND)


We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE: New subclause within the existing clause 26 - Heavy and long vehicles in residential zones</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p> 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 55 per cent</p> <p>No – 31 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/neutral – 14 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <p>Of the 36 people who provided additional comment at this section of the survey, and three submitters who also addressed this topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine (9) commented in support of the issue (with two requesting the minimum property size be increased) • Twelve (12) raised concerns about increased hardship/livelihood/cost for those self-employed (relying on heavy vehicles to earn a living) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council notes that the majority of responses were in support of this change. • Taking into consideration the feedback, Council has reduced the land size in Clause 26(1) that prohibits (in residential zones) parking, storage or repair of heavy and long vehicles from what was proposed being land 1acre/4000m2 and less to land 2,000m2 and less. • Taking into account the issues at hand (predominantly amenity complaints), the fact the proposed clause had majority community support, and all feedback received, Council considers this to be the right balance for this clause. • These changes will enable a permit mechanism for larger land holders in residential zones.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE: Changes to clause 27 - Camping, caravans and motorhomes</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven (7) queried about where they were going to park, with some mentioning this leaves them to park on local roads • Four (4) raised concerns about security of their vehicles (if not allowed to park at their residence) • Four (4) stated they should be allowed to do as they wish/private property • Eight (8) expressed general complaint on this issue. <p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 39 per cent</p> <p>No – 45 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/neutral – 16 per cent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council notes that there were mixed responses for <i>Clause 27</i>, and there seemed to be confusion about the interpretation of the clause from several respondents. • Definition of 'caravan' is updated to:


We asked	You said	Our Response
	<p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <p>Of the 29 people who provided additional comment at this section of the survey, and eight submitters who also addressed this topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixteen (16) expressed their concerns in relation to the current housing shortage and/or cost of living • Eight (8) expressed general complaint • Five (5) queried about and/or mentioned tiny homes • One (1) queried the clause in relation to farming/care for animals • Three (3) expressed their support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Caravan - means a vehicle or wheeled structure used for habitation or adapted for living and includes any annexe or similar structure attached to or used in conjunction with that caravan whilst it is stationary. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following feedback received, Council has made minor technical amendments to the wording of this clause. • In addition, Council has removed any time limitations and the introduction of permit requirements for private occupation of a caravan or motorhome on private land where there is a habitable dwelling. Noting, conditions still apply to reduce amenity impacts on neighbouring properties. • Council believes these further amendments capture the right balance between protecting amenity and allowing for private occupation needs.


We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Re: replacing existing Clause 26 with separate clauses 30-34 – Amenity associated with building sites</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Yes – 62 per cent</p> <p>No – 12 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/neutral – 26 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <p>Of the 15 people who provided additional comment at this section of the survey, and three submitters who also addressed this topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven (7) of these commented on their support of the changes • Four (4) indicated a need to address the definition of 'building works', so as not to also include minor works (for e.g. Landscaping) in this requirement. One also requested 'building site' be defined • Three (3) indicated concern around the increased costs associated with these new clauses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council notes that the majority of responses received are in support this change. • In response to feedback received, Council has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ modified the definition of building works to include only 'major' landscaping to avoid 'minor' domestic landscaping/gardening being captured as part of this clause. This change aims to better clarify the intent of building works to be captured and regulated. ○ amended Clause 30 with respect to the requirement to obtain an asset protection permit, creating an exemption where a permit is not required for building works specified as exempt under Council's <i>Asset Protection Policy</i> ○ amended Clause 31. (b) to correct typo error (changed "litter devices" to "refuse facility").

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) expressed general complaint with regard to the revisions • Five (5) provided other constructive feedback (including concerns about conflicts with policy/website content, duplication within other government acts, and the need to adopt a consistent approach to the mention of hectares or acres). 	
<p>Re: Fireworks (Possible Clause 38)</p> <p>To assist Council in deciding the best way to move forward, we asked the community to select their most preferred option (of four options provided)</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Option 1</u> (do nothing– Council does not regulate) – 30 per cent • <u>Option 2</u> (addition of fireworks clause – conditional allowance without permit) – 24 per cent • <u>Option 3</u> (addition of fireworks clause – permit option) – 22 per cent • <u>Option 4</u> (addition of fireworks clause – prohibition option) – 24 per cent 	<p>An overwhelming majority of respondents (70 per cent) indicated they wanted Council to introduce regulations with respect to fireworks on private land.</p> <p>After careful consideration of all feedback received, Council determined the most appropriate option was <u>Option 2</u> (Addition of fireworks clause – conditional allowance without permit).</p>

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <p>Of the 25 people who provided additional comment at this section of the survey, and nine submitters who also addressed this topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixteen (16) expressed why they request a total ban, citing reasons including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ detrimental effect on animals (pets, livestock and wildlife) ○ risk of escape and injury (pets, livestock and wildlife) ○ risk of injury to humans ○ risk of fire ○ detrimental effect on the environment (pollution, carbon emissions), given Council has declared a climate emergency ○ danger to the community (risk of large animal taking flight onto a major road) 	<p>Feedback received also requested that local wildlife were considered (particularly around koala breeding season).</p> <p>Council is therefore proposing <u>Option 2</u> – addition of fireworks clause as follows:</p> <p>Clause 38. Fireworks and Pyrotechnic displays</p> <p>An owner or occupier of land may allow fireworks or pyrotechnic displays to be conducted on that land, provided that the fireworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) are low noise fireworks; (b) do not cause a nuisance to any other person; (c) do not endanger any animal; (d) are conducted on no more than four occasions in a calendar year; (e) are not used during a declared fire danger period;

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five (5) commented regarding existing Victorian Government legislation and the requirement for a permit - indicating they may have misinterpreted the options under consideration • Three (3) requested Council to advise/advertise when fireworks are going to take place (allowing people to take measures to protect their livestock/ animals) • One (1, a professional display operator) stated a total ban would deprive an industry of an income and thousands of people enjoyment • One (1, an equine business in support of a ban on fireworks) provided various scholarly articles highlighting the detrimental effects on animals, and also images of horses severely injured from escaping (through fencing) as a result of fireworks events, along with the results of a recent petition which generated over 4600 signatures from people wanting to see laws changed to protect animals from the harms of fireworks. 	<p>(f) are not conducted before midday or after 9.30pm;</p> <p>(g) if surrounding properties house livestock, the display must not be within 500m of the property boundary; and</p> <p>(h) are not used during the koala breeding season (April – September).</p> <p>Some concerns were raised regarding the possible misinterpretation of this clause allowing people to unlawfully set off fireworks on private land. In response to this, a note to the clause has been added as follows:</p> <p>NOTE: Fireworks can only be deployed by a licensed pyrotechnician, who is required to notify the relevant authorities including Worksafe, the Country Fire Authority and Council.</p>

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Please provide feedback on any other sections in Part Three</p> <p>Feedback Re: Clause 24. Use of Scare Guns:</p> 	<p><i>Feedback received for any other sections of Part Three are outlined below (by clause).</i></p> <p>Council received seven comments on this clause. Key points that emerged included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ queries around why the use of scare guns varies for RCZ land versus FZ land (noting vine and orchard owners on RCZ land) ○ requests for more information and explanation around this clause ○ confusion around Council approval versus DECCA approval ○ possible contradiction with State laws. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having considered all feedback provided, Council recommends retention of the clause (as consulted on) which restricts scare guns without a permit to farming zones and enables all other zones to use a scare gun with a permit requirement. • Recommendation for the Rural Conservation Zone (RCZ) to still require a permit is in line with the conservation purpose of this zone in the planning scheme and it allows Council officers to ensure a DEECA wildlife permit is obtained prior to a permit being issued. • A note has been added to this clause, outlining that in addition to Council's requirements, there is still an obligation to receive approvals from the Victorian Government for interference with native wildlife i.e. DEECA permit.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>28. Powered recreational vehicles –</p>	<p>Concerns were raised about Council limiting people's ability to enjoy their own land and the addition of planning overlays to this clause.</p> <p>Some minor editing issues were also noted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received, Council has made a minor amendment to Clause 28. 1 (a) with the removal of 'Bushfire Management Overlay' requiring a permit. The other overlays have been retained to trigger a permit requirement, to enable permit conditions that protect the environment from the impact of powered recreational vehicle use on land.
<p>36. Shipping containers –</p> 	<p>Received 11 comments regarding objections around the inclusion of the rural living zone into this clause, with most concerned about the inclusion (or not) of various planning zones into this clause.</p>	<p>Explanatory note added at <i>Clause 36.</i> as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>NOTE: The requirement to obtain a permit under this clause only applies to the placement of temporary shipping containers within the zones specified in circumstances where planning and building controls do not apply.</u> Regarding queries for other zones, the planning scheme and the building regulations are already in place for enforcing shipping containers used for long term storage or occupation.


PART 4 – COMMUNITY AMENITY AND SAFETY

Division 1 – Uses and Activities Impacting on Amenity and Safety

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE: New clause 40 - Smoke-free areas</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Support – 68 per cent</p> <p>Oppose – 21 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/neutral – 11 per cent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council notes majority support for this new clause. • No changes made to clause since consultation.
<p>What areas would you like to see designated as smoke free zones?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Shopping strips in township areas – 94 per cent</p> <p>School crossings – 84 per cent</p> <p>Council-owned/managed sporting grounds and recreation areas – 86 per cent</p> <p>Public events and markets – 82 per cent</p> <p>Bushland reserves – 78 per cent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further feedback in responses with regard to areas will be considered when <i>Council's Smoke Free Outdoor Areas Policy</i> is next reviewed.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Please specify why you oppose any changes (re: smoke free areas)</p>	<p>Other – 8 per cent (where specified responses to ‘other’ included: Council-owned properties, all public areas, and all areas)</p> <p>Survey response:</p> <p>Comments received at this section included reasons around smoking not being illegal and that it should be allowed in the outdoors, discrimination against smokers, and limiting smokers’ rights.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This clause supports a Council-specific goal, as outlined in Council’s <i>Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021 - 2025</i>; “Goal 4: A community that strives to reduce harm resulting from gambling, tobacco, alcohol and other drugs”.
<p>Re: New Clauses 41 – 43 (in replace of clause 30) – Unightly or dangerous land, and dilapidated buildings</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Support – 58 per cent</p> <p>Oppose – 22 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/neutral – 20 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <p>Of the 26 people who provided additional comment in the survey, and four submitters who also addressed this topic:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council notes strong support for this change. Noting the feedback received, minor amendments have been made for matters the Authorised Officer may consider in determining whether a breach of <i>Clause 41</i>. has occurred. Minor amendment made to clause to clarify that this covers ‘unkempt’ vegetation as opposed to all vegetation.


We asked	You said	Our Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) queried definitions within the clause, suggesting improvements • Five (5) raised issues around unused buildings in township areas (not just unsightly), requesting this also be included in the clause (four of which referred to Romsey pub as an example) • Two (2) raised concerns due to farming (suggesting residential and farming be split – vegetation/grass being livestock food) • Three (3) suggested council needs to offer support to struggling residents (before moving to regulation) relating to unsightly/dangerous land and dilapidated buildings • Four (4) cited personal reasons for opposing the change (re: private land/not Council's issue) • Four (4) cited reasons in support of the change. 	

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Re: New Clause 44 – Noxious weeds</p> <p>Do you support this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Support – 75 per cent</p> <p>Oppose – 11 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/neutral – 14 per cent</p> <p>Key points that emerged (survey & submissions):</p> <p>Of the 28 people who provided additional comment in the survey, and six submitters who also addressed this topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourteen (14) addressed the issue of Council/government needing to lead by example in this space (weed control of Council/Victorian Government-managed land) • Nine (9) requested support in this space be provided by Council (either by information/ resources and/or financial support). • Five (5) raised issues around definitions (i.e. what are all “reasonable steps”, what defines a “noxious weed”?) 	<p>Despite receiving strong support for this change from the community, Council has received legal advice leading to the deletion of this clause. Its deletion is due to an overlap with regulatory mechanisms already in place under the <u>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</u>.</p> 

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2) raised concerns re: crossover of other legislation. 	
<p>Re: Minor change to wording of Clause 39 – Consumption and possession of alcohol</p> <p>Do you have any feedback about this change?</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>I don't have any feedback – 85 per cent</p> <p>Please provide feedback here – 15 per cent</p> <p>Of those who provided feedback, 60 per cent expressed opposition to this/did not feel this is a problem.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council notes strong majority support towards the proposed updated wording in this clause. No further change made since consultation.


PART 4 – Division 2 – Open Air burning and Incinerators

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE: Clause 46- 48 - Burning in the open air – including by land size</p> <p>Please indicate your level of support for prohibiting burning off of green waste on land less than 1,999 square metres (1/2 acre) . . .</p> <p><i>Please provide any additional feedback about this proposed change (clauses 45-53) below:</i></p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Support – 47 per cent</p> <p>Oppose – 37 per cent</p> <p>No opinion/neutral – 16 per cent</p> <p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 68 survey responses received at this section, 18 survey responders provided further comment. Of these 18 who provided further comment, 13 commented expressing their opposition for various reasons including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • asking ‘What about residents with no green bin?’ • asking ‘What if residents have no access to a trailer/car for disposing at the tip?’ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The clause numbers for this section are now Clause 45 – 47 (due to the removal of what was <i>Clause 44. Noxious Weeds</i> at time of consultation). • Although not showing any overwhelming support, it should be noted that less than half of the responders oppose this change. • The clause numbers for this section are now <i>Clause 44 – 52</i> (due to the removal of what was <i>Clause 44. Noxious Weeds</i> at time of consultation). • Land size requirements for Clause 46. and Clause 47. have been amended from 4,000 square metres to 2,000 square metres.

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suggesting storing large amounts of waste to fill the green bin each week contributes to a fire hazard • suggesting it disadvantages older people (who can't get to the tip). <p>In addition, opposition to the 6pm prohibition (relating to burning off) was also raised with this mentioned to be the time most locals choose to burn off (with weather being optimal – wind drops off and burning off is more favourable).</p> <p>Two responders to this section of the survey also raised the issue of solid fuel (wood heaters). One stating they were pleased to see Council resisted incorporating any sort of ban into the Local Law and one expressing their disappointment that this had not been included.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council considers the changes made to these clauses are balanced and appropriate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ protect the environment ○ prevent/reduce nuisance from smoke ○ encourage people to recycle/repurpose green waste. • Council acknowledges comments received opposing the 6pm prohibition (relating to burning off), however it should be noted this clause does not prohibit this altogether, it simply requires a permit from Council. Noting that permits to burn (from Council) can be applied for 'free of charge'. • Feedback received for matters such as wood heaters are dealt with through other legislation.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p><u>RE: Clauses 45 – 53</u></p> <p>Submissions received for Clauses 45 – 53 were as follows:</p> <p>45. Burning in the open Air</p>	<p>Concerns were raised about the use of “public space” and the lighting of barbeques in high fire risk environments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to this feedback received Council has removed the reference to “public place” in what is now numbered <i>Clause 44. Burning in the open air.</i> • An explanatory note for this clause has also been added as follows: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>NOTE:</u> During the declared fire danger period open air burning and burning incinerators are regulated by permit requirements and other provisions contained in the <i>Country Fire Authority Act 1958</i>. The Municipal Fire Prevention Officer of Council is authorised under that Act to issue permits during that period. Lighting a fire on a day of Total Fire Ban is an offence under that Act.</p>

PART 4 – Division 3 – Animals

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE: Changes proposed to clauses 54 - 60 - Animals</p> <p>Please provide feedback on any of these clauses . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback Clause 54 – Keeping Animals 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Twenty-two (22) survey responders and three submitters commented on this section.</p> <p>There were comments around protecting native flora/ fauna and around excrement from larger animals such as horses.</p> <p>A number of comments regarding cats and dogs were also received (noting these are dealt with under the <u>Domestic Animals Act</u>).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received relating to animals damaging vegetation, Council has clarified this clause is limited to damaging 'native' flora and fauna and provided the exception of native pasture grasses under controlled grazing. Feedback provided relating to animal excrement has been addressed with <i>Clause 58. Animal Excrement</i> (as at time of consultation) now renamed <i>Clause 57. Dog Excrement</i> (with 'Animal' being replaced by 'Dog'). Further feedback was noted, however most of the commentary provided on this clause was related to


We asked	You said	Our Response
		<p>dog/cat containment/wandering which is dealt with under the <u>Domestic Animals Act</u> (DAA) provisions.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback Clause 55 – Animal housing 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 16 survey responders who commented on this section, predominant issues raised included the cat curfew, animal welfare and issues with vermin.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relating to feedback about suggested animal welfare inclusion, this is covered through State legislation provisions and codes of practice (eg. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and Regulations.) Feedback relating to a cat curfew is noted, however this is dealt with under the <u>Domestic Animals Act</u> (DAA) provisions. Council has otherwise considered the feedback provided and confirms no further changes have been made. It should be noted however, this clause is now <i>Clause 54. Animal Housing</i>, due to the deletion of what was <i>Clause 44. Noxious Weeds</i>).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback Clause 56 – Condition of land 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 10 survey responders and one submitter who commented on this section, feedback on this clause related</p>	<p>Noting this clause is now numbered <i>Clause 55. Condition of land where animals are kept</i> (due to the deletion of Clause 44. Noxious Weeds):</p>

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>where animals are kept</p>	<p>to protection of the environment, protection of animal cruelty and apparent duplications with Clause 60.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received Council has removed Subclause (2) from this clause, due to duplication of this content at what is now numbered <i>Clause 59. - Pest and Stray Animals</i>. This clause is in respect to the feeding of feral/stray animals.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback Clause 57 – Numbers of Animals 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 24 survey responders and three submitters who commented on this clause, queries were raised in relation to the changes in numbers and types of animals and the change of zoning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change made since consultation, however Clause number for this is now <i>Clause 56. Numbers of Animals</i> (due to the removal of what was <i>Clause 44. Noxious Weeds</i> at time of consultation). What Council have put in place is consistent with what other councils do and is relative to the Planning Scheme. Permit requirements for having more animals enables amenity impacts to be managed. Noting that under the revised Local Law, permits may be granted for up to two years, thus reducing the impact of this clause on pet owners.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback Clause 58 – Animal excrement 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 22 survey responders and three submitters who commented on this clause, issues raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> requests for sufficient public animal ‘poo bag’ dispensers requests for horses and sheep to be excluded concern around the use of the term ‘public place’. 	<p>Noting this clause is now numbered <i>Clause 57</i>. (due to the deletion of <i>Clause 44. Noxious Weeds</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received, this clause is now <i>Clause 57. Dog Excrement</i> with the wording adjusted accordingly to confirm intent is in relation to ‘dog’ excrement (as opposed to other animals). Council has retained that this clause relates to dogs in a public place, which includes in front of local businesses (even those not necessarily on council land), near waterways that might be managed by water authorities and in/on parkland/reserves which may be Crown land.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback Clause 59 – Effective fencing and confinement of farm animals 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 12 survey responders and two submitters who commented on this section, the main concerns were around vandalism/trespassing (for which exemption was requested) with some concerns also expressed with regard to animal welfare.</p>	<p>Noting this clause is now numbered <i>Clause 58</i> (due to the deletion of <i>Clause 44. Noxious Weeds</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For public safety this provision has been retained – as worded.

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<p>A few comments regarding cats and dogs were also received (noting these are dealt with under the <u>Domestic Animals Act</u>).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback relating to cats and dogs is noted, however these are dealt with under the <u>Domestic Animals Act</u> (DAA) provisions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback Clause 60 – Pest and stray animals 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the 19 survey responders and three submitters who commented on this section, common issues raised were about cats (4), vermin (2) and deer/wild pigs (3). Concerns were also raised about feral animals and biodiversity. Minor editing requirements were noted. 	<p>Noting this clause is now numbered <i>Clause 59</i> (due to the deletion of Clause 44. Noxious Weeds):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback has been considered. No further changes were made to this clause. State legislation is the appropriate legislation for determining pest animals and required controls. Relating to the editing feedback provided, the duplication of this clause at <i>55. Condition of land where animals are kept</i> – Subclause (2) has been removed.

PART 4 – Division 4 – Waste and Resource Recovery

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE: Clauses 61-64 - Waste and resource recovery</p> <p>Please provide feedback on any of these clauses in the boxes below:</p> <p>Clause 61. Domestic Waste:</p> 	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Responded to this section – 45 per cent</p> <p>Skipped this section – 55 per cent</p> <p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 15 survey responders and one submitter who commented on this clause, the majority of the issues raised were outside of the scope of the Local Law and have been passed onto the Resource Recovery team for their consideration in the provision of Council's waste services.</p> <p>Feedback was also provided in relation to minor editing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor errors amended in wording of what was <i>Clause 61. Domestic Waste</i> (at time of consultation) however is now numbered <i>Clause 60. Domestic Waste</i>. With minor changes made to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 60. (1) (f) – the words 'when in a residential zone' have been deleted ○ 60. (2) (a) – duplication of 'recycling bin' has been removed.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Clause 62. Prohibited Waste</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the three survey responders and one submitter who commented on this clause, two commented agreement, one queried where the waste products go (this comment has been passed onto the Resource Recovery team) and one noted a possible typo.</p>	<p>Noting this clause is now numbered <i>Clause 61</i>. (due to the deletion of Clause 44. Noxious Weeds):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further change has been made since consultation. • ‘Domestic waste’ is defined in <i>Clause 6. ‘Definitions’</i> and includes all bin types issued by the Council for domestic waste collection purposes.
<p>Clause 63. Hard Waste Collection</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the 22 survey responders and two submitters who commented on this clause, 19 expressed their support and/or commented on a need for hard waste. Feedback was also provided regarding minor edits.</p>	<p>Noting this clause is now numbered <i>Clause 62</i>. (due to the deletion of Clause 44. Noxious Weeds):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further change has been made since consultation.
<p>Clause 64. Commercial Waste</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Of the four survey responders and one submitter who commented on this clause, two expressed their support, one commented on tip fees and the remaining two raised</p>	<p>Noting this clause is now numbered <i>Clause 63</i>. (due to the deletion of Clause 44. Noxious Weeds):</p>

We asked	You said	Our Response
	<p>concerns around commercial businesses using general waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to an administrative error noted following the feedback received, Council has now separated subclause (4) from this Clause, and included this detail as a new standalone clause; <i>Clause 64. Interference with Public Receptacles.</i>

PART 5 – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>RE: Part 5 - is separated into two divisions:</p> <p>Division 1: Administration</p> <p>Division 2: Enforcement</p> <p>Do you wish to provide feedback on this section?</p> <p>Clause 65. Exercise of discretion:</p>	<p>Survey responses:</p> <p>Responded to this section – 34 per cent</p> <p>Skipped this section – 66 per cent</p> <p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Four survey responders and three submitters commented on this clause.</p> <p>Feedback was generally supportive within certain boundaries.</p>	<div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received, Council has amended <i>Clause 65. Exercise of discretion</i>, to refer to Council's <i>Compliance and Enforcement Policy</i>, which provides a framework for Officer decision-making. Council's legal advice confirms it is both appropriate, lawful and consistent with principles of natural justice and procedural fairness, to include a clause which states that in the exercise of discretion, the Council officer may take no action.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Clause 66. Permits</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Five survey responders and five submitters commented on this clause.</p> <p>Concerns were raised around the number of permits and the need for clarity on how to apply for permits. (Some comments were addressed in earlier feedback).</p> <p>Concerns were also raised about Council fees.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback was noted and minor amendment made to Subclause (6) of this clause, to include “or amendments”. • Fees associated with permits are dealt with annually through Council’s budgeting process (with the community being invited to have input at this time).
<p>Clause 70. Exemptions:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Concerns were raised about officer discretion.</p> <p>Other issues raised were with regards to planning.</p> <p>Typo in clause was also noted.</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received, a typo error was amended for this clause as follows:</p> <p>70. Exemptions</p> <p>(5) An exemption may be cancelled, corrected <u>or amended</u> as if it were a permit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relating to concerns about officer discretion, these concerns were addressed as part of <i>Clause 65. Exercise of discretion.</i>

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Clause 71. False Representations:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Two survey responses to this clause were received. One of which is addressed under the <i>Food Act 1984</i> and one related to malicious/vexatious complaints.</p>	<p>No change made since consultation</p>
<p>Clause 72. Bonds:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>One survey response and two submissions were received raising issues including the exclusion of community halls and a typing error in relation to bonds (pg. 35).</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received, Council has amended Subclause (d) of <i>Clause 72. Bonds</i> to clarify that Council must give written notice to the permit holder in relation to retaining a bond.</p>
<p>Clause 73. Powers of authorised officers:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Five survey responses and four submissions were received in reference to this clause.</p> <p>Feedback generally related to officer discretion.</p>	<p>No change made since consultation</p> <p>Addressed the issue of officer discretion at <i>Clause 65. Exercise of discretion.</i></p>

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Clause 74. Impounding and Disposal:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Two survey responses and two submissions were received in reference to this clause.</p> <p>One was in relation to the DAA, while other key issues raised included the use of ‘public place’ and typos.</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received, minor amendments were made to subclauses (1), (2) and (4) of <i>Clause 74. Impounding and Disposal</i> as follows:</p> <p>74. Impounding and Disposal</p> <p>(1) Where any goods, items, animals, objects or equipment are left on a road, Council land or in a public place in contravention of this Local Law, including a breach of any conditions of a permit, an Authorised Officer may impound those goods, items, animals, objects or equipment.</p> <p>(2) Where something is impounded in accordance with this clause, an Authorised Officer must, if practicable, serve a Notice of Impoundment specifying a description of the item impounded, details for collection and what action will be taken if the item is not collected in accordance with Council’s collection requirements, on the person who appears to be the owner of the impounded item.</p> <p>(4) An Authorised Officer may sell, donate, dispose of or destroy the impounded item if the owner has not paid the</p>

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Clause 75. Offences and Penalties:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Three survey responses and four submissions were received raising concerns around the legalities and the onus of proof for this clause.</p>	<p>prescribed fee and collected the item within 14 days of impounding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received, Council has clarified it is only an offence for failing to comply with a verbal or written 'lawful' direction (thus, Clause 75 (e) has been amended with the minor addition of the word 'lawful').
<p>Clause 76. Power to issue a direction:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Feedback received was similar to previous (Clause 75).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to the feedback received, Council has amended <i>Clause 76. Power to issue a Direction</i> which outlines powers of Authorised Officers to issue a 'lawful' direction.

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Clause 77. Notices to Comply:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Two survey responses and two submissions were received raising the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns around the process and timing for notices to comply Requests for clarification around status of permit conditions. 	<p>In response to the feedback received, Council has amended sub clause (1) of <i>Clause 77. Notices to Comply</i> as follows:</p> <p>77. Notices to comply</p> <p>(1) Where an Authorised Officer considers that there is a breach of this Local Law, including a breach of a permit issued under the Local Law, they may serve a Notice to Comply on the relevant person to remedy the breach.</p>
<p>Clause 78. Power to Act in Urgent Circumstances:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>Concerns were raised around the around status of permit conditions.</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received Council has amended Subclause (1) of <i>Clause 78. Power to Act in Urgent Circumstances</i> as follows:</p> <p>78. Power to Act in Urgent Circumstances</p> <p>(1) Where an owner, occupier, builder or other person has failed to comply with any requirement of this Local Law, including a breach of a permit issued under the Local Law, an Authorised Officer may take any action considered</p>

We asked	You said	Our Response
<p>Clause 79. Infringement Notices:</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>One survey response and two submissions were received. Main concerns included queries around infringements and the infringements process.</p>	<p>necessary to prevent any danger to the environment or any nuisance arising, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change since consultation. • The infringement appeals process has been aligned with State legislation and it is not appropriate for there to be two separate processes for infringement reviews
<p>SCHEDULE 1 – Infringement Penalties</p>	<p>Overall responses:</p> <p>One submitter was concerned about the changes to how penalty units are calculated and the number of penalty units allocated to each offence.</p>	<p>No changes made since consultation, however the following note has been added:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">NOTE: The amount of a penalty unit is indexed each financial year as determined by the State Government.</p> <p>The infringement penalties have been brought into line with state legislation in the interest of transparency and clarity.</p>

Next steps

As noted throughout this report, feedback received during the community consultation period has been used to create the final *Community Local Law 2023*.

The final *Community Local Law 2023* will go to the Council meeting scheduled to be held on Wednesday 23 August 2023, with the recommendation that it be adopted by Council.

Once adopted, the *Community Local Law 2023* will be implemented following the sunset of Council's current General Purposes and Amenity Local Law of 2013 on 25 September 2023.

The adoption of the *Community Local Law 2023* will be communicated via public notice, on Council's website and in the Government Gazette.

How can participants stay informed?

Updates including a timeline for the project are available on our website at: mrsc.vic.gov.au/local-laws

Participants can also stay informed by signing up for project updates [here](#) or by emailing a request to be added to: locallaws@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Contact details for further information

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Appendix 1: Communication methods and reach

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
<p><u>Website:</u></p> <p>28 March – 30 April 2023</p> <p>Local Laws page - MRSC website</p> <p>'Have Your Say' (dedicated engagement page) - MRSC website</p> <p>Website banner</p>	<p>> 1.5K views</p> <p><u>www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Council/How-Council-Works/Local-Laws</u></p> <p>562 page views over consultation period</p> <p><u>www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/News/Have-Your-Say/Draft-Community-Local-Law-2023</u></p> <p>1,183 page views over consultation period</p> <p>'Have Your Say' survey - 179 individuals completed the online survey.</p> <p>Local Law review promotional website banner also featured on Council's website throughout the promotional period.</p>
<p><u>Social Media</u></p> <p>28 March – 30 April 2023</p> <p>MRSC Facebook posts</p> <p>MRSC Instagram posts</p>	<p>> 19.5K reach</p> <p>Included posts on 31 March, 17 April, 20 April, 26 April, and 29 April 2023, which received 9,345 views in total.</p> <p>Included posts on 31 March, 17 April, 20 April, 26 April, and 29 April 2023, which received 5,191 views/click-throughs in total.</p>

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
<p>MRSC Twitter posts</p> <p>MRSC LinkedIn</p>	<p>Included tweets on 31 March, 17 April, 20 April, 26 April, and 29 April 2023, which had a combined reach of 4,600.</p> <p>Reach for one LinkedIn post in April was 441.</p>
<p><u>eNews</u></p> <p>MRSC Local Law Review eNews</p> <p>20 March 2023 Edition</p> <p>28 March 2023 Edition</p> <p>27 April 2023 Edition</p> <p>August 2023 Edition (TBC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirty-six (36) people are currently subscribed to the Local Law Review eNews distribution list (as of 13/06/2023). <p>Snapshot of Local Law Review eNews sent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘New draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i>’ – sent on 20 March 2023, to 30 recipients subscribed at the time. Total 67 per cent open rate, 50 per cent of which also clicked through to the web page. • ‘Draft Local Law open for consultation’ – sent on 28 March 2023, to 33 recipients subscribed at the time. Total 67 per cent open rate, 36 per cent of which also clicked through to the web page. • ‘Draft Community Local Law consultation closing soon’ – sent on 27 April 2023, to 36 recipients subscribed at the time. Approx. 56 per cent open rate, 10 per cent of which also clicked through to the web page.

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
<p>Aug/Sep 2023 Edition (TBC)</p> <p>September 2023 Edition</p> <p>MRSC Environment eNews April 2023 Edition – including ‘Community Local Law 2023’ review article</p> <p>MRSC Business e-News April 2023 Edition – including Local Law Review update article</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i> – consultation outcomes – link to Council meeting agenda notifying of upcoming endorsement’ – TBC (yet to be drafted). • ‘Draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i> – now endorsed’ – TBC (yet to be drafted). • ‘Draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i> – now in place/enforceable’ – TBC (yet to be drafted) • Total 3 per cent of users clicked through on the Local Law article. • Sent to 1,762 subscribers. Open rate of 47 per cent. • Total 8 per cent of users clicked through on Local Law article. • Sent to 1,738 subscribers. Open rate of almost 50 per cent.
<p><u>Signage</u></p>	<p>A3 and A4 posters promoting the proposed draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i> consultation were distributed for display at various locations throughout the shire including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all public locations on Council’s regular poster run • local train stations in the shire • local veterinary clinics in the shire

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all MRSC Council offices and two visitor information centres • all Goldfields Libraries located in the shire • VicRoads office in Kyneton.
<p><u>Consultation Packs and Displays</u></p> <p>28 March – 30 April 2023</p> <p>MRSC Council offices – Kyneton, Gisborne, Woodend, & Romsey</p> <p>MRSC Visitor Information Centres – Woodend & Kyneton</p> <p>Goldfields Libraries – Gisborne, Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend</p>	<p>Consultation packs containing hard copies of the existing Local Law, the proposed draft <i>Community Local Law 2023</i>, summary of changes document, hard copy surveys and promotional posters and flyers were distributed and made available at these locations throughout the consultation period.</p>
<p><u>Print Media</u></p> <p><i>ShireLife Magazine</i></p> <p>Autumn 2023 issue - Distributed to all residents in February 2023.</p> <p><i>Midland Express</i></p> <p>28 March 2023 issue</p>	<p>This issue included an article on the Local Law review - promoting the upcoming consultation and Local Law review eNews subscription option.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ¼ page advertisement – page 2

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
<p>11 April 2023 issue</p> <p>25 April 2023 issue</p> <p>Star Weekly</p> <p>28 March 2023 issue</p> <p>18 April 2023 issue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in 'Have Your Say' section of MRSC composite advertisement – page 6 • ¼ page advertisement – page 2 • Included in 'Have Your Say' section of MRSC composite advertisement – page 6 • ¼ page advertisement – page 3 • Included in 'Have Your Say' section of MRSC composite advertisement – page 6 • ¼ page advertisement – page 4 • ¼ page advertisement – page 4
<p><u>Media Coverage</u></p> <p>Local Papers</p> <p>Midland Express</p> <p>4 April 2023 issue</p> <p>18 April 2023 issue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small article included on page 11 promoting consultation. • 1 x opinion article on page 35. • 2 x opinion articles on page 16 – expressing community opinion on Local Law review.

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
<p>25 April 2023 issue</p> <p>Star Weekly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Change looms for local law” – article initiated by paper on page 3.
<p>28 March 2023 issue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Law consultation details included in “Briefs” – pg. 6 (initiated by paper).
<p>4 April 2023 issue</p> <p>North Central Review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Council weighs up fireworks law” – article initiated by paper on page 3
<p>Community Newsletters</p> <p>Gisborne Gazette</p>	<p>April 11 2023 issue – Local Law review coverage, page 9.</p>
<p>April 2023 issue</p> <p>June 2023 issue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor’s column with Cr Dominic Bonanno – mention of Local Law consultation. • “Update on local law review: what happens next” – page 27.
<p>Romsey Rag</p>	<p>April 2023 issue – Local Law review coverage, page 13.</p>

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
<p>Kyneton Connect</p> <p>Woodend Star</p> <p>Lancefield Mercury</p> <p>School Newsletters</p> <p>Sacred Heart College Kyneton</p> <p>Gisborne Secondary College</p> <p>Gisborne Primary School</p> <p>Macedon Primary</p>	<p>June 2023 issue – Local Law review summary, indicating next steps, page 7.</p> <p>April 2023 issue – Local Law review coverage, page 12.</p> <p>April 2023 issue – Local Law review coverage, page 34.</p> <p>June 2023 issue – Local Law review summary, indicating next steps, Page 23.</p> <p>April 2023 issue – Local Law review coverage, page 31.</p> <p><i>¼ page ad for Local Law review was included in:</i></p> <p>6 April 2023 newsletter</p> <p>6 April 2023 newsletter</p> <p>30 March 2023 newsletter.</p> <p>29 March, 5 April & 26 April 2023 newsletters</p>
<p><u>In-person/staffed promotional activities:</u></p> <p>Farmers Markets</p> <p>Woodend Farmers Market – 1 April 2023</p>	<p>MRSC Youth Services staff distributed a total of 560 information flyers notifying the community of the opportunity</p>

Communication method	Activity (including reach - where measurable)
<p>Kyneton Farmers Market – 8 April 2023</p>	<p>to have their say and/or spoke to visitors about the Local Law consultation at these local markets.</p>
<p>Riddells Creek Market – 15 April 2023</p>	
<p>Lancefield Market – 22 April 2023</p>	
<p>Train Stations</p> <p>Woodend and Kyneton in April 2023.</p>	<p>MRSC Youth Services staff distributed information flyers to commuters notifying them of the opportunity to have their say.</p>
<p>Macedon Ranges Liquor Accord group meeting</p> <p>24 March 2023</p>	<p>Coordinator Local Laws presented to Macedon Ranges Liquor Accord Group meeting on the Local Law review</p>
<p>Leaders in the Loop – Youth meeting</p> <p>17 April 2023</p>	<p>Manager Safer Communities presented to Leaders in the Loop Youth group on the Local Law review and consultation.</p>
<p>Puppy Pride event</p> <p>26 March 2023</p>	<p>Local Laws Rangers handed out Local Law review flyers at this event.</p>

Appendix 2 – Example communication materials produced

Local Law review
 Macedon Ranges Shire Council is reviewing its General Purposes Amenity Local Law No. 10 of 2013.

From permits, to rubbish, to pets – our Local Law covers a wide range of activities that impact our community. Council has a legislative obligation to review and prepare a new Local Law every ten years.

To learn more about the review and the draft new Local Law visit mrc.vic.gov.au/local-laws or call 5422 0333 to register your interest.

Local Law Review
Have your say

Local Law Review
Have your say

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is reviewing the current General Purposes and Amenity Local Law of 2013, and proposing several improvements as the draft new **Community Local Law 2023**.

From permits, to rubbish, to pets – our Local Law covers a wide range of activities that impact our community.

Everyone should love where they live and feel safe within their community.

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From permits, to rubbish, to pets – our Local Law covers a wide range of activities that impact our community.

Everyone should love where they live and feel safe within their community.

Feedback is open from 28 March until 5pm 30 April 2023.

For more information, contact us: 5422 0333
mrc.vic.gov.au/local-laws draftlocalaw@mrc.vic.gov.au

Local Law review update

Council's current General Purposes and Amenity Local Law of 2013 is due to expire in September 2023.

Council recently sought community feedback on the proposed draft Community Local Law 2023 during consultation held from 28 March – 30 April 2023.

Council would like to thank everyone who participated in the consultation. The submissions and responses received represent a broad range of feedback for which we are currently consolidating all responses. Next steps will be to consider any emerging issues and make necessary refinements to the draft Community Local Law 2023. This consolidation process will involve council officers, staff from our legal firm, and also Councillors at a future Council briefing.

The draft Community Local Law 2023 (including any amendments made following community consultation) will need to be adopted by Council at a future Council Meeting, prior to any implementation. Details of this process will be made available on our website at mrc.vic.gov.au/local-laws with Council meeting details also available at mrc.vic.gov.au/meetings

To stay up to date on the progression of the draft Community Local Law 2023, sign-up to receive project updates on our webpage, email draftlocalaw@mrc.vic.gov.au or call 5422 0333 requesting to be added to Council's Local Law email distribution list.

Community Local Law 2023

FINAL VERSION FOR COUNCIL
MEETING - 23 AUGUST 2023



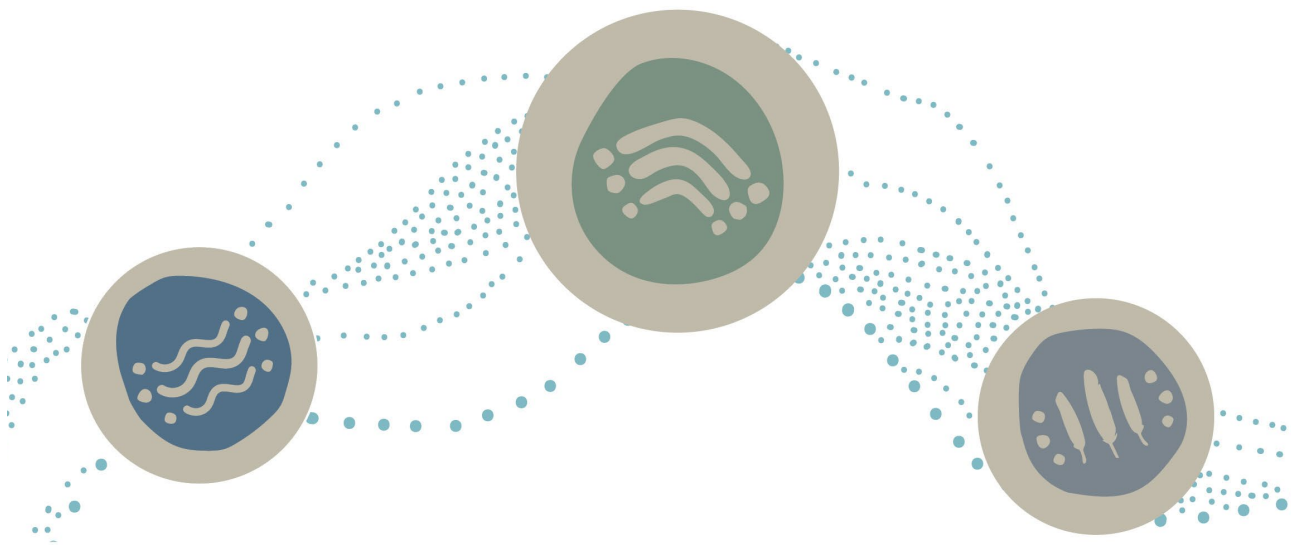
Acknowledgment of Country

Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pays respect to their Elders past, and present.

Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.

Artwork by Taungurung artist Maddi Moser

“Both artworks talk about our connection, connection to Country, connection to places and connection to each other. This is signified by the whimsical circles that form the ‘rivers; that wrap around our lands and ourselves. It reminds us that we should look out for one another.”



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PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

1. Title

This is the Community Local Law 2023.

2. Objectives

The objectives of this Local Law are to provide for the health, safety and good governance of the municipal community in a manner which is consistent with the Council Plan and to facilitate those objectives by:

- (a) regulating activities which may otherwise be detrimental to another person's enjoyment;
- (b) prohibiting activities which create adverse impacts;
- (c) protecting Council assets; and
- (d) promoting a cohesive, sustainable and flourishing environment for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

3. Authorising Provision

Council's power to make this Local Law is contained in section 71 of *the Local Government Act 2020* and section 42 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

4. Commencement, Revocation and Application

- (1) This Local Law:
 - (a) commences on 25 September 2023;
 - (b) unless it is revoked sooner, ceases to operate on 24 September 2033, being 10 years after the date it commenced; and
 - (c) operates throughout the municipality.
- (2) Where this Local Law prohibits an activity or other thing or provides that such activity can only take place or other thing can only be done with a permit, that provision will not apply if the activity can lawfully take place, or the thing can lawfully be done under the Planning Scheme or other legislation.
- (3) Notes which are included within this Local Law are provided to assist understanding. They do not form part of this Local Law.

5. Repeal of other Local Laws

From the date of commencement of this Local Law, the *Macedon Ranges Shire Council General Local Law No. 10 of 2013* (as amended to include the *Amendment Local Law No. 13 of 2019*) is repealed, save that any notice or approval given, permit issued or matter or thing commenced under the repealed Local Law, is not affected.

6. Definitions

In this Local Law, words which are not defined will adopt their ordinary meaning, and unless the contrary intention appears, the following words have the definition stated:

Word	Definition
Abandoned vehicle	means a vehicle that has not been moved for 2 months as referred to in clause 3(4) of Schedule 11 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> .
Act	means the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Advertising sign	means any board, notice, banner, poster, panel, pointer board or other similar device, used for the purposes of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) soliciting sales; (b) notifying people where goods and services may be obtained; (c) advising or directing people to an event, festival or gathering; (d) promoting elections or political campaigns; or (e) promoting charitable, social, or religious causes.
Alcohol	means a beverage intended for human consumption with an alcohol content greater than 0.5 per centum by volume at a temperature of 20 degrees Celsius.
Authorised Officer	means a person appointed as an Authorised Officer under section 224 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and includes a police officer appointed in accordance with section 224A of that Act.
Barbecue	means any fixed or portable device designed exclusively for meals preparation fired by gas, electricity or other flammable materials.
Bird	includes poultry.

Building site	means any land on which building work is carried out.
Building work	includes any work for or in connection with the construction, demolition, renovation, alteration or removal of any building or structure that is being conducted in accordance with a building permit and includes major landscaping or earthmoving works which may be conducted without a building permit.
Bulk rubbish container	means a container, bin, skip, hopper or other receptacle which is designed or used for holding refuse or rubbish and is unlikely to be moved without mechanical assistance but does not include a rubbish receptacle used in connection with Council's domestic waste collection service.
Camp	means erecting and occupying a tent or other similar structure but does not include a caravan or motorhome.
Caravan	means a vehicle or wheeled structure used for habitation or adapted for living and includes any annexe or similar structure attached to or used in conjunction with that caravan whilst it is stationary.
Chief Executive Officer	means the Chief Executive Officer of Council.
Commercial filming	means recording images by film, video, digital or other technology to broadcast or publicly exhibit for commercial purposes as defined under the <i>Filming Approval Act 2014</i> , but does not include photography or filming related to the production of news reporting.
Commercial waste	means any rubbish, refuse, sludge, slurry, liquid, hard garbage or other matter whatsoever arising from any trade, industry or commercial undertaking.

Commercial zone	means land zoned commercial under the Planning Scheme.
Corporation	includes any body corporate, whether formed or incorporated within or outside the state of Victoria and any incorporated association within the meaning of the <i>Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012</i> , but does not include Council.
Council	means Macedon Ranges Shire Council.
Council asset	means any road, drain, infrastructure, vehicle crossing, vegetation (including street trees) or other property owned, vested in or under the management of Council.
Council drain	includes surface drains, swale drains and drainage systems.
Council land	means land, buildings, reserves and facilities which are owned, occupied or vested in Council or in respect of which Council has the care and management and to which the public has access whether an entry fee is paid or not.
Domestic waste	means general waste, recycling, glass, food organic and garden organic waste (FOGO), or any other waste placed in a Council issued bin issued for domestic waste collection purposes.
Donation bin	means a receptacle designed for the collection of donated clothing, goods or other items.
Farm animal	means any horse, cattle, camel, donkey, mule, sheep, deer, goat, ox, ostrich, emu, alpaca or llama or pig.
FOGO	means food organic garden organic.

Gambling	has the same meaning as used in section 1.3AA of the <i>Gambling Regulation Act 2003</i> .
Heavy vehicle	means a vehicle that has a gross vehicle mass or aggregate trailer mass of more than 4.5 tonnes.
Incinerator	means a structure, device or contraption not enclosed in a building which is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) used or intended, adapted, or designed to be used or capable of being used for the purpose of burning anything; (b) not licensed or otherwise subject to control under the provisions of any other legislation; and (c) not a barbecue.
Industrial zone	means land zoned industrial under the Planning Scheme.
Land	includes privately owned land but excludes Council land.
Livestock	has the same meaning as used in the <i>Impounding of Livestock Act 1994</i> .
Long vehicle	means a vehicle that, together with any load or projection, is 7.5 metres long, or longer.
Mobile trading	means any vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or other similar structure used for the purpose of selling food or offering goods or services for sale, including any food or drink.
Motor home	means a motor vehicle on a purpose-built chassis designed to serve as self-contained living quarters for recreational travel also referred to as an "RV" or recreational vehicle.

Nature strip	means an area between a road (except a road related area) and adjacent land, but does not include the shoulder of a road or a bicycle path, footpath or shared path.
Noxious weed	has the same meaning as used in the <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i> .
Nuisance	means any item, matter, thing or behaviour which is liable to be, dangerous to health or offensive.
Penalty unit	has the same meaning as used in the <i>Sentencing Act 1991</i> .
Permit	in relation to a use or activity, means a permit issued under this Local Law which authorises that use or activity.
Person	includes an individual or legal entity, whether a corporation or an incorporated association, but excludes Council.
Person in charge	includes the builder carrying out the Building Works on the Building Site and the developer of the Building Site.
Pest animal	means an animal declared as a "pest animal" under Part 8 of the <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i> .
Planning Scheme	means the Planning Scheme operating in the Macedon Ranges Shire made under the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> .
Poultry	includes chickens, fowls, turkeys, ducks, geese, bantams, pheasants, squab, guinea, or other edible birds over the age of 12 weeks but does not include roosters.
Public place	has the same meaning as used in the <i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i> .

Recreational device	includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a vehicle or device designed to be solely or partially propelled by human power and includes a scooter, skate board, roller skates, roller blades and like toys; and (b) a remote-control device, aircraft or vehicle.
Refuse facility	means a container designed for the containment of litter and waste material within a building site, and which is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) of robust construction, with side walls of one piece construction of either a welded metal frame and cyclone wire mesh or a solid material welded in each corner; (b) not less than one cubic metre in volume; and (c) lockable and has a lid that is attached to the container with welded hinges.
Residential zone	means land zoned residential under the Planning Scheme.
Road	has the same meaning as in the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and applies to roads for which Council has responsibility under the <i>Road Management Act 2004</i> but does not include a State road under that Act unless a provision in the Local Law is expressly applied to a State road.
Rural zone	means land zoned rural under the Planning Scheme.
Scare gun	means a gas gun or similar gun or noise emitting device designed to scare birds from attacking crops but does not include a firearm.
Schedule	means a Schedule to this Local Law.
Small animal	means rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, rats, and mice.

Smoke Free-Area	means an area signposted by Council to be a smoke-free area as supported by Council policy.
Trading	means: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) selling or offering or exposing or promoting the sale, supply, exchange or hire any goods, merchandise, commodity, article, thing or service; or(b) advertising for the purposes of soliciting sales, notifying people where goods or services may be obtained or advertising or directing people to an event or festival; or(c) a fundraising stall or activity operating to raise money for a community group, charity or not for profit organisation (excluding highway collections).
Vehicle	has the same meaning as “ <i>motor vehicle</i> ” as used in section 3 of the <i>Road Safety Act 1986</i> .
Vehicle crossing	means a constructed driveway or surface used to facilitate vehicular access to and from land.

PART 2 – COUNCIL LAND AND ROADS**7. Use of Council Land and Roads**

- (1) A person using Council land or a road must comply with any conditions of use applied to that land or road by Council as evidenced by the display of Council erected signs, conditions of entry or conditions of membership.
- (2) A person using Council land or a road must not behave in a way that could endanger, cause harm to or injure any other person or which interferes with any other person's reasonable enjoyment or use of that land or road including by:
 - (a) using language or behaving in a way that is indecent, intimidating, offensive or abusive;
 - (b) acting in a manner that annoys, disturbs, interferes with or obstructs any person's enjoyment;
 - (c) making unreasonable noise from a speaker, amplifier or other amplified sounds or noise (unless a permit has been obtained from Council in relation to an event on that land), including where that noise is heard inside a habitable room on adjacent land;
 - (d) destroying, defacing, removing or interfering with anything in or on any building, sign, improvement or other infrastructure of any kind, including trees, plants and other vegetation;
 - (e) using vehicles, equipment, toys, recreational devices, bicycles or having animals on that land contrary to any signs or conditions applicable to that land or road;
 - (f) conducting events, ceremonies, competitive sport or group training; or
 - (g) acting contrary to any lawful direction of an Authorised Officer or a person in charge of a facility on Council land.
- (3) Unless permitted by this Local Law, a person must not, on Council land or a road:
 - (a) remove, add to, interfere with or cause damage to anything such as fencing, infrastructure or vegetation including dead trees or fallen limbs from trees;
 - (b) light a fire unless it is in a barbecue;
 - (c) carry out any work or activity or allow any tree, plant or other condition on land owned or occupied by that person to interfere with, cause damage to, or create a risk to that Council land or road; or
 - (d) cause or allow to be caused an obstruction or encroachment to the use of that Council land or road.
- (4) The restrictions and limitations in this clause do not apply to:
 - (a) a member of Council staff, a person contracted by Council, a member of a public authority or an employee of a utility carrying out their duties; or
 - (b) Council events, festivals or processions, functions or ceremonies.

8. Trading on Council Land or a Road

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, use Council land or a road to:
 - (a) sell or display any goods or services;
 - (b) hand out advertising or promotional material for the purpose of soliciting sales, fundraising or collection activities;
 - (c) hand out election materials;
 - (d) promote social, charitable or religious causes including the display of signage;
 - (e) sell or advertise vehicles for sale; or
 - (f) conduct mobile trading.
- (2) The requirement to obtain a permit in this clause does not apply to:
 - (a) a member of Council staff, a person contracted by Council or an employee of a utility carrying out their duties; or
 - (b) a person or organisation who has any other form of consent, including a lease or a licence to use the Council land or the road.

9. Events, Filming and Busking

A person must not, without a permit, on Council land or on a road:

- (a) conduct an event, festival or procession;
- (b) carry out commercial filming; or
- (c) engage in busking, except in areas designated by Council as not requiring a permit.

10. Outdoor Dining

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, use Council land or a road for outdoor dining including the placement of furniture and other equipment used in association with outdoor dining.
- (2) The requirement to obtain a permit in this clause does not apply where there is a planning permit for the use under the Planning Scheme which contains conditions about furniture and other equipment used in association with outdoor dining.

NOTE: The definition of 'road' includes a footpath and nature strip.

11. Moveable or Temporary Advertising Signs

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, place moveable or temporary advertising signs on Council land or on a road.
- (2) The requirement to obtain a permit under this clause does not apply to:

- (a) a moveable or temporary advertising sign that requires a permit under the Planning Scheme;
- (b) signs for community events approved by Council; or
- (c) vehicles displaying business logos whilst being used in the passage of travel or for genuine business-related purposes.

12. Gambling Advertisements

A person must not display or cause to be displayed, advertising of any form of gambling on Council land or on a road.

13. Interference with and Works on Council Land and Roads

- (1) A person other than a utility carrying out emergency works, must not, without a permit, on Council land or a road:
 - (a) carry out any works, including excavating, digging holes, occupying or fencing off part of a road, erecting hoardings or scaffolding or using cranes;
 - (b) place, authorise the placement of or use any building materials, including hoardings, gantries, scaffolding or other heavy equipment;
 - (c) place, authorise the placement of or use a mobile crane;
 - (d) remove, damage, destroy, interfere with, alter, affix to or tap into a Council asset;
 - (e) occupy that land or road;
 - (f) cause, place or allow to continue to be placed an obstruction or encroachment; or
 - (g) place or allow to be kept a bulk rubbish container, commercial bin or shipping container.
- (2) The requirement to obtain a permit under this clause does not apply:
 - (a) to a member of Council staff, a person contracted by Council or an employee of a utility carrying out their duties;
 - (b) where the activity is authorised pursuant to a building permit issued under the *Building Act 1993*; or
 - (c) to any works being conducted in the exercise of emergency powers under the *Emergency Management Act 2013*.
- (3) A utility as defined under the *Road Management Act 2004* must comply with that Act when undertaking works on a road.

NOTE: Clause 18 of this Local Law applies where a person wishes to carry out planting on a nature strip.

14. Vehicle Crossings

- (1) An owner or occupier of land may be required by notice in writing from Council to:
- (a) ensure that there is a properly constructed and maintained vehicle crossing including a temporary vehicle crossing, from a road to the adjacent land, including any required culvert under the vehicle crossing;
 - (b) repair or reconstruct a vehicle crossing;
 - (c) remove a vehicle crossing and reinstate any kerb, channel or other infrastructure in the road;
 - (d) undertake remedial works to prevent damage occurring to other parts of the road because of the location or condition of a vehicle crossing; and/or
 - (e) clean a vehicle crossing, including any required culvert in order to ensure the reasonable flow of water - to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer.
- (2) An owner or occupier of land must not, without a permit:
- (a) construct a new vehicle crossing; or
 - (b) reinstate or repair an existing vehicle crossing.

15. Council Drains

- (1) A person must not cause or allow a Council drain to be or become damaged, destroyed, interfered with or obstructed.
- (2) A person must not, without a permit, undertake any works in a Council drain.
- (3) A person must not construct anything or conduct an activity which might result in causing an obstruction to a Council drain.

16. Obstructions to the Safe Use of the Road

An owner or occupier of land must ensure that any vegetation, sign, structure or the condition of anything on that land does not:

- (a) obstruct or interfere with the safe and fair use of the road by pedestrians and vehicles by limiting visibility or affecting accessibility of the road, traffic control devices or other users of the road;
- (b) cause a hazard to pedestrians or vehicles because of its location, condition or because it is unsafe; or
- (c) encroach onto or over Council land or a road at a height less than 3 metres.

17. Collecting Wood

- (1) Unless collecting from a Council designated collection site during designated collection times, a person must not collect or remove wood, including dead trees and fallen branches from Council land or a road.
- (2) The prohibition under this clause does not apply if:
 - (a) a person has a planning permit under the Planning Scheme permitting the removal of vegetation;
 - (b) the removal of vegetation is required under Council's *Municipal Fire Management Plan* or *Roadside Management Plan*; or
 - (c) a person is removing wood or vegetation that has fallen from a tree located on privately owned land, that has fallen onto Council land or a road.

18. Planting on Nature Strips

Unless acting in accordance with Council's *Naturestrip Landscaping Policy* as shown on Council's website, a person must not, without a permit, on a naturestrip:

- (a) plant or remove any vegetation (excluding the mowing of non-native grass);
- (b) undertake any landscaping; or
- (c) remove any soil.

19. Grazing and Driving Livestock

A person must not, without a permit, allow any livestock under their control to graze or be driven on Council land or on a road.

20. Shopping Trolleys

- (1) A person must not leave a shopping trolley on any land, including Council land, a road or in a public place, unless it is in an area set aside as a collection area.
- (2) An Authorised Officer may impound a shopping trolley that has been left in an area that is not designated as an area for the return of shopping trolleys.
- (3) An owner of shopping trolleys must:
 - (a) ensure that the shopping trolleys belonging to the owner's business are not left in an area unless it is set aside for shopping trolley collection;
 - (b) demonstrate to Council's satisfaction that they have a regular collection system in place and undertake to respond to reports to collect shopping trolleys responsively;
 - (c) ensure that the shopping trolleys display appropriate business signage to identify ownership of the trolley; and
 - (d) collect a shopping trolley within 12 hours after being directed to do so by an Authorised Officer.

- (4) Where more than 10 shopping trolleys are provided, the owner of those shopping trolleys must ensure that the shopping trolleys are fitted with either a functioning coin deposit and release mechanism or an alternate, locking mechanism approved by Council.

21. Unregistered or Abandoned Vehicles

- (1) A person must not leave or park an unregistered or abandoned vehicle on Council land or on a road.
- (2) A person must not carry out any repairs or maintenance on a vehicle on a road other than to allow it to be removed.
- (3) Where a vehicle is impounded because of a contravention of sub-clause (1) the provisions of clause 3 of schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989* will apply.

22. Recreational Devices and Bicycles

A person using or who allows another person to use a recreational device or bicycle on Council land or on a road must ensure that the use does not obstruct, cause danger, interfere with or cause a nuisance to other users of that Council land or road.

23. Donation Bins

A person must not, without a permit, place a donation bin on Council land or on a road.

PART 3 – USES AND ACTIVITIES ON LAND**24. Use of Scare Guns**

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, use a scare gun on land other than land within the farming zone under the Planning Scheme.
- (2) A person may use a scare gun on farming zoned land under the Planning Scheme, provided that the following requirements are complied with:
 - (a) the scare gun is only used for the bona fide purpose of scaring birds from crops during a recognised crop growing period;
 - (b) the distance in a straight line between the scare gun and a residential premises on another property is 500 metres or greater;
 - (c) the distance in a straight line between the scare gun and another scare gun in use (whether located on the same property or on another property), is 150 metres or greater;
 - (d) the scare gun is only used between 7am and sunset on any day and is not used in excess of 12 hours in 1 day;
 - (e) the maximum noise level of the scare gun when measured immediately in front of the residential premises on another property is 100dB LIN peak or less;
 - (f) the scare gun does not emit more than the number or exceed the regularity of blasts in any 1 day period than the number set out in sub-clause (4); and
 - (g) the number of scare guns in use at any one time on the property does not exceed the number set out in sub-clause (6).
- (3) A permit may be granted to reduce the distance requirement set out in sub-clause (1) (b).
- (4) For the purposes of sub-clause (2)(f), the number and regularity of blasts in any 1 day period is:
 - (a) in the case of a single blast scare gun, 70 blasts, with the time between the blasts to be no less than 6 minutes; and
 - (b) in the case of a multiple blast scare gun, 70 blasts with:
 - (i) the time between blast sequences being no less than 6 minutes; and
 - (ii) the time between the first blast of a sequence and the last blast of a sequence being no more than 1 minute.
- (5) For the purposes of sub-clause (4)(b)(ii) each blast in a multiple blast sequence will be counted as 1 blast.
- (6) For the purposes of sub-clause (2)(g), the number of scare guns in use at any one time on the property is as follows:
 - (a) where the area under crop is 4 hectares or less = 1 scare gun;

- (b) where the area under crop is more than 4 hectares and less than 10 hectares = 2 scare guns; or
 - (c) where the area under crop is 10 hectares or more = 3 scare guns.
- (7) A permit may be granted to allow the use of more than 3 scare guns where the area under crop is 20 hectares or more but so as not to allow more than 2 scare guns for each 10 hectares of crop.
- (8) An Authorised Officer may impound a scare gun used in breach of this clause.

NOTE: In addition to Council's requirements regarding the use of scare guns in clause 24, other requirements also apply within Victoria, including the obligation to obtain approvals under State legislation for interfering with native wildlife.

25. Displaying Property Numbers

- (1) Where Council has allocated a number to a property, the owner or occupier of that property must ensure that:
- (a) the property is marked with the allocated number;
 - (b) the numbers are of a sufficient size and free from obstructions so that they can be clearly read under normal lighting conditions from the road immediately adjacent to the front boundary of the property; and
 - (c) in the case of a property in a rural zone the numbers are reflective.
- (2) An owner or occupier must ensure the allocated property numbers for a flat or unit are displayed on the front door or clearly visible from the front entrance of the dwelling.

26. Heavy and Long Vehicles in Residential Zones

- (1) A person must not park, store or repair a heavy vehicle or a long vehicle on land in a residential zone that is 2,000 square meters or less in size.
- (2) A person must not, without a permit, park, store or repair a heavy vehicle or a long vehicle on land in a residential zone that is 2,001 square meters or greater in size.
- (3) Irrespective of whether a permit is required under this clause, a person must not cause a nuisance to any other person by parking, storing, or repairing a long vehicle on land in a residential zone.

27. Camping, Caravans and Motorhomes

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, camp in, leave or occupy a caravan or motorhome on Council land or on a road, other than in an area designated by Council for that purpose.
- (2) A person must not, without a permit, camp in, leave or occupy a caravan or motorhome on land, where there is no dwelling on that land.
- (3) A permit granted under sub-clause (2) will expire 6 months after the date it was issued, however Council may grant a 6 month extension provided that:

- (a) there is progress towards completion of construction of a dwelling on the land;
 - (b) no nuisance has been complained of to Council within the previous 6 months; and
 - (c) any other relevant requirements have been satisfactorily complied with and can continue to be complied with.
- (4) The requirement to obtain a permit under sub-clause (2) does not apply:
- (a) to a person who leaves a caravan or motorhome or occupies a caravan or motorhome in a caravan park that is registered with Council: or
 - (b) where the use is specifically authorised in the Planning Scheme or a permit has been granted under the Planning Scheme.
- (5) A person may, without a permit, leave a caravan or motorhome on land on which there is a habitable dwelling provided that the caravan or motorhome is sited on the land so that it does not adversely affect the occupants of other properties.
- (6) A person may, without a permit, occupy a caravan or motorhome on land on which there is a habitable dwelling provided that:
- (a) adequate sanitary facilities are provided for any occupant of the caravan or motorhome;
 - (b) no more than one caravan or motorhome is situated on the land; and
 - (c) the occupation of the caravan or motorhome does not adversely affect the amenity of occupants of other properties; and
 - (d) the caravan or motorhome is used only for private occupation and not for any commercial purpose.
- (7) A person or organisation may apply for a permit to camp on land in the municipal district if camping is associated with a special event and the Authorised Officer is satisfied that any nuisance from camping can be reduced by compliance with conditions on a permit.
- (8) The requirements of this clause may be waived at Council's discretion in the event of extenuating circumstances including the provision of temporary or disaster relief accommodation.

28. Powered Recreational Vehicles

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, use or allow others to use a powered recreational vehicle on land owned or occupied by them if:
- (a) that land is within a residential zone, commercial zone or industrial zone under the Planning Scheme, or the land is affected by an environmental significance overlay, heritage overlay, vegetation protection overlay, or significant landscape overlay under the Planning Scheme; or
 - (b) that land is less than 4 hectares in size.
- (2) Irrespective of whether a permit is required under this clause, a person must not use or allow others to use a powered recreational vehicle on land owned or occupied by them, which in the opinion of an Authorised Officer causes a nuisance because of sound, smell, dust, smoke, soil erosion or any other factor that causes a nuisance.

- (3) In addition to the requirement that the use of a recreational vehicle on land must not cause a nuisance, a person must not use or allow others to use a powered recreational vehicle on land owned or occupied by them:
- (a) unless it is possible to maintain a 500 metre distance from where the recreational vehicle is being used and any neighbouring dwelling;
 - (b) unless it is fitted with a muffler that effectively reduces external noise from motor vehicles or motor cycles and a spark arrester;
 - (c) the number of vehicles is no more than 2 recreational vehicles at any one time on land which is less than 20 hectares or no more than 4 recreational vehicles at any one time on any land greater than 20 hectares;
 - (d) the recreational vehicle is not used continuously for a period in excess of 1 hour after which no recreational vehicle must be used for a minimum 2 hour period;
 - (e) the recreational vehicle is not used other than between 10am to 6pm Monday to Saturday and 1pm to 4pm on Sundays and public holidays; and
 - (f) on a day declared to be a Total Fire Ban Day under the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958*.

29. Storing Machinery, Materials, Goods or Vehicles on Land

- (1) An owner or occupier of land must not, without a permit, store, assemble or dismantle machinery, vehicles or second-hand goods or materials on that land.
- (2) The requirement to obtain a permit under this clause does not apply if:
- (a) the use is specifically authorised in the Planning Scheme or a permit has been granted under the Planning Scheme;
 - (b) the use is for recreational purposes and is not conducted for:
 - (i) financial gain; and
 - (ii) the machinery, vehicles or second-hand goods or materials are not stored in a way that is unsightly or detrimental to the general amenity of the neighbourhood or environment; or
 - (c) the use is established within normal or other lawfully established commercial activities.

30. Asset Protection Permit

An owner of a building site or person in charge of building works on a building site, must obtain an asset protection permit before commencing those works, unless an asset protection permit is not required under Council's Asset Protection Policy.

31. Building Site Amenity

The owner of a building site or a person in charge of building works on a building site must ensure that prior to commencing building works the building site has in place:

- (a) sanitary facilities to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer;

- (b) an adequate refuse facility that contains all building rubbish on the site to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer;
- (c) adequate fencing within the perimeter of the building site to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer;
- (d) a sign at the main entrance to the building site which:
 - (i) is at least 600 millimetres in height and 400 millimetres in width;
 - (ii) is placed in a location which is clearly legible in normal lighting conditions from the road immediately adjacent to the front boundary and contains the lot number as described in the relevant certificate of title; and
 - (iii) identifies the name, postal address and the 24 hour contact number or numbers of the person in charge of the building work.

32. Refuse on Building Sites

During the course of carrying out building works, the owner of the building site, person in charge of carrying out the building works, and each employee, agent, contractor or sub-contractor of the builder must ensure that:

- (a) a suitable refuse facility is placed on the building site for the deposit of building refuse;
- (b) the refuse facility is designed and constructed so as to prevent any building refuse within the refuse facility being blown out of it;
- (c) the lid on the refuse facility remains closed at all times except when placing building refuse within it;
- (d) the refuse facility is emptied immediately once it becomes full or at the discretion of an Authorised Officer;
- (e) all wind blown building refuse created or accumulated on the building site is deposited into the refuse facility upon the building refuse being created or accumulated;
- (f) the refuse facility is removed from the building site within 7 days of the cessation of building work;
- (g) all materials and refuse for or from the building site are contained within the building site; and
- (h) any vehicle exiting the building site does not carry any mud or slurry onto the adjoining or nearby road.

33. Sanitary Facilities on Building Sites

Where any building work is carried out on a building site, the owner of the building site or person in charge of carrying out the building works must ensure that:

- (a) a temporary toilet with hand washing facilities is provided on the building site at all times, and is of a type approved by Council; and

- (b) the temporary toilet is serviced, maintained and placed in a suitable location on the building site to the satisfaction of Council.

34. Site Fencing on Building Sites

Where any building work is carried out on a building site, the owner of the building site or person in charge of carrying out the building works must ensure that a fence is erected around the entire perimeter of a building site which:

- (a) is maintained throughout the duration of the building works;
- (b) is not less than 1500mm in height; and
- (c) is capable of preventing litter from being transported from the building site by the wind.

35. Drains on Land

An owner or occupier of land must ensure that any drain, including both underground and over the surface drains on that land:

- (a) properly discharges to Council's nominated legal point of discharge; and
- (b) does not adversely impact Council land or a road.

36. Shipping Containers

A person must not, without a permit, place a shipping container on land in a residential zone or on land in a rural living zone under the Planning Scheme unless:

- (a) it is permitted under the Planning Scheme; or
- (b) a building permit has been issued for the shipping container under the *Building Regulations 2018*.

NOTE: The requirement to obtain a permit under this clause only applies to the placement of temporary shipping containers within the zones specified in clause 36 in circumstances where planning and building controls do not apply.

37. Wasps and Bees

- (1) An owner or occupier of land must ensure that any English or European wasps nesting on the land are destroyed.
- (2) An owner or occupier of land who keeps bees on that land must do so in accordance with the Planning Scheme and the relevant Apiary Code of Practice.
- (3) The owner or occupier of land must ensure that any feral European honey beehive is destroyed or must ensure that any feral European honey bees that are swarming on the land and are considered by an Authorised Officer to be causing a nuisance to any person, are removed from the land.

38. Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Displays

An owner or occupier of land may allow fireworks or pyrotechnic displays to be conducted on that land, provided that the fireworks or pyrotechnics:

- (a) are low noise fireworks;
- (b) do not cause a nuisance to any other person;
- (c) do not endanger any animal;
- (d) are conducted on no more than four occasions in a calendar year;
- (e) are not used during a declared fire danger period;
- (f) are not conducted before midday or after 9.30pm;
- (g) if surrounding properties house livestock, the display must not be within 500m of the property boundary; and
- (h) are not used during the koala breeding season (April – September).

NOTE: In addition to Council's requirements regarding the display of fireworks and pyrotechnics in clause 38, other requirements also apply within Victoria, including the requirement to notify Worksafe and to ensure that fireworks and pyrotechnics are deployed by a licensed pyrotechnician.

PART 4 – COMMUNITY AMENITY AND SAFETY**Division 1 – Uses and Activities Impacting on Amenity and Safety****39. Consumption and Possession of Alcohol**

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, consume any alcohol or have in their possession an open container of alcohol on Council land or on a road unless one of the exemptions under sub-clause (2) applies.
- (2) The requirement to obtain a permit under sub-clause (1) does not apply to a person who is consuming alcohol or who has in their possession an open container of alcohol:
 - (a) in licensed premises or authorised premises under the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*;
 - (b) in a place which Council has designated to be exempt from the operation of this clause; or
 - (c) in an area designated by Council to be a picnic area listed in Schedule 2 between sunrise and sunset, unless an Authorised Officer reasonably believes that:
 - (i) the person in possession of an open container of alcohol is intoxicated; or
 - (ii) the consumption of alcohol by the person or a group of persons of which the person is a member is causing a nuisance, intimidating or disturbing others in the vicinity;
 - (d) on a sporting field or reserve during a time when that sporting field or reserve is in the exclusive use and control of an incorporated body that has a hire agreement or other arrangement with Council except:
 - (i) when the incorporated body has made a written request for an alternative arrangement as to times and Council has consented; or
 - (ii) during and one hour immediately before and immediately after events intended for participants under 18 years of age.
- (3) In determining whether to grant a permit under sub-clause (1), Council must take into account:
 - (a) the nature of the event; and
 - (b) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (4) Where an Authorised Officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person is contravening or has contravened sub-clause (1), the Authorised Officer may direct the person to seal or dispose of the contents of any unsealed container in that person's possession.

40. Smoke Free Areas

A person must not smoke in an area designated by Council to be a smoke-free area.

NOTE: For the purposes of this clause the term 'smoke' has the same meaning as used in the Tobacco Act 1987 which includes the use of e-cigarettes and vaping devices.

41. Unsightly Land

- (1) An owner or occupier of land, must not cause or allow that land, including any buildings or structures on that land, to be kept in a manner which is:
- (a) unsightly; or
 - (b) detrimental to the general amenity of the neighbourhood in which the land is located, regardless of whether the matter is publicly visible
- (2) For the purpose of determining whether a breach of sub-clause (1) has occurred, an Authorised Officer may have regard to the following matters:
- (a) the accumulation or hoarding of excessive rubbish or other materials;
 - (b) discarded, rejected, surplus or abandoned solid or liquid materials;
 - (c) graffiti;
 - (d) noxious weeds;
 - (e) unkempt vegetation that exceeds 200 millimetres in height;
 - (f) pest animals or vermin;
 - (g) excessive second-hand goods, materials, machinery, vehicles or parts;
 - (h) dilapidated buildings or structures;
 - (i) anything being built which is left incomplete, is partially demolished or gives an appearance of neglect;
 - (j) any other thing making the land visually unsightly or detrimental to the general amenity of the area, including land which is neglected or unsecured; or
 - (k) any other thing which the Authorised Officer considers relevant in making an assessment as to the application of this clause.

42. Dangerous Land

- (1) An owner or occupier of land, must not cause or allow that land, including any buildings or structures on that land, to be kept in a manner which is:
- (a) dangerous; or
 - (b) likely to cause danger to a person, life, property or the environment.
- (2) In determining whether land, buildings or structures on land are dangerous, an Authorised Officer may have regard to the following matters:
- (a) whether the land is a haven for noxious weeds, vermin or pest animals;
 - (b) whether the land is being used to store dangerous substances, chemicals or materials;
 - (c) the presence of any unsecured holes or excavations on the land;
 - (d) any other thing making the land dangerous or likely to cause a danger;

- (e) any other thing which in the Authorised Officer considers relevant in making an assessment as to the application of this clause; or
- (f) where the land is being used for anti-social purposes or unlawful behaviour by unauthorised persons.

43. Dilapidated Buildings

The owner or the occupier of land, which contains any building or other structure which is unoccupied, unfit for occupation or normal use, or is not occupied most of the time, must:

- (a) not permit any structure to become dilapidated or further dilapidated;
- (b) take all reasonable steps to secure the building and land from unauthorised access, including, if required, secure fencing, more adequate locks and any other security options;
- (c) take reasonable steps to prevent or remedy the land from being a haven for regular anti-social or unlawful behaviour by unauthorised persons;
- (d) maintain any building in a state of good repair and appearance, including undertaking temporary repairs as required to ensure on-site safety and security and to avoid the appearance of neglect out of character with other allotments in the vicinity; and
- (e) not allow any graffiti to remain on any building, wall, fence, post or other structure or object erected on that land.

Division 2 – Open Air burning and Incinerators

44. Burning in the Open Air

In addition to the requirements in the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958* or *Fire Rescue Victoria Act 1958* a person must not, without a permit, light a fire on Council land or on a road except where:

- (a) the fire is in a permanent or portable barbecue being used for cooking food; or
- (b) the fire is lit by an officer, employee or authorised agent of a public authority in the course of their duty.

NOTE: During the declared fire danger period, open air burning and burning incinerators are regulated by permit requirements and other provisions contained in the Country Fire Authority Act 1958. The Municipal Fire Prevention Officer of Council is authorised under that Act to issue permits during that period. Lighting a fire on a day of Total Fire Ban is an offence under that Act.

45. Nuisance from Open Air Burning and Incinerators

- (1) A person who has lit a fire in the open air, or the owner or occupier of the land on which the fire is lit, must ensure that the fire, including in an incinerator:
 - (a) is not offensive or a nuisance to another person in the vicinity or beyond the property boundary;
 - (b) does not cause a hazard to a person's health;
 - (c) does not have an adverse impact on visibility beyond the property boundary, including reducing the visibility of motorists and other users of a public road;
 - (d) does not create a hazard on or near a public road;
 - (e) the fire or use of the incinerator is supervised by an adult at all times;
 - (f) sufficient fire suppression or extinguishing equipment is available to extinguish the fire if required;
 - (g) the vegetation to be burnt is dead and dry prior to lighting it; and
 - (h) at the site of the fire, the wind speed must not exceed 15 kilometres an hour (8 knots).
- (2) For the purpose of sub-clause (1), a person must not light or allow a fire to remain lit on land or in an incinerator owned or occupied by them regardless of whether they lit the fire, if the fire contains any of the following materials:
 - (a) green or wet material;
 - (b) non timber based building materials;
 - (c) rubber or plastic, including plastic mulch, plant pots and packaging materials;
 - (d) furnishings and carpet;
 - (e) manufactured chemicals;

- (f) petroleum or oil products;
- (g) paint, including any container in which paint is kept;
- (h) food waste;
- (i) manure and straw;
- (j) household waste;
- (k) other offensive, noxious or toxic matter; or
- (l) animals or animal parts.

46. Burning in the Open Air – Land 4,000 Square Metres and Less

- (1) A person must not light or allow a fire to be lit in the open air on land owned or occupied by them regardless of whether they lit the fire, where the land size is 2,000 square metres or less.
- (2) A person must not, without a permit, light a fire in the open air on land, including in an incinerator, or allow such a fire to be lit on land owned or occupied by them regardless of whether they lit the fire, where the land size is over 2,000 square metres and is equal to or less than 4,000 square metres.
- (3) The restriction in sub-clause (1) or the permit requirement in sub-clause (2) does not apply to:
 - (a) a barbecue, pizza oven or other properly constructed appliance while it is being used for cooking food;
 - (b) a fire in a brazier, chimenea or fire pit while it is being used for heating;
 - (c) a tool of trade while being used for the purpose for which it was designed;
 - (d) a fire lit during the course of duty by a member of a fire and emergency services agency; or
 - (e) a fire where Council has granted a permit because it considers that the specific circumstances of the case enable it to provide an exemption.

47. Burning in the Open Air – Land Above 4,000 Square Metres up to 40,000 Square Metres

- (1) A person may light a fire in the open air on land, including in an incinerator, or allow such a fire to be lit on land owned or occupied by them regardless of whether they lit the fire, where the land size is above 4,000 square metres and is equal to or less than 40,000 square metres, provided that:
 - (a) the fire is lit or allowed to remain alight not before 8am or after 6pm on any day;
 - (b) no more than 10 cubic metres of vegetation is burnt at any one time;
 - (c) the fire is not within 50 metres of any neighbouring dwelling; and
 - (d) the fire is lit or allowed to remain alight in accordance with clause 46.

- (2) Where a person wants to burn in the open air under this clause and the requirements in sub-clause (1) cannot be complied with, a person must obtain a permit.

48. Burning in the Open Air – Land Above 40,000 Square Metres

- (1) A person may light a fire in the open air on land, including in an incinerator, or allow such a fire to be lit on land owned or occupied by them regardless of whether they lit the fire, where the land size is above 40,000 square metres, provided that:
- (a) no more than 100 cubic metres (e.g. 5 metres wide x 5 metres long x 4 metres high) of vegetation is burnt at any one time;
 - (b) the fire is not within 100 metres of any neighbouring dwelling; and
 - (c) the fire is lit or allowed to remain alight in accordance with clause 45.
- (2) Where a person wants to burn in the open air under this clause and the requirements in sub-clause (1) cannot be complied with, a person must obtain a permit.

49. Removal of Restrictions on Open Air Burning

The Municipal Fire Prevention Officer may remove some restrictions on open air burning applied by this Local Law for fire prevention purposes only. The removal of any restrictions will be for a period determined by the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer having regard to discussions with the Country Fire Authority or Fire Rescue Victoria and seasonal conditions. Council will give public notice of this period.

50. Applying for a Permit to Burn

A person may apply for a permit to burn by:

- (a) lodging an application with Council in a form approved by Council or an Authorised Officer; and
- (b) paying to Council the appropriate application fee, if applicable.

51. Issue of Permits to Burn

- (1) Council or an Authorised Officer may issue a permit with conditions or refuse to issue a permit based on the specific circumstances of the matter having due regard to:
- (a) the size of the land;
 - (b) the ability of the landowner to remove the vegetation via more appropriate methods;
 - (c) the proximity to other landowners and risk of smoke nuisance; or
 - (d) any other relevant thing.
- (2) The conditions of the permit must be set out in the permit.
- (3) A person who undertakes open air burning for which Council or an Authorised Officer has issued a permit, must comply with the conditions on the permit.

- (4) Even if a permit has been issued, a person must not light or allow to remain alight any fire in the open air on a day that has been declared as a day of Total Fire Ban or a smog alert day.

52. Extinguishing Fires

A person who has lit or allowed a fire to remain alight contrary to the provisions of this Local Law or any condition contained in a permit, or the owner or occupier of the land on which the fire was lit, must extinguish the fire immediately on being directed to do so by:

- (a) an Authorised Officer; or
- (b) a member of Victoria Police, the Country Fire Authority or Fire Rescue Victoria.

Division 3 – Animals

53. Keeping Animals

A person keeping animals on land must not allow any animal to:

- (a) cause a nuisance to any other person because of noise, smell or any other condition;
- (b) damage any native flora or fauna on the land with the exception of native pasture grasses under controlled grazing;
- (c) pollute any drain, gutter, watercourse or water catchment on or through that land; or
- (d) cause the invasion or spread of noxious or environmental weeds on or from that land.

54. Animal Housing

A person providing housing for animals kept on land must ensure that the animal housing is:

- (a) constructed and maintained to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer;
- (b) kept clean and sanitary at all times, including keeping food in fly and vermin proof buildings or containers (other than baled, roll, sheaf hay or silage);
- (c) located at a distance no less than 2 metres from dwellings on other land to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer;
- (d) located at a distance from any property boundary to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer;
- (e) kept in a manner which does not cause a nuisance or is offensive to adjoining land owners or occupiers; and
- (f) situated in an appropriate location having regard to the topography of the land or other relevant considerations to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer.

55. Condition of Land where Animals are Kept

- (1) A person keeping animals on land, must ensure that the land is free from;
 - (a) an accumulation of animal waste; and
 - (b) materials, refuse and vegetation that may harbour or attract rats, mice or other vermin.
- (2) A person must ensure that any water provided for animals is kept in a clean condition that is not stagnant or likely to attract mosquitoes.
- (3) An owner or occupier of land must ensure that any dead animal on that land is promptly and lawfully disposed of to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer.

56. Numbers of Animals

- (1) An owner or occupier of land must not, without a permit, keep or allow to be kept, either permanently or temporarily, any more in number for each type of animal than as set out in the table below:

Type of animal	Maximum allowance without a Local Law permit
Dogs	2 – allowed on land less than 4000 square metres (1 acre) 4 – allowed on land 4000 square metres (1 acre) and greater <i>Note that planning controls may apply</i>
Cats	2 – allowed on land less than 4000 square metres (1 acre) 4 – allowed on land 4000 square metres (1 acre) and greater <i>Note that planning controls may apply</i>
Small animals (Rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, and rodents)	6 small animals in total allowed on land less than 4000 square metres (1 acre) The Local Law does not limit the number of other small animals on land 4000 square metres (1 acre) and greater <i>Note that planning controls may apply</i>
Roosters and Peacocks	0 – Roosters and peacocks are not allowed on land less than 4000 square metres (1 acre) without a permit The Local Law does not limit the number of roosters on land 4000 square metres (1 acre) and greater <i>Note that planning controls may apply</i>
Poultry (other than roosters and peacocks)	10 poultry in total allowed on land less than 2000 square metres (0.5 acre) 15 poultry in total allowed on land between 2000 square metres (.5 acre) and 4000 square metres (1 acre) The Local Law does not limit the number of poultry on land greater than 4000 square metres (1 acre) <i>Note that planning controls may apply</i>

Pigs	<p>0 – Pigs (including piglets) are not allowed on land less than 10,000 square metres (2.5 acres) without a permit</p> <p>The Local Law does not limit the number of pigs on land 10,000 square metres (2.5 acres) and greater</p> <p><i>Note that planning controls may apply</i></p>
Farm animals (Refer to definition)	<p>0 – Farm animals are not allowed on land less than 2,000 square metres (.5 acre) without a permit, unless for grazing in accordance with sub-clause (3)(c)</p> <p>The Local Law does not limit the number of farm animals on land 2,000 square metres (.5 acre) and greater</p> <p><i>Note that planning controls may apply</i></p>

- (2) The requirement to obtain a permit under sub-clause (1) does not apply:
- (a) to dogs and cats under 3 months of age;
 - (b) to land that is lawfully used for the purposes of a pet shop, veterinarian business, Council pound, animal breeding or boarding establishment or any other use permitted under the Planning Scheme;
 - (c) if the number of animals kept on land is because of a commercial undertaking on the land and the use is authorised under the Planning Scheme or a permit has been obtained under the planning Scheme;
 - (d) if the dogs are kept for working stock on farm land which is greater than 40 hectares; or
 - (e) if farm animals are on the land for not more than 1 month and are being used for fire prevention or weed management purposes.

57. Dog Excrement

A person in charge of a dog in a public place must:

- (a) carry a sufficient and suitable device for the collection of any excrement from that animal;
- (b) produce the suitable device when requested to do so by an Authorised Officer;
- (c) immediately collect and dispose of the excrement in a proper and sanitary manner;
- (d) comply with a verbal direction given by an Authorised Officer to collect and dispose of the excrement in a proper and sanitary manner; and
- (e) ensure that the animal does not defecate on land unless permitted by the owner of that land.

58. Effective Fencing and Confinement of Farm Animals

- (1) An owner or occupier of land must ensure that the land on which a farm animal is kept is adequately fenced or confined in a satisfactory condition to ensure that the farm animal cannot escape from it.
- (2) If a farm animal is found at large or not securely confined to the owner or occupier's land, the owner or occupier of that land is guilty of an offence.

59. Pest and Stray Animals

An owner or occupier of land must not feed or encourage the presence of pest animals, stray animals, wild birds or foxes on that land.

Division 4 – Waste and Resource Recovery**60. Domestic Waste**

- (1) An owner or occupier of land to which Council provides a bin and collection service for domestic waste must:
- (a) deposit all refuse generated on the land into the bin provided by Council;
 - (b) wrap or bag waste (in the general waste bin only) to minimise windblown litter at the disposal facility and environmental impacts;
 - (c) place the bin for collection on the nature strip, roadside, kerb or as advised by Council not more than 24 hours before collection, unless instructed by Council to keep the bin presented for the purposes of repair or removal of service;
 - (d) ensure that the bin's lid is closed at all times;
 - (e) keep the bin in a clean, inoffensive and sanitary condition;
 - (f) return the bin to the land as soon as possible after collection but no later than 48 hours after collection;
 - (g) remove any litter from a road or Council land which has spilled from the bin supplied to the land;
 - (h) ensure that the land on which the bin is kept is adequately drained and kept in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition; and
 - (i) comply with any conditions or requirements that Council applies to the waste collection service.
- (2) An owner or occupier of land must not:
- (a) place for collection any refuse other than the type of waste specified for collection in a general waste, recycling, glass or FOGO bin;
 - (b) place for collection more than two of each general waste, recycling, glass or FOGO bins unless permitted to do so by Council; or
 - (c) damage or interfere with any bin not under their control.
- (3) A person must not, without a permit, remove anything left for collection under this clause.

61. Prohibited Waste

A person must not place any of the following substances in a domestic waste bin put out for collection:

- (a) sludge, slurry, semi-liquid or liquid waste;
- (b) oil, paint, solvents and similar substances;
- (c) radioactive waste;

- (d) material containing asbestos;
- (e) any medical or infectious waste;
- (f) any hazardous or chemical waste;
- (g) any volatile or explosive substance;
- (h) any excrement (unless animal excrement is permitted in the FOGO bin);
- (i) any object weighing more than 80 kilograms;
- (j) any item which may damage the bin or reduce its strength or effectiveness;
- (k) any item that would prevent the lid on the bin from closing; or
- (l) any hot ash or embers.

62. Hard Waste Collection

- (1) Where Council or an Authorised Officer has given public notice that a hard waste collection will be provided, any hard waste to be collected must be left for collection in accordance with the conditions of collection as specified by Council.
- (2) A person must obtain a permit to remove anything left for collection under sub-clause (1).
- (3) A person must not place any hard waste on a road or on Council land without Council approval.

63. Commercial Waste

- (1) An owner or occupier of land must ensure that any commercial or trade waste bin kept on land is:
 - (a) constructed of impervious materials, is watertight and fly and pest proof;
 - (b) emptied before it overflows but at least every 7 days or when an Authorised Officer directs;
 - (c) maintained and kept in a clean condition and free from offensive odours;
 - (d) displaying a sign indicating the type of waste or material which may be deposited and stating that it is an offence to deposit material not listed in the notice; and
 - (e) not stored or placed on Council land or a road without a permit.
- (2) A person using a commercial waste collection service that is not provided by Council must provide evidence of that service when requested to do so by an Authorised Officer.
- (3) A person must not place commercial waste in a public litter or recycling receptacle provided by Council.

64. Interference with Public Receptacles

A person must not interfere with a public litter or recycling receptacle provided by Council, including placing an object or advertising materials on or against the bin.

PART 5 – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**Division 1 – Administration****65. Exercise of Discretion**

In exercising any discretion contained in this Local Law, an Authorised Officer must have regard to:

- (a) the objectives of this Local Law;
- (b) any applicable Council Policy, including Council's Compliance and Enforcement Policy; and
- (c) any other relevant matter, including extenuating circumstances.

66. Permits

- (1) Council or an Authorised Officer in their absolute discretion, may issue a permit under this Local Law with or without conditions, including the payment of any fee Council may require or may refuse to issue a permit.
- (2) Council or an Authorised Officer may prescribe:
 - (a) the manner and form in which applications for permits under this Local Law should be made;
 - (b) the manner in which any permit under this Local Law should be issued; and
 - (c) the fee for any such permit application.
- (3) Council or an Authorised Officer may:
 - (a) waive payment of the permit fee;
 - (b) require the applicant for a permit to give notice of the application; and/or
 - (c) require an applicant for a permit to provide Council with more information before Council or Authorised Officer deals with the permit application.
- (4) A permit expires on the date specified in the permit as determined by an Authorised Officer, or if no such date is specified, will expire 2 years after the date of issue.
- (5) Council or an Authorised Officer may issue a permit with conditions or refuse to issue a permit.
- (6) Council must maintain a register of permits granted, including details of cancellation, corrections or amendments made to any permit or any exemption from a requirement to obtain a permit or conditions applied to that exemption.
- (7) A permit applicant must be 18 years of age or older.

67. Considering Applications

- (1) In considering an application for a permit, Council or an Authorised Officer may consider:
 - (a) any policy or guideline adopted by Council relating to the subject matter of the application for the permit;
 - (b) any submission that may be received in respect of the application;
 - (c) any comments that may be made in respect of the application by any public authority, Government department, community organisation or other body or person; and
 - (d) any other relevant matters, including the views of surrounding business and property owners or occupiers regarding the permit application.
- (2) A person who has applied for a permit may appeal in writing to Council's appeals panel against the decision to refuse to grant a permit within 21 days of being notified of the decision.

68. Correction of Permit

- (1) Council or an Authorised Officer may correct a permit issued if the permit contains:
 - (a) a clerical mistake or an error arising from any accident, slip or omission;
 - (b) a material miscalculation of figures; or
 - (c) a mistake in the description of any person, thing or property referred to in the permit.
- (2) Council or the Authorised Officer must note the correction in the register of permits.

69. Grounds for Cancellation or Amendment of Permits

- (1) Council or an Authorised Officer may cancel or amend any permit if they consider that there has been:
 - (a) a material misstatement, false representation or concealment of facts in relation to the application for a permit;
 - (b) any material mistake in relation to the use of the permit;
 - (c) any material change of circumstances which has occurred since the issue of the permit;
 - (d) a failure to comply with the conditions of the permit; or
 - (e) a failure to comply with a Notice to Comply within the time specified in the Notice to Comply.
- (2) Council or the Authorised Officer must notify the holder of a permit of Council's or Authorised Officer's intention to amend or cancel the permit and give the holder of that permit an opportunity to make a written submission before the permit is amended or cancelled.
- (3) If Council or the Authorised Officer, after considering any written submission made by the permit holder, determines to cancel or amend the permit, Council or the Authorised Officer must note that cancellation or amendment in the register of permits.

70. Exemptions

- (1) A person may request Council or an Authorised Officer by written notice, to exempt any person or class of persons from the requirement to have a permit, either generally or at specified times.
- (2) In determining whether to grant an exemption to the requirement to obtain a permit, Council or an Authorised Officer will have regard to:
 - (a) the circumstances of the application;
 - (b) whether the application is to raise funds for community or charitable purposes;
 - (c) whether the proposed activity or use will have an overall community benefit;
 - (d) whether the proposed activity or use could have a detrimental effect on adjoining properties;
 - (e) whether the applicant will be given an unfair advantage over any other person or organisation; and
 - (f) any other matters relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (3) An exemption may be granted subject to conditions.
- (4) A person must comply with the conditions of an exemption.
- (5) An exemption may be cancelled, corrected or amended as if it were a permit.

71. False Representations

A person who makes a false representation or declaration (whether oral or in writing), or who intentionally omits relevant information in an application for a permit or exemption is guilty of an offence.

72. Bonds

If a permit holder is required to lodge a bond as a condition of a permit, Council may:

- (a) utilise those funds to remedy a breach of the permit or repair any damage caused by works carried out under the permit;
- (b) request the permit holder increase the bond amount;
- (c) release all or part of the bond back to the permit holder upon completion of any works under the permit; or
- (d) retain the bond amount and place it into Council's general revenue if the permit holder cannot be located or has not collected the bond payment within 12 months of written notice being given to the permit holder.

Division 2 – Enforcement

73. Powers of Authorised Officers

If an Authorised Officer considers that there has been a breach of this Local Law, including a breach of any conditions of a permit, the Authorised Officer may take any or all of the actions provided in this Local Law and may:

- (a) warn the person who is breaching the Local Law, which may also be an official warning issued in accordance with the requirements of the *Infringements Act 2006*;
- (b) direct the person to cease the activity breaching the Local Law;
- (c) serve a Notice to Comply to remedy the breach;
- (d) issue an infringement notice;
- (e) take action to administer and enforce the Local Law;
- (f) issue a Summons to have the matter determined in the Magistrates' Court; or
- (g) in the exercise of the officer's discretion, take no action.

74. Impounding and Disposal

- (1) Where any goods, items, animals, objects or equipment are left on a road, Council land or in a public place in contravention of this Local Law, including a breach of any conditions of a permit, an Authorised Officer may impound those goods, items, animals, objects or equipment.
- (2) Where something is impounded in accordance with this clause, an Authorised Officer must, if practicable, serve a Notice of Impoundment specifying a description of the item impounded, details for collection and what action will be taken if the item is not collected in accordance with Council's collection requirements, on the person who appears to be the owner of the impounded item.
- (3) An Authorised Officer must return the impounded item to its owner or person acting on behalf of or with the authority of the owner as confirmed to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer, on payment of the prescribed fee.
- (4) An Authorised Officer may sell, donate, dispose of or destroy the impounded item if the owner has not paid the prescribed fee and collected the item within 14 days of impounding.
- (5) In the case that the impounded items are perishable and will not survive the period specified in a Notice of Impoundment, the Authorised Officer may dispose of the items sooner.
- (6) Council is entitled to retain from the proceeds of the sale of any impounded item, its reasonable costs incurred in impounding, keeping and selling the item.

75. Offences and Penalties

- (1) A person who:
- (a) contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this Local Law or any incorporated document;
 - (b) contravenes or fails to comply with any condition contained in a permit issued under this Local Law;
 - (c) knowingly provides false information in support of an application for a permit issued under this Local Law;
 - (d) knowingly supplies false or misleading information to an Authorised Officer;
 - (e) fails to comply with a verbal or written lawful direction issued by an Authorised Officer;
 - (f) fails to comply with a Notice to Comply served by an Authorised Officer;
 - (g) fails to comply with a Notice of Impoundment served by an Authorised Officer;
 - (h) fails to comply with a sign erected by Council; or
 - (i) makes or attempts to make any agreement with an Authorised Officer to induce that Authorised Officer to compromise their duty

is guilty of an offence which if proven in Court is liable to a penalty not exceeding 20 penalty units.

- (2) After a finding of guilt for an offence under a provision of this Local Law, any person who continues in contravention of that provision is liable to a penalty of 2 penalty units for each day after a finding of guilt during which the contravention continues.
- (3) A person who is guilty of a second or subsequent offence against the same provision in this Local Law is liable to a penalty not exceeding 20 penalty units.
- (4) Where a corporation commits an offence under this Local law, any directors or officers of that corporation also commit an offence.

76. Power to Issue a Lawful Direction

- (1) Where an Authorised Officer reasonably believes that a person has committed an offence against this Local Law, they may issue a lawful direction, requiring a person to stop offending and do anything necessary to rectify the offence.
- (2) A direction may be verbal or written.

77. Notices to Comply

- (1) Where an Authorised Officer considers that there is a breach of this Local Law, including a breach of a permit issued under the Local Law, they may serve a Notice to Comply on the relevant person to remedy the breach.

- (2) A Notice to Comply issued in accordance with this Local Law must state the time and date by which the thing must be remedied.
- (3) The time required by a Notice to Comply served under this Local Law must be reasonable in the circumstances. What will be reasonable will vary depending on the matters to be remedied, but should take into account, if applicable:
 - (a) the amount of work involved;
 - (b) the degree of difficulty;
 - (c) the availability of necessary materials or other necessary items;
 - (d) climatic conditions;
 - (e) the degree of risk or potential risk; and
 - (f) any other relevant matter.
- (4) An owner, occupier or other person served with a Notice to Comply who fails to remedy a situation in accordance with a Notice to Comply within the time specified in the Notice is guilty of an offence under this Local Law.
- (5) Where exceptional circumstances exist, a person having received a Notice to Comply may apply to an Authorised Officer for an extension of time to comply with that Notice.
- (6) If any owner, occupier, or other person served with a Notice to Comply fails to carry out any work stipulated in a Notice to Comply, Council or an Authorised Officer may carry out the work itself or approve another person to carry out the work and recover the cost of performing the work from the owner or appointed agent.

78. Power to Act in Urgent Circumstances

- (1) Where an owner, occupier, builder or other person has failed to comply with any requirement of this Local Law, including a breach of a permit issued under the Local Law, an Authorised Officer may take any action considered necessary to prevent any danger to the environment or any nuisance arising, provided that:
 - (a) Council or an Authorised Officer considers the circumstances to be sufficiently urgent and that the time necessary, or potential difficulty in serving a Notice to Comply may place a person, animal, property or the environment at risk or in danger of substantial detrimental effect;
 - (b) the Chief Executive Officer of the Council or their delegate (not being the Authorised Officer administering this clause,) approves of the proposed action; and
 - (c) details of the circumstances and of the remedial action taken are as soon as practicable forwarded to the owner, occupier, builder or other person.
- (2) Any action taken under this clause shall not extend beyond what is necessary to cause the immediate abatement or minimisation of the risk or danger involved.
- (3) Where work is undertaken in accordance with this clause, Council may recover the cost of performing the work from the owner, builder, appointed agent or responsible person.

79. Infringement Notices

- (1) As an alternative to prosecution, an Authorised Officer may serve an infringement notice on any person who has contravened this Local Law.
- (2) A Local Law infringement notice must contain the information prescribed by the *Infringements Act 2006*
- (3) As an infringement notice issued under the Local Law is an infringement offence under the *Infringements Act 2006*, an internal review application made to Council must be processed in accordance with that Act.
- (4) The amount of the fixed penalty to be specified in an infringement notice is set out in Schedule 1, or if no amount is set out, 2 penalty units is applied.
- (5) In the event of the failure of a person served with an infringement notice to pay the amount specified within 28 days of the issue of the notice or such further time as an Authorised Officer may allow, the Authorised Officer may pursue the matter by commencing prosecution proceedings.

80. Operator Onus

The operator onus provisions under Part 6AA of the *Road Safety Act 1986* apply to any offence provision of this Local Law which involves the use of vehicles.

SCHEDULE 1 - INFRINGEMENT PENALTIES

Clause Number	Provision	Penalty Unit Person	Penalty Unit Corporation
7(1)(2)(3)	Use of Council Land and Roads	2	4
8(1)	Trading on Council Land or a Road	3	6
9	Events, Filming and Busking	1	2
10(1)	Outdoor Dining	2	4
11(1)	Moveable or Temporary Advertising Signs	2	4
12	Gambling Advertisements	4	8
13(1)	Interference with and Works on Council Land and Roads	4	8
14(1)(2)	Vehicle Crossings	4	8
15(1)(2)(3)	Council Drains	4	8
16	Obstruction to the Safe Use of the Road	2	4
17(1)	Collecting Wood	2	4
18	Planting on Nature Strips	2	4
19	Grazing and Driving Livestock	2	4
20(1)	Shopping Trolleys – a person must leave a shopping trolley in designated collection area	2	4
20(3)	Shopping trolleys – owner's general obligations	4	8
20(4)	Shopping trolleys – owner to install suitable locking mechanism	4	8
21(1)(2)	Unregistered and Abandoned Vehicles	2	4
22	Recreational Devices and Bicycles	2	4
23	Donation Bins	2	4
24(1)(2)	Use of Scare Guns	2	4
25(1)(2)	Displaying Property Numbers	2	4
26(1)(2)(3)	Heavy and Long Vehicles in Residential Zones	3	6
27(1)(2)(5)(6)	Camping, Caravans and Motorhomes	2	4
28(1)(2)(3)	Powered Recreational Vehicles	2	4
29(1)	Storing Machinery, Materials, Goods or Vehicles on Land	2	4
30	Asset Protection Permit	4	8

Clause Number	Provision	Penalty Unit Person	Penalty Unit Corporation
31	Building Site Amenity	4	8
32	Refuse on Building Sites	4	8
33	Sanitary Facilities on Building Sites	4	8
34	Site Fencing on Building Sites	4	8
35	Drains on Land	4	8
36	Shipping Containers	2	4
37(1)(2)(3)	Wasps and Bees	2	4
38	Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Displays	4	8
39(1)	Consumption and Possession of alcohol	2	4
40	Smoke Free Areas	2	4
41(1)	Unightly Land	2	4
42(1)	Dangerous Land	4	8
43	Dilapidated Buildings	4	8
44	Burning in the Open Air	2	4
45(1)(2)	Nuisance from Open Air Burning and Incinerators	2	4
46(1)(2)	Burning in the Open Air – Land 4,000 Square Metres and Less	2	4
47(1)	Burning in the Open Air – Land Above 4,000 Square Metres up to 40,000 Square Metres	2	4
48(1)	Burning in the Open Air – Land Above 40,000 Square Metres	2	4
51(3)(4)	Issue of Permits to Burn	2	4
52	Extinguishing Fires	2	4
53	Keeping Animals	2	4
54	Animal Housing	2	4
55(1)(2)(3)	Condition of Land where Animals are Kept	2	4
56	Numbers of Animals	2	4
57	Dog Excrement	2	4
58(1)(2)	Effective Fencing and Confinement of Farm Animals	2	4
59	Pest and Stray Animals	2	4

60(1)(2)(3)	Domestic Waste	2	4
61	Prohibited Waste	2	4
62(1)(2)(3)	Hard Waste Collection	2	4
63(1)(2)(3)	Commercial Waste	2	4
64	Interference with Public Receptacles	2	4
70(4)	Compliance with Conditions of a Permit Exemption	2	4
71	False Representations	2	4
75(1)(a)	Fail to Comply with an Incorporated Document	2	4
75(1)(b)	Fail to Comply with a Permit Condition	2	4
75(1)(c)	Knowingly Provides False Information in Support of a Permit Application	2	4
75(1)(d)	Knowingly Supplies False or Misleading Information to an Authorised Officer	4	8
75(1)(e)	Fail to Comply with a Verbal or Written Direction Issued by an Authorised Officer	2	4
75(1)(f)	Fail to Comply with a Notice to Comply served by an Authorised Officer	2	4
75(1)(g)	Fail to Comply with a Notice of Impoundment served by an Authorised Officer	2	4
75(1)(h)	Fail to Comply with a Sign Erected by Council	2	4
75(1)(i)	Make or Attempt to Make Any Agreement with an Authorised Officer to Induce that Authorised Officer to Compromise their Duty	4	8

NOTE: The amount of a penalty unit is indexed each financial year as determined by the State Government.

SCHEDULE 2 – DESIGNATED PICNIC AREAS

- Gisborne
 - ☞ Area between Sankey Reserve and Gardiner Reserve, Aitken Street
 - ☞ The area along the Jacksons Creek at the end of Brantome Street
 - ☞ Gisborne Botanic Gardens, Station Street
- Kyneton
 - ☞ Botanical Gardens, Mollison Street and Clowes Street
 - ☞ Quarry Reserve, Piper Street/Campaspe Crescent
 - ☞ Kyneton Mineral Springs, Burton Avenue
- Lancefield
 - ☞ Lancefield Park, Chauncey Street
- Macedon
 - ☞ Ash Wednesday Park, Smith Street
- Mount Macedon
 - ☞ Centennial Park, Mount Macedon Road
 - ☞ Stanley Park, Waterfalls Road
- Malmsbury
 - ☞ Malmsbury Botanical Gardens, High Street
- Newham
 - ☞ Wesley Park, Rochford Road
- Riddells Creek
 - ☞ Lions Memorial Park, Main Road
 - ☞ Lake Park, Main Road
- Romsey
 - ☞ Lions Park Reserve, 50 Main Street
 - ☞ Lions 5 Mile Creek Park, Main Street
 - ☞ Romsey Park, Park Lane
 - ☞ Eco-therapy Park, Romsey
- Tylden
 - ☞ Tylden Hall Reserve, Tylden Woodend Road
- Woodend
 - ☞ Woodend Children's Park, Nicholson Street
 - ☞ Woodend Campaspe Park, Campaspe Drive



 **Macedon Ranges**
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Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges

Id No	Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2023/24 Comments
249	Local Law Busking Permit Fee (over 18yrs age)	Per Permit	\$ 38.00	No change to budgeted fee - for set time and location
250	Local Laws Fees - General Permit (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 175.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Laws Fees - General Permit (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 306.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
251	Local Laws Fees - Shipping container / temporary storage container permit - application processing fee (per container up to 12 month permit)	Per Container	\$ 175.00	No change to budgeted fee - wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit for set time and location This fee was introduced in the 23/24 budget to assess each container - on Council or private land. Note asset protection permit may also be required for placement on Council land.
252	Local Laws Fees - General Permit (registered charity / not-for-profit)	Per Permit	50% full fee rate	Minor change to wording - fee reference unchanged to what was adopted in the budget
253	Local Laws Fees - Permit to burn	Per Permit	FREE	No change to budgeted fee - for set time and location
254	Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (up to 5 total - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 112.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (up to 5 total - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 196.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
255	Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit - pensioner concession card holder	Per Permit	50% full fee rate	Wording and fee change to what was adopted in budget to apply the concession rate option to all additional animal permit categories
256	Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (6 or more total domestic pet keeping - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 221.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (6 or more total domestic pet keeping - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 387.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)

257	Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit - small animals, roosters, peacocks, poultry, pigs, and farm animals (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 112.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit - small animals, roosters, peacocks, poultry, pigs, and farm animals (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 196.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
259	Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 1-4 tables and seats (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 185.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 1-4 tables and seats (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 324.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
260	Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 5-8 tables and seats (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 276.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 5-8 tables and seats (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 483.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
261	Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 9+ tables and seats (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 384.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 9+ tables and seats (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 672.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
262	Local Law Permit - Ancillary furniture (eg. umbrellas, heaters, screens, plants) (price per business - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 63.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Ancillary furniture (eg. umbrellas, heaters, screens, plants) (price per business - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 110.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
263	Local Law Permit - Goods for display 1-4 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 98.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Goods for display 1-4 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 172.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
264	Local Law Permit - Goods for display 5-8 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 147.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Goods for display 5-8 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 257.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)

265	Local Law Permit - Goods for display 9+ items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 197.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Goods for display 9+ items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 345.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
266	Local Law Permit - Moveable advertising signs / flags - fee per each item (note - maximum 2 signs permitted) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 49.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Moveable advertising signs / flags - fee per each item (note - maximum 2 signs permitted) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 86.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
267	Local Law Permit - Real Estate Signs (price per franchise - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 226.00	Wording change to what was adopted in budget to explain up to 12 month permit
NEW	Local Law Permit - Real Estate Signs (price per franchise - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 395.00	New extended permit fee for permits over 12 months offered at 1.75 times annual permit fee (offering savings on permit cost on 2-year permit)
NEW	Permit amendment application fee - Roadside and Footpath Trading permit	Per Application plus any fees due for additional items	\$ 25.00	Administration fee to be added to the difference in cost for any added items
272	Skip Bin Permit (domestic use 4m3 size and under)	Per Permit	\$ 98.00	No change to budgeted fee - for set time and location

Gisborne Futures

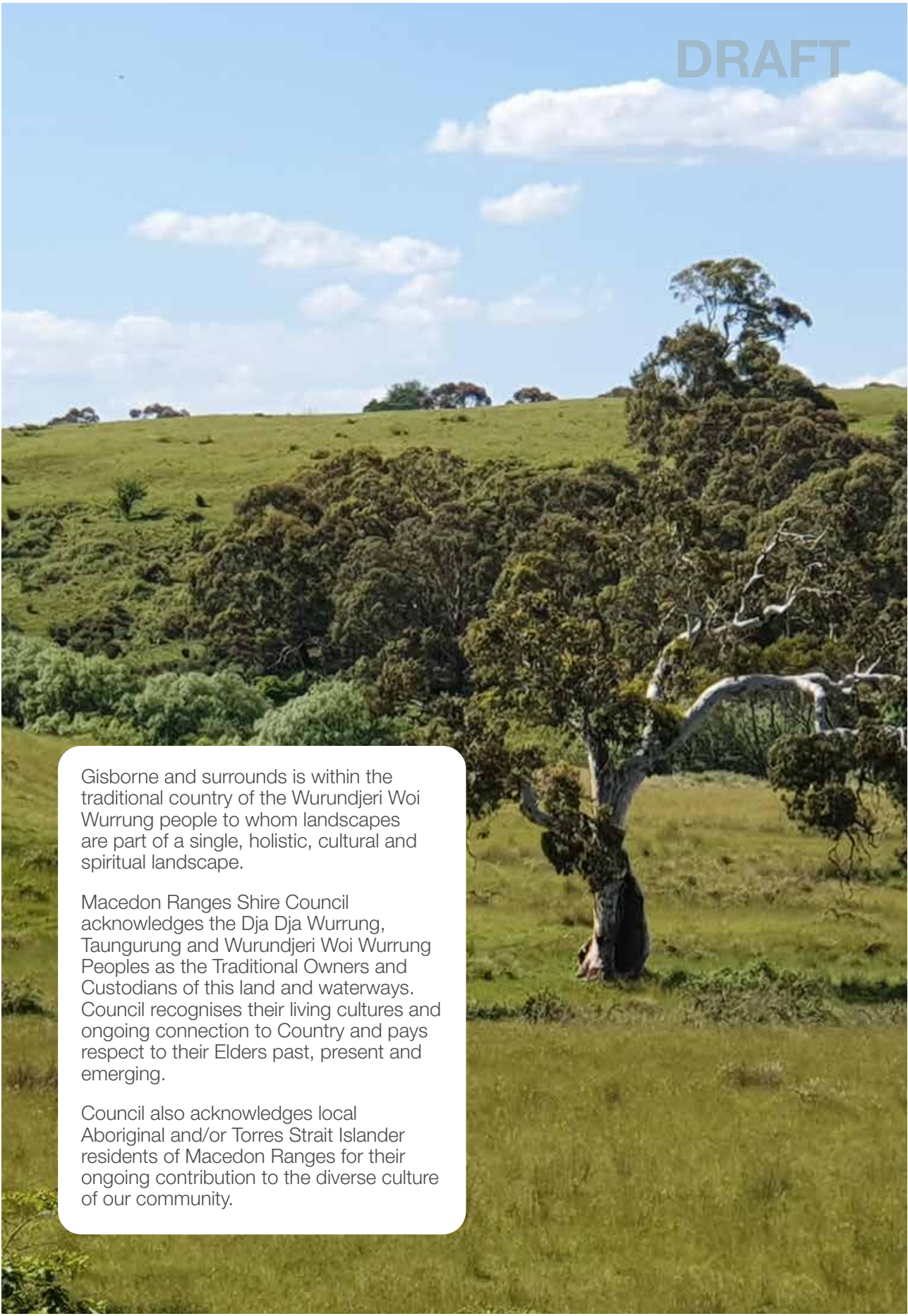


Draft structure plan

August 2023

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Gisborne and surrounds is within the traditional country of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people to whom landscapes are part of a single, holistic, cultural and spiritual landscape.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.

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Acknowledgements

We thank the community groups and individuals, business owners and other community stakeholders who gave generous input to the generation of the Gisborne Futures Plan. Your feedback and ideas have been invaluable to the project.

We also thank the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) for initial grants and funding to commence the Gisborne Futures project in 2018.

Project Team

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has prepared this report, which has been underpinned by extensive background and technical analysis from the following project partners:

Ethos Urban

- Project coordination and management (Stages 1, 2 and 3)
- Community engagement (Phases 1 and 2)
- Background and technical analysis
- Strategic planning and urban design (2020)

Urban Enterprise

- Economic & Employment Analysis (2020)
- Residential Land Demand and Supply (2020)
- Economic and Retail Update 2023

Extent Heritage

- Heritage Assessment

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation

- Cultural Heritage Values Assessment

Cardno

- Movement and Transport Recommendations Report (2020)
- Traffic and Transport Assessment
- Strategic Traffic Modelling

Movement and Place

- Movement and Transport Strategy Review and Recommendations (2023)

TGM Engineers

- Servicing Report

SGS Economics

- Gisborne Community Infrastructure Assessment (2023)

Terralogic

- Bushfire Risk Assessment (2023)

1. Introduction

Gisborne Futures Structure Plan has been developed to manage growth and change in Gisborne and New Gisborne over the next 30 years.

The Gisborne Futures Project comprises three key documents:

- structure plan
- urban design framework
- neighbourhood character study

This report presents the Gisborne Structure Plan which provides:

- a sustainable vision for Gisborne and New Gisborne that is consistent with state and local policy
- a land use framework to manage urban development and growth opportunities and promote sustainable outcomes
- directions for social, community and physical infrastructure for existing and future residents
- a proposed settlement boundary that protects the environmental and rural qualities of the landscape surrounding Gisborne and New Gisborne.

The revised draft structure plan has been prepared with consideration given to community feedback received on the 2020 draft plans and the actions that were identified to progress further work on the plans.

This draft structure plan is underpinned by principles of sustainable community development and proposes a new town centre for New Gisborne to provide walkable access to basic daily necessities.

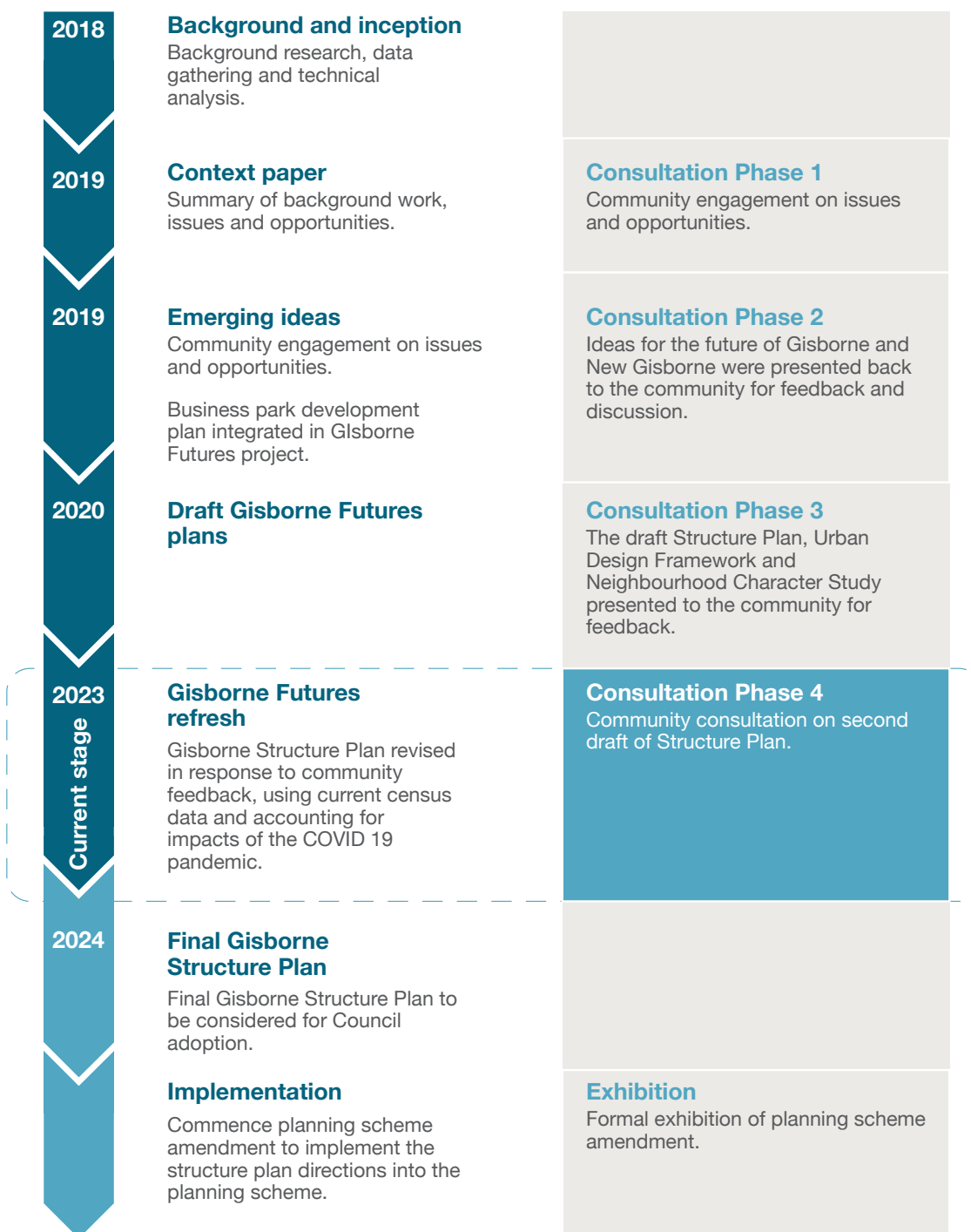
Increased residential densities are proposed to minimise outward sprawl, protecting the environment and surrounding landscape, while planning for housing is affordable and accessible to a diverse range of people within the community. An expanded business park is proposed to provide opportunities for local jobs and business growth.

The draft structure plan has been prepared with significant input from the community, Councillors, internal departments and service agencies, and has been informed by expert consultant advice.



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1.1. Project stages



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1.2. Regional context

Gisborne (including New Gisborne) is located 55 kilometres from the Melbourne city centre at the southern end of the Macedon Ranges Shire which sits within the peri-urban region of metropolitan Melbourne.

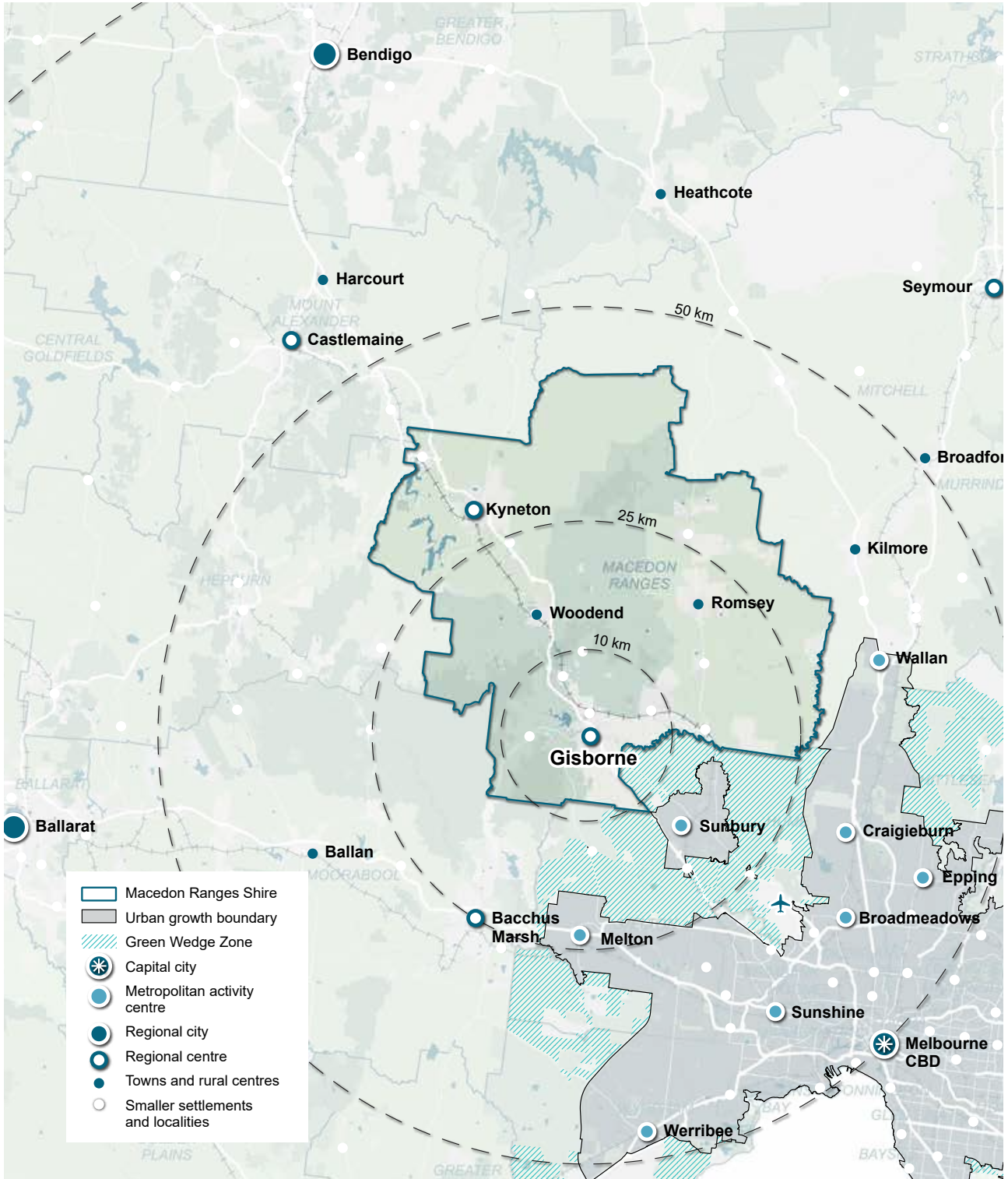
This region acts as an interface between city and country, falling within the social and economic influence of metropolitan Melbourne while being predominantly rural in character.

The Macedon Ranges Shire was the first local government area to be recognised as a distinctive landscape and area in state legislation. This is recognised in the planning scheme through the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy (SPP).



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Figure 1. Regional context map



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1.3. About Gisborne

Gisborne and surrounds lies within the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people who lived and traded here for thousands of years before European settlers arrived in the early nineteenth century.

The road from Melbourne followed the escarpment of Jacksons Creek, and entered the valley in a series of turns to a low point within the valley. Around these cross-roads the town of Gisborne evolved. The original village was laid out on a formal grid with wide tree lined streets, and confined to the inner slopes of the Jacksons Creek Valley on the south side of the creek.

The railway line was constructed to service the goldfields in the 1850s. It follows the northern edge of the escarpment from Sunbury, avoiding negotiating the difficult topography of the valley and following the gentler terrain to the north. The station at New Gisborne was constructed along this line, and the smaller village of New Gisborne evolved in proximity to the station.

Today, Gisborne and New Gisborne form the Gisborne Regional Centre as a single community that shares facilities and resources and acts as a district hub to nearby smaller settlements and rural areas. The township offers a diversity of retail and community services, recreational and cultural facilities and is a focus area for economic and employment growth in the region.

Gisborne's location approximately one hour from Melbourne or Bendigo makes the town a popular choice for commuters, families and those seeking a well-connected semi-rural lifestyle.

1.4. Study area

The study area for the Gisborne Futures Structure Plan includes all land within the existing Gisborne and New Gisborne town boundary, and the investigation areas for township growth as set out on Figure 2 on page 11.

This report includes references to statistical areas defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), including the Gisborne District SA2 which includes the rural localities of Bullengarook and South Gisborne (see Figure .

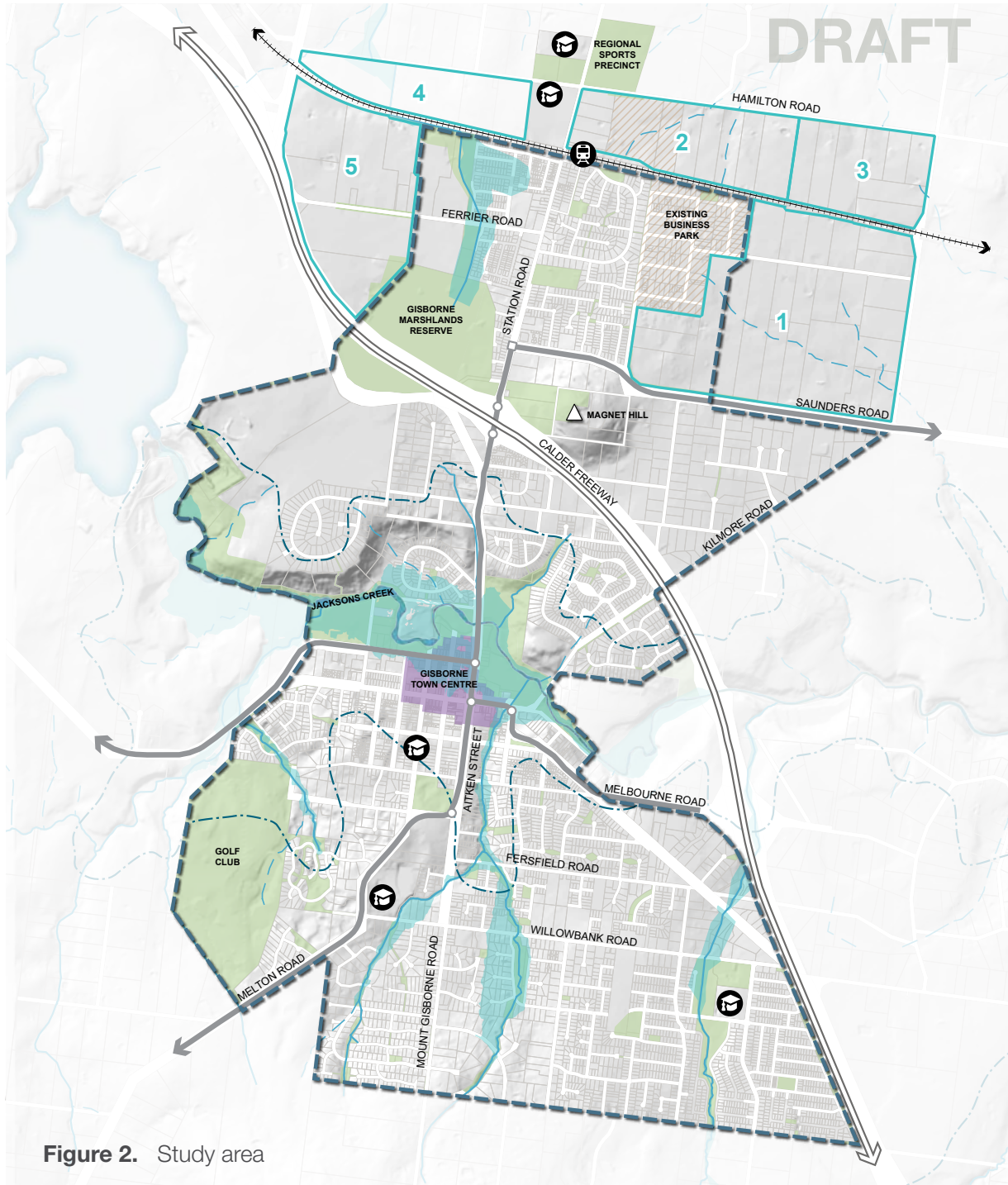












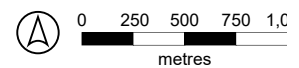


Figure 2. Study area

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Existing township boundary |  Gisborne town centre |
|  Township boundary investigation areas |  Industrial land |
|  Railway |  Railway station |
|  Freeway |  Existing schools |
|  State arterial roads | |
|  Open space | |
|  Flood prone land (1/100 ARI) | |
|  Jacksons Creek Valley landscape | |



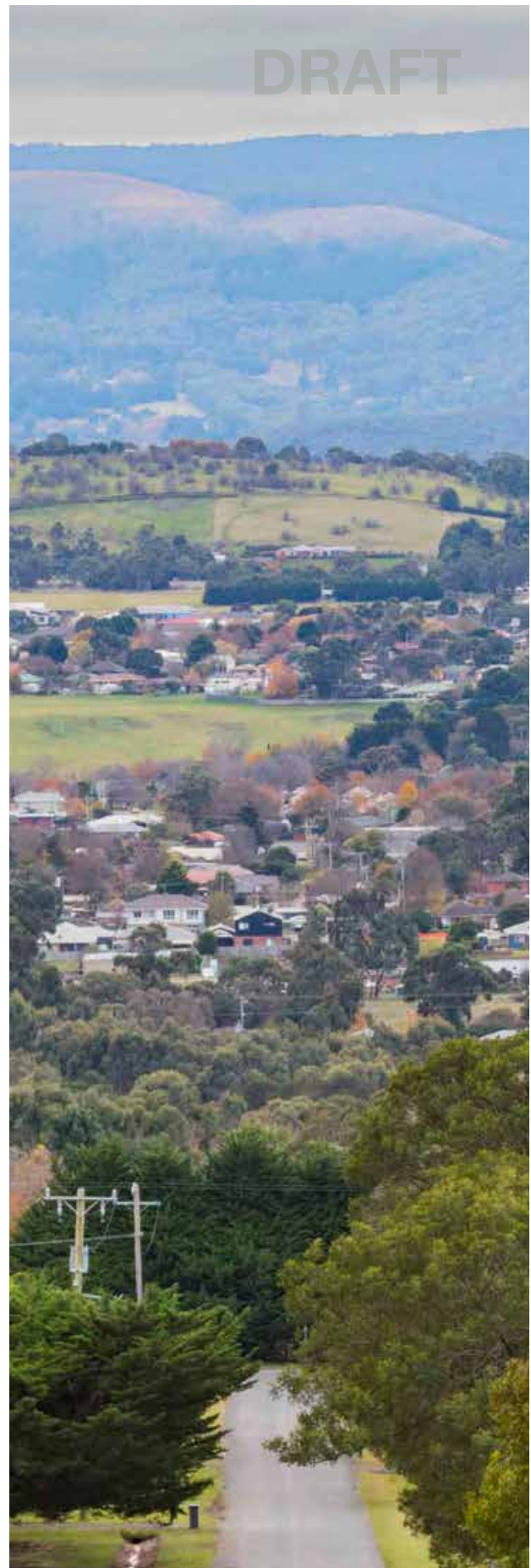
1.5. Township character

Gisborne's township character is defined by the topographical change, wide streets lined by mature deciduous trees, mountain views to the north and south and generous open spaces. These elements contribute to the beauty of the township, and its unique sense of place.

Planning for Gisborne in the past has focused on the concept of the 'village in the valley' with the commercial township confined to the central grid and preservation of the escarpment landscape to provide a sense of township containment within the valley.

The key elements that influence Gisborne's character include:

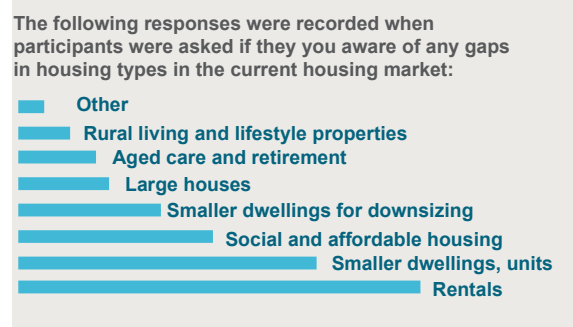
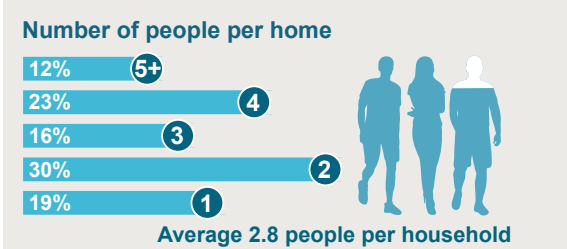
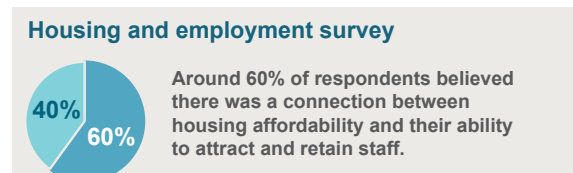
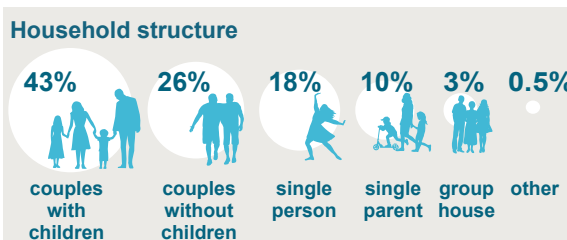
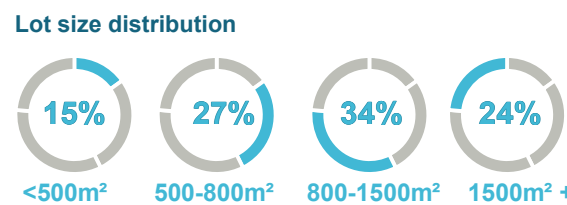
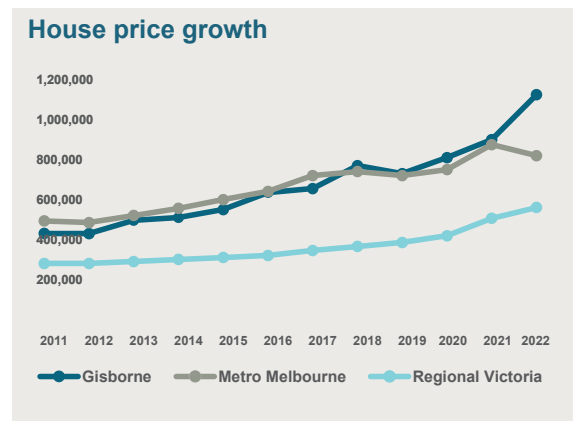
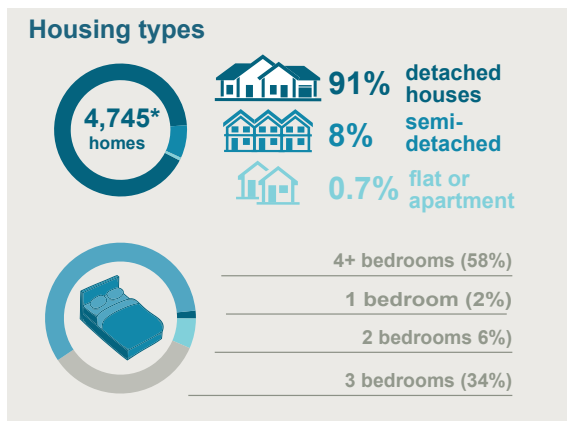
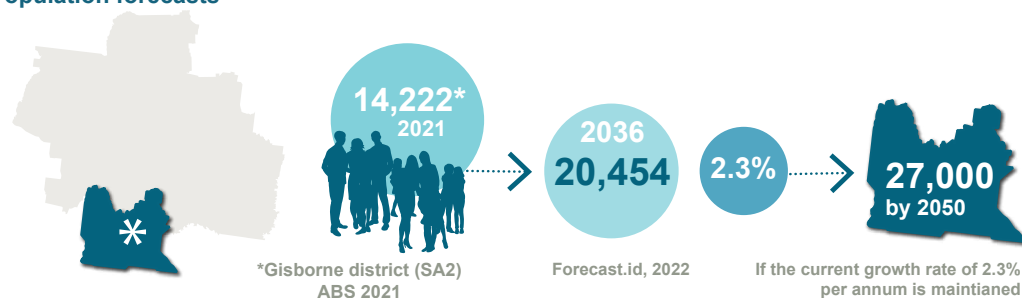
- a clearly defined commercial town centre that is compact with a pedestrian scale streetscape and a diverse mix of local businesses
- township edges that are legible and mark the transition from open rural or forested landscapes
- entrance roads and linear viewing corridors that provide memorable entry experiences
- outward views that provide visual connection to the surrounding landscape and the containment of the older township within the valley landscape
- historical features including buildings, broad avenues and streetscapes that provide a sense of identity and connection to township heritage
- wide streets lined with stunning, mature canopy trees
- distinctive, large lot and 'semi-rural' residential neighbourhoods
- a distinct separation between the Gisborne town centre and New Gisborne to the north, with the Calder Freeway, Gisborne Marshlands and Magnet Hill forming a rural break in between
- community facilities, sporting grounds and parkland and bushland reserves within the town centre forming a 'village green'.



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1.6. Population and housing snapshot

Population forecasts



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1.7. Drivers of change

Gisborne as a regional centre

State and local policy nominates Gisborne as a regional centre where growth is to be managed and supported.

The Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) reinforces the role and function of settlements through a settlement hierarchy that informs future direction to accommodate housing, employment and services to meet community needs and promote jobs, investment and infrastructure delivery.

As a regional centre Gisborne is to be a focus for higher-order services and amenities for surrounding rural communities and smaller settlements.

Setting a protected settlement boundary

The SPP requires that long-term protected settlement boundaries be set around townships with capacity for growth in the Macedon Ranges Shire, to conserve and enhance significant landscape features, biodiversity, ecological values and 'working' rural landscapes.

Population change

The Gisborne District has experienced ongoing population growth in recent years and is projected to continue growing at a rate of 2.3% per year, increasing from 14,222 residents in 2021 to over 20,100 by 2036.

If a 2.3% growth rate remains consistent, the district population could reach 27,000 people by 2050.

The structure plan will ensure that housing, services, and infrastructure are provided while protecting the character of the natural environment and landscapes surrounding the town

Realising the potential of New Gisborne

As a community, Gisborne and New Gisborne are strongly linked, but they are physically separated.

New Gisborne has the advantage of a railway station, but limited local shopping and services which means residents largely have to drive into the Gisborne town centre, contributing to congestion and car dependency.

There is an opportunity to focus new growth in the precinct surrounding the New Gisborne train station, to develop a self-contained community serving new and existing residents, while easing the pressure on the Gisborne town centre and Station Road.

Climate change

Climate change is one of the most significant challenges of our time and is no longer an abstract concern for future generations – it is an issue that is affecting Australians now. The consequences of increasing temperatures, changed rainfall patterns and increases in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events are being experienced more often, by more people, in more locations.

Planning is required to set the framework for sustainable urban development that is designed to mitigate the impacts of climate change and adapt to harsher conditions including a hotter and drier climate and more frequent storms, floods and bushfires. Responses include:

- providing new housing within walking or cycling distance to shops, jobs, services and public transport to reduce transport emissions and enable development of a resilient and connected community
- facilitating infill development which can reduce environmental and economic costs by building on existing services and infrastructure
- avoiding low density sprawl in favour of more compact and efficient urban form
- requiring new developments to be underpinned by Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) principles.

Housing affordability and diversity

Gisborne has a lack of housing diversity and poor housing affordability with over 91% of homes being single dwellings on large lots, and a median house price of over \$1.1 million (2023).

High housing costs makes it difficult for key workers such as teachers, early childhood educators, healthcare and emergency service workers to live close to their workplace. Long commutes increase the cost of living and impact physical and mental health, while businesses and service providers may struggle to attract and retain staff who cannot afford to live nearby.

The structure plan can improve housing affordability by identifying areas appropriate for greater housing density and diversity to increase housing choice. This complements other social and affordable housing measures delivered by state and federal governments and the not-for-profit sector.

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1.8. Background and technical analysis

Planning context

Distinctive Areas & Landscapes

In 2018 the Macedon Ranges was the first local government area to be declared a Distinctive Area and Landscape under Part 3AAB of the Planning and Environment Act 1988.

This legislation identifies the Macedon Ranges Shire as an area of outstanding environmental and cultural significance to be protected. It acknowledges the unique environmental, productive and scenic qualities of the landscapes and recognises the pressure on these from urban encroachment due to its proximity to Melbourne and other regional cities.

Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy

The Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) implements the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes legislation and provides mechanism for implementing protected settlement boundaries and

Set objectives and strategies for landscape, environment and cultural heritage protection.

Gisborne as a regional centre

Gisborne is nominated as a regional centre with capacity for growth in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme and in the following policy documents:

- Loddon Mallee Regional Growth Plan (2014)
- Plan Melbourne (revised 2017)
- Macedon Ranges Shire Council Settlement Strategy (MRSC, 2011)

Analysis and inputs

The structure plan has been informed by a number of technical reports and detailed investigations into housing, landscape and township character and context analysis. Consultant inputs include:

- Economic & Employment Analysis (Urban Enterprise, 2020)
- Economic Update (Urban Enterprise, 2023)
- Movement and Transport Recommendations Report (Cardno, 2020)
- Transport Peer Review and Recommendations (Movement & Place, 2023)
- Town Servicing Report (TGM, 2018)
- Community Infrastructure Assessment (SGS Economics, 2023)
- Bushfire Risk Assessment (Terralogic, 2023)

This work is summarised in the Gisborne Futures Structure Plan Background Report.

Community consultation

The structure plan has been influenced by three phases of community consultation.

Summaries of consultation processes, submissions, council responses and how these have influence the plans are provided in the following consultation reports:

- Gisborne Futures Phase 1 and 2 Consultation Report (Ethos Urban, 2019)
- Gisborne Futures Phase 3 Consultation Report (MRSC, 2022).

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2. Vision

In 2050, the twin villages of Gisborne and New Gisborne will be a thriving regional centre that provides a range of housing, employment and lifestyle opportunities for a diverse and inclusive community.

A protected settlement boundary will cater for future growth and define areas protected for environmental conservation and landscape value.

Respect and understanding of the town's rich cultural history and values of traditional owners will be celebrated and form part of the town's identity.

The town centres will be inviting places for people to meet, explore and do business in a safe, attractive and pedestrian-friendly environment.

The growth of creative and innovative businesses and a diverse mix of local job opportunities will allow residents to live and work locally.

New development will contribute to the defining village character, environmental and landscape qualities of the town and its surrounds and be designed to ensure it will function well under forecast climate scenarios.

Future communities will have convenient access to services and facilities and an accessible environment that is connected by a network of pedestrian and cycle paths.

Lifestyle opportunities will be provided for all ages, abilities and cultures to ensure that existing and future generations can live within a connected, sustainable and vibrant community.

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2.1. Delivering the vision

Gisborne and New Gisborne will develop as 'twin villages' that complement each other through provision of a range of services and facilities, and reduce the need for residents to travel into the town centre by private vehicles.

The Gisborne town centre will continue to grow as an attractive regional centre that provides a range of integrated land uses and is enhanced through place-based activation and amenity improvements, while New Gisborne will become a vibrant, self-sufficient and sustainable community that provides for the daily needs of residents within a compact, walkable catchment, set against the magnificent backdrop of the Macedon Ranges.

The Gisborne Business Park will provide for long-term employment growth, with clear guidelines to protect the amenity of surrounding areas

The structure plan seeks to concentrate residential densities and avoid outward sprawl to facilitate the development of a sustainable community that respects the surrounding landscape and environmental values while providing housing that is inclusive and affordable for a broad cross-section of the community, including young people, older people, single people and key workers.

The structure plan boundaries take into account the sensitive environmental and landscape values of the surrounding rural area, while ensuring there is sufficient land within the protected settlement boundary to future-proof longer term expansion of employment and residential opportunities, beyond the life of the plan.

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2.2. Guiding principles

Protected settlement boundary

Establish a protected settlement boundary that protects the environmental and rural qualities of the landscape surrounding Gisborne and New Gisborne while providing sufficient land to accommodate the potential growth for the next 30 years.

Activity centres

Plan for the development of Gisborne and New Gisborne as vibrant and attractive 'twin villages' that are complemented by a network of accessible local destinations.

Housing

Provide inclusive and diverse housing including options that are accessible for a range of ages, household structures and affordability levels in locations with good access to services and infrastructure.

Ensure that new development makes a positive contribution to the sense of place and responds to the existing or preferred future character.

Economic and employment growth

Increase opportunities for economic growth, business development and local employment so people can live close to where they work.

Heritage and culture

Identify, protect and celebrate important elements that contribute to Gisborne's unique post-contact and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Landscape, open space and environment

Enhance landscape, open space and environmental values through connected green spaces, protection of important landscape features, and integration of biodiversity values while planning for more resilient and sustainable communities that can withstand the effects of a changing climate

Movement and transport

Provide safe and accessible walking and cycling infrastructure and an efficient public transport system that provides a convenient alternative to private vehicles.

Community infrastructure

Strengthen community services and facilities, and ensure these are delivered for the existing and future people of Gisborne and New Gisborne, and the surrounding district.

Utilities and sustainable development

Sequence and deliver sustainable development in collaboration with development proponents, state government departments and servicing authorities.

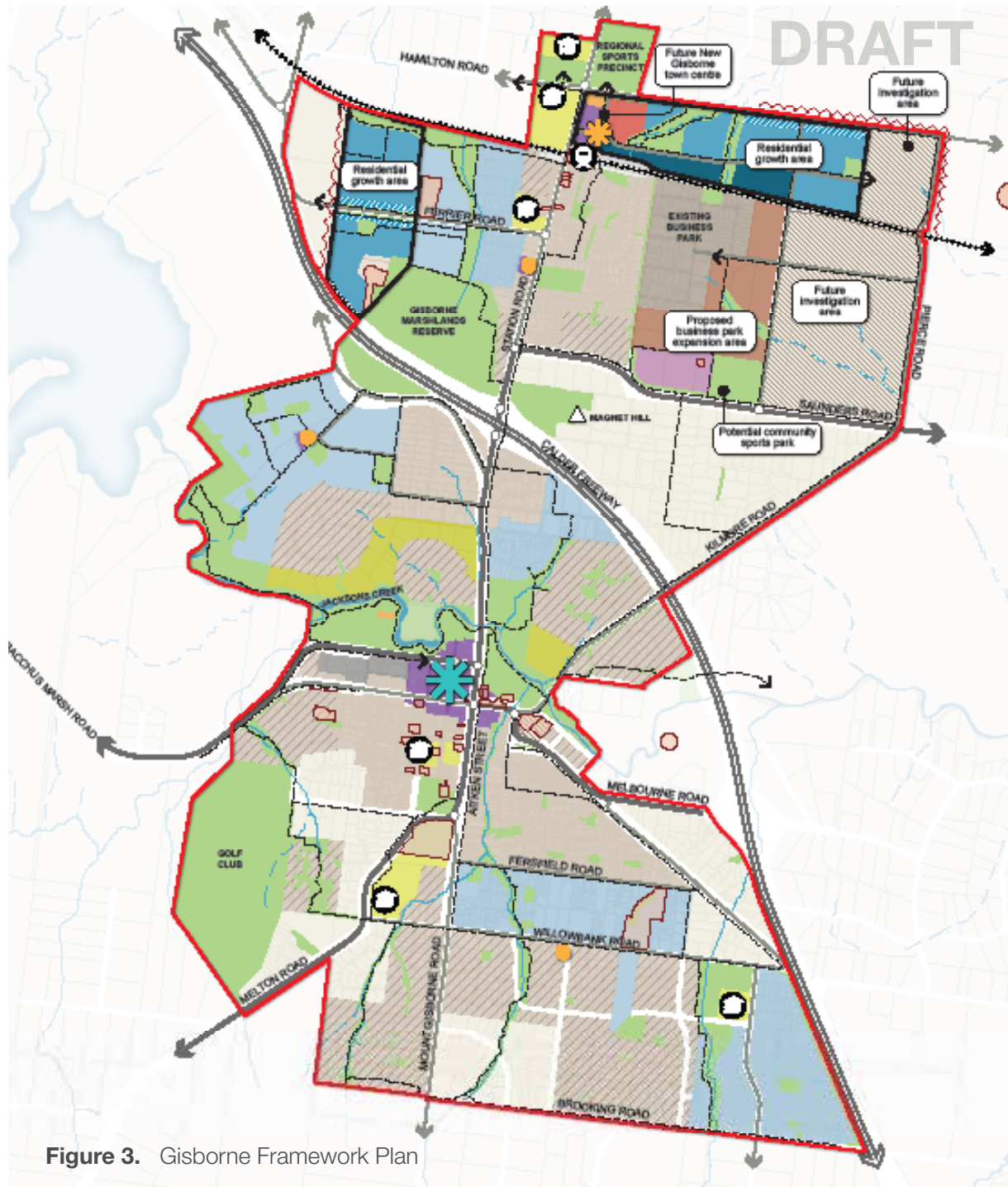
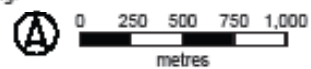


Figure 3. Gisborne Framework Plan

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Protected settlement boundary | Activity centres: Commercial 1 Zone | Future residential: central urban | Open space |
| New Gisborne growth areas | Mixed Use Zone | Future residential: urban | Rural Conservation Zone |
| Future investigation area | Industrial 1 Zone | Future residential: semi-rural | |
| Existing / potential path network | Industrial 3 Zone | Interface | |
| Train station | Commercial 2 Zone | Master planned residential: Incremental Change 2 | |
| Regional activity centre | Civic and Health Precinct | Existing residential: Incremental Change 1 | |
| Neighbourhood activity centre | Education | Existing residential: Minimal Change | |
| Local activity centre | Community uses | Low density / rural living: Minimal Change | |
| Bushfire interface | Heritage Overlay | | |



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3. Protected settlement boundary

Establish a protected settlement boundary that protects the environmental and rural qualities of the landscape surrounding Gisborne and New Gisborne while providing sufficient land to accommodate the potential growth for the next 30 years.

The Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy identifies the need to set a long-term protected settlement boundary (PSB) for Gisborne.

The proposed PSB provides for the continued growth of Gisborne as a regional centre with additional land supply for housing and employment to 2050 and beyond.

The PSB along Hamilton Road protects the visual and environmental values of the landscape to the north, while providing an opportunity to facilitate a transit-oriented development in New Gisborne between the train line and Hamilton Road, on less visually sensitive and highly modified Rural Living Zoned land.

The proposed boundary to the east is formed by Pierce Road. Part of the landscape further east of Pierce Road is protected through the planning scheme through DDO13 which seeks to prevent further fragmentation to preserve the rural landscape.

Cultural heritage values are recognised and will be celebrated through the careful planning and design of new communities.

Flood prone land has been avoided. A bushfire risk assessment has identified interfaces of higher risk adjacent to areas of forest or woodland. This risk is to be reduced through mechanisms including perimeter roads, managed vegetation and building setbacks.

Rural living land is retained within the PSB as future investigation areas to allow for development in the longer term, beyond the horizon of this structure plan.

Objectives

To provide clear limits to township growth and protect the landscape, environmental and cultural heritage values of the landscape surrounding Gisborne and New Gisborne.

To maintain a rural break and separation between townships.

Strategy

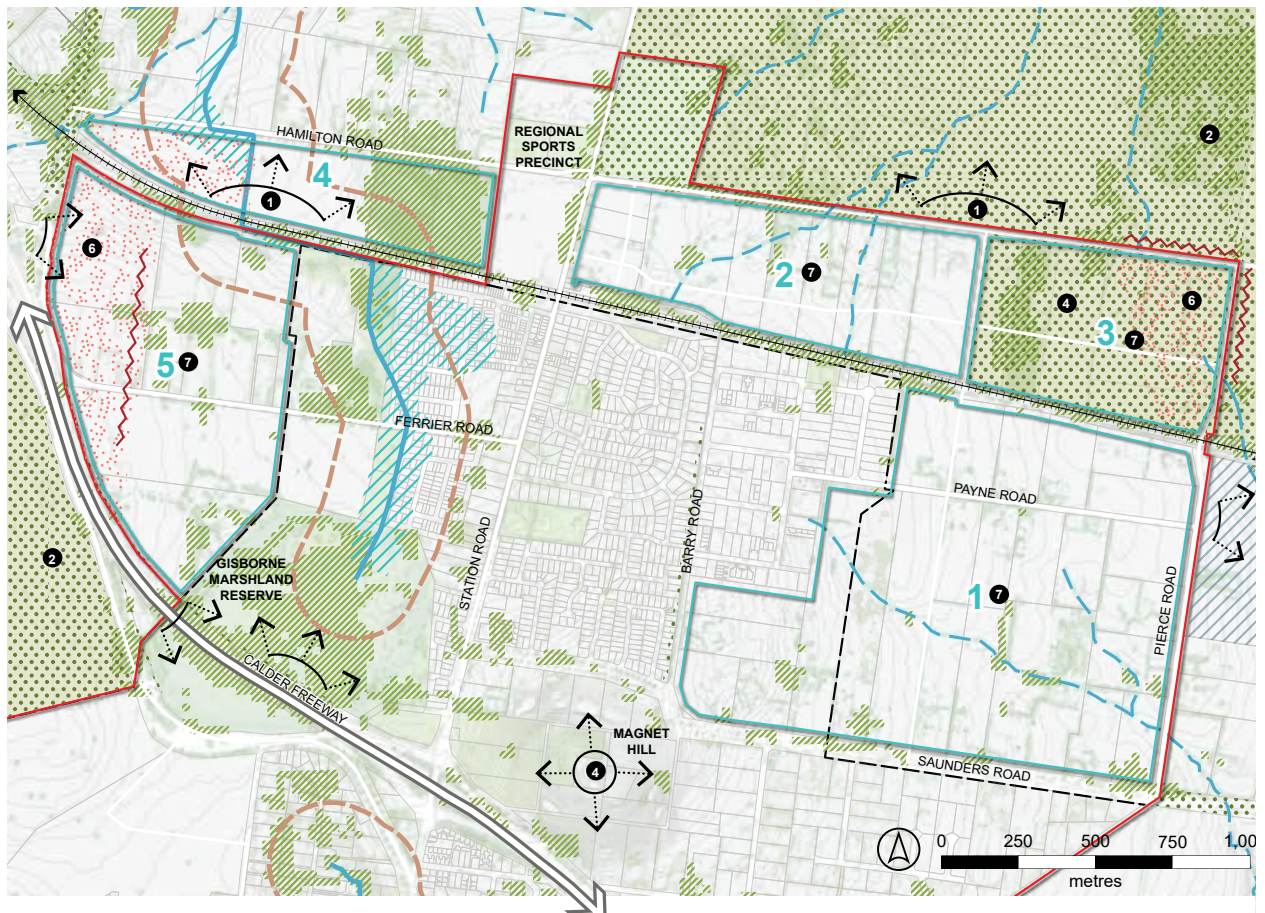
- Manage future township growth within the protected settlement boundary as set out in the Gisborne Framework Plan at Figure 5.

Actions

- Amend the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy to include the proposed protected settlement boundary for Gisborne.

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Figure 5. Protected settlement boundary considerations



- Protected settlement boundary
 - Existing township boundary
 - Township boundary investigation areas
 - Rural Conservation Zone (RCZ)
 - Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO)
 - Likely remnant EVC patches
 - Waterways
 - Flood prone land
 - Bushfire interface
 - Area constrained by bushfire risk
 - Key views
 - Cultural heritage sensitivity
 - Design and Development Overlay (DDO13)
- 1** Significant views to Macedon Ranges from Hamilton Road and train line
 - 2** The RCZ Schedule 1 protects areas of high conservation and landscape value to the north and west of Gisborne, providing a buffer to areas of public land and providing further protection to water catchments.
 - 3** DDO13 is applied to prevent further fragmentation of the landscape and maintain its character.
 - 4** Culturally significant views from summit of Magnet Hill.
 - 5** Desktop review of Investigation Area 3 shows this landscape is unlikely to contain the values represented through the RCZ.
A full ecological assessment will be required prior to any rezoning or development application.
 - 6** Areas least preferred for development from a bushfire risk perspective.
 - 7** Heavily modified rural living land.

Figure 4. Protected settlement boundary considerations

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4. Activity centres

Plan for the development of Gisborne and New Gisborne as vibrant and attractive ‘twin villages’ that are complemented by a network of accessible local destinations.

The Gisborne Futures Structure Plan presents a unique opportunity to create a vibrant regional town with ‘twin villages’ in Gisborne and New Gisborne through residential activation combined with mixed use street level retail, commercial and community services.

Gisborne has traditionally evolved with the current town centre being the focus for retail, community and service uses. Although the township has expanded to the south and to the north-west in New Gisborne, these areas do not currently have walkable access to convenience shopping, gathering points or services that can provide local destinations for the community. This leaves many people little option but to drive to access these amenities.

Research has shown that residents living within convenient walking distance of local destinations, such as supermarkets, shops, parks and public transport, are more likely to choose walking as a transport option over driving.

The activity centre hierarchy in Gisborne will provide a network of places for people to shop, work and live, with access to a variety of goods and services at a range of scales. Key to this is providing a neighbourhood activity centre in New Gisborne that is viable and can perform a second ‘town centre’ role for the community, and a network of smaller, local centres that can serve as local destinations in outlying residential areas.

Table 1. Activity centre hierarchy

Activity Centre	Centre type
Gisborne town centre	Regional Activity Centre
New Gisborne town centre	Neighbourhood Activity Centre
Station Road, New Gisborne	Local Activity Centre
Willowbank Road	Local Activity Centre
Ross Watt Road Estate	Local Activity Centre

Figure 6. Activity centre hierarchy



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4.1. Gisborne town centre

The Gisborne town centre will continue to grow as a vibrant and attractive regional activity centre that provides a range of integrated land uses and is enhanced through streetscape activation and amenity improvements.

Gisborne's town centre is contained within the Jacksons Creek valley. The topographical change, wide streets lined by mature deciduous trees, mountain views to the north and south and generous open spaces all contribute to Gisborne's unique sense of place.

Gisborne is an important employment hub for local residents and the broader region. As a regional activity centre, Gisborne's town centre will provide the daily shopping needs for the local community and the surrounding rural area.

The local village character is influenced by the compact nature of the town centre and physical features including:

- a pedestrian-scale streetscape with generous footpaths, verandahs and established street trees
- a fine grain pattern of development that accommodates a diverse mix of local, small businesses
- community facilities, sporting grounds and parklands within the town centre.

There is opportunity and capacity in the Gisborne town centre to accommodate further housing by including shop-top residential development in the mix of retail, commercial and community uses.

Increasing the number of people living in the town centre will provide greater housing diversity, promote walking and street activity and support the viability of local businesses.

To maintain the compact, walkable nature of the town centre all town centre development is to be focussed on available vacant and strategic redevelopment sites rather than expansion of the town centre commercial zoning. There is limited vacant land in the Commercial 1 Zone, meaning that future commercial and retail floorspace will be accommodated through multi-level development of these sites.

Large areas of surface car park have capacity to accommodate a greater mix of uses. They are relatively unconstrained by existing buildings and have existing access points that are clearly defined. There is also opportunity for renewal of existing sites, including the laneway environment of Heritage Way and consolidation of some of the older commercial buildings.



Concept image Brantome Street (looking north) (image courtesy of Ethos Urban).

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Objectives

To strengthen the role of the Gisborne town centre as a local and regional destination that supports a wide range of activities, jobs and housing options.

To encourage residential development in the Gisborne town centre that provides opportunities for greater housing diversity, promotes walking and street activity, and supports the economic viability of businesses.

Strategies

- Support development that accommodates a mix of uses including main street retail, commercial and community uses, and complementary residential development.
- Ensure ground floor uses are reserved for retail, commercial and other uses that promote street-level activity, and locate residential and office-type uses on upper floors.
- Encourage co-working spaces and adaptive reuse of vacant retail shopfronts for start-ups, creative industries, and small enterprises.
- Support built form which provides opportunities for night-time dining, entertainment, arts, cultural and tourism uses.
- Discourage the location of light industrial, trade supplies, restricted retail and bulky goods within the Gisborne town centre and direct these uses to the business park.

Objectives

To maintain the compact, walkable form of the Gisborne town centre.

To enhance Gisborne's public realm through active and vibrant streets designed for pedestrian comfort and enjoyment.

Strategies

- Consolidate future town centre development within the current extents of town centre commercial zoning.
- Support development that maximises the capacity of available vacant and strategic redevelopment sites.
- Ensure that new development contributes to pedestrian amenity, business presentation and streetscape activation through design and built form.
- Ensure that the external edges of development that traditionally has blank walls on the street (such as supermarkets or car parks) provides active uses such as office, retail or residential units on the street edge.
- Ensure that access to services, vehicle entries, car parking and loading facilities are located and designed to minimise amenity impacts on the street.
- Support adaptive re-use of heritage buildings that contribute to the character of the town centre.

Actions

- Finalise the Gisborne Urban Design Framework (UDF) to provide: a vision and set of principles to guide growth and change in the Gisborne town centre that includes:
 - built form design requirements and guidelines that are tailored to respond to the township character
 - streetscape concepts designed to improve pedestrian amenity and safety, and encourage private-sector investment in the town centre
 - placemaking strategies to revitalise and activate underutilised buildings and spaces, including through use of public art, decorative lighting and local cultural interpretation.
- Prepare a Design and Development Overlay for the town centre that embeds directions provided in the UDF into the planning scheme to ensure a high quality built form and streetscape outcome is achieved through future planning applications.
- Prepare local policy and decision guidelines to ensure that development applications in the town centre deliver on the vision contained within the structure plan.

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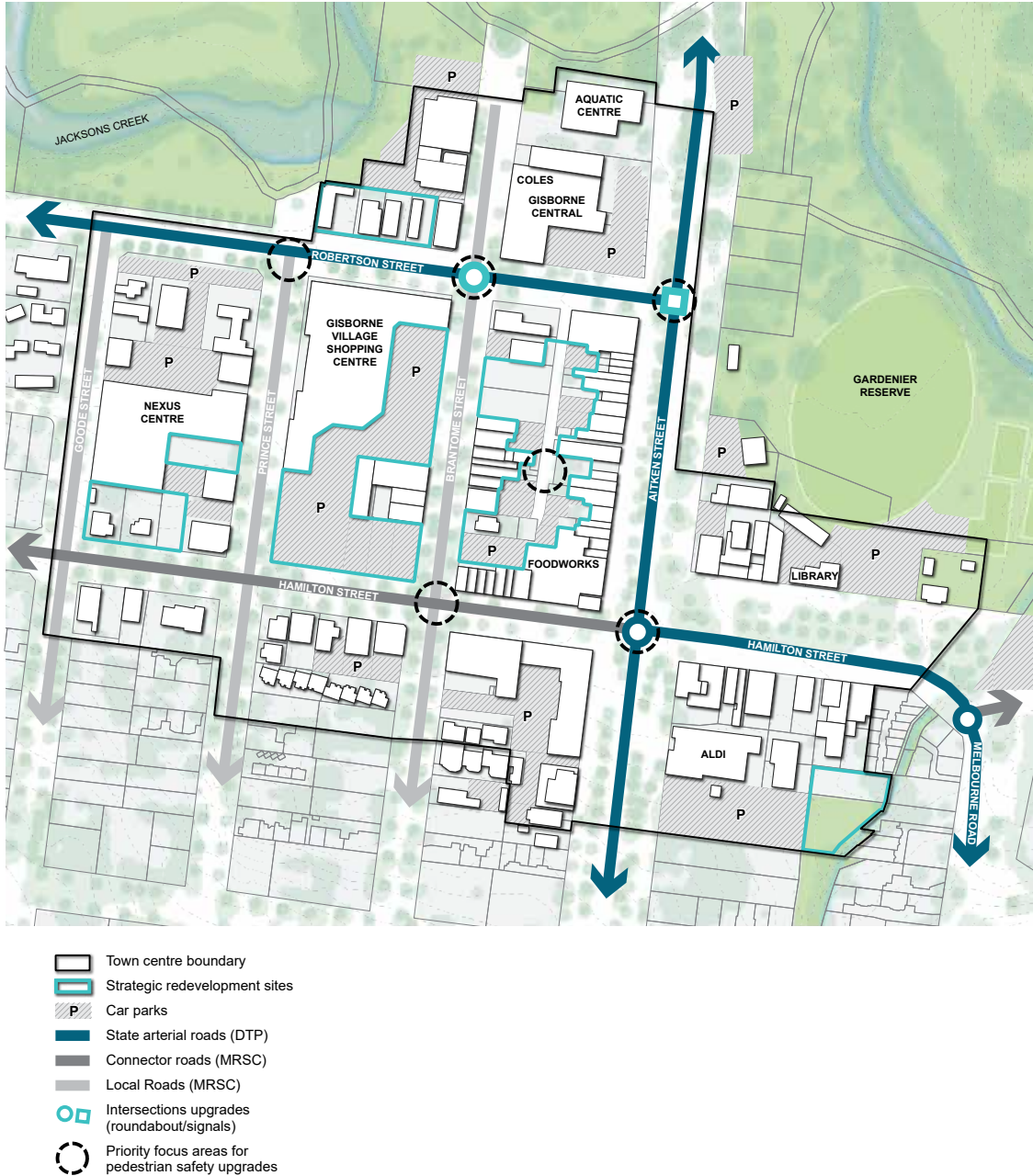


Figure 7. Gisborne town centre

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4.2. New Gisborne town centre

New Gisborne will become a vibrant, self-sufficient and sustainable community that provides for the daily needs of residents within a compact, walkable catchment, set against the magnificent backdrop of the Macedon Ranges.

New Gisborne has excellent access to public transport and the Calder Freeway. A collection of community and social facilities have emerged to support the growing community, including a medical centre, schools, child care and aged care services. Council's regional sports facility will enhance the sporting, leisure and community focus for the precinct, and the Regional Shared Trail will provide an active, recreational connection to nearby smaller settlements.

New Gisborne is currently lacking a town centre, shops and access to basic daily necessities. Currently residents rely on private vehicles to travel into the Gisborne town centre which contributes to congestion, transport-related emissions and increased car dependency.

New Gisborne has the potential to deliver on the 20 minute neighbourhood concept, supporting local residents' daily living needs such as:

- retail services and goods (local shops, bakery, supermarket),
- local entertainment facilities (cafes and restaurants)
- local health services and facilities.

The housing densities proposed in the housing framework (Figure 8 on page 31) will create a sustainable catchment for a neighbourhood activity centre (NAC), including a full-line supermarket along with speciality retail, accommodated in new, mixed use developments.

The structure plan nominates space for a community hub on the corner of Hamilton Road and Barringo Roads. The Community Hub can facilitate co-location of a range of services and programs, with the proposed location providing ready access to the schools and regional sports precinct.

The community hub presents an opportunity to develop landmark buildings and public spaces that will strengthen the civic role of the town centre, and can act as a pedestrian 'anchor' to activate future town centre development adjacent to the train station. Refer to further detail on this in the Community infrastructure section on page 68.

Objectives

To provide for a self-contained town centre at New Gisborne which capitalises on existing infrastructure.

To facilitate development of a neighbourhood activity centre in New Gisborne that accommodates a mix of uses anchored by key pedestrian destinations including the station, Regional Sports Precinct and local schools.

Strategies

- Support the location of a full-line supermarket in the New Gisborne Neighbourhood Activity Centre to anchor future fine-grain retail, commercial and residential uses.
- Plan for increased population within 1,200m of the NAC to support the viability of businesses.
- Encourage a mix of uses that adds to vitality on the street.

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Action

As part of any development plan or precinct structure plan for New Gisborne growth areas, prepare an urban design framework for the NAC that provides for:

- a street network which is oriented to maximise connectivity to the railway station and other key destinations, and provide views to the Macedon Ranges from the rail corridor
- fine-grained main streets with an engaging pedestrian environment, including active frontages and a diversity of businesses, rather than internal, car-based shopping centres
- a layout and format that capitalises on the existing pedestrian anchors with short, walkable blocks
- wide footpaths to support pedestrian safety and mobility, and activities such as outdoor dining and footpath trading
- built form designed to attract a range of commercial and business services, in addition to retail, to facilitate business growth and provide a variety of employment opportunities
- a preferred maximum building height of 4 storeys
- substantial canopy trees and landscaping to buffer the visual impact of commercial built form as visible from nearby entrance roads and the rail corridor
- controls for signage and building quality and presentation that respect the character and visual qualities of the semi-rural landscapes and backdrop of the Macedon Ranges
- publicly-owned and managed civic open space to support events, community gatherings and social interaction
- car parking that is consolidated away from active street frontages to encourage walking throughout the precinct
- a community hub on the corner of Hamilton and Baringo Roads that can provide high-quality built form presentation to the corner, provide key community infrastructure and services and act as a catalyst for further development in the precinct
- local placemaking elements including art, cultural interpretation and public lighting.

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4.3. Local activity centres

Local Activity Centres (LACs) will provide community focal points for walking and cycling, reduce the need to drive for basic convenience shopping, and will generate opportunities for incidental interaction in communal social spaces.

Local Activity Centres (LACs) will provide community focal points for walking and cycling, reduce the need to drive for basic convenience shopping, and will generate opportunities for incidental interaction in communal social spaces.

Station Road, New Gisborne

To avoid compromising the viability of the New Gisborne NAC, the Station Road centre will retain a focus on retail, community and non-retail commercial uses such as medical, office and smaller shopfront retailers, with supermarket development directed to locate in the NAC.

The site has capacity to incorporate a mix of uses, including residential upper levels, with a form and scale that is complementary to the highly valued character of the Station Road streetscape.

Achieving this requires an amendment to the New Gisborne Development Plan (2015) that revises the vision for the activity centre site to include opportunities for additional residential uses.

Willowbank Road

Willowbank Road is the subject of a current proposal to accommodate a retail development with a total of approximately 600sqm of retail space.

Given the recent housing growth that has occurred in this area and the newly completed Willowbank Primary School, a local convenience and community services role for the activity centre is encouraged and supported.

There is opportunity to improve the streetscape environment and enhance connections between existing and emerging land uses in proximity to the activity centre.

Ross Watt Road

The Ross Watt Road Development Plan proposes a small activity centre that will provide convenience retail and community services for the surrounding residential catchment.



Proposed local activity centre at Willowbank Road (image courtesy of Arke Hopkins Clarke).

Objective

To facilitate delivery of local activity centres that act as community focal points and provide walkable access to convenience retail and local services.

Strategies

- Support the provision of convenience retail and community infrastructure in LACs to meet the daily needs of residents, without compromising the function and roles of the Gisborne and New Gisborne activity centres.
- Support the planning and delivery of a LAC on Willowbank Road, including the current proposal to rezone to Commercial 1 Zone and apply the Design and Development Overlay to guide built form outcomes.
- Encourage development of a LAC in the early stages of Ross Watt Road development to provide walkable access to convenience retail.
- Promote a high quality streetscape outcome for the Ross Watt Road LAC that includes safe pedestrian crossing facilities, landscaping, and a streetscape that is wide enough to support outdoor dining and on-street activities.
- Ensure the Station Road NAC retains a focus on local convenience and services, with any supermarket development to be directed to the New Gisborne NAC.

Actions

- Review and amend the New Gisborne Development Plan to re-define the role of the Station Road LAC to accommodate a mix of uses, including residential, and amend preferred locations for supermarket retailing.
- Prepare a streetscape master plan for the Willowbank Road LAC that focuses on improving pedestrian and cyclist amenity and provision of safe and comfortable access between the existing and emerging activity nodes and traffic calming on Willowbank Road.
- Support the rezoning of LACs together with appropriate design controls, consistent with their intended scale and role.



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5. Housing framework

Provide inclusive and diverse housing including options that are accessible for a range of ages, household structures and affordability levels in locations with good access to services and infrastructure.

The housing framework will guide Gisborne and New Gisborne’s residential development to ensure that housing supply is inclusive and caters for the needs of a growing and diverse community.

Currently, over 90% of homes are detached dwellings on large lots, with over 50% of houses containing only one or two people. House prices put home ownership beyond the reach of most moderate to low income households, particularly for key workers who provide essential services for the town.

As a regional centre, the Gisborne township will provide housing choice for all members of the community, including key workers, smaller families, single person households and younger and older people.

The housing framework seeks to increase diversity and affordability of housing. Offering greater choice in dwelling size, tenure type and price will support local businesses and provide essential workers with places to live close to where they work.

Greater housing diversity is to be achieved by increasing the range of dwelling types including shop-top dwellings, low-rise apartments, units and townhouses and detached family homes of different sizes, and on different sized lots, that provide for a range of affordability levels.

The structure plan identifies housing change areas, including neighbourhoods with larger lots that have capacity for further subdivision, and where these opportunities are limited, as described in Table 2 below and on the housing framework map (Figure 8).

Table 2. Housing change areas

Substantial change	
Enable housing growth and diversity at increased densities close to jobs, services, facilities or public transport.	<p>In Gisborne, the following substantial change areas are nominated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gisborne town centre and Station Road LAC – to increase the number of residential opportunities in activity centres. • New Gisborne – to facilitate the development of a sustainable community within proximity to the train station, schools and sports precinct.
Incremental change	
Incremental change areas have capacity to accommodate additional housing that respects existing valued neighbourhood character attributes while allowing for a degree of change to occur over time.	<p>Two incremental change area types have been identified in Gisborne:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incremental 1: Existing residential areas that could accommodate additional dwellings • Incremental 2: Existing greenfield and infill sites that are being developed under development plans.
Minimal change	
Minimal change areas are established residential areas that have limited capacity for housing growth due to special neighbourhood, environmental, heritage, landscape characteristics.	<p>Areas nominated for minimal change have developed under recent development plans or have other planning controls or restrictions on title that constrain further development.</p>

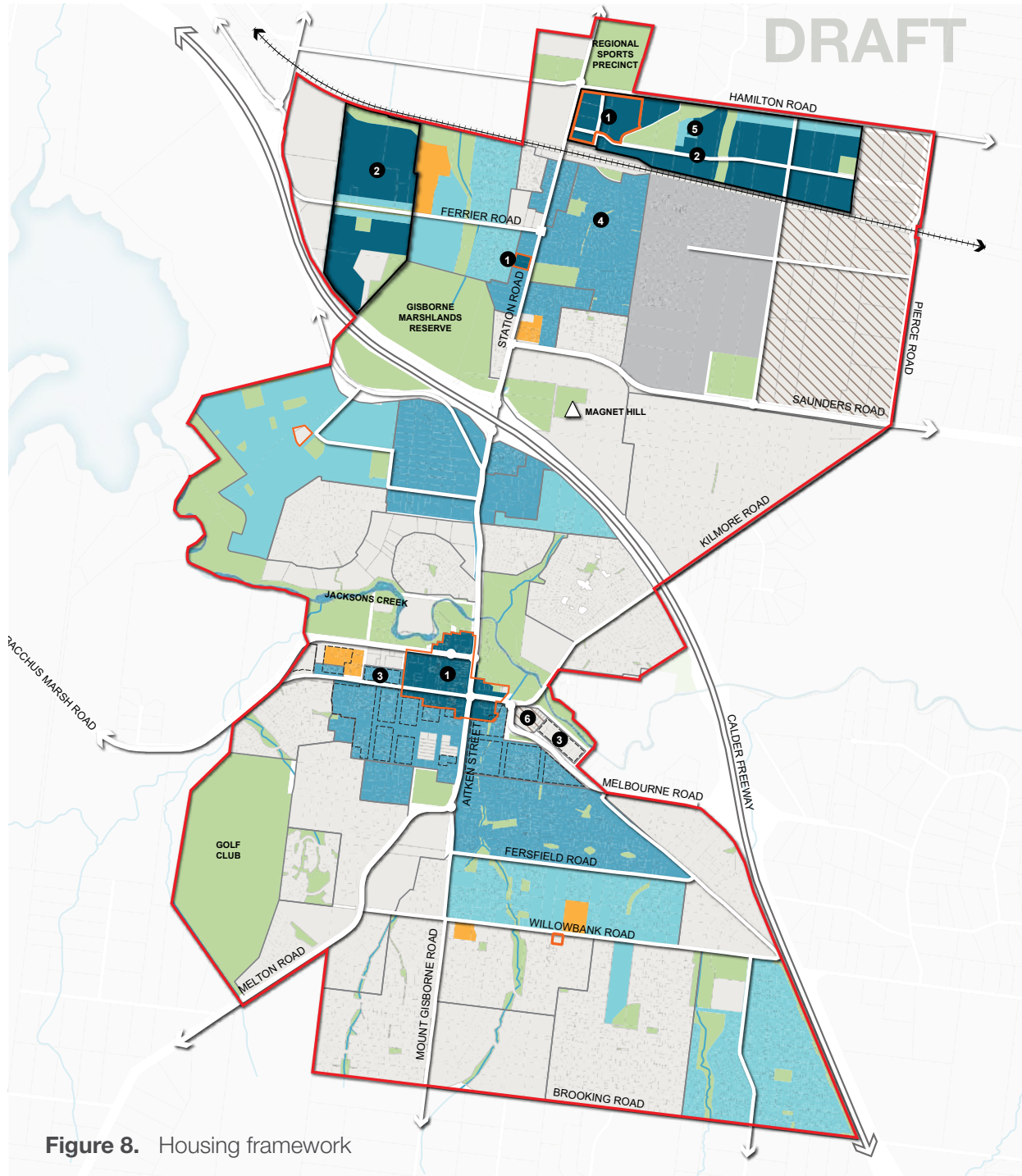
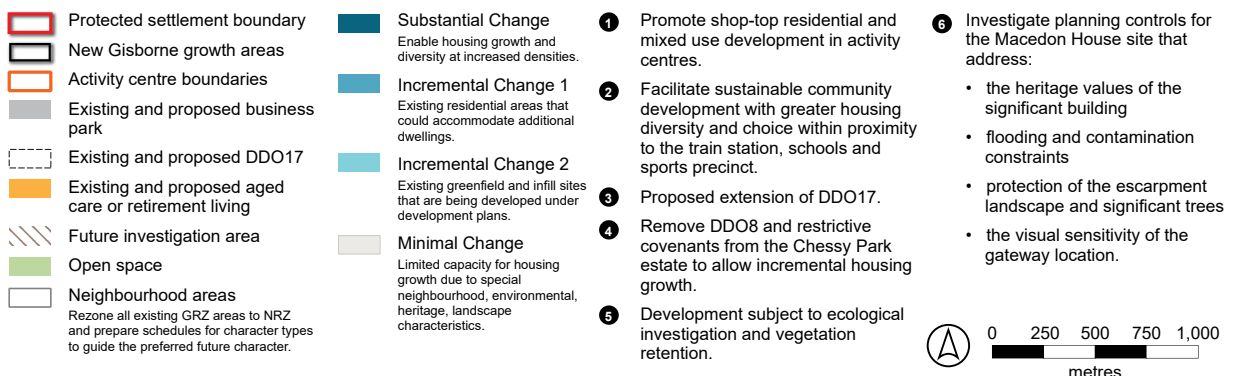


Figure 8. Housing framework



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Objective

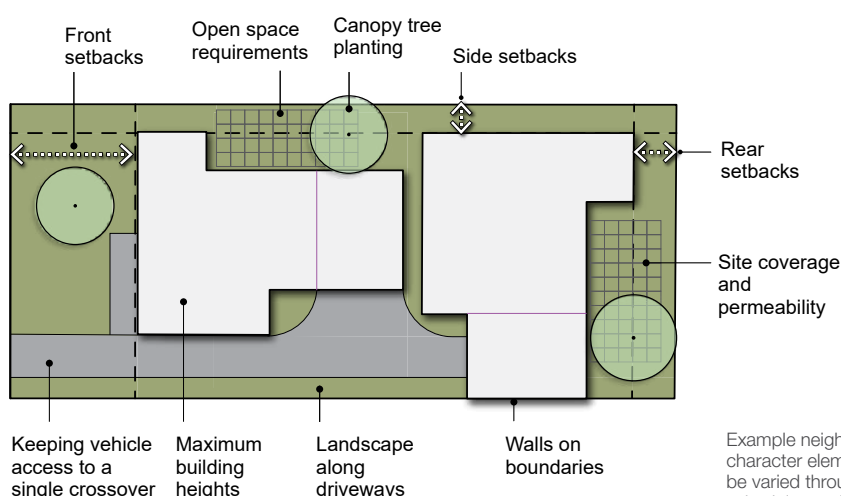
To increase the supply of more diverse and affordable housing that is suited to a range of household structures and ages.

Strategies

- Direct new housing to locations with access to services and infrastructure.
- Support the subdivision of larger lots in Incremental Change Area 1 into dual occupancies or multi-unit developments providing neighbourhood character requirements are met.
- Provide greater housing diversity and choice in Substantial Change areas through a range of lots and buildings that are capable of accommodating a variety of dwelling types.
- Ensure that multi-unit and apartment developments provide for a range of household structures, including three and four bedroom family units as well as one and two bedroom homes.
- Promote shop-top residential and mixed use development in activity centres.
- Support the provision of social and affordable housing in new residential developments.

Actions

- Amend the local policy for Gisborne and New Gisborne to reflect the housing aspirations contained within the structure plan.
- Extend DDO17 to include the block bound by Hamilton Street, Lyell Street, Goode Street and Neal Street, and lots with infill capacity at township entrances.
- Remove DDO8 and restrictive covenants from the Chessy Park estate to allow incremental housing growth within proximity to the train station and future New Gisborne town centre.
- Translate planning controls contained within Development Plan Overlays into new schedules to the residential zones in areas that have been developed.
- Work with government, the community sector and the development industry to improve the supply of social and affordable housing in Gisborne and New Gisborne.
- Investigate planning controls for the Macedon House site that address:
 - the heritage values of the significant building
 - flooding and contamination constraints
 - protection of the escarpment landscape and significant trees
 - the visual sensitivity of the gateway location.



Example neighbourhood character elements that can be varied through policy and schedules to the residential zones.



Example contemporary townhouses using natural materials and muted colours. Image courtesy of MGS.



Example low rise apartments in a garden setting. Image courtesy of MGS.



Mixed use development with apartments, office space and active ground floor level. Image courtesy of Hayball.



Use of trees and landscaping to mitigate views to higher density built form.

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5.1. Neighbourhood character

Gisborne's existing residential neighbourhoods have a highly valued character that is defined by large houses on large lots set back in an established garden setting.

The draft Gisborne Neighbourhood Character Study (NCS) brings together a large volume of research that explores the various characteristics of streetscape and housing elements that define each neighbourhood.

Across the township a sense of spaciousness around houses is enhanced by:

- generous front and side setbacks
- low, permeable or non-existent front fences that allows for a generous visual connection between public and private realms.
- wide, tree lined streets with roads that follow topography and are aligned to capitalise on views to mountains, hills and open, rural landscapes.

The NCS has identified five broad Neighbourhood Character Types that reflect the same existing and preferred future character and design objectives:

1. Township Residential
2. Established Garden Suburban
3. Contemporary Garden Suburban
4. Large Lot Residential
5. Semi-Rural Living

All residential areas in Gisborne are currently zoned General Residential Zone (GRZ) (excluding low density and rural living areas). The purpose of this zone is to facilitate housing diversity and housing at increased densities in locations offering good access to services, jobs and public transport. The GRZ permits building heights of up to 3 storeys, or 11 metres.

It is proposed to rezone most existing residential areas to Neighbourhood Residential Zone (NRZ) which places a two storey height limit on developments.

Implementation of the NCS will include greater setback and built form requirements in the schedules to the zones to ensure that any new development responds to the preferred future character of each area.

Gisborne Futures Structure Plan

Objective

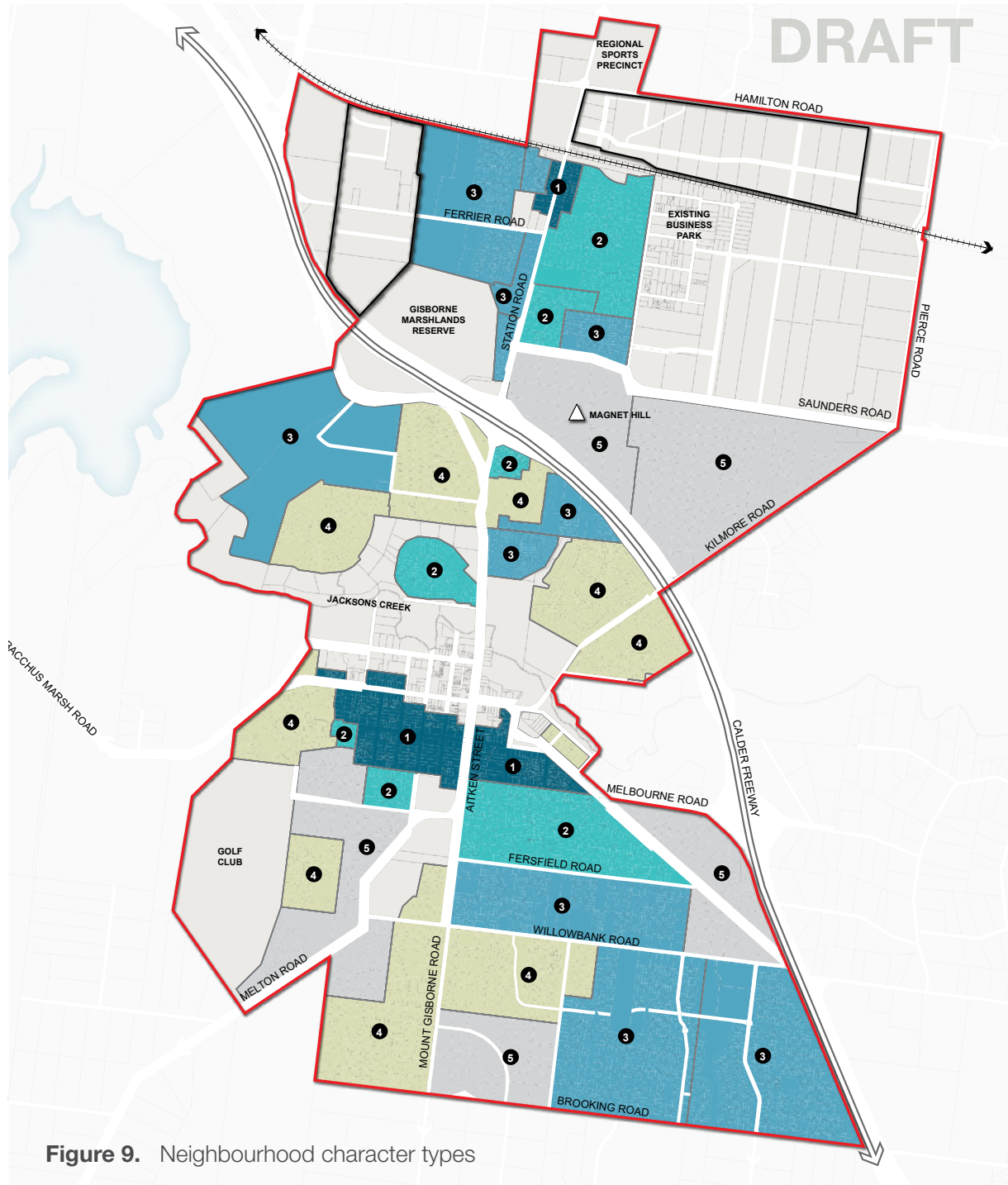
To ensure that new development makes a positive contribution to Gisborne's sense of place and responds to the existing or preferred future character.

Strategies

- Maintain the character of single and double storey development in Gisborne and New Gisborne's existing residential areas.
- Accommodate infill housing development that respects the existing rhythm, spacing and alignment of dwellings along the street.
- Ensure the design and siting of new buildings includes generous landscaping through the retention of existing canopy trees (where practicable) and allowance for the planting of new canopy trees and vegetation.
- Encourage innovative, contemporary design that is high quality and complementary to the prevailing form of development along the street.
- Maintain the spaciousness of front gardens and the view of these gardens and surrounding trees from the street.
- Ensure new development respects any visually sensitive interfaces with open space or the escarpment landscape.
- Support development proposals that demonstrate how the siting and design of new buildings and landscape response respects the existing or contributes to the preferred future character of the area.
- Align future character statements for character types/precincts to the housing change areas nominated in Figure 8 on page 31.

Action

- Finalise the Gisborne NCS.
- Prepare a local policy that embeds preferred future character statements and design objectives for Gisborne and New Gisborne's residential areas into the planning scheme.
- Rezone most existing GRZ areas to NRZ and prepare schedules for precincts to guide the preferred future character.



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5.2. Sustainable housing growth in New Gisborne

The structure plan envisions a sustainable new community in New Gisborne with an urban form that prioritises walking and cycling to shops, jobs, public transport and schools to assist in reducing car dependency and transport-related emissions.

Future development in the New Gisborne growth areas will:

- provide greater housing diversity and choice,
- facilitate walking or cycling for everyday trips
- boost business viability and increase economic activity
- provide a sensitive design response to the character of nearby rural landscapes.

To achieve this, increased densities in the form of low-rise apartments, (up to four storeys), townhouses and small-lot housing development are proposed within 1,200m of the New Gisborne town centre.

A minimum density of 35 dwellings per hectare is often cited as the threshold required to reduce car dependency and support sustainable public transport and active transport networks. Below this intensity distance and travel times to access daily necessities result in car dependency.

Higher housing densities in New Gisborne will be supported by a high quality public realm, as smaller dwellings will require connections to outdoor communal and public open spaces that provide amenity for residents.

New streets will be wide enough to contain landscaping, active spaces and WSUD, and support substantial canopy trees to visually buffer higher built form.

Proposed densities will achieve a viable population to support a neighbourhood activity centre that includes a range of shops and services and will reduce the need for residents to drive into the Gisborne town centre to access everyday necessities.

If developed at the proposed densities, this can be achieved in New Gisborne while limiting the need for excessive outward sprawl.

Objectives

To achieve residential densities and urban design that supports the viability of local shops and services, promotes walking and cycling and decreases car dependency.

To provide medium density housing that is responsive to the site and local context, with high levels of amenity and contemporary design.

To achieve wide streets that support substantial tree canopies for cooler urban environments and to visually soften the appearance of higher density housing.

Strategies

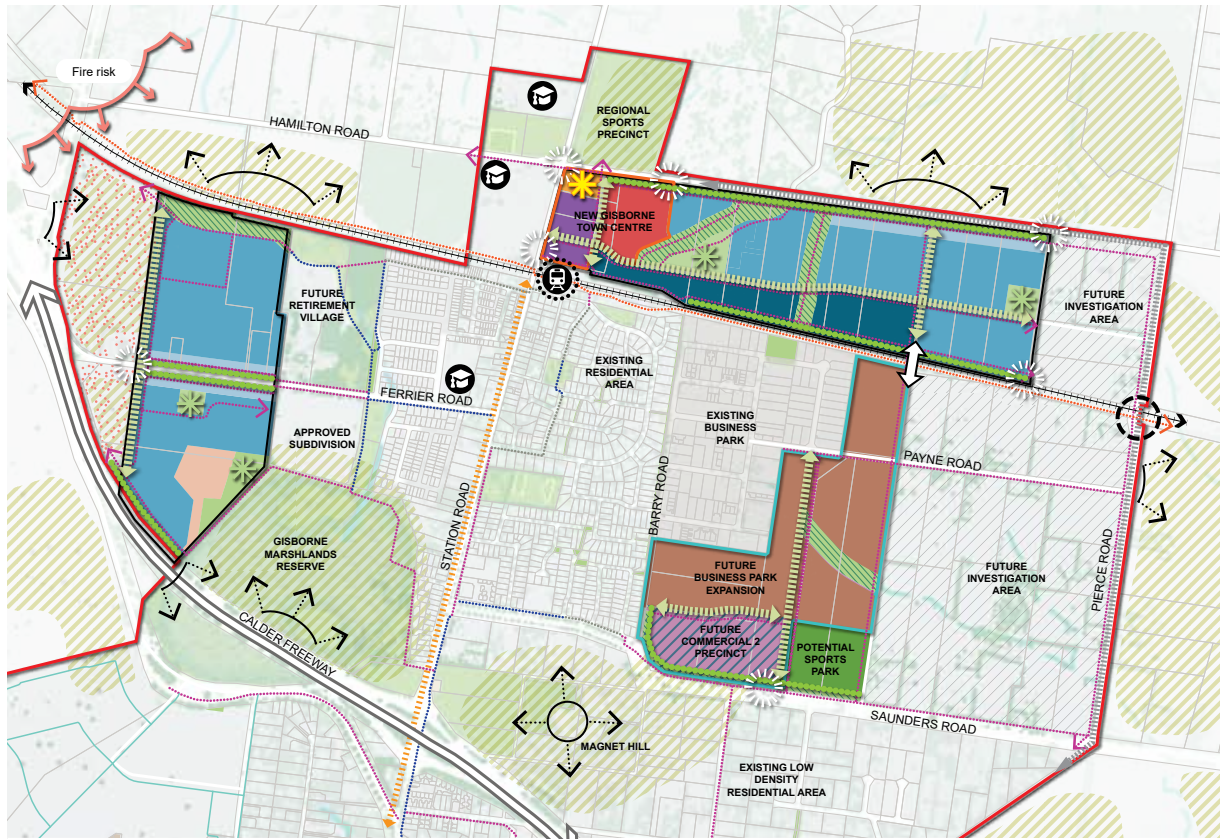
- Encourage a range of built form typologies including low-rise apartments, duplexes, townhouses and smaller housing lots in New Gisborne growth areas.
- Aim for residential densities in proposed residential growth areas in New Gisborne that achieve minimum targets of:
 - 50 dwellings per hectare in 'central urban' areas
 - 35 dwelling per hectare in 'urban' areas
 - 6.5 dwellings per hectare along the 'semi-rural' interfaces.
- Support developments that provide ample green spaces within verges and road reserves.
- Ensure medium density housing developments include communal open spaces and gardens.

Action

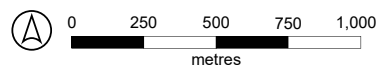
Prepare design guidelines/controls for medium density and low-rise developments to ensure a high-quality built form, amenity and landscape response is provided.

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Figure 10. New Gisborne Framework Plan

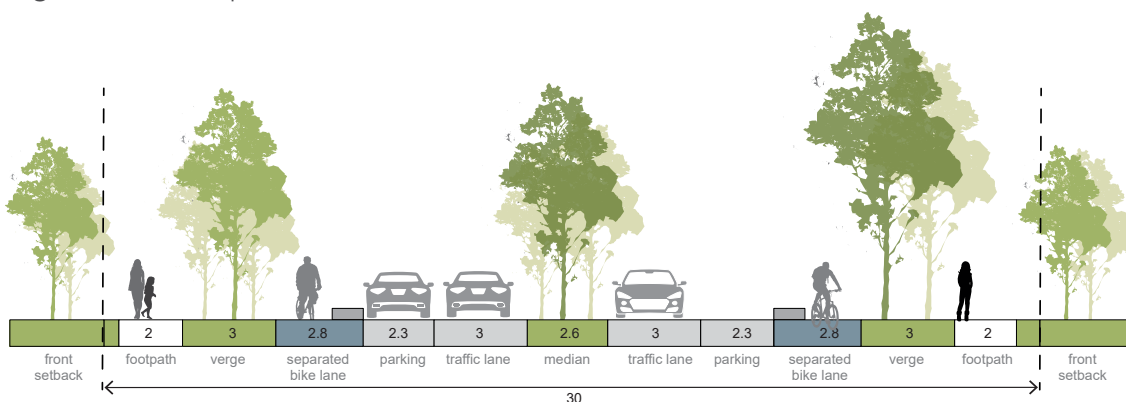


- Protected settlement boundary
- Key views
- Visually sensitive landscapes
- Area constrained by bushfire risk
- Landscape buffer to sensitive interfaces
- 30m boulevard connector roads
Refer to section diagram
- Open space: social recreation and local parks
- Open space: potential sports park
- Open space: future conservation, waterways, encumbered land and landscape buffers
- Town entry points
Reinforce town centre entry points and key intersections with high quality built form and landscape treatment that provides a clear signal of entry.
- Potential pedestrian and bicycle connection across railway line.
- Existing schools
- New Gisborne growth areas
Detailed design subject to future Precinct Structure Plan or Development Plan.
- Central urban
50 dwellings per hectare
Small lot housing, townhouses / units, low-rise apartment buildings (up to 4 storeys).
- Urban
35 dwellings per hectare
Detached dwellings, dual-occupancy, small lot housing, townhouses / units, low-rise apartment buildings (up to 3 storeys)
- Semi-rural interface
6.5 dwellings per hectare
Detached dwellings
- New Gisborne town centre
Prepare an Urban Design Framework for New Gisborne town centre, consider use of DDO or DPO to guide development.
- Potential community hub and civic open space
- Rezone to Commercial 1 Zone
- Rezone to Mixed Use Zone
- Business park expansion area
Apply Development Plan Overlay (DPO)
- Proposed Design and Development Overlay (DDO)
- Rezone to Industrial 3 Zone
- Rezone to Commercial 2 Zone
- Future investigation area
- Upgrade the Hamilton Road, Pierce Road and Kilmore Road corridor to relieve pressure on Station Road.
- Existing / planned shared path
- Potential shared path
- Potential on-road connections
- Regional shared trail
- Investigate feasibility of alternative road bridge
- Potential high-frequency bus route along Station Road / Aitken Street / Mount Gisborne Road

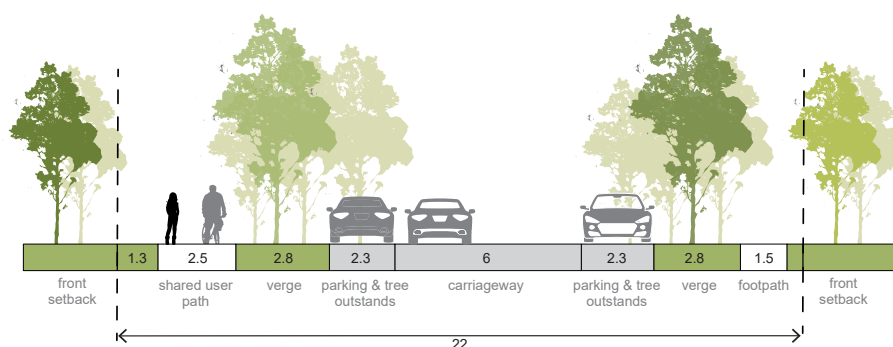


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Figure 11. Example street cross sections



30m boulevard connector road



22m internal connector

Action

Work in collaboration with the state departments, utility and service providers and land owners to develop a precinct structure plan or development plan for the New Gisborne growth areas that captures the direction provided in the Gisborne Structure Plan.

Future growth areas are to include:

- residential housing densities as set out Figure 8 on page 31.
- open spaces that are designed to be multi-functional and integrate active, passive and drainage and conservation uses
- a subdivision and built form interface that reflects the semi-rural setting at the township edge and provides breaks for views to the ranges
- a landscape and streetscape plan that demonstrates how the layout and design of public and private spaces and selection of plants can improve urban biodiversity outcomes, and encourage landscape connectivity through areas of new development
- future roads that accommodate a fine-grain shared user path network with verges and medians that accommodate substantial tree planting and green infrastructure.
- an integrated water management plan (IWMP) that demonstrates efficiency in the capture, storage, treatment and re-use of water resources
- hydrology modelling to ascertain flood conditions and a storm water management strategy that supplements the IWMP
- application of ESD and sustainable subdivision principles
- residential design guidelines that demonstrate how housing is to be responsive to the site and local context, with high levels of amenity, open space and landscaping, contemporary design and use of natural materials and muted colours that reflect the surrounding rural landscapes.

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6. Economic and employment growth

Increase opportunities for economic growth, business development and local employment so people can live close to where they work.

Regional and local economic context

Gisborne is located at the southern edge of the Loddon Campaspe region, with the advantage of ready access to Melbourne’s infrastructure, markets and workforce.

The Loddon Mallee Economic Growth Strategy (LMEGS, RDV, 2019) identifies the ‘Regional Employment and Innovation Corridor’ between Gisborne and Echuca-Moama as a focus for investment. Among other things, the strategy seeks to:

- attract new business investment, particularly manufacturing
- ensure provision of adequate industrial and employment land to support the growth of regional industry
- boost resource recovery and materials reprocessing
- invest in township renewal to increase amenity and attract a skilled workforce.

The ‘Thriving Townships’ objective in Council’s Economic Development Strategy 2021-2031 expands on the LMEGS and emphasises the importance of

‘investment in township infrastructure, land for local employment and future housing requirements that underpin sustainable local economic development’.

It highlights the need for integration of economic development activity with land use planning through township structure plans.



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6.1. Gisborne Business Park

The Gisborne Business Park performs an important economic and employment role for the district and, along with Kyneton, is one of the key employment areas within the shire.

Despite the economic disruption caused by the COVID pandemic, the business park has continued to experience business and employment growth in recent years.

The precinct is home to a diverse mix of businesses, many of which are more commercial than industrial including private recreation facilities, trade supplies and a distillery. Demand for commercial uses serving the local population will continue to grow as Gisborne's population expands.

In addition to 'core' retail-based activity centres, there is projected to be substantial growth in demand for bulky goods and restricted retail.

A Commercial 2 precinct on Saunders Road will attract both new businesses seeking affordable land and allow some businesses in the town centre to relocate, freeing up existing town centre sites for more integrated land uses.

Expansion of the precinct to the south and east will improve the profile of the business park by increasing exposure, however the built form interface must be carefully designed to respect the visual values of the township entrance.

It is vital the Gisborne Business Park is protected and supported to:

- increase local employment opportunities
- provide goods and services to the local resident and business population, and reduce the need to travel outside the Shire
- attract new business opportunities aligning to growth sectors of the economy
- reduce escape expenditure.

Economic and land supply modelling recommends:

- that the business park accommodate an additional 30-46 hectares of land over the next 20-30 years to support local and regional jobs and services
- that 5-10 hectares of Commercial 2 land be provided.

Objectives

To promote the Gisborne Business Park as a key location for commercial and industrial business growth and local employment opportunities, complementing the roles of the Gisborne and New Gisborne activity centres.

To reduce the need for residents and business to travel outside of the municipality to access goods and services, improving economic efficiencies and reducing travel emissions.

Strategies

- Facilitate expansion of the Gisborne Business Park to the south and east to attract business investment and the creation of new employment opportunities.
- Concentrate large format and restricted retailing in the business park and direct higher-order uses, including commercial and residential, to the Gisborne and New Gisborne town centres.
- Ensure that the provision of employment land can respond to demand by providing a diverse mix of lot sizes within the business park.
- Discourage supermarket and shop uses in the business park that may undermine the viability of the New Gisborne NAC.

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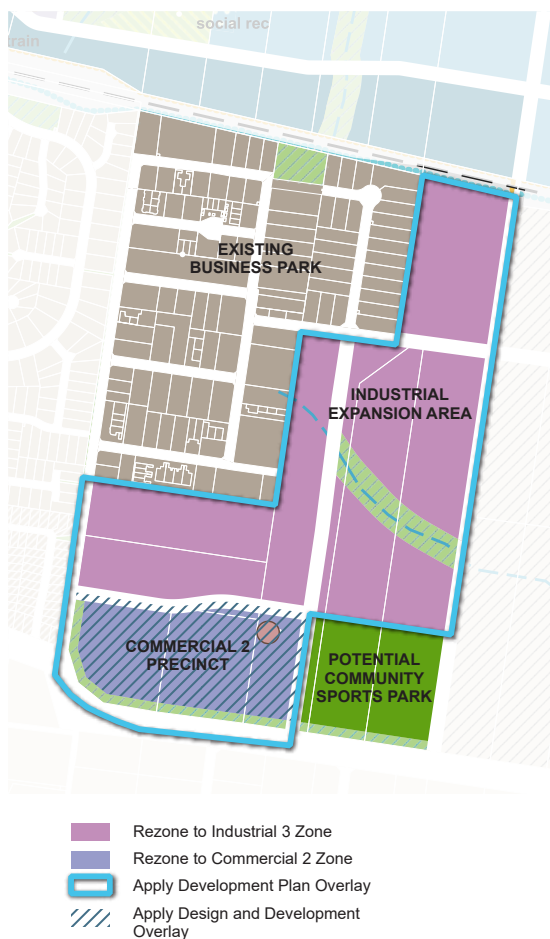


Figure 12. Gisborne Business Park

Actions

- Rezone land along Saunders Road and Barry Road in the business park expansion area to the Commercial 2 Zone.
- Rezone the balance of land within the business park expansion area to Industrial 3 Zone to provide for light industrial and commercial uses.
- Apply the Development Plan Overlay to ensure logical and coordinated delivery of the business park.
- Prepare a development contributions plan that ensures appropriate contributions to road, pedestrian, open space and community infrastructure are provided during development.
- Review and finalise the Gisborne Business Park Development Plan to include proposed expansion areas in accordance with the following key principles:
 - integration with the established business park
 - investment and business attraction
 - attractive and consistent design of the public realm
 - well-designed built form and treatment of sensitive interfaces
 - functional design of the movement network
 - functional design of servicing infrastructure.

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Objective

To ensure that the business park is a high quality development designed to integrate with the semi-rural township character of Gisborne.

Strategies

- Support commercial development along Saunders Road that provides a high quality, attractive frontage to the business park, and a well-designed interface that is compatible with adjacent residential uses and provides a sensitive response to the visual qualities of views to the north.
- Support development of light industrial uses, including office-warehouses; automotive and building services; and small-scale manufacturing as a buffer between the existing industrial area and nearby sensitive land uses
- Design and locate use and development in the business park to protect the visual and physical amenity of adjacent residential land.
- Support public realm improvements within the existing business park area (landscaping, footpaths etc.) to improve access and amenity, and to provide an attractive setting for future private investment into the area.
- Ensure future development protects and retains the creek corridor within open space, and incorporates integrated water management, WSUD and BSUD to support the ecological and drainage functions.

Objective

To future-proof for longer term expansion of the business park beyond the horizon of the structure plan.

Strategies

- Support longer-term expansion of the business park to the east, along the train line to provide an appropriate buffer to sensitive uses.
- Retain Rural Living Zone within the township boundary to retain a 'semi-rural' edge in the interim, and to ensure that sufficient land is available for long term business needs in locations that are not likely to result in land use conflict.

Actions

Prepare a Design and Development Overlay to control the built form outcome along the Saunders Road frontage of the business park. The DDO is to include (but not be limited to):

- built form height and setback controls to minimise visual impact of development from gateway entrance
- building separation that provides for views to the north
- a material/colour palette that includes muted and natural colours and materials that provide sensitive response to the entrance road and backdrop of views to the north
- an attracting, active interface that provides address to the road
- controls that minimise the extent of signage
- provision for attractive landscaping, active transport access and substantial canopy trees.
- Apply the Heritage Overlay to Woivurrung Cottage at 111 Saunders Road, and ensure adequate curtilage and a sympathetic design response is provided to protect the amenity of the cottage.
- Prepare policy guidelines to ensure advertising and building signage or branding does not detract from the amenity, streetscape or landscape character of the area, particularly in sensitive and strategic areas and along main roads.
- Amend the 'Design Guidelines for Industrial & Commercial Development for the Macedon Ranges Shire' (2012) to include new industrial and commercial zoned land.

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6.2. Tourism

Gisborne is the gateway to the Macedon Ranges. It has a small but emerging tourism and events role, with smaller-scale accommodation and event spaces available. Although tourism is not currently identified as an economic strength, there is an opportunity to support ongoing provision of spaces for events, hospitality and visitor accommodation.

Gisborne is also a popular destination for day trippers to the Macedon Ranges and Hanging Rock for its food retail offerings, while the monthly Gisborne Olde Time Market is a popular regional attraction.

The benefits of tourism must be balanced against the protection of Gisborne's valued amenity and landscapes, including its reserves, the Jacksons Creek escarpment, and existing vegetation, street trees and landscaping.

Opportunities exist to support tourism including increased provision of overnight accommodation, as well as building on Gisborne's well-established strength in retail food by addressing gaps in night-time dining and entertainment.

Realising these opportunities will enhance the emerging brand of the town centre as a regional gathering place for food and trade in a village setting.



Gisborne Futures Structure Plan

Objective

To promote Gisborne as the gateway to the Macedon Ranges, and an attractive place to visit for shopping, food, events and recreation.

Strategies

- Support development that provides opportunities to increase tourism in the town.
- Promote Gisborne as a destination for cycling, walking and recreation, in addition to food retail.
- Provide well-signed access that encourages visitors to extend their experience and explore the retail and hospitality offering of Gisborne as part of a new wayfinding strategy.
- Promote the Gisborne town centre as a destination village to be enjoyed, through prioritising the pedestrian experience and economic activity.
- Promote and develop community and entertainment facilities that attract visitors from the region and further afield.
- Encourage food and entertainment businesses and events that provide night-time activation.
- Support the Gisborne Market and work with organisers to ensure the location and operations remain appropriate.
- Facilitate development of and connections to the Regional Shared Trails project and support the development of complementary uses which support use of the trail and visitation to New Gisborne.

Actions

- Develop a program of community events, festivals and activities to take place in the streets and open spaces within the town centre.
- Finalise the Gisborne Urban Design Framework to set out guidelines for signage and provide details of pedestrian and streetscape improvements in the town centre.
- Update the Macedon Ranges Shire-Wide Footpath Plan to identify and prioritise links between the New Gisborne NAC and the Regional Shared Trail.

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7. Heritage and culture

Identify, protect and celebrate important elements that contribute to Gisborne's unique post-contact and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Macedon Ranges Shire has a strong and proud Aboriginal heritage stretching back many thousands of years. Gisborne and surrounds is within the traditional country of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people for whom natural landscapes form part of a single, holistic, cultural and spiritual landscape.

Contact between the Woiwurrung people and European settlers in the Gisborne region began in the early nineteenth century. Dispossession of the Woiwurrung was facilitated by the occupation of the land by squatters and pastoral settlers.

Robert Hoddle was commissioned to lay out a proper township in 1851. The original village was laid out on a formal grid with wide streets, and confined to the inner slopes of the Jacksons Creek Valley on the south side of the creek. Hoddle named it 'Gisborne' after Henry Fysche Gisborne, the Commissioner of Crown Lands who set up an outpost for his Border Police troopers in 1840 to assist colonists with the suppression of Aboriginal resistance.

From 1851, the town quickly grew as a result of the gold rushes in Bendigo and Castlemaine and the railway line was constructed to service the goldfields. Schools, churches, dwellings, hotels and other buildings and bluestone infrastructure were built from this time, and for at least seven decades, from 1871 Gisborne was the focus of a strong and dedicated tree planting program which has resulted in the stunning tree-lined avenues that contribute to the amenity of local neighbourhoods, open spaces and landscapes today.

A number of historic buildings and places from Gisborne's early development still stand today and are highly valued by the community. At least two of these early buildings are of state significance: Macedon House and the Gisborne Railway Station are both listed on the Victoria Heritage Register (VHR) and there is also a large number of locally significant heritage precincts and buildings in Gisborne that are protected by Heritage Overlays. These include the Gisborne Cemetery, current and former civic buildings, and historic homes.

Objective

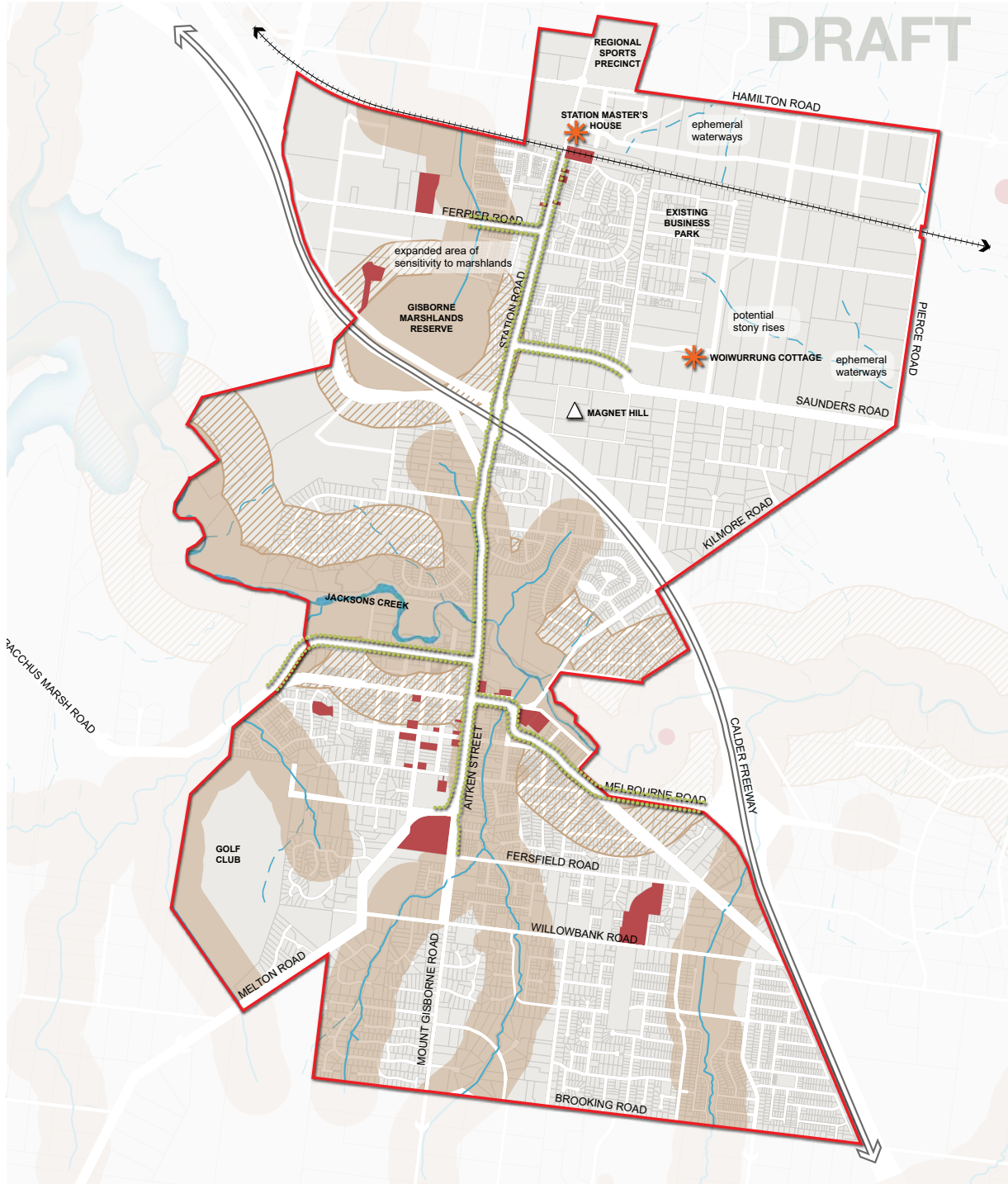
Ensure new development appropriately responds to heritage sites, places and values.

Strategies

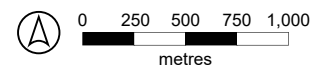
- Protect Macedon House and Gisborne Railway Station, including its curtilage and setting, when designing any development in and adjacent to the heritage buildings on these sites.
- Support sympathetic development around heritage sites so the heritage significance of a site or streetscape is protected and retained.
- Support sympathetic restoration and adaptation of heritage sites by allowing complementary uses that facilitate ongoing preservation and maintenance.
- Support adaptation and re-use of heritage buildings and older dwellings within the township.
- Continue work to identify, assess and document places of cultural heritage significance in Gisborne for protection under the planning scheme.

Actions

- Undertake a heritage assessment to determine whether two sites in the vicinity of the Gisborne Railway Station should be included in the station's VHR citation and/or included under the Heritage Overlay in their own right:
 - possible former stationmaster's house at 4 Barringo Road
 - hotel building at 283 Station Road.
- Apply the Heritage Overlay to Woiwurrung Cottage at 111 Saunders Road.



- Protected settlement boundary
- Waterways
- Cultural heritage sensitivity
- Potential expansion of cultural heritage sensitivity mapping.
- Existing Heritage Overlay
- Roads with significant avenue trees
- Potential heritage site



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7.1. Aboriginal cultural heritage

While the significance of tangible assets like scar trees and stone tools is well recognised, Aboriginal cultural heritage also encompasses intangible aspects such as cultural landscape associations, including with particular landforms and natural features, such as waterways and their corridors; and important views both to and from places of significance.

Areas of cultural heritage sensitivity are mapped around a number of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites in and around Gisborne, as well as along waterway corridors including Jacksons Creek. However Aboriginal artefacts have been found at numerous sites in the Gisborne region outside of these defined areas.

The following additional areas of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity should be considered for further investigation prior to development:

- **Landscape features** and significant views, including towards Camel Hump, Mount Macedon, Mount Robertson and in the direction of the Sunbury Earth Rings, and to and from Mount Gisborne and Magnet Hill.
- The **Jacksons Creek corridor** is identified as having the potential for Aboriginal cultural significance as an important travel route and place of natural resources.
- The **Gisborne Marshlands Reserve** has cultural significance for the potential presence of items of cultural heritage significance, including flora and fauna.
- **Ephemeral creeks**, unnamed drainage lines and stony rises could contain artefact scatters.
- **Large old trees** should be retained and surveys for scar trees should be undertaken. Further regeneration is encouraged via natural recruitment and revegetation programs.

Objective

To enhance and celebrate Gisborne's Aboriginal cultural heritage in its open spaces and landscapes.

Strategies

- Provide a buffer to the Gisborne Marshlands Reserve to protect areas of potential cultural heritage sensitivity.
- Protect remnant large old eucalypts and other indigenous species and encourage their regeneration within the landscape.

Actions

- Provide access along waterways and to landscape highpoints that would have been featured in the cultural interpretation of the landscape (i.e. wayfinding, travel routes, food sources).
- Use culturally significant species in revegetation projects, and landscaping of public open spaces and parks.
- Include interpretative signage, pause points and design elements that reflect Aboriginal values through the town centre and Gisborne's open space areas.
- In consultation with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, use Aboriginal names and terminology in the future naming of places, and symbolism in the future design and interpretation of places, which could be through layout or materiality.
- Continue to work with the Registered Aboriginal Party to identify cultural heritage values on public land, including the Jacksons Creek river terraces, ephemeral creeks and stony rises.

Objective

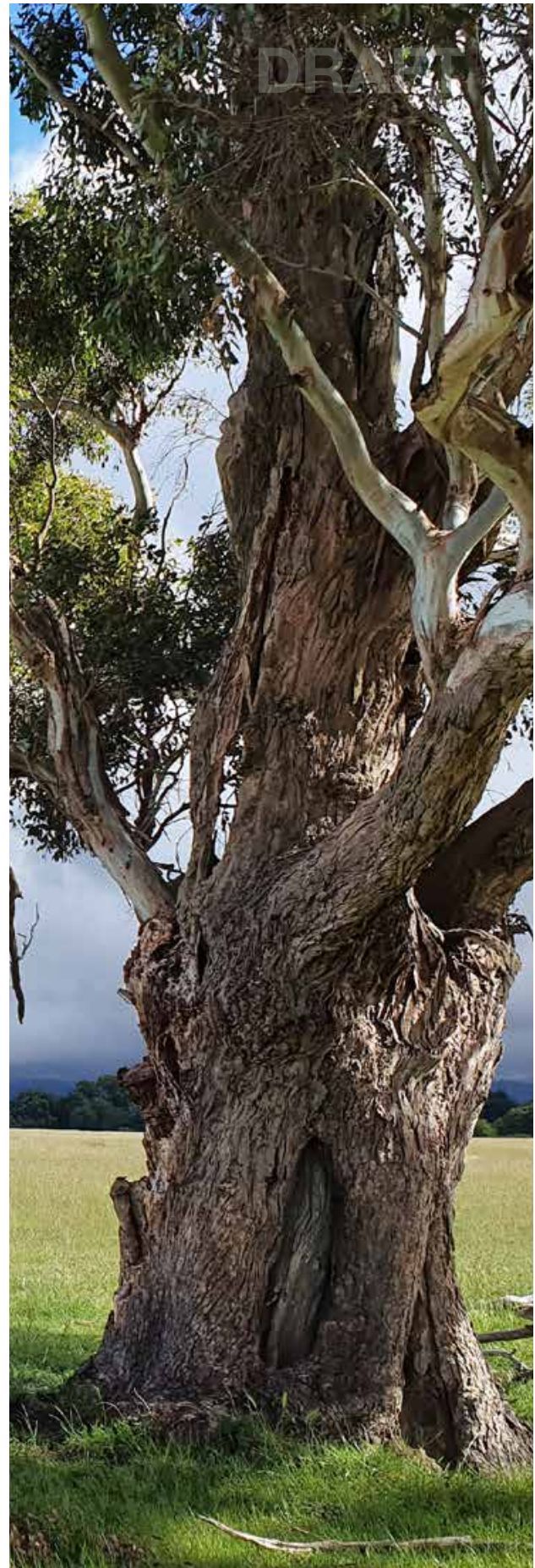
To ensure new development appropriately responds to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites, places and values.

Strategies

- Request desktop cultural heritage assessments prior to, or early in the design phase, for any development within the areas identified as having potential cultural sensitivity. These include:
 - undeveloped land within 500m of Jacksons Creek, including the escarpment and alluvial terraces
 - undeveloped land to the south and west of the Gisborne Marshland Reserve, ephemeral creeks and stony rises.
- Ensure identified sites are appropriately and respectfully integrated with open space and landscape connections during the early stages of the design process for new development.
- Encourage the use of culturally significant species in the landscaping of new development.

Actions

- Identify, assess and document places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance in Gisborne, and provide for their protection and conservation.
- Consult with the Registered Aboriginal Party on any development within the Jacksons Creek corridor area of sensitivity. The location and design of any crossing or works should:
 - maintain continuity of the creek line along this movement and resource corridor
 - retain unmodified natural outcrops and remnant native vegetation
 - be designed to minimise visual impact on the cultural landscape.
- Identify areas containing culturally valued species (not just rare or endangered) and explore the potential to protect these through Planning Scheme controls, such as Vegetation Protection or Environmental Significance Overlays.



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8. Landscape, open space and environment

Enhance landscape, open space and environmental values through connected green spaces, protection of important landscape features, and integration of biodiversity values while planning for more resilient and sustainable communities that can withstand the effects of a changing climate.

8.1. Gisborne's landscape setting

Gisborne is located on the edge of the Victorian volcanic plain, near where the flat to undulating landscape intersects with hills and mountains of the upland region.

The township is established in the alluvial valley of Jacksons Creek that has worn a deep ravine into the basalt plain and provides a green backdrop to the town centre with its steep escarpments and adjoining open spaces.

Mount Gisborne provides a natural edge to the township to the south, and the smaller rise of Magnet Hill is a landmark featured in the middle ground of many views within and around town.

The Macedon Ranges are the defining landscape feature of the shire and are exemplary within the state context. The wide, forested backdrop of the ranges terminates views and makes a significant contribution to the visual landscape setting of Gisborne and New Gisborne.

Protection of the visual and physical qualities of the landscape around Gisborne has shaped the town's historic development. The protected settlement boundary will ensure that the views to significant landscape features and Gisborne's rural landscape setting is protected from further development in perpetuity.

Within the settlement boundaries the visual impact of residential development on the escarpment has the potential to compromise the quality of the landscape, and must be carefully managed.

Views and visually sensitive landscapes within the settlement boundary have been identified to ensure that the attributes of these are recognised and an appropriate design response is applied.

Objectives

To enhance Gisborne's semi-rural character through retention of views to significant landscape features and surrounding rural landscapes.

To protect visually sensitive landscapes from development that will compromise their quality and influence on the semi-rural character of Gisborne.

Strategies

- Recognise the local landscape significance of the Jacksons Creek escarpment and its visual sensitivity.
- Support development that minimises the visual intrusion and potential impact of buildings, earthworks and infrastructure on landscape features and views through sensitive siting, design and landscaping.
- Support contemporary design responses that minimise visual impact through low-scale built form and upper level setbacks, design detailing, use of muted colours and simple material palettes.
- Encourage subdivisions and new developments to orient streets and pedestrian links to capture views and vistas to nearby landscape features.

Actions

- Amend the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy to include the proposed protected settlement boundary for Gisborne.
- Assess the Jacksons Creek valley landscape for potential application of the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO).

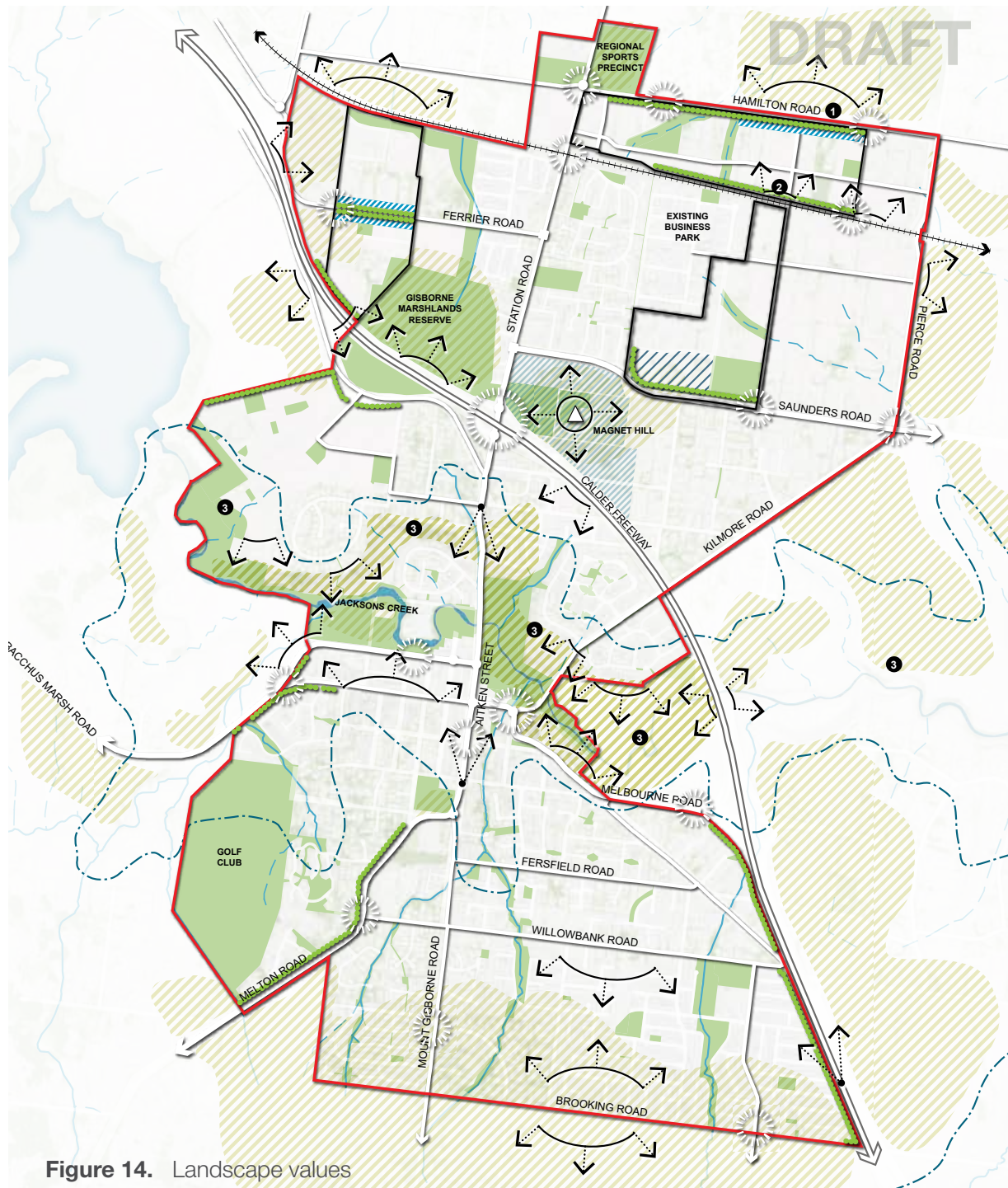
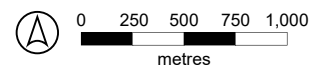


Figure 14. Landscape values

- Protected settlement boundary
- New Gisborne growth areas
- Jacksons Creek valley landscape area
- Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO)
- Key views
- Gateways and township entry points
- Visually sensitive landscapes
- Open space
- Semi-rural interface
- Landscape buffer
- Proposed Design and Development Overlay (DDO): Saunders Road entrance

- 1** Align settlement boundary to Hamilton Road to protect significant views to the north.
- 2** Ensure breaks in built form, open space and road alignments along railway line are designed to capture views to the Macedon Ranges.
- 3** Assess the Jacksons Creek valley landscape for potential application of the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO).



8.2. Entrances and edges

The township entrances and edges provide a series of different landscape experiences as a number of main roads from the surrounding region converge on the town centre of Gisborne.

These include the heavily forested entrance from Bullengarook, to the undulating hills and bush in the south, the mountain terrain in the north and the rural farmland in the east. From each direction there is a clear transition into Gisborne's valley at Jacksons Creek, creating a sense of arrival into the town centre.

The structure plan recognises the character and visual significance of Gisborne's entrance roads, including avenue trees, wide road reserves and the rural and open space setting of the township, the visually recessive interfaces to residential areas and views and vistas to surrounding landscape features.



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Objectives

To provide semi-rural township edges that provide a transition from open, rural landscapes to the township.

To ensure that housing and development is visually recessive to the broader landscape setting on township edges and entrances.

To strengthen the sense of arrival to the Gisborne / New Gisborne township area.

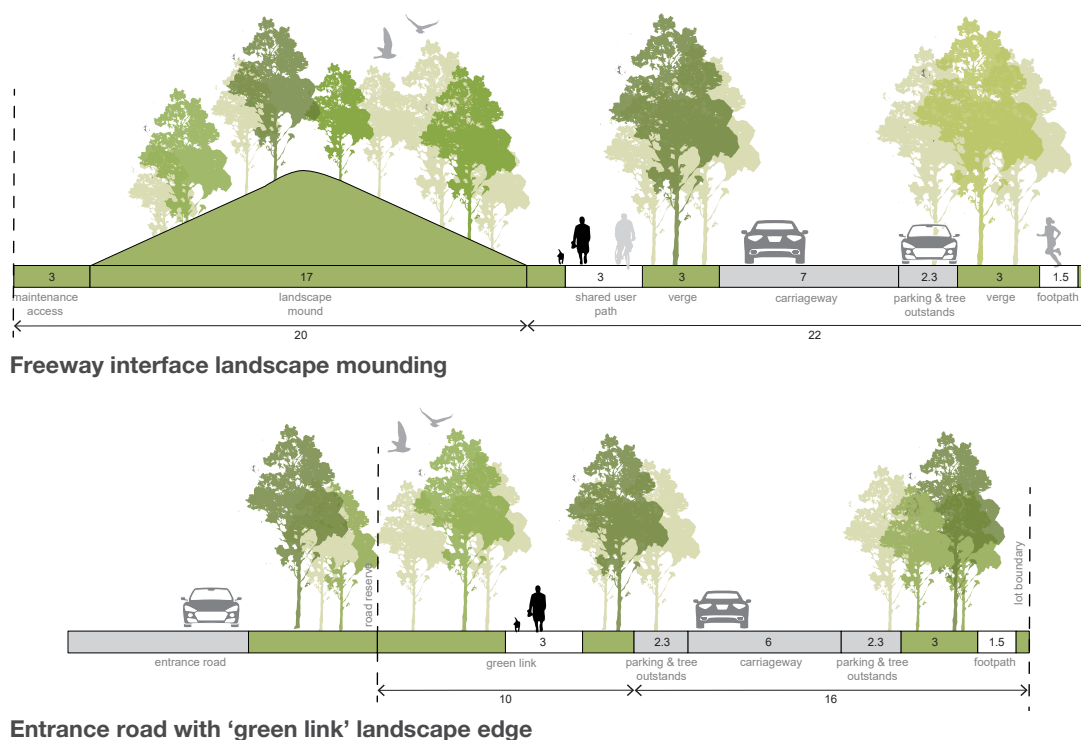
Strategies

- Support site responsive development and infrastructure that is considerate of sensitive interfaces, particularly for land on township edges that is adjacent to low density residential or rural zoned land.
- Ensure access to new development is designed to provide a transition from rural landscapes, with opportunity to retain existing significant roadside vegetation or perimeter planting and landscape buffers to visually separate new housing.

Actions

- Require landscaped mounding to the edge of the Calder Freeway to provide visual and acoustic amenity, and minimise the appearance of new development as viewed from the road corridor as part of any future precinct or development plan.
- Require lots adjoining entrance roads to provide service roads or rear lane access and landscape buffers with shared user paths adjacent to the road.
- Provide large lot, semi-rural interfaces and landscape buffers to entrance roads and visually sensitive landscapes in new subdivisions.
- Reinforce township entry points and key intersections with high quality built form and landscape treatment that provides a clear signal of entry.
- Avoid insensitive or branded built form, lighting, billboards and signage that could detract from the quality of township entrances.

Figure 15. Example entrance road cross sections



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8.3. Trees

Gisborne's street trees are an important part of the township history, character and identity with many of the significant oaks and elms planted over 130 years ago. Stunning tree-lined avenues contribute to the amenity of local neighbourhoods, open spaces and landscapes. They feature in views and gateways and have biodiversity, habitat, visual and recreational values.

Trees are essential elements of urban streetscapes. They sustain cooler, healthier environments, support biodiversity and habitat for wildlife in urban areas, restore soil moisture levels to recharge and stabilise groundwater levels in catchments, which are all attributes that can assist with climate change mitigation.

In addition to the street trees, there are many large significant old trees on private property that contribute to the town's green backdrop.

Substantially increasing tree cover is a major priority for climate change adaptation as trees provide shading and cooling to urban areas, support a comfortable walking environment, and contribute to improved storm water management.



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Objectives

To protect and retain existing trees on public and private land, and increase tree canopy cover throughout the township.

To ensure that new development provides for a substantial tree canopy and that provision for canopy trees is a key consideration in the design of streets, public spaces and private garden areas.

To foster a sense of ownership and responsibility among the community towards the town's trees and green spaces.

Strategies

- Prioritise establishment of green infrastructure in streets and open spaces including canopy trees, water sensitive design and landscaping in streetscape verges, gardens and open spaces.
- Design new subdivisions to ensure that road widths are sufficient to accommodate canopy trees.
- Require site-responsive subdivisions and developments that protect and retain existing trees by incorporating them into the design of streets and open spaces.
- Ensure new development is designed to accommodate medium to large canopy trees through provision of communal or private open spaces and garden areas with deep soil zones and adequate setbacks.
- Ensure that tree species selection and spacing has regard to bushfire risk.
- Ensure longevity of street trees by selecting species that withstand future climate forecasts.

Actions

- Vary the landscape standard in schedules to the residential zones to include requirements for canopy trees in front setbacks and garden spaces.
- Review planning scheme provisions related to trees and vegetation and develop options for increasing tree canopy coverage and strengthening tree protection on public and private land. The review should:
 - develop criteria that provide clear thresholds for establishing the significance of a tree
 - identify significant trees within both public spaces and private property, and use appropriate planning tools (such as the Vegetation Protection Overlay) and management techniques to provide greater protection
 - include an urban heat mapping study to identify areas of low canopy cover, including neighbourhoods and key pedestrian routes
 - establish tree canopy targets and prioritise areas according to need
 - plan for additional street tree planting and succession planting for trees that are ageing throughout the town centre, or for those that are identified as potentially impacted by future road widening or intersection works.
 - encourage use of management techniques such as lopping and consideration of under-canopy use to retain large old trees on private and public land.
- Undertake educational campaigns to educate residents, businesses, and local organisations about the benefits of trees, proper tree care and the role of trees in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

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8.4. Environmental values

Gisborne has over 81 hectares of environmentally significant reserves within the township boundary. The largest is the Gisborne Marshlands Reserve which is one of the few remaining wetlands in the shire on public land, and home to significant native flora and fauna. UL Daly Conservation Reserve, Magnet Hill, Jacksons Creek and its tributaries and Mount Gisborne are also important environmental assets.

The Gisborne region contains two vegetation communities listed under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act):

- EVC 647 Plains Sedgy Wetland (Marshland Reserve)
- EVC 55 Plains Grassy Woodland.

EVC (2005) mapping shows that the now-endangered Plains Grassy Woodland EVC was found extensively across land proposed to be included in the protected settlement boundary, and that there is a likelihood of patches occurring primarily along roadsides and the train line, with some smaller patches scattered throughout.

Areas with higher biodiversity values include the scattered woodland landscape to the north of Hamilton Road and patches of remnant vegetation east of Station Road.

Wildlife

Eastern Grey Kangaroos are commonly found grazing in the open grasslands and paddocks surrounding town. The Gisborne Golf Club hosts a significant population, as does Magnet Hill and the Gisborne Marshlands.

The bushland areas have a range of small to medium-sized mammals including Swamp Wallabies, Ringtail and Brushtail Possums, Krefft's (Sugar) Gliders, Echidnas, a suite of microbat species, Bare-nosed Wombats, as well as native rodents and small carnivorous marsupials known as Antechinus. Koalas are occasionally seen. The marshlands and waterways host Australian Water Rats and Platypus.

Threatened species

- Gisborne Marshlands and Jacksons Creek support rare wetland species such as Latham's Snipe, Lewin's Rail, Great Egret and occasionally the White-bellied Sea Eagle.
- EPBC Act Listed species include the endangered Gang-gang Cockatoo which nests in hollow trees in Gisborne.

The protected settlement boundary has largely avoided areas identified as having high environmental values as identified through the VPO and RCZ. The exception to this is the north western corner where a desktop review has found that the highly modified landscape is unlikely to contain significant environmental values.

There is opportunity to strengthen landscape connectivity through the Gisborne township by supporting the restoration and protection of existing biodiversity corridors, and by creating 'green biolinks' using local indigenous species through new development areas that connect open spaces and conservation reserves. This will provide greater connectivity for flora and fauna as well as human residents and improve the biodiversity and conservation values in the area.

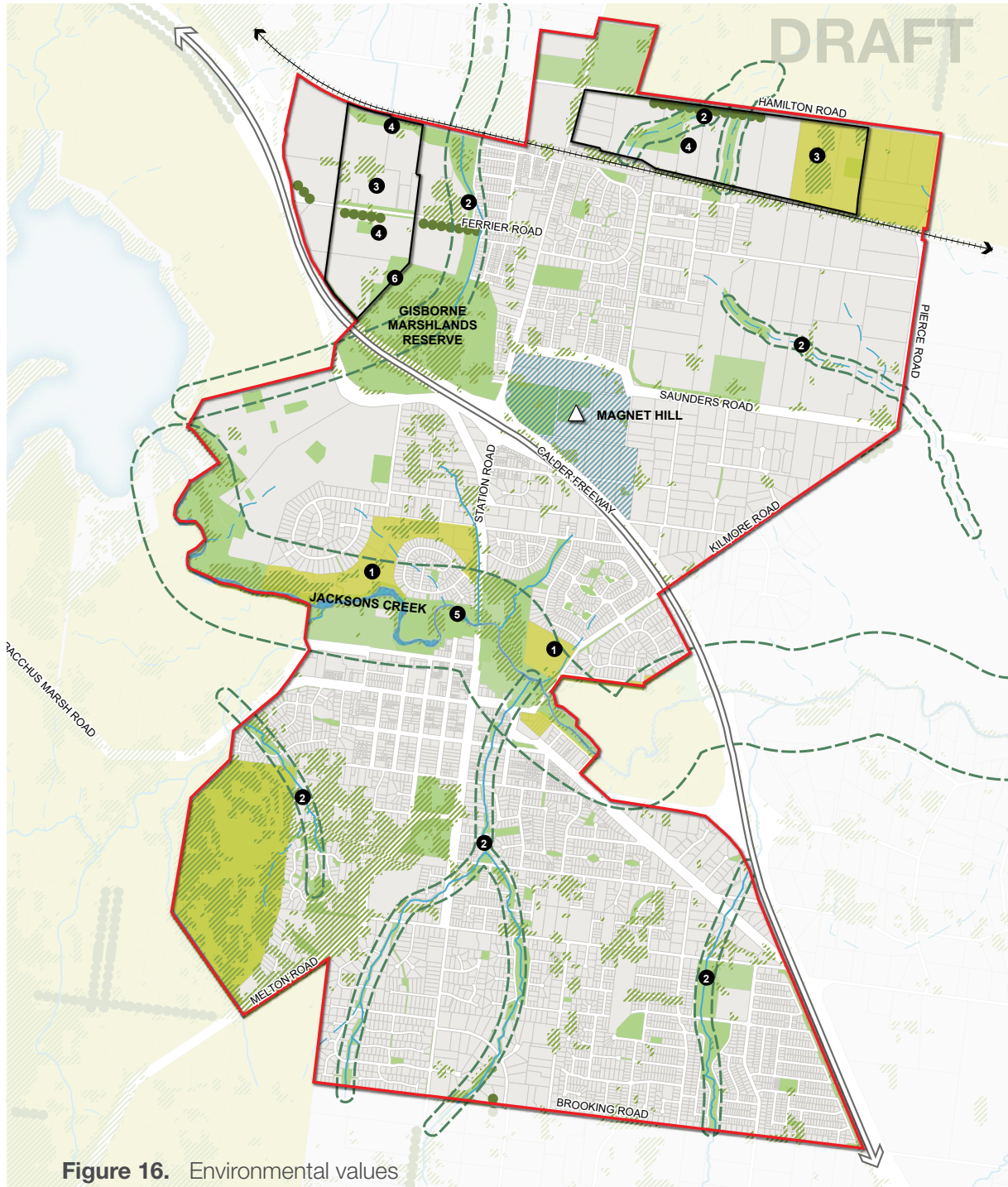
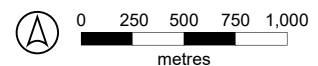


Figure 16. Environmental values

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Protected settlement boundary | Likely remnant EVCs | 1 Retain land within Rural Conservation Zone along Jacksons Creek corridor. | 4 Retain habitat values by protecting remnant native vegetation in new subdivisions, including mature trees and intact native grass patches. |
| New Gisborne growth areas | Open space | 2 Protect and enhance the ecological value of conservation reserves, biolinks and riparian land alongside waterways to support biodiversity and provide habitat connectivity. | 5 Prepare a master plan for the Jacksons Creek corridor. |
| Rural Conservation Zone (RCZ) | Biolinks | 3 Undertake ecological assessments prior to rezoning RCZ land in New Gisborne growth areas. | 6 Maintain an area of open space between the heritage curtilage of Cathlaw House and the Gisborne Marshlands Reserve. |
| Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO) | Roadside conservation values | | |



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Objectives

To identify, protect and enhance areas identified as having high biodiversity and habitat values.

To strengthen corridors connecting green spaces and provide landscape connectivity.

To encourage use of Biodiversity Sensitive Urban Design (BSUD) in the design of new urban development.

Strategies

- Continue to support local environmental groups and contribute to the revegetation of waterways and riverbanks to improve biodiversity, prevent erosion and provide habitat corridors.
- Support implementation of actions and strategies contained within Council's Biodiversity Strategy and environmental works plans and increase funding to better manage conservation areas.
- Support integrated water management initiatives to mitigate pollutants and stormwater loads on the Jacksons Creek and Maribryngong River catchments
- Retain land within the Rural Conservation Zone along the Jacksons Creek corridor to protect the visual and environmental qualities of the valley
- Protect and enhance the ecological value of conservation reserves, biolinks and riparian land alongside waterways to support biodiversity and provide habitat connectivity.
- Retain habitat values by protecting remnant native vegetation in new subdivisions, including mature trees and intact native grass patches.
- Maintain an area of open space between the heritage curtilage of Cathlaw House and the Gisborne Marshlands Reserve to protect view lines and cultural heritage values associated with the reserve.
- Encourage the use of indigenous and culturally significant species in gardens, streets and open spaces to provide for urban biodiversity and landscape connectivity.
- Encourage integration of street landscaping with private gardens to create a continuous 'bushland' setting that enhances the function of public and private spaces as biodiversity corridors.



Actions

- Prior to any application for subdivision or development, require ecological and arboricultural assessments that identify existing trees and vegetation (including grasses), fauna, habitats and waterway corridors that are important for conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and landscape connectivity.
- As part of new development, consider the need for wildlife corridors and fencing controls, and the preparation of Kangaroo Management Plans or wildlife salvage operations as necessary.
- Prepare a master plan for the Jacksons Creek corridor that provides a vision for the development of a regional open space corridor.
- Prepare landscape guidelines and planting palettes that include indigenous and culturally significant species designed to enhance biodiversity values and provide landscape connectivity through the design of urban environments.

Objectives

To minimise the disturbances caused by public lighting to native wildlife and ecosystems and reduce electricity use.

Strategies

- Support the use of innovative lighting technology such as dimmers, timers, motion sensors, colour temperatures and solar lighting
- Avoid excessive illumination, glare and spill, and the indiscriminate use of floodlighting, particularly along the rural interface, in areas of open space or those with conservation values.

Action

- Prepare a Wildlife Friendly Lighting Policy that requires that new lighting schemes employ best practice design to minimise light pollution for streets, commercial premises and open spaces.



Red-tailed Gang Cockatoo. Photographed by Ambika Bone.



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8.5. Open space

Gisborne’s primary open space is the Jacksons Creek corridor which has been preserved as a significant landscape backdrop and parkland setting for the town. It features a linear network of open spaces incorporating the Gisborne Botanic Gardens, sports fields and facilities, playgrounds, pathways, biodiversity and habitat linkages and opportunities for both active and passive recreation.

New Gisborne is host to the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Facility which will provide a diverse range of sports, events and activities. The staged development will connect to the existing regional netball facility and include two full sized sports fields and pavilion, indoor courts, tennis courts, a playground and circuit paths.

Most residential areas have access to undeveloped local reserves or conservation areas that provide landscape amenity and a conservation function, but many of these lack facilities for social recreation such as a playgrounds, picnic areas or other amenities.

Where greater housing diversity and increased infill development is planned, quality open spaces are to be provided to ensure access to natural environments and visual relief along with social and recreational opportunities for residents who do not have the amenity of a large backyard.



Gisborne Futures Structure Plan

Objectives

To ensure that new development delivers open spaces that protect and enhance biodiversity and trees, township character, and waterways.

To provide for high quality social recreation and sports reserves to meet the needs of the existing and growing population.

Strategies

- Provide an open space network that promotes health and wellbeing and serves the needs of a diverse community
- Ensure that residents have equitable access to open spaces that are fit for purpose, safe and engaging for a broad cross-section of the community.
- Support implementation of Council’s open space strategy, existing and future master plans and environmental management plans.
- Enhance waterways as multi-functional reserves that allow for drainage, flood mitigation, water quality protection and improved biodiversity while facilitating recreation through pathways, seating and play areas.

Actions

- Prioritise upgrades to local reserves to improve access to quality open spaces for social recreation.
- Deliver the following open spaces in the New Gisborne residential growth areas:
 - destination social recreation (2-5ha), co-located with creek corridor/drainage reserves and town centre.
 - community level active sport space of 4 hectares, to accommodate a full sized oval.
 - smaller local parks of around 1 hectare to capture trees for conservation and provide local social recreation destinations for residential areas.
 - a civic community space connected to the future community centre and town centre retail precinct to function as a ‘public square’
- Seek a minimum open space contribution of 10% subdivision land area to ensure that higher density development is supported by a network of high quality and connected open spaces.

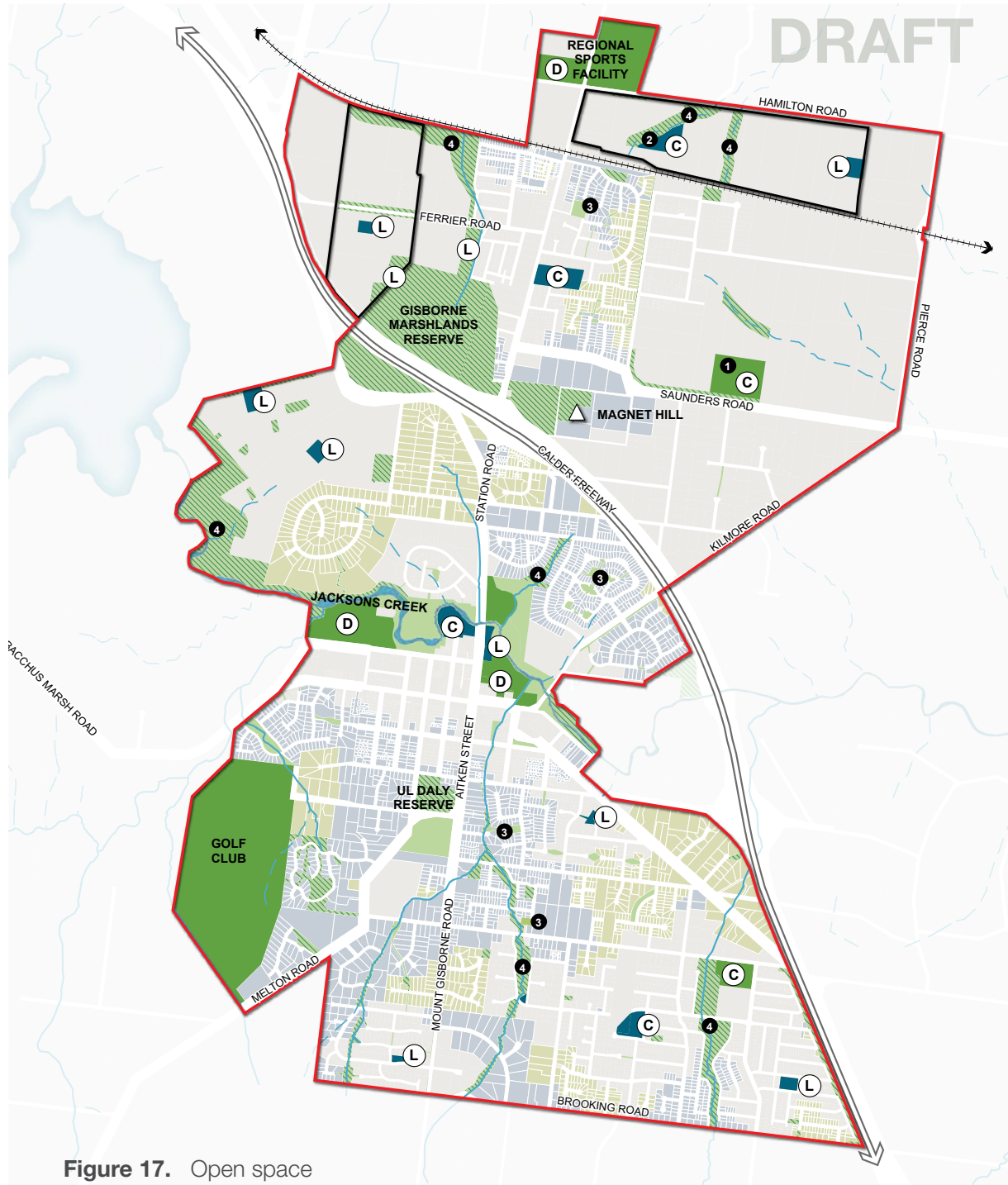
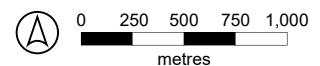


Figure 17. Open space

- Protected settlement boundary
- New Gisborne growth areas
- Existing / proposed path network
- Properties outside 400m open space catchment
- Properties outside 400m catchment to social recreation or sports parks

- Open space types**
- Sport
 - Social recreation
 - Conservation / encumbered
 - Special purpose / landscape amenity
- Open space hierarchy**
- D Destination park
 - C Community park
 - L Local park

- 1 Proposed community sports park
- 2 Proposed community social recreation park
- 3 Prioritise upgrades to local reserves to improve access to quality open spaces for social recreation.
- 4 Enhance waterways as multi-functional reserves that allow for drainage, flood mitigation, water quality protection and improved biodiversity while facilitating recreation through pathways, seating and play areas.



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8.6. Bushfire risk

In a bushfire scenario, Gisborne/New Gisborne are most likely to be impacted by an ember attack originating from the forested areas to the north, north-west, west or south-west.

Grass fires from surrounding paddocks are also a possibility, as is flame contact from smaller pockets of woodland in the immediate vicinity.

Objective

To minimise bushfire risk to properties at the settlement interface.

Strategies

- Avoid residential development on the western edges of Investigation 5 where it interfaces with areas identified as having extreme bushfire risk on the Victorian Fire Risk Register.
- Support development that provides a design response that minimises the risks associated with the bushfire interface.

Action

- Ensure new development at the bushfire interface provides:
 - perimeter roads with landscaped avenues and edges that are managed as ‘low risk’ landscapes and building setbacks that achieve a minimum 12.5 BAL rating for all new development
 - a permeable road network that includes multiple options for access and egress.

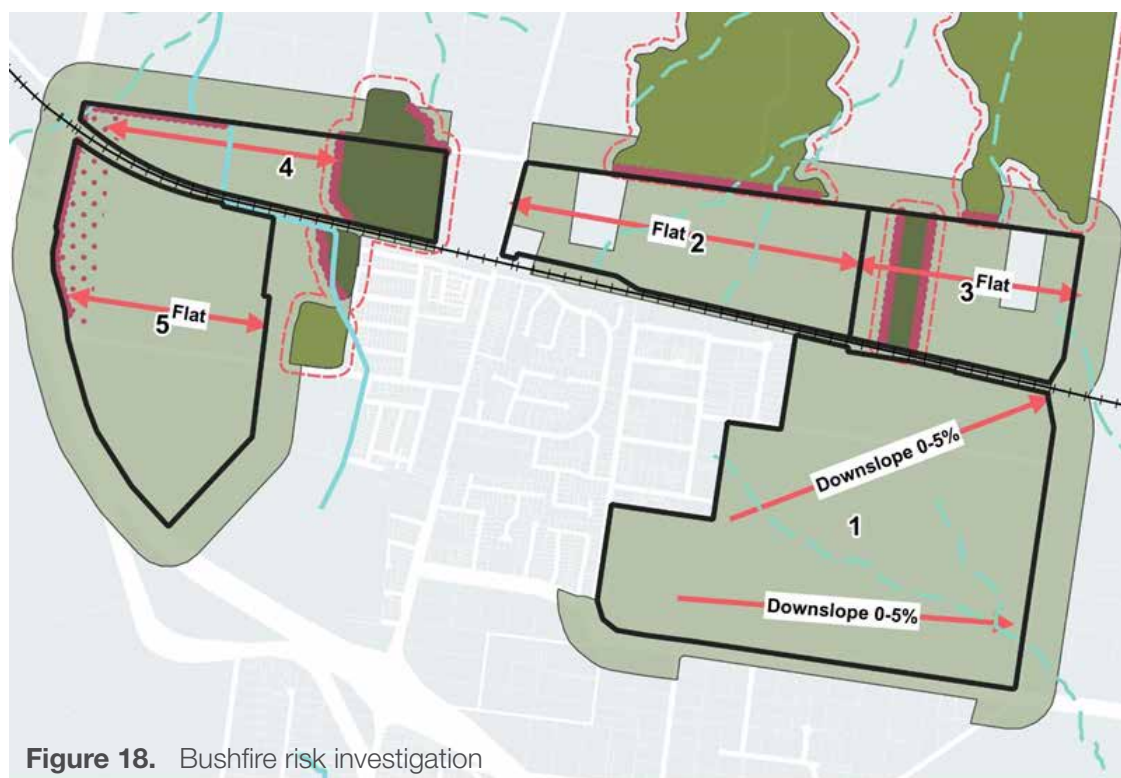


Figure 18. Bushfire risk investigation



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9. Movement and transport

Provide a safe and accessible walking and cycling network and an efficient public transport system that provides a convenient alternative to private vehicles.

Gisborne has evolved as a car-dependent community with low density, dispersed residential areas located up to three to five kilometres away from the town centre.

Most people are reliant on their cars to travel into the town centre for basic necessities which places pressure on the road network. This is heightened by a lack of shops and services elsewhere, including to service residential growth areas in New Gisborne and to the south of town.

This leads to congestion at peak times, with traffic counts showing an increase, particularly around school drop off and pick up, and at the beginning and end of the work day.

Having arrived in the town centre, there is a tendency for people to drive to destinations rather than walk, which results in a high number of vehicles circulating the streets and comparatively low pedestrian activity. Car parking demand is high in some locations, and there are a number of uncontrolled intersections that struggle with capacity at peak times.

A number of arterial roads converge in Gisborne, providing a link from the south and west to the Calder Freeway and areas to the north. This through-traffic places additional pressure on the road network, particularly the north-south spine of Station Road, while truck movements through the town centre impact on the amenity of streets

Both the duplication of Station Road and the construction of a western bypass have been suggested as possible solutions to alleviate these issues.

A bypass was tested through the movement and transport investigations for Gisborne Futures, however this was found to be expensive and difficult to achieve due to complex topography, landscape and environmental values, and future development at Ross Watt Road.

The duplication of Station Road was tested as an alternative to the western bypass. The duplication project would temporarily improve the flow of traffic along the Station Road arterial between Robertson Street and the Calder Freeway, however the project would also result in loss of the significant trees that line the road, and cause bottle-necks elsewhere. The duplication of Station Road is not currently supported by Council.

Major arterial road issues cannot be resolved via the structure plan. Instead the plan focuses on providing viable alternatives to private vehicles, including:

- supporting activity centres to create a multi-centric town with walkable access to conveniences
- improvements to the pedestrian and cycle network
- advocating for improvements to both local and regional public transport.

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9.1. Road network

Objective

To provide an accessible movement network with clear and direct routes that are safe and connected.

Strategies

- Manage the road network to optimise safety, amenity and efficiency for all road users including cars and bicycles.
- Plan for development south of Hamilton Road and to the east of Station Road in New Gisborne and strengthen Hamilton, Pierce and Kilmore Roads as a primary route into the Gisborne town centre to relieve pressure on Station Road.

Actions

- Plan and deliver road infrastructure and intersection upgrades highlighted on Figure 15.
- Investigate feasibility of alternative road bridge over the railway line at Pierce Road to avoid bottle-neck at the historic Mitchells Bridge.

Objective

To protect the character and amenity values of Gisborne's tree-lined avenues.

Strategies

- Prioritise walking, cycling and public transport upgrades over road widening or duplication.
- Plan for development south of Hamilton Road and to the east of Station Road in New Gisborne to strengthen the Hamilton Road and Pierce Road corridor and relieve pressure on Station Road.
- Facilitate delivery of an activity centre in New Gisborne to reduce the need for all residents to travel into the town centre via Station Road.
- Seek to protect and enhance significant avenue trees.

Action

- Plan for early succession planting along road corridors and intersections where there is likely to be impacts on trees.

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9.2. Car parking

Objectives

To provide a reliable parking experience through best practice parking management.

To ensure efficient use of parking spaces, minimise congestion, and promote sustainable transportation options in the community.

Strategies

- Ensure that car parking supply is distributed and managed to meet demand in town centres.
- Promote the use of all-day parking outside areas of high demand.
- Improve pedestrian amenity to encourage walking through out the town centre.

Actions

- Prepare a Car Parking Plan for the Gisborne town centre that:
 - explores parking management options to improve availability and distribute demand more evenly across Gisborne town centre.
 - addresses issues such as parking duration, enforcement, and considers the potential for paid parking in areas of high demand to encourage all-day parking in nearby areas that are less utilised
 - includes recommendations for parking management and controls for higher density development
 - explores potential use of a Car Parking Overlay that requires developers to contribute to public car parking infrastructure as an offset to on-site parking, particularly for constrained sites where meeting car parking requirements may be prohibitive to the future development of the site.
- Identify opportunities for additional car parking in the Gisborne Urban Design Framework.
- Improve wayfinding signage to all-day parking spaces as part of a new wayfinding strategy.

9.3. Public transport

Objectives

To improve the frequency, reliability and accessibility of Gisborne’s public transport network.

To ensure an equitable public transport system that provides ease of mobility for all members of the community, including those who cannot drive or don’t have a car.

Strategies

- Plan for higher land use intensity in the Gisborne town centre and in New Gisborne to support viability of high frequency public transport services.
- Ensure all new dwellings are within walking distance of bus services and that new connector roads are bus capable to physically allow for future services within these areas.
- Ensure that all new developments in New Gisborne provide clear and direct linkages to the train station.

Actions

- Advocate for a high, frequency, direct and convenient bus service along Aitken Street and Station Road from Willowbank Road to Gisborne Station that provides a convenient alternative to private vehicles for access to town centres, schools, employment areas and the train station.
- Work with DTP and bus operators to expand bus services to new development areas, the Gisborne Business Park and future residential areas.
- Advocate for the upgrade of Gisborne Railway Station to an integrated transport hub.
- Advocate for future service frequency improvements on the Melbourne-Bendigo railway line that stop at Gisborne.
- Review the bus timetable to ensure appropriate alignment with train services and reduced travel time between stops.

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9.4. Walking and cycling

Objectives

To promote sustainable transport (walking, cycling and public transport) as a viable alternative to private car use.

To provide a safe and enjoyable multi-modal transport network, which enables independent travel for users of all ages and mobility levels.

Strategies

- Prioritise pedestrian movement in activity centres and around school zones through safe crossing opportunities, reduced speed limits, canopy trees and an attractive public realm.
- Provide pedestrian wayfinding that includes information on distances to key destinations across the township to enable pedestrians to orient themselves and encourage walking.

Actions

- Prepare an updated movement network study that prioritises key actions and intersection upgrades, and sets out a strategic plan to encourage a mode shift from private vehicle use to sustainable transport alternatives.
- Provide low-stress bicycle riding infrastructure including off-road paths and protected bicycle lanes to improve separation from traffic, particularly along the Strategic Cycling Corridor, arterial and connector roads, and as part of new development.
- Deliver an off-road shared user path network that provides continuous connections to entrance roads, open space and to key destinations.
- Update Council's Walking and Cycling Strategy to reflect recent development and integrate a sustainable transport vision, with a plan of works to improve the off-road shared path network.
- Prepare and implement a wayfinding strategy.
- Identify opportunities for pedestrian safety/access improvements in the Gisborne UDF.

Objective

To plan for a sustainable future community in New Gisborne that prioritises active and public transport modes of travel.

Strategies

- Support development that provides a high quality pedestrian environment and public realm that supports active and public transport networks.

Actions

- Ensure that any future precinct structure plan or development plan for the New Gisborne growth areas provide:
 - linear linkages within wider road reserves and access 'boulevards' that include separated bike lanes to act as active transport arterials, supplemented by a dedicated shared user path network throughout all precincts
 - safe and convenient crossing points of connector roads and local streets (including kerb outstands and raised thresholds) at all intersections and on key desire lines and waterway crossings
 - a permeable, direct and safe street network that accommodates all transport modes, including shared user paths and separated bicycle lanes, as part of new development
 - for use of Hamilton Road and Pierce Road as a 'circuit road' for vehicle access around the growth area with internal streets prioritised for active and public transport.
- Plan for a pedestrian connection across the railway line between Station Road and Pierce Road to provide a direct link between residential and employment areas.
- Provide 'end of travel' infrastructure for active transport including safe and secure bicycle parking and repair stations.



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10. Community infrastructure

Strengthen community and township services, utilities and facilities, and ensure these are delivered to cater for the local population and surrounding district

Community facilities play an important role in regional townships, supporting health, wellbeing and community inclusion. They provide key services such as libraries and maternal and child health, arts and cultural facilities as public spaces for people to meet. Importantly, they complement the more commercial function of town centres by providing spaces and services at low or no cost.

The Gisborne district is well-serviced by community infrastructure across a number of categories. Over time it is expected that the community infrastructure needs of the town will increase alongside population growth and shifts in demographics.

A community infrastructure assessment has been undertaken using three possible growth scenarios (low, medium, and high) to identify existing and potential future community infrastructure needs.

The assessment has identified that the Gisborne District is well serviced by community infrastructure, particularly in regards to government education (primary and secondary schools). The existing provision of one government secondary school is sufficient across the low and medium scenarios, and would generate only minimal excess demand that could likely be managed at the existing site.

In addition, proposed TAFE campuses in both Sunbury and Melton will significantly improve access to higher education and training opportunities for people in the community.

Integrated community hub

There is an identified shortage of community meeting spaces, arts and cultural spaces, youth spaces and senior citizens facilities. The gap in these services only increases with additional population growth.

The structure plan nominates a 1ha parcel for a Community Hub on the corner of Hamilton Road and Barringo Roads. The Community Hub can facilitate co-location of a range of services and programs, with the proposed location providing ready access to the schools and regional sports precinct.



A new community hub in New Gisborne can act as a catalyst project for the precinct. Example above: Sprinvale Community Hub. Images courtesy of Lyons Architecture.

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Objective

To provide for well serviced, connected communities that have access to essential services and community infrastructure.

Strategies

- Plan to deliver the Community Hub early to ensure that services are readily available for the community and to act as a catalyst project for further development of the New Gisborne precinct.
- Locate community infrastructure so that it is integrated with retail and other employment opportunities, is safe, accessible and designed to meet the diverse needs of a growing population.
- Provide for the co-location of services to enable the sharing of resources and encourage participation through ease of access.
- Design and manage community infrastructure to be flexible and adaptable over the long-term to ensure it can change with community needs and be used by a variety of groups for many different types of activities
- Locate aged care facilities in close proximity to the town centre, the civic/health precinct or within walking distance of activity centres and avoid places vulnerable to bushfire or other environmental risks.

Actions

- Commence planning to deliver an integrated Community Hub in New Gisborne which provides for a broad range of services, including:
 - early years (kindergarten, maternal and child health, and playgroup)
 - space for seniors groups
 - an expanded Gisborne Library
 - arts and cultural activities
 - community meeting spaces.
- Review the use and leasing arrangements of existing sports pavilions to identify opportunities for broader use of these spaces as community meeting rooms.
- Continue to monitor population change and community needs. In the longer term consider the need for:
 - additional pavilions that include flexible meeting spaces as part of any new sports reserves
 - additional netball facilities
 - an additional kindergarten in south west Gisborne
 - an additional government primary school (long-term).
- Review and update the Gisborne Development Contributions Plan to identify, cost and contribute to the funding of new community and other infrastructure.
- Facilitate partnerships between TAFE campuses, local businesses, and secondary schools to ensure that the community can benefit from local access to tertiary education opportunities.
- Engage with the Department of Education regarding population growth and the need for additional government schools in the medium to long term (between 2036 and 2051).
- Advocate for improved public transport services to support access to community infrastructure.
- Explore opportunities to form partnerships with state government, not-for-profit and private sector providers as a means of improving access to public infrastructure, community facilities and related services.

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11. Utilities and sustainable development

Sequence and deliver essential servicing infrastructure in collaboration with development proponents, state government departments and servicing authorities.

Water supply, sewage and recycled water

Greater Western Water provides water, sewerage and recycled water services to a broad region that includes the towns of Gisborne and New Gisborne.

Gisborne's water supply comes from Rossllynne Reservoir, and is also connected to the Melbourne supply system. GWW are planning to duplicate the water supply main from Rossllynne Reservoir to Gisborne and connect to the Magnet Hill tank which will improve the quality of the water supply and provide additional security of supply.

All general residential zoned dwellings in Gisborne are connected to GWW's sewerage network. Due to the undulating landscape sewerage is transported via gravity and pumped rising mains to the Gisborne Recycled Water Treatment Plant.

Dwellings zoned rural living or low density are on larger lots which allow for on-site septic tank use and are not connected to the system.

GWWr is upgrading the Gisborne Recycled Water Plant (RWP) to ensure it has the capacity to meet future demand and adopts new technology to improve environmental performance.

Sewerage is treated to produce Class B recycled water and may be used for irrigating public parks, gardens and sports grounds, with limited use for food production and stock pasture.

Stormwater

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is responsible for the installation and maintenance of drainage systems for catchments with an area smaller than 60 ha. This includes roadside drains, sediment basins, retarding basins and swales.

The water catchment management authority is Melbourne Water (MW) who are responsible for the installation and maintenance of drainage systems, including drain capacity and flood mitigation works for catchments with an area greater than 60ha. MW's drainage schemes outline the functional design of infrastructure required to service growth, with costs recouped through financial contributions paid by developers.

If any development is planned outside the boundaries of the existing drainage schemes, it may trigger the need for MW to undertake a drainage analysis and decide if another drainage scheme is required.

Electricity supply

Powercor is the authority responsible for the electrical supply to the region. New developments will be required to have their electrical cables laid underground. Land will also need to be reserved for electrical kiosks to convert the high voltage lines into low voltage for domestic use. Any substantial development is to be referred to Powercor's systems engineers to access the impact of additional load on the network.

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11.1. Servicing infrastructure

Objective

To ensure that utilities and services are planned for and identified early.

Strategy

- Ensure that the cost of delivering necessary service infrastructure is shared equitably among all parties involved in any development.

Actions

- Regularly consult with utility providers to ensure that services are fit-for-purpose and that infrastructure upgrades are planned to accommodate future township growth.
- Require detailed servicing plans that identify utilities to be upgraded, constructed and delivered at the precinct level to support township growth as part of any development plan, subdivision or precinct structure plan process.

Objective

To ensure that utilities are sited and designed to be visually unobtrusive in the landscape or streetscape setting.

Strategies

- Support upgrades to services, utilities and telecommunications infrastructure that are designed to minimise impacts on existing trees and vegetation, views and visually sensitive or significant landscape features.
- Ensure that service infrastructure such as electrical kiosks and pumping stations are visually recessive and integrated into landscaping that minimises their visual impact while still allowing access for maintenance.

Action

- Consider the placement of utilities and services and how they are integrated into the streetscape, open space or building design during the planning, subdivision and detailed design stage of developments.

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11.2. Environmentally Sustainable Development

Power generation and Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) of subdivisions and buildings are two areas that can be enhanced to deliver more sustainable communities by embracing advancements in technology to create, store and efficiently use power and water resources.

Developments designed using ESD principles have the potential to produce their own power, to collect, store and re-use water efficiently, to have reduced heating and cooling demands and a reduced demand for fossil fuels.

Advancements in technology to create, store and use these utilities can be integrated into new developments at the subdivision level, delivering improved environmental performance.

Traditionally, three 'areas' of the urban water cycle have been managed separately: water supply, wastewater, and stormwater. Roles and responsibilities have similarly focused on the different areas of water management.

Integrated Water Management (IWM) seeks to improve the relationship between the three components of the urban water cycle.

Objective

To encourage application of ESD principles and the sustainable subdivisions framework for new development to produce its own power, to collect, store and re-use water efficiently, to have reduced heating and cooling demands and a reduced demand for fossil fuels.

Strategies

- Encourage the services and utilities that are designed to meet ESD guidelines to deliver more sustainable communities.
- Require future subdivisions to provide with underground reticulated electricity and telecommunications services.
- Encourage new dwellings, buildings and developments to provide domestic scale renewable energy generation on site.
- Discourage gas supply in new estates and promote use of renewable energy sources.
- Promote ESD through buildings and infrastructure that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout their life-cycle.
- Promote the use of energy-efficient technologies including encouraging the use of renewable energy such as solar and wind power, and ensuring communities are energy self-sufficient in the event of grid interruptions.
- Support built form that demonstrates application of ESD principles.

Actions

- Review Council's policy position to consider introducing an ESD policy for new developments into the planning scheme.
- Embed ESD and sustainable subdivision principles into requirements for precinct structure plans, development plans and subdivisions.



Objectives

To apply IWM principles and maintain safe and affordable water supply, reduce potable water use and supplement existing supply, and maintain healthier waterways through a reduction in stormwater runoff.

To increase use of recycled water and minimise discharges of treated water into Jacksons Creek.

Strategies

- Reduce potable water usage and minimise the volume of urban run-off and pollution that reaches local creeks and waterways by supporting developments that include integrated water management initiatives such as:
 - rainwater tanks for non-potable uses including outdoor use, irrigation, laundry and toilet flushing
 - increased permeability and use of porous pavements for hard surfaces such as driveways and outdoor areas
 - use of domestic-scale of rain gardens and/or infiltration trenches on private property.
- Support investigations into the development of a long-term stormwater harvesting and treatment scheme to supplement regional water resources.
- Support opportunities to supply existing and proposed open spaces with recycled water for irrigation, including extension of the existing recycled water scheme north to New Gisborne.

Actions

- Plan to design and construct bioretention basins and wetlands in public open space to improve the performance of existing storm water assets that service existing areas.
- Manage and protect waterways for increased riparian value and infiltration of stormwater.



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12. Next steps

Community consultation

The draft Gisborne Futures Structure Plan will be presented to the community and other stakeholders for comment and feedback for period of 6 weeks.

The findings of the consultation period will be carefully considered and will inform the final drafts of the plans and an implementation plan will be prepared.

Implementation

An implementation plan will be prepared that builds on the objectives, strategies and actions highlighted throughout the Gisborne Futures plans to provide a framework for delivering the vision for Gisborne and New Gisborne.

The implementation plan will be used as a guide to identify Council's role, responsibilities and priority for each recommended action.

Final Gisborne Futures Structure Plan

The Gisborne Futures Structure Plan will be finalised after considering comments and feedback from the community and stakeholders.

Adoption and planning scheme amendment

Implementation will involve seeking Council's formal adoption of the plan which will be followed by a planning scheme amendment process to implement key policy and direction into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.

Council's Role

Macedon Ranges Shire Council will play different roles in the implementation of the Gisborne Futures project. These will vary between the roles of planner, provider, advocate, partner/ facilitator, educator and regulator. A description of these various roles is provided below.

Planner

Develop detailed plans and drawings for construction, and in relation to its urban and social planning responsibilities

Advocate

Represent community needs and interests to Federal and State Governments and the private sector

Partner / facilitator

Working closely with developers, landowners, residents and businesses

Educator

Provide information to businesses, residents and interest groups

Regulator

Ensure that built form, infrastructure and other elements of the environment meet town planning, building, transport and public health regulations and expectations.

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Quarterly Report

1 April to 30 June 2023



The Quarterly Report is presented for Council's consideration and information.

The Quarterly Report presents summary financial statements and a series of other progress reports on matters that will inform both Council and the Community on the organisational and governance performance of Council in the preceding three months.

The Quarterly Report comprises the following sections.

SECTION 1 - Financial Statements

SECTION 2 - Capital Works Statement

SECTION 3 - Council Plan Actions - Progress Report

SECTION 4 - Customer Service

SECTION 5 - People Risk & Wellbeing Report

SECTION 6 - Implementation of Council Resolutions

SECTION 7 - Governance Schedule

SECTION 8 - Councillor Expenditure

SECTION 9 - Councillor Activities in the Community



SECTION 1

Financial Statements

Included in this section are the following financial statements:

<i>Summary of Financial Results</i>	<i>Commentary on budget variances for operational revenue and expenditure and capital revenue and expenditure</i>
<i>Income Statement</i>	<i>Summary of year to date financial performance against budget</i>
<i>Balance Sheet</i>	<i>Balance of assets, liabilities and equity as at the reporting date</i>
<i>Financial Reserves</i>	<i>Summary of balances and movement in Council reserves</i>
<i>Investments</i>	<i>Summary of investments by institution with rate and maturity date</i>

Summary of Financial Results
12 months ended 30 June 2023

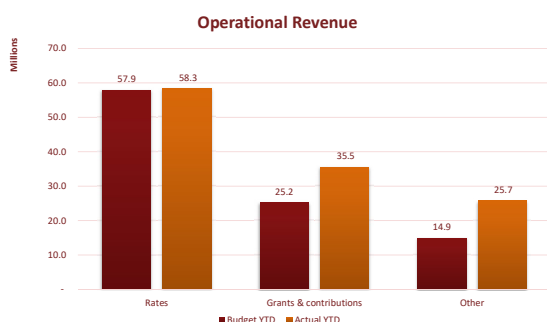
The Income Statement reports an operating surplus of \$37.6m for the twelve months to 30 June 2023 compared to the annual budget of \$10.6m. In accordance with accounting standards, all rate income is recognised at the start of the financial year when the rates are struck. This results in Council having a large surplus at the start of the year which reduces as the year progresses, as expenditure is incurred more evenly throughout the year.

Payments continue to be received for the reimbursement of costs relating to the June 2021 storm as claims are assessed and authorised. Claims are still being authorised and the final amount payable will not be known for a further period of time.

The cash balance of \$39.5m is higher than budget by \$6.8m. However Other Financial Assets (Investments) has increased by \$10m against budget. The higher cash and investment holdings is due to the timing of payment for Capital Works and receipt of operating grants for 2023/24.

Council remains in a strong cash position at 30 June 2023.

Below is a summary of the income and capital works statements compared to budget. Please see the financial statements on the following pages for further information on Council's financial performance.



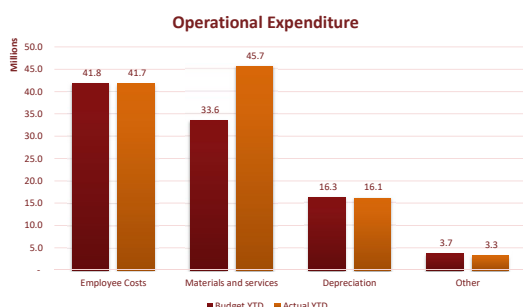
Key budget variances:

Rates and charges: Actual income of \$58.3m is slightly above budget for the twelve months to 30 June 2023. This is due to higher supplementary rates being recognised compared to budget.

Grants & Contributions: Actual income is \$32m, this is \$10.3m favourable to budget for the twelve months to 30 June 2023 due mainly to early receipt of 2023/24 operating grant \$9.4m.

Other: Actual income is \$25m, this is \$10m favourable, due to unbudgeted income relating to timber processing from June 2021 storm \$11m. Investment income is \$559k favourable to budget due to higher than budgeted interest on investments. Resource Recovery Station fees are \$663k unfavourable to budget.

Key budget variances:



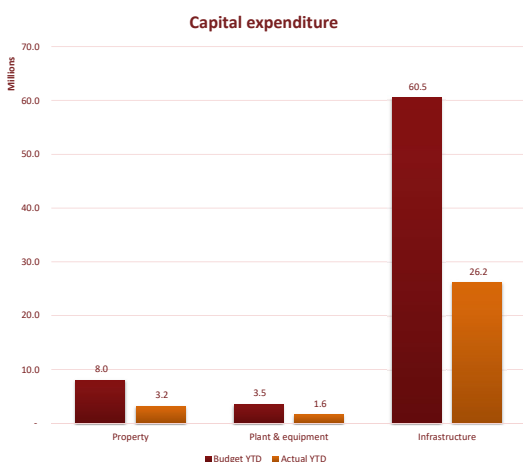
Employee costs: Actual expenditure of \$41m is \$100k favourable to budget for the twelve months to 30 June 2023.

Materials and services: Actual expenditure of \$45m is unfavourable to budget for the twelve months to 30 June 2023 due mainly to \$12m relating to timber processing from the June 2021 storm. These costs are reimbursed by the contractor in other income above.

Depreciation: Depreciation of \$16m is favourable to budget by \$200k.

Other: Other expenditure within expected budget variance.

Key budget variances:



Property: Actual expenditure of \$3.2m is lower than budget of \$8m due to delayed construction on Council's building and building improvement projects. Several projects that have been delayed include the Woodend Golf Club Clubhouse, Kyneton Mechanics Institute and the Romsey Kindergarten Veranda and Window upgrade

Plant and equipment: Plant purchases of \$1.6m is lower than budget of \$3.5m due to the timing of plant purchases. Lengthy delays are still being experienced for the supply of plant and equipment.

Infrastructure: Expenditure of \$26m is lower than budget of \$60m due to delayed construction. Two significant projects contribute to this variance. They include the Macedon Ranges Shared Trail Project and the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct Stage 1 project.

INCOME STATEMENT

12 months ended 30 June 2023

	2022/23 June YTD Adjusted Budget* \$'000	2022/23 June YTD Actuals \$'000	2022/23 June YTD Variance \$'000
Income			
Rates and charges	57,885	58,267	382
Statutory fees and fines	3,291	3,233	(58)
User fees	7,683	7,142	(541)
Grants - operating	12,053	24,457	12,404
Grants - capital	9,577	7,521	(2,056)
Contributions - monetary	3,536	3,480	(56)
Other income	3,945	15,335	11,390
	-	-	-
Total income	97,970	119,435	21,465
Expenses			
Employee costs	41,796	41,686	110
Materials and services	33,558	45,673	(12,115)
Depreciation and amortisation	16,253	16,127	126
Borrowing costs	145	153	(8)
Other expenses	3,506	3,119	387
	-	-	-
Total expenses	95,258	106,758	(11,500)
Surplus/(deficit) Ex other adjustments	2,712	12,677	9,965
Other adjustments			
Contributions - non monetary	7,920	24,964	17,044
Fair value adjustments for investment property	-	303	303
Share of net profits/(losses) of Regional Library	-	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	40	40
(Increase)/decrease in provision for landfill liability	-	(378)	(378)
	-	-	-
Total surplus/(deficit)	10,632	37,606	26,974

The Income Statement includes all sources of Council revenue and expenditure incurred in its day-to-day operations. It should be noted that expenditure listed in the Income Statement does not include the cost of asset purchases or sales, loan repayments, capital works expenditure or reserve funds. It does however, include depreciation as an expense.

Overall the operating surplus of \$37m is \$27m favourable to budget. The financial summary provides an explanation of key variances to budget.

* This column represents the adjusted budget which is the 2022/23 adopted budget adjusted for the 2021/22 carry forward budgets and mid year review adjustments.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2023

	2022/23 June Adjusted Budget* \$'000	2022/23 June Actuals \$'000	2022/23 June Variance \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	32,715	39,577	6,862
Trade and other receivables	8,981	17,815	8,834
Other financial assets	-	10,000	10,000
Other assets	-	566	566
Total current assets	41,696	67,958	26,262
Non-current assets			
Other financial assets	21	21	-
Investment in Regional Library	1,353	1,432	79
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,216,765	1,380,771	164,006
Right of use assets	225	345	120
Investment property	2,566	2,933	367
Intangible assets	393	416	23
Total non-current assets	1,221,323	1,385,918	164,595
Total assets	1,263,019	1,453,876	190,857
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8,412	9,412	(1,000)
Trust funds and deposits	4,718	6,952	(2,234)
Unearned income	7,043	16,668	
Provisions	6,634	6,730	(96)
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	1,620	391	1,229
Lease liabilities	231	256	(25)
Total current liabilities	28,658	40,409	(2,126)
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	4,784	4,934	(150)
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	15,928	5,117	10,811
Lease liabilities	36	128	
Total non-current liabilities	20,748	10,179	10,661
Total liabilities	49,406	50,588	8,535
Net assets	1,213,613	1,403,288	199,392
Equity			
Accumulated surplus	710,855	707,147	(3,708)
Reserves	502,758	696,141	193,383
Total Equity	1,213,613	1,403,288	189,675

The Balance Sheet is a snapshot of the financial situation of the organisation. It shows what Council owns and controls as assets and what it owes as liabilities.

* This column represents the adjusted budget which is the adopted budget plus Council approved budget carry forwards from 2021/22, together with mid year review adjustments.

FINANCIAL RESERVES

As at 30 June 2023

	Balance 1 July 2022	Transfers to Reserve	Transfer from Reserve	Balance 30 June 2023
Discretionary Reserves				
Plant Replacement	1,142,128	344,523	742,762	743,889
Asset Conversion	744,372	-	-	744,372
Commercial Development	3,182,148	-	-	3,182,148
Open Space Reserve	-	2,925,000	-	2,925,000
Gravel Pit Operations **	1,527,814	897,148	-	2,424,962
Hanging Rock	212,395	-	58,865	153,530
Maintenance Senior Citizens Accommodation	198,605	15,174	84,715	129,064
Debt Repayment	891,470	400,000	-	1,291,470
Total Discretionary Reserves	7,898,932	4,581,845	886,342	11,594,435
Statutory Reserves				
Public Open Space - South	1,875,805	955,826	1,327,912	1,503,719
Public Open Space - East	1,051,849	278,300	197,571	1,132,578
Public Open Space - Central	1,079,973	222,500	-	1,302,473
Public Open Space - West	180,645	334,601	22,012	493,234
Public Open Space	4,188,272	1,791,227	1,547,495	4,432,004
Community Facilities - South	-	-	-	-
Community Facilities - East	222,042	-	-	222,042
Community Facilities - Central	17,697	-	-	17,697
Community Facilities - West	351,520	-	-	351,520
Community Facilities	591,259	-	-	591,259
Car Parking	135,600	-	-	135,600
Planning Roadworks	531,180	-	-	531,180
Drainage	734,262	236,380	-	970,642
Sisborne Development Contributions Plan	1,544,351	704,762	-	2,249,113
Romsey Development Contributions Plan	52,902	13,023	-	65,925
Planning Footpath Works	142,362	6,041	-	148,403
Total Statutory Reserves	7,920,188	2,751,433	1,547,495	9,124,125
GRAND TOTAL	15,819,120	7,333,278	2,433,837	20,718,560

** Reserve transfers include a percentage of the proceeds put aside from timber processing on the gravel pit site. These funds are to contribute towards rehabilitating/improving the site

INVESTMENTS HELD

As at 30 June 2023

Institution	ICAN	Non Fossil fuel *	Percentage of Total investments	Investment Type	Investment Amount	Interest Rate	Commencement Date	Maturity Date
At call investments								
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK LTD	No	No	17.74%	At Call Account	\$ 8,192,190	4.24%		
Short term investments								
AUSWIDE BANK	No	Yes	8.66%	Term Deposit	\$ 4,000,000	4.55%	26/04/2023	25/07/2023
BANKVIC	No	Yes	8.66%	Term Deposit	\$ 4,000,000	5.15%	28/06/2023	27/09/2023
DEFENCE BANK	No	Yes	10.82%	Term Deposit	\$ 5,000,000	4.55%	24/05/2023	23/08/2023
MACQUARIE BANK	No	No	2.16%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000	4.63%	21/05/2023	21/08/2023
MACQUARIE BANK	No	No	2.16%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000	4.63%	21/05/2023	21/08/2023
MACQUARIE BANK	No	No	2.16%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000	4.63%	21/05/2023	21/08/2023
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK	No	No	6.49%	Term Deposit	\$ 3,000,000	4.30%	26/04/2023	25/07/2023
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK	No	No	10.82%	Term Deposit	\$ 5,000,000	5.00%	28/06/2023	27/09/2023
P&N BANK	No	Yes	8.66%	Term Deposit	\$ 4,000,000	4.95%	28/06/2023	27/09/2023
Financial assets								
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY BANK	No	Yes	10.82%	Term Deposit	\$ 5,000,000	5.44%	28/06/2023	28/11/2023
MyState Bank	No	Yes	10.82%	Term Deposit	\$ 5,000,000	5.40%	28/06/2023	28/11/2023
Total Investments					\$ 46,192,190			
Total % of Non Fossil Fuel Lending Institutions								58%
Total % of Lending Institutions that support the International Campaign to abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)								0%

SECTION 2

Capital Works Statement

Capital works are the financial investments that Council makes in the assets and infrastructure that it controls and provides for use by the community. Capital works primarily include public buildings, transport infrastructure, public space, recreational facilities and environmental infrastructure.

Annually, in conjunction with the adoption of the budget, Council adopts its Capital Works Program that sets out the projects that will be delivered in the next year.

CAPITAL WORKS STATEMENT

12 months ended 30 June 2023

	2022/23 June Adjusted Budget* \$'000	2022/23 June Actuals \$'000	2022/23 June Variance \$'000
Property			
Land and land improvements	750	0	750
Buildings and building improvements	7,258	3,179	4,079
Total property	8,008	3,179	4,829
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment	3,155	1,307	1,847
Computers and telecommunications	375	290	86
Total plant and equipment	3,530	1,597	1,933
Infrastructure			
Roads	13,182	9,274	3,908
Bridges	1,064	615	449
Footpaths and Cycleways	13,430	2,286	11,144 ¹
Drainage	1,165	752	413
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	29,112	11,167	17,945 ²
Parks, open space and streetscapes	1,188	1,348	(160)
Other infrastructure	1,341	753	588
Total infrastructure	60,481	26,195	34,286
Total capital works expenditure	72,018	30,970	41,048

Capital works expenditure is under budget by \$41m at 30 June 2023.

* This column represents the year to date adjusted budget which is the adopted budget plus Council approved budget carry forwards from 2021/22 and any Council approved budget changes during 2022/23.

Variance explanation:

1 - The Woodend to Riddells Creek Shared Trail, experienced delays in seeking approval for specific management plans, causing a setback in its progress.

2 - The Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct encountered delays when the contracted construction company underwent voluntary administration. This significantly prolonged the project as necessary procedures were followed and Council effectively established a new contract with a different contractor.

SECTION 3

Council Plan Actions – Progress Report

In line with Section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council adopted a new Council Plan by 27 October 2021.

Council reviews the Council Plan annually and establishes actions across its four strategic objectives:

Connecting Communities;

Healthy environment, healthy people;

Business and tourism; and

Deliver strong and reliable government.

The actions are specific activities that will be undertaken within the financial year to support the achievement of the strategic objectives. This section provides a quarterly update on progress towards achieving the actions.

Strategic objective 1. Connecting communities

We will maintain our built environment – including roads, paths, buildings, open space and other assets in a fiscally, environmentally and socially sustainable way. This includes effective land-use planning, which has a direct impact on the liveability of our shire.

We will provide support for volunteers, community groups and organisations, in recognition of their work in contributing to social connections.

Strategic Priority - Improve connectivity and movement, and provide transport choices to the community, including walking trails and bike paths

ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to improve continuous accessible paths of travel to key destinations, such as recreation and community facilities, through the funding of the Footpath Construction Program	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Eight footpath projects have been completed, adding almost 2km of new footpaths this financial year. The review of the Shire Wide Footpath Plan was adopted by Council at the 28 June 2023 Scheduled Council meeting.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023
Formalise the joint partnership with Hepburn Shire Council advocate the Victorian Government for support to undertake the detailed design and pre-project works for the Daylesford to Hanging Rock Shared Trails project	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Memorandum of Understanding developed and signed by the CEO's of MRSC and Hepburn. Advocacy for planning funding continued in partnership with Hepburn Shire Council. A further funding application this financial year was unsuccessful. Now on hold subject to future funding opportunities.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023
Commence a review of the Kyneton Movement Network Study (2018) to develop and guide the planning of future infrastructure requirements (multi-year)	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The Issues and Opportunities report is complete. The funding to complete the study is included in the FY23/24 budget. The study will be presented for endorsement by June 2024.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023
Continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for improvements to bus and rail public transport services, with a focus to identify township issues throughout the year	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Ongoing advocacy to Department Transport and Planning (DTP) is occurring via regular meetings with their officers. This has resulted in: - a new car park on Hamilton Street, Riddells Creek with shared user path connection to train station - Upgrades to FlexiRide Woodend, including an expanded service area now operating from Honeysuckle Lane and Tweedle Lane and increased operating hours on weekday. - Two return Sunday services added to the Lancefield bus service (Gisborne and Kyneton), with an identical timetable to the current Saturday timetable. MRSC continues to advocate with DTP to trial Demand Responsive Transit (DRT) service in Riddells Creek and more frequency of buses in the Kyneton township.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023
Finalise the Woodend corridor study to investigate the movements of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles within Woodend's main road corridor, identifying areas of concern and possible solutions	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The Woodend Integrated Transport Plan was endorsed by Council at the 23 November 2022 Scheduled Council meeting.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023
Review and update the 2018 Shire Wide Footpath Plan	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The review of the Shire Wide Footpath Plan is complete. Council adopted the revised Plan at the 28 June 2023 Scheduled Council meeting.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023
Advocate for increased State Government funding for supervised school crossings	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	MRSC participated in meetings organised by Monash Council based in Glen Waverley.	Manager Safer Communities	30 June 2023
Undertake intersection works at Brooke and Templeton Streets, Woodend to install a new slow point (Brooke Street), and the design and construction of a pedestrian crossing.	Deliver	In Progress	100%	75%	The design for the safety improvements works are complete. A contract has been awarded for the works which are expected to commence in September 2023. Works are funded and programmed to commence on Monday, 14 August (weather permitting) with completion expected by the end of October 2023.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023

Integrate land-use planning, and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the shire							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Progress the Kyneton Town Centre Urban Design Framework to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme	Deliver	In Progress	100%	80%	A new consultant has been appointed to develop the draft Urban Design Framework (UDF) for Council to endorse prior to consultation, with planned approval for consultation of the UDF by the end of December 2023. The balance of funding available to complete this project will be carried forward to the 2023/24 budget to enable completion of the project by 30 June 2024.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Progress the Gisborne Structure Plan, incorporating the Neighbourhood Character Study and Town Centre Urban Design Framework Plan to a Council meeting for a decision on further steps required to confirm the future inclusion in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme	Deliver	In Progress	80%	75%	A detailed consultation report was presented to the 24 August 2022 Scheduled Council Meeting outlining a range of actions to complete to enable the preparation of a revised draft structure plan. Council has received consultant reports for traffic and transport, economic and land supply analysis and a strategic bushfire risk. A community Infrastructure report is expected to follow. These reports provide the basis for the revised draft Gisborne Futures documents that will be released for community consultation in late 2023. Funding has been included in the 2023/24 Council Budget to progress the Gisborne Futures Structure Plan which is expected to be presented to Council for adoption prior to 30 June 2024.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Progress the Romsey Structure Plan to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme	Deliver	In Progress	80%	80%	A detailed consultation report was presented to the 28 September 2022 Scheduled Council Meeting outlining a range of actions to complete that will help to inform the preparation of the draft Structure Plan. The project is on track to have a draft Structure Plan for community consultation early in 2023/24. Funding has been included in the 2023/24 Council Budget to progress the Romsey Structure Plan which is expected to be presented to Council for adoption prior to 30 June 2024.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Finalise the Planning Scheme Amendment to incorporate the heritage study for Woodend, Lancefield, Macedon and Mount Macedon into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme	Deliver	In Progress	100%	95%	Planning Scheme Amendment C127macr was submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval on 23 June 2022. Council are currently awaiting the Ministers decision. Expected completion by the end of 2023.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	31 December 2022
Progress the Riddell's Creek Precinct Structure Plan, in conjunction with the applicant and the community	Deliver/Facilitate	Completed	100%	100%	The current Amess Road Precinct Structure Plan application has been refused and this project is concluded. At the Planning Delegated Committee Meeting of 12 April 2022 it was resolved: That the Committee: 1. Notes the submission received containing 1231 signatures; 2. Resolves not to support requesting the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation of Planning Scheme Amendment C148macr that seeks to implement the Amess Road Precinct Structure Plan into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Enhance planning protection of the shire's heritage assets, through completion of the Macedon Ranges Shire Thematic Environmental History	Deliver	In Progress	100%	90%	A community consultation process was undertaken between August and September 2022 to inform the final draft of the Thematic Environmental History. Final feedback has been provided to the consultant with the final draft expected for Council's consideration in the first quarter of 2023/24. Funding has been included in the 2023/24 Council Budget to finalise and implement the Thematic Environmental History once adopted by Council.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Progress the review of Council's Developer Contributions Plans (Gisborne and Romsey), and consider any future changes to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme recommended by its findings	Deliver	In Progress	60%	40%	A consultant has been appointed to begin the Developer Contributions Plans Review. Information has been collected and provided to the consultant to inform the review. Funding for this project is expected to be carried forward from the 2022/23 budget and completed by 30 June 2024.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Develop future work, following the outcomes of the Macedon Ranges Thematic Environment History project	Deliver	In Progress	100%	0%	This action will commence once the draft Thematic Environmental History is completed and ready to be presented to Council for adoption. This is anticipated to be first quarter 2023/24. This quarter work has commenced on the new Heritage Strategy with 40 submissions received. Funding has been included in the 2023/24 Council Budget to implement the Thematic Environmental History once it is adopted by Council.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023

Provide well-designed, fit-for-purpose, multi-use open spaces and infrastructure where the community can connect, engage and participate in a financially responsible way							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Finalise the preparation of a new Open Space Strategy and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme	Deliver	In Progress	75%	50%	Work on developing the draft Open Space Strategy is behind schedule. The draft Open Space Strategy is now expected late 2023.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Continue construction on stage 1 of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project and continue advocacy for funding towards future stage delivery	Deliver/Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Works on site ceased when Council received notice that the construction contractor had entered into voluntary administration on 31 March 2023. Council works with administrators and another construction contractor to investigate the potential for novating the contract. On 8 June 2023, the contract novated to Monaco Hickey to complete the remaining Stage 1 works. The novation's resulted in the retention of all site staff and subcontractors, many of whom live locally. Stage 1 completion is set for in mid-2024.	Manager Facilities and Operations	30 June 2023
Deliver the annual capital works program within budget	Deliver	In Progress	100%	70%	There has been a 33% improvement in capital works completion this year. It is still short of the 80% key performance indicator, however the amount of change indicates a sustainable improvement. Challenges were experienced in project delivery with a very wet spring and the October Flood event; many project experienced a 4-6 week delay as a result.	Manager Assets and Project Management Office	30 June 2023
Complete the Macedon Ranges Shire Wide Skate Park Master Plan, to provide prioritised strategic guidance, regarding the future renewal, upgrade and new facility requirements for the shire	Deliver/Partner	In Progress	100%	75%	The Shire Wide Skate Park Master Plan was presented at a Councillor briefing on 6 June 2023 to be considered for release for consultation and endorsement at future Scheduled Council Meetings later in 2023. At the conclusion of the public consultation processes, a further report will be presented to Council in the second half of 2023 seeking approval of the Strategy.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023
Progress the concept design works for the Woodend Community Centre redevelopment, funded by Council and RDV, via the Investment Fast Track Fund commitment from 2021/22	Deliver/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Project was completed and documents adopted at September 2022 Council meeting.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 September 2022
Deliver the Barkly Square playing surface upgrade	Deliver	In Progress	100%	75%	Due to delays resulting from weather conditions in Spring, the new turf is scheduled for late October/early November with community use expected to be available during the first quarter of the 2024 calendar year.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023
Continue planning for Gisborne Skate Park upgrade	Facilitate	Delayed	100%	50%	The Shire Wide Skate and BMX Strategy will influence the upgrade of the Gisborne Skate Park, therefore this project is on hold until the strategy is endorsed later in 2023.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023

Target community needs through development programs and grants							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Engage and consult with the community, groups and organisations to better understand community needs and program design	Facilitate	Completed	100%	100%	Regular consultation with groups such as Neighbourhood Houses, Men's Sheds and all groups applying for funding continues to be undertaken throughout the year.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Promote community centres and their programs – direct some Council community grant funding to initiatives that emphasise inclusiveness	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Community centres and their programs have been regular promoted. Grant guidelines reward applicants that facilitate access and inclusion. CFS 22/23 awarded grants to groups that improved physical access as well as gender inclusiveness.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Continue Council's community grants programs (the Community Funding Scheme and the Small Projects Grants) to support community groups to deliver community, cultural and environmental projects, and enhance community places	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Community Funding Scheme and Small Project Grants successfully delivered. All successful projects will deliver significant community benefits across the shire.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Collaborate with Loddon Mallee partners and across Council to coordinate, support, engage and recognise volunteers	Deliver/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	New system 'Better Impact' implemented with ongoing support and training to our volunteers and coordinators.	Manager People, Risk and Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Promote the library programs of the Goldfields Library Corporation to engage the community	Deliver/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	This is an ongoing proactive initiative that Council continues to do to ensure the community is aware of all the libraries and services that are on offer to them.	Manager Communication and Engagement	30 June 2023
Review Council's role in supporting playgroups and toy libraries, and develop opportunities to strengthen the connections between users of early years and maternal and child health programs	Deliver	In Progress	100%	75%	The council website has been updated to include information on playgroups and toy libraries operating across the shire. Where appropriate, these services have been promoted via our Maternal and Child Health and Early Years services. Council has allocated funding from the Vic Health Local Government Partnerships fund to work with local playgroups in the 2023/24 financial year.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Conduct a comprehensive review of the Community Funding Scheme to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Review of Community Funding Scheme (CFS) successfully completed resulting in new guidelines that clearly support projects that demonstrate (i) evidence of need, (ii) alignment to Council priorities, (iii) community benefit, and (iv) ability to deliver the project. The guidelines have been implemented for the 23-24 CFS.	Manager Community Strengthening	31 October 2022
Improve access to Council's grants programs by implementing and promoting the new grants administration system	Deliver/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	New Grants and Administration System (SmartyGrants) implemented for Community Funding Scheme and Small Grants Funding Program	Manager Community Strengthening	31 July 2022

Continue to deliver improved outcomes for and recognition of our First Nations People							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Advance Indigenous reconciliation through working with First Nations People on the implementation of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan	Deliver/Partner	Delayed	100%	90%	Some actions have been delayed due to staff shortages. The relevant departments are aware of the actions which have been delayed and are on track to deliver them in the next few months.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Celebrate and participate in National Reconciliation Week, by providing opportunities to build and maintain relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and other Australians	Deliver/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Keynote presentation by Yoorook Commission delivered during Reconciliation week. Three yarning circles on the three Countries were organised.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Implement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness training strategy that is integrated into Council's Learning and Development Strategy	Deliver	Delayed	100%	90%	Delayed due to staff shortages. Action met at the foundation level, but there is still work to be done and it will be incorporated into a project plan for the next 6 months for a more detailed reflect/refine process.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Celebrate and recognise Indigenous culture at Macedon Ranges Shire Kindergartens including art work, sculptures, murals and mosaic seat	Deliver	Carry Forward	100%	75%	Kindergartens continue to celebrate and recognise Indigenous culture at Macedon Ranges Shire Kindergartens. Council is seeking quotes for Indigenous art work and expects to complete this action by April 2024. Funding for this project has been carried forward into the 2023-24 financial year.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023

Promote a more inclusive community by supporting community groups and vulnerable groups							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to support targeted initiatives for young people of diverse backgrounds that enable them to express their identities, such as raising the Rainbow Flag on International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia	Deliver	Ongoing BAU	100%	100%	Youth Services continues to support young people of diverse backgrounds through delivery and involvement in a range of events such as the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) Flag Raising Ceremony and the Rainbow Formal.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to demonstrate leadership in advancing gender equality, through implementation of Council's Gender Equality Action Plan, including delivery of year one actions	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Year one actions completed noting that a number of the action items are ongoing.	Manager People, Risk and Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Commission and promote the availability of a designated modular change room at the Gisborne Aquatic Centre, which enables Council to meet Child Safe requirements, and improve service provision and accessibility	Deliver	In Progress	100%	30%	Designs were completed in June 2023 and additional funding will be sought in the 2023/24 financial year for construction, with an expected completion date by the end of May 2024.	Manager Facilities and Operations	30 June 2023
Provide information and guidance on available external funding opportunities to support sustainability of community programs delivered by Neighbourhood Houses, and continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for increased funding	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Neighbourhood Houses are regularly advised of external funding opportunities. The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing has delayed its review of the Neighbourhood House Coordination program. Officers are awaiting the outcomes of the review.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Implement year two of Village Hubs – a project to give older people the opportunity to connect for social activities and mutual support	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Year two actions are completed. This year has seen an increase in patronage of activities in the Village Connect program. Year three actions will build on this momentum.	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023

Explore opportunities for affordable and social housing in the shire							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to progress an Affordable Housing Policy to guide Council's approach to housing needs	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	An Affordable Housing Policy was endorsed at Council's scheduled meeting in June.	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Work with the Victorian Government to increase supply of affordable housing, including social housing, in the shire	Advocate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Council has worked with Homes Victoria advocating for the need for an increase in social and affordable housing across the shire. Advocacy work will continue in the coming year.	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Participate in development of the Loddon Mallee Housing Revitalisation Strategy and actions relevant to the Macedon Ranges Shire	Advocate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	The final Loddon Mallee Housing Revitalisation Strategy has been released.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Work with housing providers to seek Victorian Government funding to renew and, where appropriate, expand Council-owned or managed seniors' housing stock	Advocate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Council was successful in partnering with Wintringham to attract Big Build funding allocation to increase Council owned social housing in Lancefield.	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023

Strategic objective 2. 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, volunteers, 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.

Protect the natural environment and enhance biodiversity							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to deliver the actions for the Biodiversity Strategy 2018	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Spotlight events completed as part of Autumn Festival. MRSC is supporting the Community Climate Offset Pilot Project with North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA) to further implement biolinks. Landcare grant guidelines have been reviewed and now support and promote biolink outcomes and better reflect objectives in Biodiversity Strategy. Stanley Park Environmental Management Plans have been reviewed and Stanley Park Community Asset Committee consultation undertaken, progressing to wider community consultation.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	On-going
Continue the Healthy Landscapes – Practical Regenerative Agricultural Communities project	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Practical Regenerative Agriculture Course completed, 15 property visits and 3 revisits occurred this quarter. Horse (15 participants) and Cultural Heritage (20 participants) discussion groups held this quarter.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Implement priority actions outlined in the Roadside Conservation Management Plan	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Work to develop a software application to improve the management of roadside weeds is underway, recently progressing to field trials. The application will improve the management of roadside weeds. Roadside audits have commenced to address the threat of noxious weeds on council-managed land. Ute guide is in final draft stages and is currently undergoing review. Conservation stickers signage for use on marker poles has been designed and ready for review.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Protect, preserve and enhance bushland and biodiversity on Council land, through implementation of our Bushland Reserve Environmental Management Plans, and on private land, through the development of our bio link and habitat links	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Review of the draft Environment Management Plan (EMP) for Stanley Park, with Stanley Park Community Asset Committee has been completed and is progressing to Community consultation. Revegetation program for Hanging Rock link areas is continuing. Bushland Reserve EMP Audits are 70% complete.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for Barrm Birrm to become a State Park due to its significant flora and fauna	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	MRSC completed an ecological assessment of Barrm Birrm with professional ecologist, and is in the process of having a cultural heritage assessment undertaken by Wurundjeri. MRSC worked closely with Riddell's Creek Landcare to respond to issues and support community engagement.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023

Lessen the severity of climate change, through actions that enable Council and the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Develop a Climate Emergency Response Plan to be a guide for both Council and the community to address climate change	Deliver	In Progress	70%	90%	Six thematic workshops were held with Council, stakeholder and community representatives. The draft Climate Emergency Response Plan is expected to be released for consultation in 2023/2024.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Finalise a Zero Net Emissions Plan for Council Operations to guide our efforts in achieving zero net emissions by 2030	Facilitate/Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Counting Down to Zero - Councils Zero Net Emissions Plan for Council Operations was adopted at the Scheduled Council Meeting of 14 December 2022.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	31 December 2022
Consider a suite of environmental upgrades to Council buildings to enhance energy efficiency and environmental performance	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Kyneton Aquatic Centre upgraded to a more efficient gas boiler. Solar installs on two leisure centres. Replaced gas hot water and cooking with electric systems at Swinburne Kinder.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Continue delivery of a program of community climate change action plans across the shire's townships	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Seven community climate change action plans now complete for all major townships in the shire. Implementation meetings underway with Macedon and Kyneton. Follow-up meetings held with Lancefield/Romsey, Gisborne and Riddells Creek.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Research ways for Council to support the use and uptake of electric vehicles across the shire	Facilitate/Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Electric vehicle charging stations installed at Kyneton, Gisborne and Woodend Council Offices to support transition to electric fleet. New public charging stations installed at Kyneton, Macedon and Lancefield.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023

Improve the quality of recycling, minimise the generation of waste and establish alternatives to landfill disposal							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Actively promote the use of reusable nappies through the Maternal and Child Health Service	Facilitate/Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Maternal Child and Health Service actively promote the use of reusable nappies through promotional signage and workshops.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to resource and fund the implementation of the actions identified in the Waste and Resource Recovery Management Strategy 2021–2026	Deliver/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Waste strategy actions have three years remaining. Key actions such as Romsey Soft Plastics trial and Glass Processing Plant are continuing in the financial year 2023/24.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023
Decrease tonnes of waste to landfill per capita	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Diversion target of 74% has been achieved given the full 4-bin rollout. The tonnage reduction of general waste to landfill is 479 tonnes for the 2022/23 financial year or a reduction of general waste of 9.26 kg per person. This is a 8% decrease per capita in waste sent to landfill.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023
Promote use of wash against waste at public events	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Promotion of the wash against waste trailer has been undertaken. There is also information on the web page and as part of the events booking process on Council property, organisers are made aware of the trailer's availability.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 September 2022
Increase funding and resources to support the development of the new Waste Education Action Plan.	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Funding and resources received and the development of the updated Waste Education Action Plan has commenced for completion late 2023.	Manager Engineering and Resource Recovery	30 June 2023

Provide opportunities to experience open space and bushland reserves							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Work towards amending the Planning Scheme to introduce new policy and planning controls to implement the Significant Landscapes Study	Deliver	Delayed	40%	25%	Project has been placed on hold pending Minister for Planning's decision on Surf Coast, Bellarine and Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policies. The Minister's decision will inform what changes may be required to the planning scheme amendment to implement the Significant Landscape Study.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Update the Stanley Park Environment Management Plan and develop an infrastructure plan to determine levels of service for asset maintenance renewal.	Deliver	In Progress	100%	80%	The draft Stanley Park Environment Management Plan and community consultation will occur in the next quarter. The engagement of a consultant to undertake the Infrastructure Master Plan is underway and expected to be finalised in 2023/24. Funding for this project is expected to be carried forward from the 2022/23 budget and completed by 30 June 2024.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Continue implementation of recommended master plan actions at the Gisborne, Kyneton and Malmsbury Botanic Gardens.	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Master Plan works commenced. West entry garden design has been completed. Construction pending contractor availability with an expected cost escalation due to inflation; works to be re-tendered. Irrigation projects have been continued and reached hold points subject to further design.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023
Review the Draft Rural Land Use Strategy in light of community feedback received, and determine the next steps	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The Rural Land Use Strategy project has now been concluded. At the Scheduled Council Meeting of 14 December 2022 Council determined the following: 1. Resolves to not progress the current Rural Land Use Strategy project. 2. Notes the feedback received from the community on the draft Rural Land Use Strategy. 3. Notes the significant amount of background work, research and community feedback that has been developed and captured as part of the Rural Land Use Strategy project. 4. Notes the unresolved status of both the State Government's Planning for Melbourne's Green Wedge and Strategic Agricultural Land project, and bushfire considerations as a result of protecting and enhancing vegetation. 5. Notes that any future related work would be progressed as a new project and subject to Council approval as part of any future Council Plan and/or budget process. 6. Notifies all submitters and subscribers to the Rural Land Use Strategy project of Council's decision.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Provide opportunities for the community to experience open space and bushland reserves	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Seasonal environment event calendar and biodiversity monitoring program enabling multiple opportunities for community to get involved in and connect with nature.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Develop the Woodend Racecourse Reserve Master Plan to assist future development opportunities of the reserve and surrounds	Deliver	In Progress	100%	50%	Draft Master Plan complete and awaiting presentation to council in Quarter one of the 23/24 financial year before going out for community consultation. The Macedon Ranges Community Equestrian Facilities Plan (MRCEFP) needs to be finalised prior to the Woodend Racecourse Reserve Master Plan being presented to Council or the Community. The MRCEFP will assist in informing on equestrian facilities across the Municipality including Woodend.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023

Improve the management of water, including flooding risk, water quality of creeks and waterways, and the efficient use of water							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue priority waterway restoration works that implement adopted waterway environmental plans, which includes completing the master plan of the Woodend Five Mile Creek, and continued delivery of implementation of the Romsey Five Mile Creek Master Plan	Deliver	In Progress	100%	100%	Weed control and revegetation of 2358 native plants across multiple waterway reserves. Obtained funding from RRV for restoration project on Bunjil Creek, Gisborne. Completed the Woodend Five Mile Creek Master Plan. Supported Melbourne Water capital works projects on Jacksons Creek, Gisborne and Romsey Five Mile Creek	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023
Continue the water conservation works program	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Weed control and revegetation of 2358 native plants across multiple waterway reserves.	Manager Strategic Planning and Environment	30 June 2023

Maintain systems, capacity and capability to manage, respond to and lead recovery after emergency events							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Monitor and mitigate key emergency risks	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committees (MEMPC) (Inc. Fire) continue to identify and evaluate risk and treatments for local hazards. Works are ongoing on the Critical Roads for Managing Fire Plan for risk mitigation of townships and access/egress roads. The Property Inspection program and roadside slashing works achieved risk reduction including the storm clean up coordinated by Council with Disaster Recovery Australia. Council participated in the Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA) reviewing bush/grassfire risk, collaborating with key Emergency Management stakeholders on multiagency risk mitigation commitments.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Leverage partnerships with key agencies and community groups to improve response to and recovery from emergency events	Facilitate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Council have partnered with CFA for fuel reduction and fire mitigation works and preparedness on fire danger days through our Municipal Emergency Management Officers (MEMO), Municipal Recovery Managers (MRM) and depot arrangements. The Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committees (MEMPC) continue to foster relationships with excellent attendance in the March and June 2023 meetings. Coordinator Emergency Management (EM) at Council is now the deputy Chair of the State Municipal Emergency Management Enhancement Group (MEMEG), steering the agenda including featuring Macedon Ranges Kettlewells project presentation to state-wide stakeholders. Council led storm and flood recovery programs have included community meetings, advocacy and coordination of multi-agency connections with impacted areas including Melbourne Water in Darraweit Guim. Council officers attended the June Local Government Fire Management Forum, connecting and receiving presentations from multiple agencies. Multiple actions have been determined from the forum and new and strengthened connections with the sector. Coordinator EM is now the Deputy Chair of MAV State MEMEG and participated in the working group for the Local Government Fire Management Forum. The Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) State Peer Network, started by MRSC as a platform for local councils to work together with DRFA claims, is now a MAV led group to continue state level engagement and education.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Contribute to Municipal Emergency Management Planning	Facilitate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	The Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) continues to lead multi-agency and Council wide municipal fire management planning following June meeting and the endorsement of the multi-agency critical roads project that will ensure strategic access for communities impacted by fire. The MEMPC also endorsed the fully revised Municipal Storm and Flood Emergency Management Plan June 2023 which includes updated data and preparedness including an extensive sandbagging plan (lesson of Oct 2022 floods).	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Learn from emergency management responses to improve future responses	Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Multiple Lessons Learnt sessions with staff were held for the storm 2019 and flood 2022 events with recommendations for improvement supported by executive and implemented by staff including additional training and systems improvement between Pathways/BAU system and CrisisWorks/EM system. Municipal Fire Prevention Officers (MFPO's) met with fire agencies for a post season review. The outcome of this review also feeds into the fire management planning for future seasons.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Continue to participate in the Municipal Association of Victoria Emergency Management Advisory Committee	Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Macedon Ranges representation has been present at each Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Emergency Management Advisory Committee. The Committee was in place for the calendar year 2022, with 21 October 2022 being the last meeting of the year. MAV Advisory Committees announced that they will be re-formed as of July 2023, officers are awaiting confirmation of committee and 2023/24 meeting dates.	Director Community	30 June 2023
Identify nominated potential relief centres/community support locations in each town, and implement a process for the annual review of the planning, readiness and resilience of these locations, and any emergency supplies deployed at these locations	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	An audit of relief centres was conducted. Sites are identified and were reviewed 2023/24 Summer. Emergency Relief Centre (ERC) stock has been replenished.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Upgrade three Relief and Recovery Centres that are currently grid-connected to be able to operate off-grid during times of an emergency.	Deliver	In Progress	100%	75%	Works have been completed on both the Romsey and Macedon sites. Onsite training will be conducted by the contractor for all relevant staff that have responsibility for the units, week commencing 10 July 2023. The third site, proposed to be Riddells Creek, will be looked at in the next financial year.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023

Encourage active and healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Optimise accessibility and usage of open space and facilities, through a program of development and renewals for open space, playgrounds and sporting infrastructure	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The following projects are complete: - Gisborne Fields Barbeque and shelter and supporting infrastructure, - Behind goal safety netting at Kyneton Showgrounds and Lancefield Park, - Ash Wednesday Park playground upgrade and pathways - Romsey Oval drainage Woodend Golf Clubhouse redevelopment has commenced.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023
Work in partnership with health, education and community organisations, including sporting clubs and community groups, to enhance opportunities for improved health, and participation in passive and active recreation	Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Council continued to work in partnership with health organisations, sporting clubs and community groups for improved health outcomes and increased participation in passive and active recreation. Specific action included healthy eating promotion and working with sporting clubs to assist in their development and increasing programs to drive participation in sport including participants with disabilities and improving inclusivity.	Manager Open Space and Recreation	30 June 2023
Continue to deliver the actions for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Year 2 actions have been delivered.	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Continue to deliver the actions for the Disability Action Plan 2021–2025	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Year 2 actions have been delivered.	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Continue to deliver the actions for Elevate – Council's Youth Strategy 2018–2028	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Council continues to deliver the actions for 'Elevate – Council's Youth Strategy 2018-2028'.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to deliver the actions for Participate – Council's Positive Ageing Plan 2020– 2025	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Year 2 Actions have been delivered. New actions created for the coming year that align with consultation results that occurred in 22/23	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023

Engage families to promote the importance of early childhood education and health							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to partner with the Department of Education and Training to support current education reforms, such as the rollout of three-year-old kindergarten in the Macedon Ranges Shire and School Readiness Funding	Facilitate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Council continues to work closely with the Department of Education and Training to support the current reforms. Work to deliver a three room kindergarten (and Maternal and Child Health service) in Lancefield is progressing.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to provide and support access to quality kindergarten programs across the Shire	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Council continues to provide and support access to quality kindergarten program across the Shire.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Improve social connection for children and families with barriers to social engagement	Facilitate	Completed	100%	100%	Council continues to explore opportunities for enhanced pathways from kindergarten to primary school via the school transition project.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to deliver actions for Council's Early Years Plan – CREATE	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Council continues to deliver the actions for 'Early Years Plan – CREATE'	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to strengthen municipal planning of early years services	Facilitate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Municipal planning of Early Years Services continues via the actions set out in 'Early Years Plan - CREATE' and work with the Department of Education and Training.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Explore feasibility of Macedon Ranges Shire becoming a Child Friendly community	Facilitate/Deliver	Carry Forward	100%	60%	Council continues to work to strengthen child safety, consultation and engagement across the Shire. Child and youth consultation and engagement guidelines are expected to be completed by March 2024, which will support Council to progress Child Friendly Community endorsement.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to deliver maternal and child health, and early childhood services and programs, including immunisation, breast feeding support, sleep settling and supported playgroups	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Council continues to deliver these services and programs.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023

Support our community to ensure better access and connection for facilities and services							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to monitor the implication of aged care reforms on Council's role in supporting older people in our community	Deliver/Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Council has transitioned out of the Commonwealth Home Support Program and has monitored the transition to ensure that all impacted clients continue to receive the supports and services they require. Council has consulted with the community and will now continue to support older people in an advocacy and community engagement capacity. Although Council will not provide direct services to older people, we will continue through the Regional Assessment Service to assess the impact that further reform will have on our community.	Manager Community Wellbeing	30 June 2023

Assist to improve mental wellbeing within the community							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to increase community awareness and resilience in relation to mental health, through initiatives such as Live4Life	Facilitate	Completed	100%	100%	Youth Services continues to increase community awareness and resilience in relation to mental health through the coordination of the Macedon Ranges Youth Mental Health Advocacy Group, Chairing the Macedon Ranges School Wellbeing Network Meetings and delivering initiatives such as Live4Life.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Support and promote mental health by continued training of mental health first aid sessions through Live4Life	Facilitate/Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Youth Services continues to offer Youth Mental Health First Aid to adults and Teen Mental Health First Aid to secondary students in the shire through the Life4Life Program.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to work with the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments to advocate for the establishment of a youth mental health service in the Macedon Ranges Shire	Advocate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Youth Services has collaborated with Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health and Macedon Ranges Health in advocating to the relevant Primary Health Networks to increase funding for youth mental health services in the shire. In addition, funding has been sought for additional youth mental health outreach services at a local level via the Bendigo (community) Bank Network.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Continue to support Phase 2 of Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's Human Code Project, through the Healthy Masculinities Partnership Grant	Partner	Completed	100%	100%	This project is complete. Cut the Silence was the final project as part of the #humancode project.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 September 2022
Continue delivering Live4Life in secondary schools and the wider community across the shire	Partner/Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Youth Services continues to deliver Live4Life in secondary schools and the wider community across the shire.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023
Develop and deliver a primary school-based mental health and wellbeing model for grade 5 and 6 students across our shire for trial in Terms 3 and 4 2022 with full implementation to occur in 2023 school year	Deliver	Carry Forward	100%	80%	Youth Services has commenced trialling a primary school-based mental health and wellbeing program (Branch Out) at Woodend Primary School and Kyneton Primary School. The Branch Out Program pilot is fully funded and expected to conclude at the end of the 2023 school year.	Manager Children, Youth & Family Services	30 June 2023

Strategic objective 3. Business and tourism

We will foster economic vitality in a way that promotes positive individual and community health outcomes, including business diversity, housing, transport, information and communication technology, and employment options. Investment attracted to the shire will be consistent with the Community Vision.

Encourage economic vitality (including tourism, agribusiness, buy local and local employment options)

ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Implement key actions contained in Year 1 and 2 of Council's Economic Development Strategy 2021-2031	Implement/Facilitate	In Progress	100%	95%	Most Year 1 and 2 Economic Development Strategy actions were satisfactorily completed in the context of a significant COVID -19 Business Recovery program being delivered simultaneously. A detailed report will be presented to Council in the 2023-2024 year.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Progress the Events Strategy 2021-2025, including ongoing development and delivery of the Autumn Festival	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The Autumn Festival was successfully delivered in April, with over 60 community groups, businesses, and artists coming together to host 50 fantastic events across all of our towns and villages.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Continue delivering actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018-2028	Deliver	Ongoing BAU	100%	100%	Numerous actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy have successfully been delivered. In FY 22/23 Kyneton Town Hall hosted almost 40 separate events, including 12 hires by professional tour companies, bringing quality artists and performers such as Kitty Flanagan, Jimeoin, Lior, Alexander McCall Smith and Hannah Gadesby. Local music was promoted through the development of a new searchable, online database - http://www.macedonrangelshalls.com.au/bands/ - and the Live and Local project was developed and funding secured for delivery in April 2024. Kyneton Museum remained closed, with the completion of roofing renovation work and maintenance of internal spaces being complete in mid-June. Planning and preparation has been underway for the next exhibition and reopening on 14 July 2023.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Identify and support initiatives that involve participatory arts practices	Deliver	Ongoing BAU	100%	100%	Creative Kids (formerly KTH Kids - Arts and Culture activities for school holidays) was successfully delivered. There were 3 different performances and 2 workshops presented that were very well attended and enjoyed by all. Real Pigeons (presented in partnership with The Wheeler Centre) on Saturday 24 June sold 209 tickets. Whalebone and its associated workshop The Wacky Lolly Shooting Machine sold 79 tickets in total, and The Alphabet of Awesome Science performance and workshop sold 327 tickets between them. Arts and Culture also partnering with local music producer, Shaun Evans to host The Orkestra Llektriq presents THE BEAT at Kyneton Town Hall on Friday 19 May. The show provided an opportunity for 15-20 aspiring community and student musicians to join a professional big sound, modern, technologically inspired augmented Orchestra featuring Strings, Harp, Brass, Woodwinds, Guitar, Bass, Keyboards, Drums, Percussion, Vocals and our Electronic Artist. Originally booked into the Kyneton Mechanics Institute, the strong community connection and development opportunities inherent in the show made it an excellent candidate to be transferred to Kyneton Town Hall without incurring any additional costs on the community group.	Manager Community Strengthening	30 June 2023
Support the development of local festivals, events and cultural activities across the shire	Partner/Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Ongoing support for event delivery through the Events and Festivals fund. Visitor Economy team are providing assistance and raising awareness including planning for the introduction of event drop-in sessions for event organisers to meet with Council officers.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Continue to support the community and businesses to create their own festive season decorations	Partner	In Progress	100%	75%	Council Officers provided guidance on the process and timelines to community and business groups enabling them to plan for the installation of their festive season decorations later in the year, in towns across the shire. Support will continue until December 2023.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Increase funding to improve signage/ way finding within our town business centres	Deliver	In Progress	100%	25%	Engagement with State Government agencies has taken place to discuss funding for replacement Tourism directional signage on highway and main road entry points to the Shire. Unfortunately no funding has been made available to date. Councils seed funding has been included in the 2023-24 budget.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023

Support local industry sectors that align with our Community Vision and strategies							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Continue to support local business and tourism associations (BATAs) and industry-sector peak bodies, and look to have geographic and industry-sector coverage	Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Council Officers hosted and provided secretariat support for the quarterly BATA and industry group meeting, enabling information and ideas sharing, cross pollination and networking. In addition a very successful and well attended Capability Building Program (CBP) was completed in April. The meetings and CBP were made available to groups and individuals from all main towns.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Continue to increase the engagement of the business community with the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Business Awards	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	To compliment the 2022 Business Excellence Awards program, the inaugural 2023 Community Choice Awards were delivered. The Community Choice Awards attracted 78 nominations with the five category winners being presented their awards by the Mayor and sponsors at their business premises in June. They were also promoted widely via print and social media platforms.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Promote local purchasing and the circular economy by implementing Stage 3 of the Go Local First campaign	Deliver	Planning	100%	60%	As part of the COVID-19 Business Recovery Program, Go Local First collateral continued to be displayed. This included a pull up banner for business events and workshops and corflute signage across the main townships. Final elements of this program will be completed in the first quarter of 2023-24.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Attract investment in the region by actively supporting the creation of an Invest Loddon- Mallee website	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Officers were involved in the Project Reference Group for the Invest Loddon Mallee website and provided Macedon Ranges content. Following review and several changes of the first iteration the website went live on 6 July 2022.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Support small business and the local economy							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Consolidate delivery obligations under the Small Business Friendly Charter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Deliver 14-day payments to local suppliers o Engage with businesses o Streamline business applications o Help set up and support local business networks 	Deliver	Ongoing BAU	100%	75%	Payments to local suppliers are processed within the 14 day period. Engagement with local businesses potentially impacted by capital works projects included an explanatory letter drop prior to project start, enabling concerns to be raised and solutions discussed. In addition traffic management plans take into consideration pedestrian and cyclist access, alternative car parking options and clear signage. Good progress was made in developing an online application option for planning permits, implementation is expected in the first half of the 2023-24 period. Local business networks were well supported via the Capability Building Program and final quarter hosted meeting.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Support the local economy by encouraging procurement to be undertaken locally	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	A procurement and tendering information session delivered in May was well supported and received good feedback from the businesses in attendance. Planning for a second session in July, with an additional focus on Commonwealth Games 2026 opportunities, got underway.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Engage with emerging technology solutions and initiatives to increase the liveability of the shire							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Advocate for improved telecommunications infrastructure, with a focus on blackspots	Advocate	Completed	100%	100%	Very good progress was evident with upgrades at both Mt Macedon and the Mineral Springs tower in Kyneton North, plans for small cell 5G infrastructure and an additional base station within Kyneton and scoping of potential sites for a base station at Tylden. In addition formal support for a new facility to service the Bullengarook community was provided.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Actively participate in government reviews and initiatives to increase provision of service and awareness of issues	Advocate/Partner	Completed	100%	100%	Input from an economic development/business impact perspective was provided to the Parliamentary Enquiry into Victoria's Major Flood Event (October 2022).	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023
Investigate provision of Wi-Fi in each of the towns in the shire to increase telecommunications connectivity – advocate for funding for delivery of this project	Advocate	Planning	100%	5%	This project remains unfunded. Development of a Digital Plan with assistance from Telecommunications providers will be undertaken in the first half of 2023-24 that will assist with advocacy and funding attraction actions.	Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy	30 June 2023

Strategic objective 4. Deliver strong and reliable government
 We will demonstrate the qualities of good governance, including a clear vision and culture, transparency, respect, consistency, accountability and responsiveness.

Ensure sustainable financial management and the strategic allocation of resources to deliver planned infrastructure and services

ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Develop and implement a new Risk Strategy and Strategic Risk Register	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Risk management framework, policy and procedures including Strategic Risk Register completed	Manager People, Risk and Wellbeing	31 March 2023
Regularly review and update long-term financial and infrastructure planning to guide our budget decisions, to ensure they are responsible and sustainable	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	During the budget process, the long term plan underwent a comprehensive review. This involved a thorough review and update of the assumptions used in the plan. Additionally, the schedule of Capital Works was reviewed, and it was ensured that the plan incorporated the projects prioritised by the Councillors. Assumptions regarding grants and borrowings necessary to accomplish the delivery of major priority projects were also taken into account.	Manager Finance and Reporting	28 February 2023
Deliver a new project management framework and software for delivery of capital work projects	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The project management framework and Project Lifecycle Module are complete and went live on 4 July 2022.	Manager Assets and Project Management Office	31 July 2022
Meet financial reporting requirements, in line with the Local Government Victoria framework	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	All reporting requirements have been met in line with the Local Government Victoria Planning and Reporting Framework.	Manager Finance and Reporting	30 June 2023

Enhance strategy, policy and plan development, and identify alignment to allow for prioritisation of services that are efficient, well planned, accessible and meet community needs

ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Conduct the 2022 Employee Survey and develop an action plan responding to key survey findings	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Completed, survey results were shared with all employees November 2022 with individual departments engaging with their teams to identify specific team action plans	Manager People, Risk and Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Provide appropriate training and development of staff to ensure continuous improvement and access to the required skills	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Our Learning and Development team have developed an annual corporate training calendar aimed at both compulsory and development sessions	Manager People, Risk and Wellbeing	30 June 2023
Negotiate a new Enterprise Agreement	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	New Enterprise Agreement was approved by Fair Work and effective 21 June 2023	Manager People, Risk and Wellbeing	31 January 2023
Review Local Law 10, which provides the procedures for the administration of all Council's Local Laws	Deliver	In Progress	100%	90%	Community Engagement process completed, feedback assessed and version 4 of the draft Community Local Law prepared for a Councillor Briefing in July 2023. Project on target for completion in Q1 2023/24	Manager Safer Communities	30 June 2023
Review Council's current software providers to determine if an enterprise solution is available to meet Council's needs	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	As part of the Information Services Digital Strategy the following key projects have been completed in line with the work plan: TechnologyOne SaaS implementation completed, Pathway upgrade completed and Key network links upgraded.	Manager Information Services	30 June 2023

Lead advocacy engagement and enhance relationships with all tiers of government and key stakeholders							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Actively participate in community and government networks and regional alliances	Partner/Facilitate	Completed	100%	100%	Various officers of Council participate in the following community and government networks and regional alliances in the 2023-24 year: Loddon Campaspe Council meetings, Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership Forum meetings, MAV Technology (Sector wide IT group), Loddon Mallee Regional Procurement Network, Loddon Campaspe Transport Working Group, MAV Emergency Management Board Advisory Committee, Goldfields Library Corporation, Regional Directors Meeting, Macedon Ranges Safety Committee, Municipal Emergency Management Committee, Start-up Central Vic, Invest Loddon Mallee, Bendigo City and Region of Gastronomy, Regional Employment and Innovation Corridor, Victorian Tourism Industry Council, Macedon Ranges Accommodation Association, Daylesford Macedon Tourism, Macedon Ranges Vignerons Association, Tourism Macedon Ranges, Macedon Ranges BATA group Network, Romsey BATA, Woodend Traders, Kyneton Business Network, Loddon Mallee Regional Relief, Central Ranges Local Learning and Employment Network, Start-up Central Vic, Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Project, Environmental Health Professionals Australia – Loddon Mallee Region, Calder Highway Improvement Committee (CHIC),Macedon Ranges Heritage Council, Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance, Healthy Coliban Catchment, North Central Catchment, Management Authority Catchment Partners, Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group, Loddon Mallee, Environment Officers Network, Greening the West Steering Group, Maribymong Rural Land Officer Network and Recovery Plan Review group.	Manager Finance and Reporting	30 June 2023
Actively meet local members and key decision makers to influence positive outcomes for the Macedon Ranges community	Partner/Facilitate	Completed	100%	100%	Senior Officers and Councillors take the opportunity to meet both local state and federal members where possible. Additionally, the Mayor and CEO make it a priority to attend the annual National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government conference organised by the Australian Local Government Association in Canberra, where they have the chance to meet with federal members.	Manager Finance and Reporting	30 June 2023
Enhance customer experience through the transformation of our services, to ensure they are easy to access and provide user-friendly experiences							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Implement actions from the review of the Customer Request System, with the aim of improving our customer service and response times for ratepayers	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Improvements to customer service and response times to ratepayers is continuing with Corporate Induction sessions being held focussing on 'our service standards' in line with the adoption of the new Customer Service Charter. The customer request management system review is ongoing to ensure officers are updated in the system.	Manager Information Services	30 June 2023
Continue to develop and implement the Community Engagement Framework	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The community engagement framework is in use and a community engagement platform is being explored to further extend our capability to engage with the community and a decision on this is due by the end of Q1 2023/2024.	Manager Communication and Engagement	30 June 2023
Review the organisation's Customer Charter to further enhance our service excellence to the community	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	The Customer Service Charter has been reviewed and redeveloped. It was open for community consultation during February 2023. It will be scheduled to appear at the April Council meeting.	Manager Community Strengthening	31 December 2022
Improve our digital platforms, ensuring they are fully accessible for all residents and ratepayers	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	As part of the Information Services Digital Strategy the following key projects have been completed in line with the work plan: Implemented the Pathway online Planning Commenced a review of all of Council's online forms Reviewing other opportunities to improve digital services.	Manager Information Services	30 June 2023
Support transparent and evidence-based decision making, through sharing Council data and clear							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Ensure compliance with legislative external reporting and disclosure obligations, and ensure internal reporting frameworks are delivered to demonstrate transparency to the community	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Quarterly reports were presented to Council in accordance with section 97(1) of the Local Government Act 2020. Listed are the dates of each Council meeting that each quarterly reported was adopted. Quarter Report 1. June 2022 - 24/08/2022, Quarter Report 2. September 2022 - 23/11/2022, Quarter Report 3. December 2022 - 22/02/2023, Quarter Report 4. March 2023 - 24/05/2023.	Manager Finance and Reporting	30 June 2023

Reporting on our measures of success to the community							
ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	STATUS	TARGET % COMP.	ACTUAL % COMP.	PROGRESS COMMENTS	KEY CONTACT	COMP. DATE
Strengthen community engagement practices and relationships, with the development and implementation of Community Engagement Guidelines	Deliver	In Progress	100%	75%	On track to have the community engagement guidelines finalised and rolled out for staff by the end of 2023. Benchmarking across other Councils has helped inform the development of the guidelines. The Communications team is also researching best practice engagement platforms which would complement the guidelines and strengthen engagement across Council.	Manager Communication and Engagement	30 June 2023
Report on the delivery of Year 2 actions of the Council Plan	Deliver	Completed	100%	100%	Report was presented by the Mayor at the 26 October 2022 Council meeting. The Annual Report has been published on Council's website.	Manager Finance and Reporting	31 December 2022

SECTION 4

Customer Service

This summary provides an overview of Council's Customer Service Operations in relation to customer service standards.

Customer service standards

Customer service standards are used to measure the quality of customer service, and are defined in Council's Customer Service Charter and Complaints Policy. Customer service standards set the timeframes (standard of responsiveness) for responding to phone calls, emails, requests for service, correspondence and complaints. The timeframes are:

Method of contact	Response time
Phone	Calls answered within 30 seconds
Mail (including fax)	Respond within 10 working days
Request for service	Respond within 10 working days
Complaints	Respond within 10 working days

To measure our performance and assist staff to meet this standard of responsiveness, Council software systems, which register mail and record requests for service, have been configured to record how we respond to customers.

Standard of responsiveness for the quarter

Table 1: Customer Request Status (Responsiveness) Q4, 2022/2023

Customer Request Status (Responsiveness)														
1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023	Total requests received		Response not requested		Not configured		Responded, On-time		Responded, Overdue		Not yet Responded, Not yet Due		Not yet responded, Overdue	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
TOTAL	6684	100	2954	44.20	70	1.04	3160	47.28	246	3.68	138	2.06	116	1.74

"Not configured" (1.04%) refers to requests that have not been configured in the workflow in the request system. *i.e. Does the customer want to be contacted / response from the actioning officer?*

There has been an overall decrease in requests from quarter 3 to quarter 4. The Planning department received 883 requests during quarter 4 as opposed to 1025 for the previous quarter. The Building department received 161 requests in quarter 4, a decrease of 91 requests from quarter 3. A total of 248 parking requests were received during quarter 4 as opposed to 87 requests in quarter 3. The increase in parking requests can be partly attributed to the Autumn Leaves festival in the Macedon Ranges.

Table 2: Customer Request Status (Completion) Q4, 2022/2023

Customer Request Status (Completion)														
1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023	Total requests received		<10 days		10 to 15 days		11 to 20 days		21 to 30 days		31 to 60 days		Not complete	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
TOTAL	6684	100	4323	64.68	469	7.02	260	3.89	162	2.42	152	2.27	1318	19.72

The Customer Request Status results in Table 2 apply to the whole organisation, not just the Customer Service Team.

“Not complete” includes the following status: Logged; In Progress; Under Review / Inspection; Pending Inspection; Pending Customer Response; On Hold; On Hold 7/10/30/60 Days; On Hold 7/10/30/60 Days Overdue; Action Required by Four Seasons and Completed by Four Seasons.

Table 3: Calls Received, Answered and Abandoned Q4, 2022/2023

Calls Received, Answered and Abandoned						
1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023	Total Calls Received		Total Calls Answered		Total Calls Customer Abandoned	
PHONE QUEUES						
Customer Service Team	13464	77.55%	12015	89.24%	1449	10.76%
Other Departments	3898	22.45%	3466	88.92%	432	11.08%
TOTAL	17362	100%	15481	89%	1881	11%

Calls for the Planning Team are received via Customer Service Team. Calls to other departments will often overflow to the Customer Service Team.

The average customer ring wait time for the call to be answered by the Customer Service Team was 39 seconds. The decrease in the average customer ring wait time for the call to be answered from quarter 3, (41 seconds) to quarter 4, (39 seconds) can be attributed to a decrease in calls totalling 17362 in quarter 4 compared to 18898 in quarter 3. A decrease of 1536 calls for the period. The decrease in calls and subsequent decrease in wait time correlates with the reduction in customer requests logged for quarter 4.

SECTION 5

People, Risk & Wellbeing Report

This summary provides an overview of Council's People, Risk & Wellbeing operations which includes staff numbers and turnover, along with information in relation to Council's risk management and safety and wellbeing.

People and Wellbeing Update Quarter 4 2022-23

Staff overview per Directorate

Table 1: Staff numbers as of 30 June 2023

**Q4 2022-23
STAFF OVERVIEW PER DIRECTORATE**

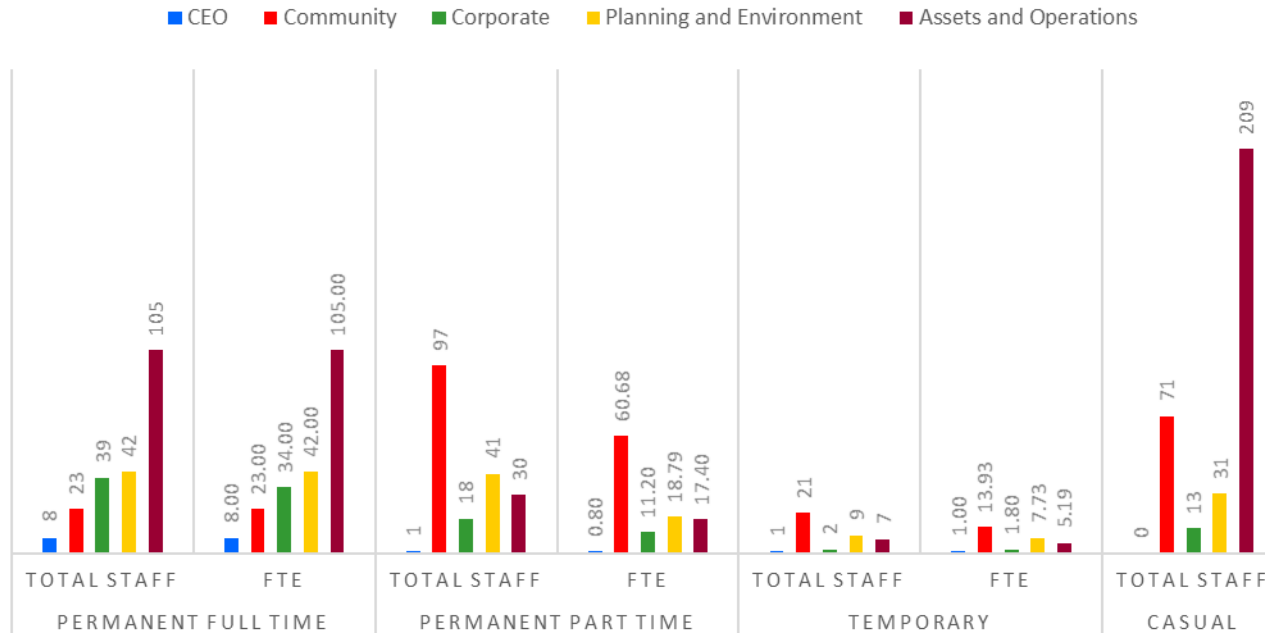


Table 2: Comparative staff turnover by quarter

Staff turnover by quarter for the 2022-23 financial year, figures do not include fixed term staff of 6 months or less or casual employees.

Financial Year	Quarter	Staff Turnover %
2022-23	Q1	5.45%
	Q2	3.52%
	Q3	4.08%
	Q4	8.25%*

* In August 2022, Council made the decision withdraw services previously funded by the CHSP from 30 June 2023. As a result of withdrawing from this service, a portion of Council's Community Wellbeing staff were offered (and accepted) redundancies. These redundancies have contributed to a significant increase in Council's staff turnover in Q4 of 2022-23. The turnover for Q4 with these redundancies excluded is 2.82%, being the lowest quarterly turnover rate for Council in recent years.

Risk Management

Council's strategic risks (listed below) are the risks associated with achieving Council plan. Council is managing its risks in line with the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Risk Management Framework.

Table 3: Council Strategic Risks

ID	Risk name	Risk event	Residual Risk Rating	Improvement actions required
1	State of emergency	Risk of damage to environment and assets and injury to people.	Very High	13
2	Community customer service expectations	Risk of inability to deliver services and managing expectations on service delivery	High	10
3	Staff management	Risk of inability to deliver service and/or severe injury or death to staff.	High	19
4	Local planning scheme	Risk of planning not being maintained to manage growth and environmental change.	High	2
5	Business planning	Risk of poor business planning and decision making	High	11
6	ICT Cyber / Security and Data Protection	Risk of a breach to ICT systems and/or data	High	8
7	Financial viability	Risk of inability to provide agreed/legislated services to community.	High	17
8	Legislative compliance	Risk of significant breach in legislation.	Medium	5
9	Environmental harm	Risk of significant environmental pollution or harm related to shire activities.	Medium	15
10	Economic environment	Risk of not having a local economic environment that supports community, industry and business	Medium	3

Insurance

Council has seen a reduction in new incident notifications in Q4 with a total of 38 (Q3 68 incident notifications). Of these new incident reports, only five of these progressed into valid claims with the majority of these relating to internal claims against Council's fleet policy (under excess and over excess). One claim relates to an under excess public liability claim caused by tree roots. Two of Council fleet assets were declared a total loss and Council received two payout amounts (both incidents occurred in Q3 and settled in Q4).

Effective 1 May 2023, Macedon Ranges Shire Council engaged Echelon Claims Services to assess compensation claims on Council's behalf for all under excess claims. During this time 16 potential claimants have been referred to Echelon, with only five of these have progressed to the point of assessment. Three claims have been formally denied by Echelon on Council's behalf and two remain open. Council assets (JMAPP insured) damaged by the 13 October 2022 flood continue to progress slowly with Malmsbury Cricket club enduring a three month delay whilst waiting for a building permit. It is anticipated that works will be finalised swiftly once the permit is in hand.

Darraweit Guim tennis club has also endured delays. The tennis courts are awaiting a final clean of the playing surface. Delays have been caused by contractor availability and works have been re-scheduled for mid-July.

Repairs to the synthetic turf surface at the Woodend Bowls club are due to start July 2023. Once the synthetic surface has been lifted, the full extent of flood damage can be accurately assessed.

Preliminary works regarding the Insurance reinstatement of the Gisborne footbridges are underway.

The insurance renewal for 2023-24 has been successfully negotiated and finalised.

Table 4: Insurance Claim Notifications

Status	Property Damage					Fleet	JMAPP*	Public Liability	Total	
	Drains	Contractors	Roads/ Footpaths	Trees	Council Works					
Claim Notification Closed and /or declined	1	2	10	3	4	0	0	0	20	
Claim Notification open and under investigation	0	0	5	1	0	5	0	0	11	
Open claims Q4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	
Paid and Closed claims for Q4 claims	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	
Total reported Q4	1	2	15	5	5	9	0	1	38	
Paid and settled claims lodged outside Q4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	
Claim settlement outcome	Payments	-	-	-	-\$1,928.00	-\$32.99	-\$6,850.00	\$0.00	-	-\$8,810.99
	Credits (recovery)	-	-	-	-	-	\$161,430.91	-	-	\$161,430.91
	Total	-	\$00.00	\$00.00	-\$1,928.00	-\$32.99	\$154,580.90	\$00.00	-	\$152,619.92

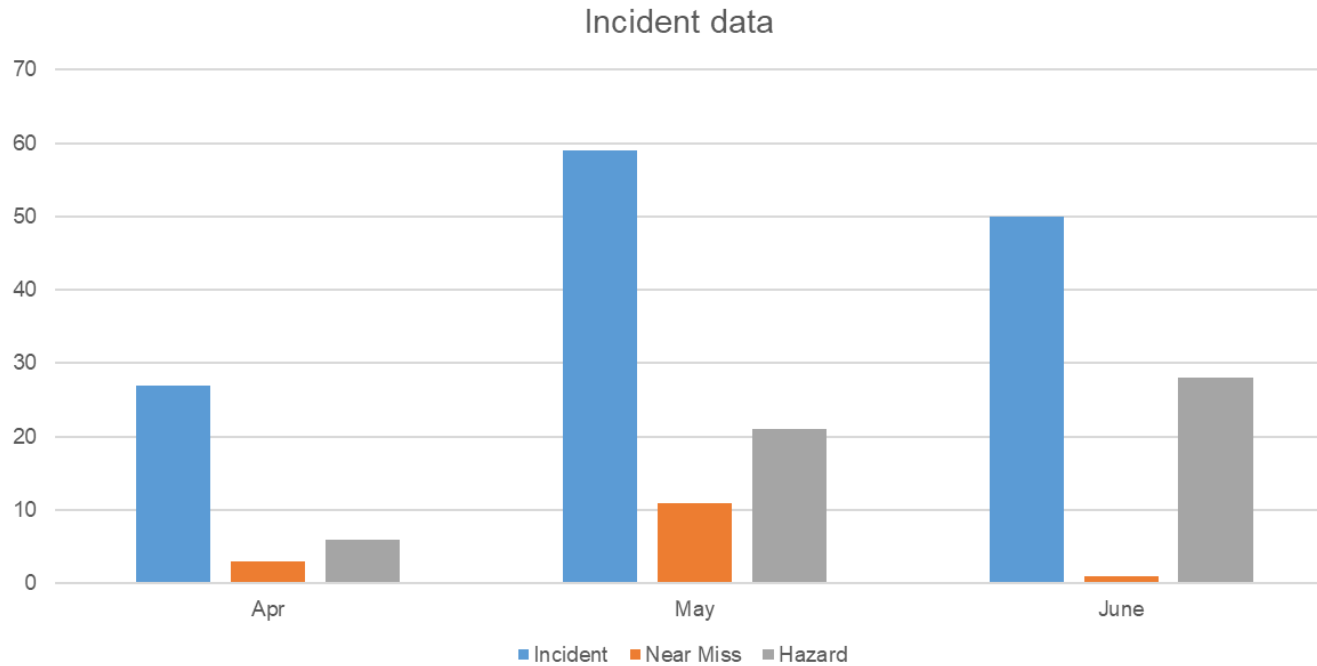
*JMAPP - JLT Municipal Asset Protection Plan

Health and Safety

In Q4, Council received 206 incident reports, which is a significant increase from the previous quarter (Q3, received 139 incident reports).

The increase in incidents reported is a positive indication of an increase in safety culture. Council's Risk and OHS unit have increased communication and education efforts to raise the importance of incident reporting across Council. The Risk and OHS unit have increased auditing which is also seeing an increase in reportable hazards.

Table 5: Type of Incident



SECTION 6

Implementation of Council Resolutions

The implementation of Council decisions without undue delay is a fundamental function and responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer. In practical terms this responsibility is delegated to the relevant Council Officers.

This report provides a progress report on the actions undertaken by staff to implement the decisions made by Council at Scheduled and Unscheduled Council Meetings and Delegated Committee Meetings during the quarter and includes any previous decisions of Council that are yet to be completely implemented.

Directorate	Date	Meeting type	Report link	Comment (Council resolution update)	Actioning officer	Status description	% completed
Corporate	28-Aug-19	Scheduled	<p>Proposed land swap and boundary realignment at Walshes Road, Woodend</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed to commence the statutory process to exchange land in accordance with Attachment 2, by publishing a public notice proposing to undertake a minor road deviation, road declaration and land exchange; In accordance with Section 223 of the Act, provides any person the opportunity to make a submission within 28 days of the day of the notice and if requested provides the opportunity to any person to be heard at a meeting to be held on 16 October 2019 at the Gisborne Administration Centre; Be presented with a report at the 23 October 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting to consider the submissions and the approval of transfers; On the basis that no submissions be received at (2) above: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the transfer of land under the land swap; Advertise a government gazettal notice to declare the realigned section of Walshes Road a government road; and Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign the necessary documentation to enable the land swap to occur. Endorse the rezoning of the land described as Volume 06019 and Folio 750, Lot 1 on TP879826E, Parish of Tylden from Public Use Zone to Rural Conservation Zone; and Endorse the rezoning of land at (5) above as the basis to prepare Planning Scheme Amendment C138macr <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Request Authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Amendment C138macr pursuant to Section 9 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 Upon receipt of authorisation, make any changes necessary to comply with conditions of authorisation Upon satisfaction of any conditions of authorisation, exhibit Amendment C138macr pursuant to Section 19 of the Planning & Environment Act 1987. 	Discussion underway with new property owner.	Director Corporate	In progress	85%
Planning and Environment	28-Aug-19	Scheduled	<p>Proposed changes to flood mapping in Kyneton – Request to proceed with a Planning Scheme Amendment</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Endorse that the amendment proceed as a local amendment to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme; Note the findings from the community consultation and thank the community for their participation; and Request authorisation from the Minister for Planning and prepare draft amendment documents for the purposes of proceeding to a formal exhibition of the amendment. 	DELWP's Regional Planning Hub team has agreed to consider progressing this amendment as part of a broader implementation of similar flood studies from across the State. Process to progress DTP amendment to cover multiple flood studies has been delayed due to State's response to floods from October 2022. Awaiting further advice from DTP about likely timeframes.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	66%
Planning and Environment	27-Nov-19	Scheduled	<p>Dog and cat control order</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make the Council Dog and Cat Order 2019 – Domestic Animals Act 1994 (incorporating Schedules 1 and 2) as per section 25 and 26(2) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 with the insertion of the following amendment to Schedule 2 Designated Prohibited Areas on page 8 of the Order: "Gisborne Township 'Mount Gisborne Reserve – 198 Mount Gisborne Road, Gisborne"; Give public notice of the making of the 'Council Dog and Cat Order 2019 – Domestic Animals Act 1994 (incorporating Schedules 1 and 2) by publishing it in the Government Gazette and in newspapers circulating in the municipal district of the Council in accordance with Section 26(3) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994; Direct the Chief Executive Officer to commence the process with the Department of Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to revoke and dissolve existing Government Gazetted regulations at the eight sites identified in this report, managed by Council and owned by DELWP; Direct the Chief Executive Officer to commence a process with DELWP to formally appoint Council as the Committee of Management for the sections of the Campaspe River Walk in Kyneton that are currently unreserved Crown land; Receive a further report at a future Council meeting on the progress of recommendations 3 and 4; Refer the resourcing for the second stage implementation of the Order and for the introduction of a Council subsidised cat desexing and microchipping scheme to the 2020/21 budget process; and Direct the Chief Executive Officer to review Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 of the Council Dog and Cat Order 2019 as a first year action in Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022 – 2026. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completed - Dog and Cat Control Order including Schedule 2 updated to include Mount Gisborne Reserve. Completed - Notice published in the Government Gazette and local papers in December 2019. Liaising with DEWLP - this can be a lengthy process Liaising with DEWLP - this can be a lengthy process Pending completion of items 3 and 4. Cat desexing program was not funded in 22/23 budget, new initiative will be prepared for the 23/24 budget. Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021 – 2025 adopted at the February Council meeting, which includes a 1st year action to review schedules 1 and 2 of the Dog and cat Order. 	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	60%
Corporate	26-Aug-20	Scheduled	<p>Proposal to sell 20 Jacobs Avenue, Kyneton</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Having determined that the property at 20 Jacobs Avenue, Kyneton is considered surplus to Council requirements commence the statutory process to sell the land by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising a notice of intention to sell 20 Jacobs Avenue, Kyneton, in accordance with section 189 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act"); Noting that in accordance with section 223 of the Act, the public notice provides an opportunity to make a submission within 28 days of the day of the notice and if requested provides the submitter the opportunity to speak in support of their submission at a future Submitters Committee meeting; Notifying all neighbouring properties of the proposal and seeking submissions; and Considering all submissions prior to determining to proceed with the sale. Note that should there be no written submissions received under Section 223 of the Act to the Chief Executive Officer will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed to sell the property by public auction (or subsequently by private treaty should it fail to sell at auction); negotiate the sale of the property based on a current market valuation obtained by an independent qualified valuer; be authorised to sign and seal any associated documentation in relation to the sale. Note that net proceeds from the sale will be allocated to the Public Open Space-West Financial Reserve. 	Resolution in progress pending review of Open Space Strategy.	Director Corporate	In progress	10%

Corporate	26-Aug-20	Scheduled	CX.6 Council Support and Expenses Policy That Council: 1. Adopt the revised Council Support and Expenses Policy and publish the policy on Council's website; and 2. Undertake further work to consider options for the reimbursement of bona fide expenses incurred by members of Council's current (and future) advisory committees and community asset committees.	Item 1: Completed - Adopted Policy on Council's website. Item 2: Work In progress - Governance Team is reviewing policies from other Councils and LGI best practice advice.	Governance Team	In progress	40%
Assets and Operations	16-Dec-20	Scheduled	Notice of Motion No. 8/2020-21 – Councillor Neil That Council: 1. Undertake an audit of school bus stops to ascertain what steps are required to provide weather relief to students; which should include prioritisation of when shelters may be installed, interested parties (including schools, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) and Regional Roads Victoria (RRV)) and potential opportunities for advocacy and funding. This audit to be presented as a report at a future Council meeting; and 2. Seek a report, no later than the February Council Meeting, to install a bus bay and shelter in the vicinity of Reynolds Grove and Melbourne-Lancefield Road Service Road, Romsey. This report should include potential funding options and detail time lines to finalise design, seek relevant approvals and deliver the project before May 2021.	1. The concept of using university engineering students to complete this work will not achieve the result required. The team is creating a consultant brief to undertake a full assessment of all bus stops, both Public Transport Victoria bus stops and school bus stops. School bus coordinators will be contacted to provide information on the school bus stop locations and the number of students at each stop. This will commence in July 2023 and is anticipated to be completed in early 2024. 2. Completed	Director Assets and Operations	In progress	20%
Corporate	16-Dec-20	Scheduled	Proposal to name part of an unnamed Kyneton laneway "Turners Lane" That Council: 1. Approves the naming of the southern part of an unnamed laneway running between High Street and Market Street Kyneton - affecting land parcels Lot 1 TP318437, Lot 2 TP326174, Lot 3 PS441508 and Lot 1 TP22292 and ending at the southern boundary to Lot 2 TP584557 - as "Turners Lane". 2. Notes that, if approved, the naming will be submitted to the Registrar for Geographic Names for endorsement and gazettal. 3. Notes that officers will write to the naming applicant, surrounding property owners and those community members who responded to the public consultation process to advise them of the decision.	1. Completed 2. Completed 3. Geographic Names Victoria has responded with its advice which is to name the entirety of the lane Turner Lane, as opposed to part of the lane. The Director Asset and Operations is preparing a Council report for June 2022. Action closed as a result of advice from Registrar for Geographic Names and can no longer proceed, noting further actions are ongoing as part of the July Scheduled Council Meeting.	Governance Team	Complete	100%
Corporate	23-Jun-21	Scheduled	Notice of Motion - Financial Reserves Policy Review That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to a Councillor briefing prior to the end of July 2021, regarding the approved use of funds section associated with the Public Open Space reserve section of Council's Financial Reserves Policy currently under review and: 1. Brings the briefing report and a summary of any Councillor discussions on this item to the August 2021 Audit and Risk committee meeting. 2. Ensures the report includes but is not limited to: a. Clarity about how Council interprets the wording from the Subdivision Act 1988 as "land set aside in a plan or land in a planned zone or reserve under a planning scheme-for public recreation or public resort; or as parklands; or for similar purposes"; b. Whether the preparation of a master plan for future improvements of public open space can be included; c. Whether unrestricted or restricted club and sporting facilities can be funded from this reserve; and d. How passive public open space could be prioritised over facilities referred to in point c of this motion.	In progress. Policy to be reviewed pending the completion of Council's Open Space Strategy.	Director Corporate	In progress	20%
Corporate	25-Aug-21	Scheduled	Petition to rename Hutton Street, Kyneton Council received a petition with 164 signatures, formally requesting Council to consult with the traditional owner group to rename Hutton Street, Kyneton so that it acknowledges the region's indigenous history. That Council: 1. Receives and notes the petition. 2. Refers it to the Manager Legal and Corporate Governance for investigation and reporting back to Council by December 2021. 3. Notifies the petition organisers accordingly.	The Traditional Owner group was scheduled to meet on 23/2/22. Awaiting advice from group on potential names. - No further progress made	Governance Team	In progress	25%
Planning and Environment	24-Nov-21	Scheduled	Open Space Purchase *Confidential*	The land was purchased by a new owner which has delayed the purchase process while the transfer process was completed.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	50%
Community	15-Dec-21	Scheduled	Kindergarten Strategic Direction for endorsement *Confidential*	1. Adopted 2. Pending	Director Community	In progress	20%
Assets and Operations	27-Jul-22	Scheduled	Naming of Turner Lane, Kyneton *Confidential*	CONFIDENTIAL UPDATE Resolution 1: Complete Resolution 2: On Hold, pending discussions Resolution 3: On Hold Resolution 4: On Hold	Director Assets and Operations	In progress	25%

Community	27-Jul-22	Scheduled	Kyneton Early Years' Service Planning *Confidential*	1. In progress 2. In progress (a) Completed (b) Completed (c) Completed (d) In progress (e) Completed (i) Completed (ii) Completed (iii) Completed 3. Approved 4. Acknowledged (a) Confirmed (b) Noted	Manager Children, Youth and Family Services	In progress	80%
Planning and Environment	27-Jul-22	Scheduled	Dalton Street Reserve Environmental Management Plan That Council: 1. Adopt the Dalton Street Environmental Management Plan; 2. Commence implementation of the short term actions identified in the plan within existing resources; 3. Support the formation of a local residents "Friends" group to participate in the management of the reserve network; and, 4. Explore options for renaming the Dalton Street Reserve, engaging with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, land management agencies and the community.	A Friends group has been formed as part of the Gisborne Landcare Network. Process to explore the renaming of the reserve will progressed in Quarter 4.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	75%
Community	24-Aug-22	Scheduled	Community Service Planning Confidential at time of decision, now public That Council: 1. Determines that it will transition out of direct service delivery roles in all funded Commonwealth Home Support Programme services: (a) Domestic Assistance; (b) Personal Care; (c) Flexible Respite; (d) Social Support – Individual; and (e) Centre based meals. 2. Commits to working with the Commonwealth Government to negotiate timing and transition processes that will protect the interests of clients, their families, staff and the broader community. 3. Notes that under its service agreements, all processes and matters related to the transition process will remain confidential until the Commonwealth provides consent for release of information. 4. Affirms that, in taking this decision, it will continue to play an active role in ensuring its community will receive high-quality aged care services and will advocate for the needs of vulnerable members of the community. 5. Commits to the values and principles outlined in Appendix A of the report, to underpin and support decision making through the transition process. 6. Review its policy direction towards future investment in positive-ageing initiatives and ensuring that Council's universal services and facilities are designed to meet the needs of a growing population of older residents. Further policy work and recommended directions will be referred to the 2023/24 budget process for review and approval. 7. Notes that Council's policy objective of ensuring that older adults seeking to live independently in the community will continue to have access to home support services. 8. Provides delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer, or their nominee, to undertake or commission all tasks and activities related to the implementation of this council decision. 9. Appoints the Mayor and CEO as spokespersons for all matters related to the Home Support Program Transition process. 10. Approves that a non-confidential version of this report and resolutions will be made public through Council's website once the confidential resolutions have been acted on to ensure transparency in Council's decision making process. 11. Approves immediate notification of its decision to, and appropriate consultation with: (a) clients and families; (b) staff, volunteers and union representatives; (c) media and other communications; and (d) the broader community. 12. Receives a further report no later than November 2022 to confirm the details of transition, including timing of transition, the process for appointment of new provider(s), safety-net provisions, transition arrangements for clients, transition support for staff, implications for Council assets and facilities and communications to the broader community.	1. Determined and decision communicated to Commonwealth Government via email 26 August 2022 2. Committed. Transition planning between management and Commonwealth Government in progress. 3. Noted. 4. Affirmed. 5. Committed. 6. In progress. Update report provided at November 2022 Scheduled Meeting. To be referred to the 2023/24 budget process for review and approval. 7. Noted. 8. Delegated authority granted. 9. Spokespeople appointed. 10. Approved. Non-confidential copy of report published on Council's website. 11. Approved - notifications sent and consultation completed. 12. Update report provided at November 2022 Scheduled Meeting. At time of report, Commonwealth had not yet provided confirmation of appointment of new providers. Councilors have since been notified of contracted providers. A further report will be provided at the conclusion of the transition process, to inform Council of the outcomes.	Manager Community Wellbeing	In progress	95%
Corporate	28-Sep-22	Scheduled	Riddells Creek CFA Fire Station That Council: 1. Acknowledges the draft proposal from the CFA to relocate the Riddells Creek fire station from its current location to the south-west corner of the Riddells Creek Recreation Reserve; 2. Endorses releasing the draft proposal for community consultation; and, 3. Receives a report at a future Scheduled Council meeting including the outcomes of the consultation and recommended next steps.	Completed. Report presented to April Council Meeting.	Director Corporate	Complete	100%

Planning and Environment	12-Oct-22	Planning Delegated Committee	Request Authorisation for a Planning Scheme Amendment C155MACR - 9-35 Mollison Street, Malmesbury - Rezone from Commercial 2 Zone to Neighbourhood Residential Zone That the Committee: 1. Seeks authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Planning Scheme Amendment C155macr to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme pursuant to section 9 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.; 2. Authorises Council officers to prepare amendment documents for authorisation and exhibition of Amendment C155macr, and, (a) Upon receipt of authorisation from the Minister for Planning, make any changes necessary to comply with conditions of authorisation, (b) Upon satisfaction of any conditions of authorisation, exhibit Amendment C155macr pursuant to section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.	A request to be authorised to prepare the amendment has been submitted to the Minister for Planning. A request for further information was received from the Department of Transport and Planning in response to the authorisation request. Officers have submitted the requested information and awaiting a decision of the Minister.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	33%
Planning and Environment	12-Oct-22	Planning Delegated Committee	Hearing from submitters - Application for a Section 96A Planning Scheme Amendment C154MACR and Planning Permit PLN/2022/198 - 1 Wills Street Malmesbury That the Committee: 1. Requests the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation of Planning Scheme Amendment C154macr and Planning Permit PLN/2022/198 to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme pursuant to section 9 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.; 2. Authorises Council officers to prepare amendment documents for authorisation and exhibition of Amendment C154macr and Planning Permit PLN/2022/198, and, (a) Upon receipt of authorisation, make any changes necessary to comply with conditions of authorisation, (b) Upon satisfaction of any conditions of authorisation, exhibit Amendment C154macr and Planning Permit PLN/2022/198 pursuant to section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987	A request to be authorised to prepare the amendment has been submitted to the Minister for Planning. A request for further information was received from the Department of Transport and Planning in response to the authorisation request. Officers have submitted the requested information and awaiting a decision of the Minister.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	33%
Assets and Operations	23-Nov-22	Scheduled	Report in response to petition requesting the sealing of Noonan Grove and Christian Street Woodend That Council: 1. Proceed with undertaking the next steps to prepare a detailed Special Charge Scheme for sealing of the unsealed section of Noonan Grove for future Council consideration; including further public consultation and direct contact with benefiting residents as outlined in the Special Charge Scheme for Infrastructure Works Policy (2018) and this report.; 2. Not proceed with the sealing of the unsealed section of Christian Street, Woodend; and, 3. Advise the first-named petitioner of this Council resolution.	Resolution 1: Further Special Charge Scheme survey complete. Report going to a Scheduled Council meeting in quarter one of the financial year 2023/2024. Resolution 3: On Hold - pending resolution 1	Director Assets and Operations	In progress	80%
Assets and Operations	23-Nov-22	Scheduled	Kettlewells - Emergency Response Site That Council, 1. Endorses, in principle, the continued use of 1 Joyces Road, Monegeetta, for emergency response purposes; and, 2. Commences the process to seek a Planning Permit amendment to allow the ongoing use of 1 Joyces Road Monegeetta for emergency response purposes..	1. Completed 2. Planning Permit Amendments submitted. Advertising commenced June 2023.	Director Assets and Operations	In progress	50%
Community	23-Nov-22	Scheduled	Small Projects Grants That Council approves the awarding of a \$1,500 Small Project Grant to: 1. Lancefield Cricket Club for their upright freezer and pie/food warmer project; 2. The Mount Players Inc. for their project 'The publishing of a book on 50 years of The Mount Players'; and, 3. The Kyneton District Business & Tourism Association Inc. for their Christmas Decorations project.	Approved. All funding has been distributed.	Coordinator Community Development	Complete	100%
Community	23-Nov-22	Scheduled	Community Service Planning That Council notes: 1. The progress undertaken in preparing to transition out of direct service delivery in all funded Commonwealth Home Support Programme services by 30 June 2023; and, 2. That a further report will be provided at the conclusion of the transition process, to inform Council of the outcomes.	1. Progress noted. 2. Report scheduled for August 2023.	Manager Community Wellbeing	In progress	95%
Planning and Environment	7-Dec-22	Planning Delegated Committee	Application for a rezoning and Section 96A planning scheme amendment C153macr and planning permit PLN/2022/359- 101-105 Willowbank Road, Gisborne That the Committee: 1. Seeks authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Planning Scheme Amendment C153macr to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme pursuant to section 9 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.; 2. Authorises Council officers to prepare amendment documents for authorisation and exhibition of Amendment C153macr and draft Planning Permit PLN/2022/359, (a) Upon receipt of authorisation from the Minister for Planning, make any changes necessary to comply with the conditions of authorisation; and, (b) Upon satisfaction of any conditions of authorisation, exhibit Amendment C153macr and Planning Permit PLN/2022/359 pursuant to section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.	Amendment C152macr was authorised by the Minister on 1 March 2023 subject to conditions. Officers are currently working through the conditions with the proponent and will proceed to public exhibition in the next quarter.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	66%
Community	14-Dec-22	Scheduled	Customer Service Charter review That Council: 1. Endorses the draft Customer Service Charter to be released for community consultation; and, 2. Notes that a final Customer Service Charter will be presented to Council for consideration at a scheduled meeting in April 2023.	1. Endorsed: Consultation completed 28 Feb 2023. 2. Noted. Final Charter adopted at April 2023 Scheduled Meeting.	Coordinator Customer Service	Complete	100%
Corporate	14-Dec-22	Scheduled	Council's Social and Affordable Housing: Update and Leasing *Confidential*	Completed. Report presented to April Council Meeting.	Director Corporate	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	22-Feb-23	Scheduled	Petition in Relation to a Bitumen Upgrade to Adamson Street, Malmesbury 1. Notes the petition from the residents of Adamson Street, Malmesbury requesting bitumen upgrade works in Adamson Street between Mollison and Drake Streets; 2. Notes that the petition has been circulated to all Councillors confidentially as it contains personal information; and, 3. Requests the Director Assets and Operations to prepare a report in response to this petition to be presented to Council by the April 2023 Council Meeting.	1. Completed 2. Completed 3. Report endorsed at the April 2023 Scheduled Council meeting.	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	22-Mar-23	Scheduled	Shire Wide Footpath Plan That Council endorses the release of the draft Shire Wide Footpath Plan for four weeks of community consultation.	Completed - The Shire Wide Footpath Plan was released for four weeks community consultation on 28 March 2023.	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%

Community	22-Mar-23	Scheduled	Small Projects Grant That Council approves the awarding of a \$1,500 Small Project Grant to Gisborne Soccer Club, for the installation of 3-phase power project at Dixon Field.	Approved. Distribution of funds in progress.	Director Community	In progress	95%
Planning and Environment	22-Feb-23	Scheduled	FEASIBILITY AND OPTIONS TO REMOVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN OVERLAY 24 - LANCEFIELD DEVELOPMENT PLAN AREAS. That Council seeks to remove Development Plan Overlay Schedule 24 from the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme through a Ministerial Amendment application.	Draft letter to the Minister has been prepared in consultation with Department of Transport and Planning and expected to be sent to the Minister for Planning early April 2023	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	50%
Planning and Environment	22-Mar-23	Scheduled	DRAFT COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW 2023 That Council endorse the draft Community Local Law 2023 to be released for community consultation	The Consultation for the draft community local law 2023 commenced on 28 March and closes on 30 April. Consultation methods include a website, survey, information sheets and attendance at markets and events across the Shire during this period. Community Consultation closed on 30 April 2023. Final draft is scheduled for the August 2023 Council Meeting	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%

Directorate	Date	Meeting type	Report link	Comment (Council resolution update)	Actioning officer	Status description	% completed
Planning and Environment	12-Apr-23	Planning Delegated Committee	HEARING OF SUBMITTERS - PLN/2022/421 - SIXTY FIVE (65) LOT SUBDIVISION, NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL, AND REMOVAL OF EASEMENTS E-1 AND E-4 - 85 HARPERS LANE, KYNETON That the Committee: 1. Notes the submissions received in relation to Application for Planning Permit PLN/2022/421 for Sixty Five (65) Lot Subdivision, Native Vegetation Removal, and Removal of Easements E-1 and E-4; and 2. Requests that recommendations be prepared, based on all relevant information, including the submissions received, for consideration and determination at the next Planning Delegated Committee Meeting on 10 May 2023.	No further action required	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	12-Apr-23	Planning Delegated Committee	Request Authorisation for a combined planning scheme amendment (C147macr) and planning permit application PLN/2022/354 - Benetas Retirement Village, corner of Neal, Robertson and Hamilton Streets Gisborne That the Committee: 1. Defers the item until the Planning Delegated Committee meeting scheduled for 10 May 2023.	No further action required	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	12-Apr-23	Planning Delegated Committee	Request Authorisation for a Planning Scheme Amendment C148macr - Amess Road Precinct Structure Plan That the Committee: 1. Notes the submission received containing 1231 signatures; 2. Resolves not to support requesting the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation of Planning Scheme Amendment C148macr that seeks to implement the Amess Road Precinct Structure Plan into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.	EDM sent advising council resolved not to progress with authorisation. No further action required	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	12-Apr-23	Planning Delegated Committee	FOR DECISION - MISCELLANEOUS CONSENT MCA/2022/29 - DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFLUENT DISPOSAL AND MINOR WORKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DWELLING OUTSIDE THE BUILDING AND DRIVEWAY ENVELOPES - 12 CORNISH ROAD, RIDDELLES CREEK That Committee issues Miscellaneous Consent for the development of an effluent disposal works and some minor works in association with the dwelling outside the building and driveway envelopes for the land at LOT 2 PS 830906U P/Kerrie 12 Cornish Road RIDDELLES CREEK VIC 3431.	MCA was issued on 21 April 2023.	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	MAYOR'S REPORT - MARCH 2023 TO APRIL 2023 That Council receives and notes the Mayor's report.	No further action required	Governance Team	Complete	100%
Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	RECORD OF MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS AND COUNCIL STAFF - MARCH 2023 TO APRIL 2023 That Council receives and notes the record of meetings of Councillors and Council staff, as outlined in this report.	No further action required	Governance Team	Complete	100%
Community	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Draft Affordable Housing Policy That Council: 1. Endorses the draft Affordable Housing Policy to be released for community consultation; and, 2. Notes that a final Affordable Housing Policy will be presented to Council for consideration at the scheduled meeting in June 2023	1. Endorsed. Consultation held from 27 April to 25 May 2023 2. Noted. Final Policy adopted at June 2023 Scheduled Meeting.	Director Community	Complete	100%
Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Notice of Intention to lease: 3-5 Noel Street Lancefield That Council, 1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a lease with Wintringham Housing Limited for the property 3 – 5 Noel Street, Lancefield on the following key terms:; (a) The lease term is proposed to be for twenty years; (b) The rental is proposed to be \$1.00 per annum (if requested) for the whole of the lease; (c) All improvements will be owned by Wintringham and Wintringham will be responsible for their maintenance and repair.; (d) Wintringham will be responsible for all outgoing and services. 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign any associated documentation in relation to the proposed lease.; 3. Endorses the officer responses to submissions as contained in this report.; 4. Responds to all submitters in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy	Resolution in progress. Officers are currently completing a final review of the lease before signing.	Director Corporate	In progress	50%
Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation That Council: 1. Resolves that in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987; (a) Council Officer named in the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation provided at Attachment 1 be appointed and authorised; (b) the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation come into force upon signing and remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke these; and, (c) the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation at Attachment 1 be signed.	Instrument signed - no further action required	Director Corporate	Complete	100%

Assets and Operations	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Capital Works Monitoring That Council, 1. Adopts the following changes to the FY22/23 budget relating to the following infrastructure projects: (a) Project 100324 – Gisborne Bowling Club Synthetic Rink – increase the budget for this project by \$81,362.60, (b) Project 100579 – Building Renewal – Woodend Playgroup – increase the budget for this project by \$5,950, (c) Project 100275 – Gardiner Reserve Carpark and Landscaping – increase the budget for this project by \$2,907, (d) Project 100100 – Woodend Neighbourhood House – The project has been completed. Return the saving of \$5,950 to the consolidated capital works budget, (e) Project 100576 – Building Renewal – Riddells Creek Montessori Kindergarten – The project has been completed. Return the saving of \$9,028 to the consolidated capital works budget, (f) Project 100970 – Macedon – MP Theatre Roof Design – The project has been completed. Return the saving of \$7,324 to the consolidated capital works budget, (g) Project 100136 – Woodend Bowling Club Social Room Design – The project has been completed. Return the saving of \$11,270 to the consolidated capital works budget, (h) Project – Mulbarton Rockwall, Gisborne – fund the design works providing a budget of \$30,000, (i) Project – Gisborne Aquatic Centre Electric Boiler – fund the design works providing a budget of \$80,000, (j) Project – Kyneton Sports and Aquatic Centre Gas Boilers – fund the installation works providing a budget of \$138,000, (k) 100713 – Drainage Fersfield Road, Gisborne – Cancel this project and returning \$18,417 back to the Developer Contribution Fund, (l) Project - Kyneton Sports and Aquatic Centre Electric Boiler Design – Cancel this project returning \$80,000 to the consolidated capital works budget, 2. Notes the current reported Capital Works Program deficit of \$344,870.60.	1. Completed 2. Completed	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct ***Confidential Resolution***	Completed	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Consideration of a request for inclusion of road onto the public road register - Pattinsons Lane, Goldie That Council, 1. Resolves at this time, not to include the fire access track section of Pattinsons Lane, Goldie, in the Register of Public Roads and advise the requestor of this decision; and, 2. Engages with the residents to determine their appetite to upgrade the fire access track section of Pattinsons Lane to a Category 6 road for inclusion into Council's Road Register at their cost. Should this be acceptable to the residents Council will be responsible for ongoing maintenance of the road.	1. Completed. 2. Awaiting feedback from three residents with regards to their appetite to pay for the upgrade of the fire access track section.	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Response to Petition in relation to a bitumen upgrade to Adamson Street, Malmesbury 1. Does not proceed with the sealing of Adamson Street Malmesbury; and, 2. Advises the first-named petitioner of this Council resolution.	1. Completed 2. Completed	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Contracts Awarded as at April 2023 That Council, 1. Grants delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to award the following contracts: (a) C2023-20 Supply Panel Bushland Services, (b) C2023-36 Supply Panel Sportsground and Open Space Maintenance, 2. Notes that the following contracts will be awarded by Council officers under delegated authority: (a) C2023-33 Footbridge Replacement Main Road Riddells Creek, (b) C2023-34 Kyneton Saleyard Modifications, (c) C2023-35 Major Bridge and Culvert Maintenance.	Contracts awarded as per resolution	Director Corporate	Complete	100%
Community	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Customer Service Centre review That Council endorses the Customer Service Centre Review to be released for community consultation.	Endorsed. Consultation held from 27 April to 24 May 2023 inclusive.	Director Community	Complete	100%
Community	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Customer Service Charter That Council adopts the Customer Service Charter and revokes all previous versions of the Customer Service Charter effective from 27 April 2023.	Adopted and revoked.	Director Community	Complete	100%
Community	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Small Project Grants - April 2023 That Council approves the awarding of a \$1,500 Small Project Grant to U3A Kyneton, for their Walking Football project.	Approved. Funding has been distributed.	Director Community	Complete	100%
Community	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	2023-24 Community Funding Scheme Guidelines and Community Grants Policy That Council, 1. Adopts the 2023-24 Community Funding Scheme Guidelines; 2. Adopts the Draft Community Grants Policy; and, 3. Adopts the Terms of Reference for Grants Assessment Panels.	1. Adopted 2. Adopted 3. Adopted All documents now in active use.	Director Community	Complete	100%
Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Draft Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three Actions 2023-2024) That Council, 1. Endorses the draft Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three Actions 2023-2024) to be made available for public comment from 27 April until 19 May 2023; 2. Undertakes community engagement and consultation in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and Council's Community Engagement Policy; 3. Schedules a Submitters Delegated Committee meeting to be held online at 7pm on Wednesday 31 May 2023, to provide an opportunity for any person who wishes to make a verbal presentation in support of their submission on the draft Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three Actions 2023-2024) to be heard; and, 4. Notes that a report and recommendations will be presented to the Scheduled Council Meeting on Wednesday 28 June 2023, to enable Council to consider submissions and adopt the Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three Actions 2023-2024).	Resolution completed. Community Consultation process undertaken and a report was presented at the June Council Meeting for consideration.	Director Corporate	Completed	100%

Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Draft Budget 2023/24 That Council, 1. Endorses the draft Budget 2023/24, prepared in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020, to be made available for public comment from 27 April until 19 May 2023; 2. Notes the fees, charges, borrowing and capital works discussed as part of this report and as outlined in the draft Budget 2023/24; 3. Notes the rates and charges discussed as part of this report and as outlined in Appendix 1; 4. Undertakes community engagement and consultation on the draft Budget 2023/24 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and Council's Community Engagement Policy; 5. Schedules a Submitters Delegated Committee meeting to be held online at 7pm on Wednesday 31 May 2023, to provide an opportunity for verbal presentations to be heard in support of submissions on the draft Budget 2023/24; and 6. Notes that a report and recommendations will be presented to the Scheduled Council Meeting on Wednesday 28 June, to enable Council to consider submissions and adopt the Budget 2023/24.	Resolution completed. Community Consultation process undertaken, with a Submitters Delegated Committee held on 31 May 2023. A report was presented at the June Council Meeting for consideration.	Director Corporate	Completed	100%
Corporate	26-Apr-23	Scheduled	Riddells Creek CFA Fire Station That Council, 1. Notes the results of the community consultation, including submissions received, regarding the CFA's proposal to relocate the Riddells Creek fire station to the Riddells Creek Recreation Reserve; and 2. Writes to the CFA requesting they continue to work with Council, the State Government, and the Riddells Creek community to find a suitable solution to relocating the Riddells Creek Fire Station.	Resolution completed. Officers have advised the CFA of the outcome of Council's decision.	Director Corporate	Completed	100%
Planning and Environment	10-May-23	Planning Delegated Committee	HEARING OF SUBMITTERS IN RESPECT OF APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT PLN/2022/461 - Use and development of the land for a Dwelling, Development of a Studio and Two (2) Agricultural Buildings and Use of the Land for Horse Husbandry (Two (2) Horses) - Lot 1, Gradys Lane, Kerrie That the Committee 1. Notes the submissions received in relation to PLN/2022/461 - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling, Development of a Studio and Two (2) Agricultural Buildings and Use of the Land for Horse Husbandry (Two (2) Horses); and 2. Requests that recommendations be prepared, based on all relevant information, including the submissions received, for consideration and determination at the next Planning Delegated Committee Meeting on 14 June 2023.	The matter went to June PDC for decision.	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	10-May-23	Planning Delegated Committee	Hearing of submitters in respect of application for a planning permit PLN/2022/376 - development of the land for two (2) dwellings - 1 Thom Street NEW GISBORNE That the Committee 1. Notes the submissions received in relation to PLN/2022/376 - Development of the Land for Two (2) Dwellings; and 2. Requests that recommendations be prepared, based on all relevant information, including the submissions received, for consideration and determination at the next Planning Delegated Committee Meeting on 14 June 2023.	The matter went to June PDC for decision.	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	10-May-23	Planning Delegated Committee	Request Authorisation for a combined planning scheme amendment (C147macr) and planning permit application PLN/2022/354 - Benetas Retirement Village That the Committee: 1. Requests the Minister for Planning authorise preparation of Planning Scheme Amendment C147macr and Planning Permit PLN/2022/354 to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme pursuant to Section 9 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. 2. Authorises Council officers to prepare Amendment documents for authorisation and exhibition of Amendment C147macr and Planning Permit PLN/2022/354, and (a) Upon receipt of authorisation from the Minister for Planning, make any changes necessary to comply with conditions of authorisation (b) Upon satisfaction of any conditions of authorisation, exhibit Amendment C147macr pursuant to section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.	Request for authorisation has been lodged. A request for more information was received on 2 June 2023.	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	10-May-23	Planning Delegated Committee	PLN/2022/421 - 85 HARPERS LANE, KYNETON - SIXTY FIVE (65) LOT SUBDIVISION, REMOVAL OF NATIVE VEGETATION, AND REMOVAL OF EASEMENTS E-1 AND E-4 That the Committee determine to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit for the proposed Sixty Five (65) Lot Staged Subdivision, Removal of Native Vegetation, and Removal of Easements E-1 and E-4 at Lot 2 PS827043, 85 Harpers Lane Kyneton, subject to the following conditions: 1. Before the plan of subdivision is certified for Stage 1 under the Subdivision Act 1988, and the commencement of works for the approved subdivision, amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of this permit. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application, but modified to show: See minutes for full resolution	This matter has been dealt with. Permit has been signed off.	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	24-May-23	Scheduled	Capital Works Carry Forwards That Council approves the carry forward of 47 Capital projects as listed in Attachment 1 for delivery in the Financial Year 2023-2024.	1. Noted and completed.	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	24-May-23	Scheduled	Single-use Plastics Policy (2023) That Council adopts the Single-Use Plastics Policy (2023) as attached.	1. Noted and completed	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	24-May-23	Scheduled	Draft Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan That Council endorses the release of the draft Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan for four weeks of community consultation.	Completed. The Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan was released for four weeks community consultation in late May 2023.	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%

Assets and Operations	24-May-23	Scheduled	Repurpose It - Procurement ***Confidential Resolution***	1. Completed. 2. Completed. 3. Completed.	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	24-May-23	Scheduled	Kettlewells Processing Site - Weighbridge ***Confidential Resolution***	1. Noted 2. Noted	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Corporate	24-May-23	Scheduled	Timing of the Planning Delegated Committee Meeting 14 June 2023 That Council resolves to reschedule the Planning Delegated Committee Meeting on 14 June 2023 from 7pm to 6pm.	Completed	Director Corporate	Complete	100%
Corporate	24-May-23	Scheduled	Mayor's Report - April 2023 to May 2023 That Council receives and notes the Mayor's report.	No further action required	Governance Team	Complete	100%
Corporate	24-May-23	Scheduled	Record of Meetings of Councillors and Council Staff - April 2023 to May 2023 That Council receives and notes the record of meetings of Councillors and Council staff as outlined in this report with the following amendments: 1. Maria Weiss (Director Community), Adele Drago-Stevens (Director Corporate) and Isobel Maginn (Senior Strategic Planner) as apologies for the 2 May 2023 meeting; and 2. Jack Wiltshire (Strategic Planner) as an attendee for the 2 May 2023 meeting.	No further action required	Governance Team	Complete	100%
Community	24-May-23	Scheduled	Small Project Grants That Council; 1. Approves the awarding of a \$1,500 Small Project Grant to Woodend Bee Friendly Society, for their Honeybee Swarm Monitoring project; and, 2. Approves the awarding of an \$865.50 Small Project Grant to Woodend Landcare Inc. for their Safety Clothing project.	1. Approved. Distribution of funds in progress. 2. Approved. Funding has been distributed.	Director Community	In progress	95%
Planning and Environment	24-May-23	Scheduled	Letter of Support - 20 Bowen Street Woodend That Council writes to the Minister for Planning offering support for the Minister to prepare, adopt and approve a planning scheme amendment to change the Restructure Overlay applying to 20 Bowen Street, Woodend to enable the development of the site while protecting the heritage and biodiversity values of the site.	Letter sent 20 June 2023 - see D23-94032	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Community	24-May-23	Scheduled	Parliamentary inquiry into Victoria's major flood event of October 2022 That Council notes officers will make a submission, as summarised below, to the parliamentary inquiry into the October 2022 flood event by 5 June 2023.	Noted. Submission completed.	Director Community	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	24-May-23	Scheduled	Capital Works Monitoring 1. Adopts the following changes to the Financial Year 2022/23 budget relating to the following infrastructure projects: (Refer to minutes for items (a) to (dd), and 2. Notes that recommendation 1 (above) currently provides a deficit of \$174,339.89 to the financial year 2022-2023 Capital Works budget. Officers will continue to manage the overall infrastructure project program within the initial overall infrastructure project program 2022-2023 budget.	1. Completed 2. Completed	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Corporate	24-May-23	Scheduled	Quarterly Report for period ending 31 March 2023 That Council notes the Quarterly Report for the period ending 31 March 2023.	Resolution completed. Report made available to the public by Council's website.	Director Corporate	Complete	100%
Community	24-May-23	Scheduled	Library Service and Funding Agreement That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation Service and Funding Agreement 2023 to 2025, (Attachment 2) for 12 months, with the option to extend for an additional 12 months, noting that this agreement carries over the existing conditions of the Service and Funding Agreement currently in place.	Authorised. Officers working with Library Corporation to arrange signing of agreement.	Director Community	In progress	90%
Planning and Environment	14-Jun-23	Planning Delegated Committee	PLN/2022/461 - Lot 1 Gradys Lane That the Committee support the Planning Permit Application PLN/2022/461 and a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit be issued for the use and development of the land for a dwelling, development of two (2) outbuildings (studio and storage shed), two (2) rainwater tanks (125,000 litres each), one (1) agricultural building and use of the land for horse husbandry (two (2) horses) at LOT 1, TP681509, P/Kerrie Gradys Lane, Kerrie subject to the conditions outlined in Attachment 1.	Notice of Decision issued on 27 June 2023	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	14-Jun-23	Planning Delegated Committee	PLN/2022/376 - 1 THOM STREET That the Committee support the Planning Permit Application PLN/2022/376 and a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit be issued for the development of two (2) dwellings at Lot 34, LP58762 1 Thom Street, New Gisborne subject to the conditions outlined in Attachment 1.	Notice of Decision issued on 27 June 2023.	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%

Planning and Environment	14-Jun-23	Planning Delegated Committee	HEARING OF SUBMITTERS IN RESPECT OF APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT PLN/2022/384 - DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAND FOR TEN (10) DWELLINGS - 3 SOMERVILLE LANE, RIDDELLS CREEK That the Committee: 1. Notes the submissions received in relation to PLN/2022/384 – Development of the Land for Ten (10) Dwellings; and 2. Requests that recommendations be prepared, based on all relevant information, including the submissions received, for consideration and determination at the next Planning Delegated Committee Meeting on 12 July 2023.	The matter is going to July PDC for decision.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	75%
Planning and Environment	14-Jun-23	Planning Delegated Committee	HEARING OF SUBMITTERS IN RESPECT OF AN APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMIT PLN/2022/388 - REMOVAL OF VEGETATION 409 CAMERON DRIVE, MOUNT MACEDON That the Committee: 1. Notes the submissions received in relation to Application for Planning Permit PLN/2022/388 – Vegetation Removal; and 2. Requests that recommendations be prepared, based on all relevant information, including the submissions received, for consideration and determination at the next Planning Delegated Committee Meeting on 12 July 2023.	The matter is going to July PDC for decision.	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	75%
Community	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Draft Disability Action Plan That Council endorses the draft Disability Action Plan 2023-2024 to be placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of four weeks.	Endorsed. Consultation to take place from 10 July to 6 Aug 2023 inclusive.	Director Community	In progress	90%
Community	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Affordable Housing Policy That Council:, 1. Adopts the Affordable Housing Policy and notes its supplementary background papers; Overview of affordable housing; Affordable Housing Policy and Legislation; and Macedon Ranges – Affordable Housing Profile; and, 2. Revokes the Affordable Housing Interim Policy, adopted in December 2021 effective from 29 June 2023.	1. Adopted 2. Revoked	Director Community	Complete	100%
Corporate	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Contracts to be Awarded as at June 2023 That Council:, 1. Notes that the following contracts will be awarded by Council officers under delegated authority:, (a)C2023-38 Street Sweeping Waste Processing, 2. Grants delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to award the following contracts:, (a)C2023-37 Supply Panel Aquatic Services,	Contracts awarded as per resolution	Director Corporate	Complete	100%
Corporate	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report - June 2023 That Council notes the Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report - June 2023 and thanks the committee for the report.	Resolution noted	Director Corporate	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Riddells Creek Movement Network Study (Stage 2A) - Update That Council notes this report on the outcome of Stage 2A of the Riddells Creek Movement Network Study and the next steps for Stage 2B in the next financial year 2023/2024.	1. Noted	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Planning and Environment	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Notice of Motion - Update on Barrm Birm That Council request staff to prepare a report to be presented to Council at the September 2023 Scheduled Meeting of Council providing the following:, 1. A progress update on actions supported by Council at the 26 October 2022 Scheduled Council Meeting to address the ongoing land management challenges with Barrm Birm in Riddells Creek; and, 2. Options for next steps, including a Public Acquisition Overlay and officer recommendations.	Report underway	Director Planning and Environment	In progress	50%
Planning and Environment	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Notice of Motion - Review of the Kangaroo Harvest Management Plan That Council:, 1. Writes to the State Government requesting a briefing on the current review of the Kangaroo Harvest Management Plan (KHMP), including any submissions that have come from the Macedon Ranges Shire Community and be provided an opportunity to provide feedback once this briefing has occurred;, 2. Request the State Government to publicly respond to the submissions from community members of Macedon Ranges Shire, or in relation to the inclusion of the Macedon Ranges in the KHMP quotas, about this program and to specifically address their concerns, particularly around the evidence behind harvest quotas and the need to expand the use of kangaroo products for commercial interests;, 3. Encourages residents to provide feedback to the current KHMP review via the Victorian Government website, open until 11 July 2023, and provide Council with a copy of their feedback; and, 4. Provides a copy of this resolution to Rural Councils Victoria, Municipal Association Victoria and local member for Macedon, Mary Anne-Thomas	Underway - Residents were encouraged to provide feedback through a social media post on 6 July 2023	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Assets and Operations	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Shire wide Footpath Plan Review That Council:, 1. Adopts the revised Shire Wide Footpath Plan (2018 to 2027), and, 2. Delegates to the Director Asset and Operations the authority to add additional paths to the Shire Wide Footpath Plan (2018 to 2027) as required from time to time, utilising the Plan's prioritisation process.	1. Noted and completed. 2. Noted.	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%

Assets and Operations	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Capital Works Monitoring That Council: 1. Adopts the following changes to the financial year 2022/23 budget relating to the following projects: (a) to (bb) - refer to minutes for list, and 2. Notes that recommendation 1 above provides a surplus of \$218,395.69 to the financial year 2022-23 capital works program budget. 3. Notes the potential surplus of \$256,708.23 from eight (8) projects due for completion by 30 June 2023.	1. Noted and Completed 2. Noted 3. Noted	Director Assets and Operations	Complete	100%
Corporate	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Budget 2023/24 That Council: 1. Adopts the draft Budget 2023/24, prepared in accordance with section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020, with the following amendments: see minuted for full resolutions	Resolution in progress	Director Corporate	In progress	25%
Community	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Customer Service Centre review That Council: 1. Notes community feedback received on the proposal to close the Woodend Customer Service Centre, as summarised within this report; and, 2. Approves a reduction in operating hours at the Woodend Customer Service Centre. With this change, the centre will operate from 12pm to 5pm two days per week, effective from 1 August 2023.	1. Noted. 2. Approved - change to be implemented from 1 Aug 2023.	Director Community	In progress	90%
Community	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Small Project Grants That Council: 1. Approves the awarding of a \$1,045 Small Project Grant to Kyneton District Soccer Club, for their Soccer BBQ and Livestream of Women's World Cup project, to be funded in the 2023/24 financial year; 2. Carries forward \$1,045 from the Small Projects Grants 2022/23 budget to the Small Projects Grants 2023/24 budget, to fund the Kyneton District Soccer Club's Women's World Cup project, as per item 1; and, 3. Carries forward \$32,400 (includes \$9,002 unspent from the Small Projects Grants 2022/23 budget and \$23,398 returned monies from Community Funding Scheme funded projects not completed) to the Community Funding Scheme 2023/24 budget, to increase the funding pool for this grants program, noting this increase is for the 2023/24 financial year only.	1. Approved. distribution of funds in progress. 2. Approved. Carry forward will be referred to budget updates in Aug/Sep. 3. Approved. Carry forward will be referred to budget updates in Aug/Sep.	Director Community	In progress	80%
Community	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Small Project Grants Review That Council adopts the Small Project Grants 2023/24 Guidelines.	Adopted, guidelines in active use.	Director Community	Complete	100%
Corporate	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Record of Meetings of Councillors and Council Staff - May-June 2023 That Council receives and notes the record of meetings of Councillors and Council staff, as outlined in this report.	No further action required	Governance Team	Complete	100%
Chief Executive	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Recognition of King's Birthday Honour Recipients That Council sends letters to Alexander Forrest OAM, Leslie Binns OAM and John Ellis OAM in recognition of their 2023 King's Birthday Honours Award.	Letters sent	Chief Executive Officer	Complete	100%
Corporate	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three Actions 2023-24) That Council: 1. Adopts the Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three Actions 2023-24), prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, and gives public notice of its decision to replace the previous Council Plan 2021-31 (Year Two Actions 2022-23) effective from 29 June 2023; 2. Endorses the officer responses to submissions as contained in this report; and, 3. Responds to the submitter in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy.	Resolution in progress	Director Corporate	In progress	25%
Planning and Environment	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Submission to the Draft Victoria's Mineral Springs Master Plan 2023-2032 That Council: 1. Notes the Draft Victoria's Mineral Springs Master Plan 2023 - 2032; and, 2. Requests the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mineral Springs Master Plan submission be lodged with The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action.	Email advising DEECA of the resolution with our submission	Director Planning and Environment	Complete	100%
Corporate	28-Jun-23	Scheduled	Mayor's Report - May-June 2023 That Council receives and notes the Mayor's report	No further action required	Governance Team	Complete	100%

SECTION 7

Governance Schedule – Statutory Compliance Obligations

There are numerous statutory obligations imposed upon Councils, Councillors and staff under the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government Act 2020 (the 'Act') with varying frequency of actions and reporting requirements.

To ensure that Council fulfils its obligations under the Act, a 'Governance Schedule' has been developed as an internal monitoring and reporting tool. The schedule acts as a reminder of key dates throughout the year of actions to be completed. The schedule will also assist in a 'whole of organisation' approach to achieving and maintaining good governance and in supporting responsible officers in completing the obligations.

MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL - STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Statutory Obligations are imposed upon Council, Councillors and Council Officers under the Local Government Act 1989. On 24 March 2020, the Local Government Act 2020 received Royal Assent.

NO.	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBLIGATION	LGA 1989	LGA 2020	REQUIREMENTS	TIMELINE	STATUS / LAST COMPLETION DATE	NEXT DUE BY
1	Coordinator Governance	Reimbursement of expenses of Councillors and members of a delegated committee		40(1)	A Council must reimburse a Councillor or a member of a delegated committee for out-of-pocket expenses Council must provide details of reimbursements to the Audit and Risk Committee	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
2	Director Community	Adopt complaints policy		107	Council to adopt complaints policy	By 31 December 2021	15-Dec-21	30-Apr-25
3	Coordinator Governance	Lodging of an initial personal interests return		133	Specified person must lodge an initial personal interests return with the CEO.	Within 30 days of taking oath/affirmation or of appointment	As required when nominated officers begin employment with Council	Ongoing as required
4	Coordinator Governance	Lodging of biannual personal interests return		134	Specified person who continues to be a specified person must lodge biannual personal interests return with CEO twice yearly.	Twice yearly in March and September	31-Mar-23	30-Sep-23
5	Coordinator Governance	Publish summary of personal interest on Council's internet		135	CEO to publish summary of personal interests on Council's internet website.	Twice yearly in April and October	30-Apr-23	30-Nov-23
6	Chief Executive Officer	Elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor		26 & 27	Council must elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Annually unless Council resolves otherwise	22-Nov-22	22-Nov-23
7	Director Corporate	Code of Conduct	95AA		The CEO must maintain a Code of Conduct for Council Staff	Executive review every three years	19-Aug-22	31-Aug-24
8	Director Corporate	Develop and implement Code of conduct for members or Council staff	95AA	49	A CEO must develop and implement a code of conduct for members of Council staff.	By 1 January 2022	31-Mar-22	31-Aug-24
9	Coordinator Governance	Keep delegations register		11(8)	The Council must keep a register of its delegations	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
10	Coordinator Governance	Conduct delegations review		11(7)	Council must review all delegations in force within 12 months after a general election	Review within 12 months after a general election	28 July 2021, 27 October 2021 CEO Delegation updated 28 September 2022	As required
11	Coordinator Governance	Keep register of delegations		47	The CEO must keep a register of delegations	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing

NO.	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBLIGATION	LGA 1989	LGA 2020	REQUIREMENTS	TIMELINE	STATUS / LAST COMPLETION DATE	NEXT DUE BY
12	Coordinator Governance	Right to make Submission	223		Where a person is given a right to make a submission Council must publish a public notice specifying the matter, prescribed details, submission date and the right to be heard in person	Council should provide not less than 28 days for submissions to be received	As required	As required
13	Manager Finance and Reporting	Adopt Council Plan		90	Council must adopt the Council Plan	By 31 October 2021	28-Jun-23	30-Jun-24
14	Manager Finance and Reporting	Adopt Financial Plan		91	Council must adopt the Financial Plan	By 31 October 2021	27-Oct-21	30-Jun-24
15	Manager Finance and Reporting	Adopt budget		94	Council must adopt its budget	By 30 June each year	28-Jun-23	30-Jun-24
16	Manager Finance and Reporting	Adopt revised Budget (where necessary)		95	Council must prepare a revised budget if circumstances arise which cause a material change in the budget which affect the financial operations of Council	As soon as practicable after the Council becomes aware of a change in the budget	As required	As required
17	Director Corporate	Adopt CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy		45	Council must adopt CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy	By 31 December 2021	15-Dec-21	31-Oct-25
18	Director Corporate	CEO responsibilities		46, 48 & 49	CEO must adopt Workforce plan and Recruitment Policy	By 31 December 2021	31-Mar-21	31-Dec-24
19	Manager Finance and Reporting	Adopt Community Vision		88	Council must adopt the Community Vision	By 31 October 2021	27-Oct-21	31-Oct-25
20	Manager Communications and Engagement	Preparation and adoption of Annual Report		98, 99 & 100	Council must prepare and adopt the Annual Report (including the performance and financial statements)	In the year of a general election, on a day not later than the day before election day; in any other year, within 4 months of the end of the financial year	31-Oct-22	31-Oct-23
21	Manager Finance and Reporting	Performance Statement		99	Council must submit the performance statement and financial statements to the auditor	As soon as is reasonably practicable after each financial year	31-Oct-22	31-Oct-23
22	Manager Finance and Reporting	Performance Statement		99	Council must submit the statement to its auditor for reporting on the audit	After passing a resolution giving approval to the performance statement and financial statements	31-Oct-22	31-Oct-23
23	Manager Finance and Reporting	Performance Statement		99	The auditor must prepare a report on the performance statement	Once every financial year	31-Oct-22	31-Oct-23
24	Manager Finance and Reporting	Performance Statement		99	Council must ensure that the performance statement and financial statements, in their final form, after any changes have been made, are certified by two Councillors authorised by the Council	After changes recommended or agreed by the auditor have been made	31-Oct-22	31-Oct-23
25	Manager Finance and Reporting	Performance Statement		99	The auditor must provide the Council and the Minister with a copy of the report on the performance statement	As soon as is reasonably practicable (the auditor is required to report on the financial statements to the Council within 4 weeks and give a copy of the report to the Minister)	31-Oct-22	31-Oct-23

NO.	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBLIGATION	LGA 1989	LGA 2020	REQUIREMENTS	TIMELINE	STATUS / LAST COMPLETION DATE	NEXT DUE BY
26	Manager Communications and Engagement	Annual Report		100	Council must consider the Annual Report at a meeting of the Council as soon as practicable but within the time required by the regulations	Under the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 Council must hold a meeting to consider the Annual Report: s.22 (1) Within one month after submitting the Annual Report to the Minister. s.22 (2) In the year of a general election no later than the day before the election	31-Oct-22	31-Oct-23
27	Manager Finance and Reporting	Meet to consider annual report		100	The Mayor must report on the implementation of the Council Plan by presenting the annual report at a Council meeting.	In the year of a general election on a day not later than the day before an election day; and in any other year, within 4 months of the end of the financial year	31-Oct-22	30-Sep-23
28	Manager Finance and Reporting	CEO to present Quarterly Statements		97	CEO must ensure that a statement comparing budgeted and actual revenue and expenditure is presented at an open Council meeting	At least every 3 months	March quarter was presented to Council on 24/05/2023	June quarter will be presented to Council on 23/08/2023
29	Manager Finance and Reporting	CEO to present quarterly budget report		97	CEO to ensure that quarterly budget report is presented to the Council at a Council meeting open to the public	As soon as reasonably practicable at the end of each quarter of the financial year	March quarter was presented to Council on 24/05/2023	June quarter will be presented to Council on 23/08/2024
30	Manager Finance and Reporting	Land Valuation	157(2)		Council must publish public notice of a decision to change its system of valuation	Promptly	N/A	As required
31	Manager Finance and Reporting	Rates & Charges	158(1)		Council must declare the amount it intends to raise by general rates, municipal charges, service rates and charges	At least once every financial year declare by 30 June	28-Jun-23	30-Jun-24
32	Manager Finance and Reporting	Rates & Charges	Part 8A		Under Section 10E(1)(a) of the Essential Services Commission Act 2001, the Essential Services Commission (ESC) has a responsibility to monitor and review Councils compliance with the caps set under Part 8A of the Local Government Act 1989	Annually	30-Sep-22	30-Sep-23
33	Manager Finance and Reporting	Adopt Revenue and Rating Plan		93	Council must adopt the Revenue and Rating plan	By 30 June after a general election for a period of the next 4 financial years	29-Jun-21	30-Jun-25
34	Director Assets and Operations	Adopt Asset Plan		92	Council to adopt Asset Plan	By 30 June 2022, and then by 31 October in the year following a general election	22-Jun-22	31-Oct-25
35	Coordinator Contracts	Prepare and adopt Procurement Policy		108	Council must prepare and adopt a Procurement Policy	By 1 January 2022 - Council must then review the Policy at least once every 4 year term of the Council	24-Nov-21	31-Dec-25

NO.	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBLIGATION	LGA 1989	LGA 2020	REQUIREMENTS	TIMELINE	STATUS / LAST COMPLETION DATE	NEXT DUE BY
36	Manager Finance and Reporting	Publish notice of intention to sell land		114	Before selling or exchanging land Council must publish notice of its intention at least 4 week prior to the sale via Council's internet website and undertake the community engagement process	Ongoing from 1 July 2021	As required	As required
37	Manager Finance and Reporting	Include any proposal to lease land in the financial year budget		115	Council must include any proposal to lease land in a financial year in the budget where the lease is for one year or more and for a value of \$100,000 or more per year and the current market rental value is \$100,000 or more per year; and for 10 years or more	Ongoing from 1 July 2021	As required	As required
38	Coordinator Governance	Register of Authorised Officers	224(1A)		Maintain a register that shows all people appointed as authorised officers	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
39	Coordinator Governance	Authorised Officers	224(2)		Council must issue an identity card to each authorised officer	Ongoing	As required	As required

Note

1. Next general election is assumed to be held on 26 October 2024.
2. Dates reflect the statutory timeframe for completion of the outcome.

SECTION 8

Councillor Expenditure

The Councils' Councillor Support Policy defines the level of resources that shall be provided to Councillors to assist in the performance of their roles.

In the interest of transparency and accountability the policy requires that the collective Councillor expenses incurred via reimbursement or paid directly by Council be reported on a quarterly basis in relation to:

- travel and accommodation*
- car mileage*
- family care*
- information, communication and technology*
- conference and training (individual and collective)*

Quarter 4 2022-23 Councillor Expenditure excluding allowances and Mayoral vehicle

4th quarter	Travel /accom	Car mileage	Family care	I&CT	Events & Conferences (Representative)	Training & Development (Individual)	Training & Development (Collective)
Cr Jennifer Anderson	\$0	\$2,579	\$0	\$131	\$0	\$758	
Cr Janet Pearce	\$0	\$1,489	\$0	\$131	\$16	\$205	
Cr Mark Ridgeway	\$0	\$2,705	\$0	\$103	\$0	\$0	
Cr Annette Death	\$0	\$0	\$302	\$143	\$591	\$0	
Cr Geoff Neil	\$0	\$2,347	\$0	\$64	\$0	\$0	
Cr Bill West	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$131	\$0	\$0	
Cr Dominic Bonanno	\$0	\$469	\$0	\$59	\$0	\$0	
Cr Rob Guthrie	\$0	\$1,268	\$0	\$92	\$0	\$0	
Cr Anne Moore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$84	\$0	\$0	
	\$0	\$10,857	\$302	\$938	\$607	\$963	\$0

2022-23 Year to Date Councillor Expenditure excluding allowances and Mayoral vehicle

2022/23 YTD	Travel /accom	Car mileage	Family care	I&CT	Events & Conferences (Representative)	Training & Development (Individual)	Training & Development (Collective)
Cr Jennifer Anderson	\$156	\$3,529	\$0	\$522	\$854	\$1,258	
Cr Janet Pearce	\$0	\$5,379	\$0	\$524	\$1,310	\$2,094	
Cr Mark Ridgeway	\$0	\$5,116	\$0	\$363	\$146	\$0	
Cr Annette Death	\$0	\$0	\$302	\$534	\$591	\$1,249	
Cr Geoff Neil	\$0	\$6,224	\$0	\$258	\$51	\$0	
Cr Bill West	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$522	\$0	\$0	
Cr Dominic Bonanno	\$0	\$1,439	\$0	\$234	\$0	\$4,021	
Cr Rob Guthrie	\$0	\$4,552	\$0	\$358	\$0	\$0	
Cr Anne Moore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$301	\$0	\$0	
	\$156	\$26,239	\$302	\$3,617	\$2,952	\$8,622	\$0

SECTION 9

Councillor Activities in the Community



Councils' Councillor Support Policy defines the level of resources that shall be provided to Councillors to assist in the performance of their roles.

In conjunction with the reporting to Council on Councillor Expenses the policy requires that Councillors be provided the opportunity to submit a summary of their activities in the community over the preceding quarter and this be incorporated in to the quarterly reporting regime.



The following report includes the attendances of Councillors at Ordinary and Special Council Meeting and Assemblies of Councillors during the preceding quarter. The report additionally lists the external and internal committees / working groups and organisations to which each Councillor is currently appointed.





Councillor activity report: 1 April – 30 June 2023

<p>Cr Jennifer Anderson West Ward</p>	<p>Council meetings attended: <small>(including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</small></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>12</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee • Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA)(sub) • Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) <p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee • Local Government Working Group On Gambling (sub) • Audit and Risk Committee (sub) • Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee 			
<p>Cr Janet Pearce West Ward</p>	<p>Council meetings attended: <small>(including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</small></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>12</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee • Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)(sub) • Rural Councils Victoria Inc. (RCV)(sub) <p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee • Local Government Working Group On Gambling (sub) • Audit and Risk Committee (sub) 			
<p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the final day of the Healthy Landscapes course on Sam White's farm in Sidonia • Reconciliation week smoking ceremony and Yarning Circle in Malmsbury • Wyralla Reserve Opening, Gisborne • Judging the Single Use Plastics Art competition • Official opening of the Jo Clancy Bridge over 5 mile creek, Woodend 				





<p>Cr Mark Ridgeway West Ward</p>	<p>Council meetings attended: <small>(including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</small></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>12</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee • Audit and Risk Committee • Annual Meeting of Braemar College Ltd <p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDAHOBIT Flag Raising • Municipal Association of Victoria State Council • Reconciliation Week - Malmsbury Town Hall • Braemar College Annual General Meeting • West Ward Councillors Listening Post at Woodend Farmers Market 			
<p>Cr Annette Death East Ward</p>	<p>Council meetings attended: <small>(including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</small></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>10</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee • Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee • Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA) <p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Listening Post at Lancefield Market • Launch Macedon and Mt Macedon Landcare Group • 2023 National Volunteer week celebrations: The Change Makers • Reconciliation Week Launch Event – Yoorrook Justice Commission: Truth-telling • Refugee Week - Macedon Ranges Rural Australians for Refugees Launch - Finding Freedom: Real Stories of Human Survival 			




<p>Cr Geoff Neil East Ward</p>	<p>Council meetings attended: <small>(including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</small></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>12</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="display: inline-block; width: 45%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee • Audit and Risk Committee <li style="display: inline-block; width: 45%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Meeting of Braemar College Ltd Committee (sub) • Rural Councils Victoria Inc. (RCV) • Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee 			
	<p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconciliation event Riddells Creek • Acknowledgement and farewell to Aged Care staff. • Romsey Residents Event at RNHH • Anzac Day services Romsey & Lancefield • Melbourne Water Community Drop-in Session at Darraweit Guim 			
<p>Cr Bill West East Ward</p>	<p>Council meetings attended: <small>(including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</small></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>12</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="display: inline-block; width: 45%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee <li style="display: inline-block; width: 45%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calder Highway Improvement Committee • Goldfields Library Corporation Board 			
	<p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Citizenship Ceremony at Kyneton • Judging Shire-wide Art Competition for Schoolchildren on 'Plastics' theme • IDAHOBIT Ceremony in Kyneton • Romsey Ecotherapy Park Post-Celebration Day • Launch of Lancefield Football Club's 150 Years of History Book 			



<p>Cr Dominic Bonanno South Ward</p>	<p>Council Meetings attended: (including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>9</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee <p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Heritage Event at Wil-im-ee Mooring (Mt William Quarry) with Uncle Bill Nicholson to open the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival • Opening Ceremony for Wyralla Reserve, Gisborne • Represented Council and laid wreath at Gisborne ANZAC Day Service • Community Listening Post - Macedon Farmers Market • Community Bank Gisborne & District Autumn 2023 Community Investment Evening 			
<p>Cr Rob Guthrie South Ward</p>	<p>Council Meetings attended: (including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>12</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee • Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee • Goldfields Library Corporation Board (proxy) • Macedon Ranges Heritage Council • Workspace Australia <p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Cultural Heritage event at Wil-im-ee-Moor-ring, (Mt William Quarry) • Attended 2 Workspace Board Meetings in Bendigo • Attended Citizenship Ceremony at Kyneton Town Hall • Laid a Wreath at the Gisborne Cenotaph on Anzac Day • Attended Reconciliation Week Keynote Event - Yoorrook Justice Commission Truth-telling 			



<p>Cr Anne Moore South Ward</p>	<p>Council Meetings attended: (including scheduled, unscheduled and Delegated Committees)</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Other meetings of Councillors attended:</p>	<p>8</p>
	<p>Appointments to internal/external committees and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitters Delegated Committee • Planning Delegated Committee • Calder Highway Improvement Committee (sub) • Macedon Ranges Heritage Council • Macedon Ranges Local Safety Committee • MAV Emergency Management Committee <p>Specific activities highlighted by Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not provided 			