

Hanging Rock Update February 2020



The 50-year Hanging Rock Strategic Plan was endorsed on 27 September 2018 by the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and the Hon. Richard Wynne MP, Minister for Planning. The Victorian Government has committed \$3 million over three years to implement the Plan.

What is the Hanging Rock Strategic Plan?

The Hanging Rock Strategic Plan (HRSP) provides a vision for the future uses of the Hanging Rock Precinct for the next 50 years along with objectives and strategies to support implementation of this vision.

It celebrates the spirit of this mysterious, iconic piece of Victoria and sets out objectives for better protection of the environmental, cultural, and heritage values of the precinct for current and future generations to enjoy.

The Plan includes the establishment of a new joint governance body that involves stakeholders, that include the three Traditional Owner groups, the Wurundjeri, Dja Dja Wurrung, and Taungurung, in decision making for the precinct.

How is the \$3 million going to be used?

Over the next three years the funding will be used to implement the following key actions identified in the HRSP:

- a new joint governance body for the precinct
- purchase of the East Paddock enabling management of the site as one whole precinct
- detailed understanding of the cultural and environmental values of the site
- development of a master plan consistent with the iconic nature of the site enabling a high-quality visitor experience while managing impacts to the natural environmental and cultural assets.



Above: Minister Wynne, Former MRSC Mayor, Jennifer Anderson, Minister D'Ambrosio and DELWP Loddon Mallee Regional Director, Marg Allan at the Hanging Rock Strategic Plan signing.

What's been happening?

- The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) have been working together to set up the project and develop the implementation plan with Traditional Owners.
- Workshops and individual meetings with the three Traditional Owner groups were held to decide on priority actions to be delivered under the HRSP.
- The priority actions include purchase and transfer of the East Paddock to the Crown Estate; establishment of a joint governance structure for the precinct with Traditional Owners and key stakeholders; review and update existing ecological management documents, undertake an assessment of the Aboriginal cultural heritage values in partnership with the Traditional Owners, and complete a master plan for the precinct.
- Preparation to purchase the East Paddock has begun with DELWP and Macedon Ranges Shire Council currently working through the necessary processes.

Meet the new staff involved in implementing the Hanging Rock Strategic Plan

Jodi Cant started with DELWP as the Hanging Rock Senior Project Officer on Monday 7 October 2019. Jodi has worked across both state and local government for over 20 years, with the last five at DELWP. Her experience and thorough knowledge of environmental values, planning and approvals, government processes, extensive work with stakeholders and the community and project management will be an asset to the project. Jodi's role is to work together with Macedon Ranges, traditional owners and other key stakeholders to implement the actions in the Hanging Rock Strategic Plan



Justin Walsh started in the new role of Senior Project Officer with Macedon Ranges Shire Council on Monday 30 September 2019. Prior to joining MRSC Justin spent three years working on the Vision 2020 redevelopment of State Library Victoria. Justin is also a trained landscape architect and a born-and-bred Macedon Ranges local, bringing a rigorous project management approach, design thinking and a detailed understanding of local community values to the project.

Hanging Rock daily operations

While the Hanging Rock Strategic Plan Implementation project is happening, Macedon Ranges Shire Council will continue to manage the day-to-day maintenance and operations at Hanging Rock.

Contact Us

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