



# Council Agenda



**Campaspe**  
Shire Council

**Date:** 16 March 2022

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Venue:** Echuca Civic Centre

**Photo Left to Right:** Cr Adrian Weston, Cr Tony Marwood, Cr Rob Amos, Cr Colleen Gates (Deputy Mayor), Cr Daniel Mackrell, Cr Chrissy Weller (Mayor), Cr Paul Jarman, Cr John Zobec and Cr Leanne Pentreath.

# Contents

1	Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absences .....	5
1.1	Apologies .....	5
1.2	Leave of Absence .....	5
2	Confirmation of Minutes .....	5
3	Changes to the Order of Business.....	5
4	Declarations of Conflict of Interest.....	5
5	Responsible Authority Decisions .....	5
6	Planning Authority Decisions .....	5
7	Question Time .....	5
8	Acknowledgements / Councillor Reports .....	5
9	Council Decisions .....	6
9.1	Policy 172 - Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets .....	6
9.2	Advocacy Priorities Plan 2021-2025 .....	20
9.3	Rushworth Streetscape Project Update - Lessons Learned & Financial Summary.....	47
9.4	Planning Scheme Amendments Update .....	53
9.5	Australian Local Government Association Motions.....	55
9.6	Renaming Luth Street (from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway), Echuca .....	64
9.7	IWM Strategic Directions .....	69
9.8	Local road name for new road in Victoria between Warren Street roundabout and Victorian abutment at new Echuca - Moama Bridge.....	111
10	Council Information.....	114
10.1	Community Event Sponsorship.....	114
10.2	Notes of Appreciation.....	120
10.3	Community Equipment Grants Program .....	121
10.4	Responsive Grants Program.....	128
11	Petitions and Letters .....	131
12	Notices of Motion .....	131
13	Urgent Business .....	131
14	Confidential Business .....	131
15	Close Meeting.....	132

For a meeting of the eighth Campaspe Shire Council meeting held on Wednesday 16 March 2022, commencing at 6:00 pm at the Council Chambers, Echuca Civic Centre.

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

The Shire of Campaspe is the traditional lands of the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Yorta Yorta Peoples.

We respect and acknowledge their unique Aboriginal cultural heritage and pay our respect to their ancestors, descendants and emerging leaders as the Traditional Owners of this Country.

We acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region.

## **Opening Prayer**

We pray to almighty God that our decisions as a Council be in the best interest of the people, culture and the environment of the Shire of Campaspe.

Amen

## **Meeting Procedures**

Please ensure that all electronic devices are turned off or switched to silent.

Council meetings are broadcast live via the internet. During the meeting, members of the public may be recorded, particularly those speaking to an item. By attending this meeting, you are consenting to the possibility that your image may also be broadcast to the public. Any personal and health information voluntarily disclosed by any person at Council meetings may be broadcast live, held by Council and made available to the public for later viewing.

Those people who have requested to speak to an item will be allowed five minutes to address Council. Speakers will be notified with a bell when there is 60 seconds remaining. Speakers must only speak in relation to the subject stated on their application and shall not debate the issue with Councillors and officers. Councillors are able to ask questions of the speaker on points of clarification.

Speakers are advised that they do not enjoy any special protection from defamation arising from comments made during their presentation to Council and should refrain from voicing defamatory remarks or personal defamatory statements against any individual. Speakers will be treated with respect when addressing Council. I ask that the same respect is extended to Councillors and officers.

# 1 Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absences

## 1.1 Apologies

## 1.2 Leave of Absence

# 2 Confirmation of Minutes

## Recommendation

That the following minutes be confirmed:

- Campaspe Council Meeting held on 16 February 2022.

# 3 Changes to the Order of Business

Once an agenda has been prepared and sent to Councillors, the order of business for that meeting may only be altered by resolution of the Council. This includes the request for an item to be brought forward.

# 4 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

In accordance with Section 130(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* Councillors are required to disclose any conflict of interest in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council meeting.

# 5 Responsible Authority Decisions

Responsible Authority – Defined under Section 13 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*. Responsible for administering and enforcing the planning scheme and its provisions in relation to use and development.

# 6 Planning Authority Decisions

Planning Authority – Defined under Section 12 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*. Responsible for implementing the objectives of planning in Victoria and reviewing and preparing amendments to a planning scheme.

# 7 Question Time

Question time will be available at every Ordinary Meeting to enable members of the public to address questions to Council. Questions must be received in writing, on the prescribed form from Council's website, by the Chief Executive Officer or other person authorised for this purpose by the Chief Executive Officer, no later than 12:00pm (noon) on the day of the Ordinary Meeting.

# 8 Acknowledgements / Councillor Reports

At each Ordinary Meeting, Councillors will have the opportunity to acknowledge significant community members and events. These may relate to notable achievements by community members and groups, and the offering of condolences to a person who has distinguished service in the local area.

The duration of any report from a Councillor will be limited to two (2) minutes.

Any acknowledgment intended to be raised by a Councillor at an Ordinary meeting must be notified to the Chief Executive Officer at least three (3) hours before the commencement of the meeting.

## 9 Council Decisions

### 9.1 Policy 172 - Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
General Manager Development	Development		Paul McKenzie

#### 1. SUMMARY

This Policy has reached its scheduled time for review. Officers propose only minor amendments, which seek to clarify Council's position regards managing its raw water use, the responsibility of water users, the sale of excess temporary water and the identification of priority locations to be kept green in times of drought.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

- 1. Adopt Policy 172 Management and Sale of Council's Raw Water Assets, appended as Attachment One**

#### 3. PURPOSE

To provide Council with the background and information pertaining to the review of Policy 172 Management and Sale of Council's Temporary Raw Water Assets and for Council to adopt the draft that is appended at Attachment One as its new policy.

#### 4. DISCUSSION

Council holds water assets of 826 megalitres of high reliability water and 338 megalitres of low reliability water. In practice, low reliability water is rarely available and when it is, water is in plentiful supply. The policy focus is on high reliability water. This water is primarily used to keep Council owned parks, gardens and recreation reserves green, in road making activities and in a small range of Council businesses e.g. the Saleyards and Echuca Caravan Park.

The policy was introduced because of the water shortages that occurred due to the millennium drought and to guide the sale of excess temporary water. If water allocations are at 100% then there is around 400 megalitres per year available to be sold. While this may appear a significant amount, the drought provided Council with evidence that its water resources were barely sufficient to meet its basic service needs.

Many communities sought assistance from Council to provide water and several key community places of pride were unable to be maintained. Reduced water allocations of 50% and more in both the Murray and the Goulburn Systems in repeated years quickly diminished Council's ability to maintain its service commitments. While the allocation of 200 carry over is conservative, Council's responsibility is to plan for and maintain key community assets.

The Victorian irrigation system has been specifically designed to enable businesses the ability to plan with greater certainty and to be more able to cope with variable weather conditions. It is now expected that businesses will plan for drought, and Council is no different.

The excess temporary water from any given year is sold with some of the proceeds used to maintain the watering infrastructure required by GMW such as infrastructure/delivery costs but the vast majority goes back to consolidated revenue.

Policy 172 Management and Sale of Council's Temporary Raw Water Assets has been reviewed and Officers suggest that only minor amendments are required. The changes aim to strengthen and clarify the responsibility of water users around water efficiency, reporting and eligibility.

While there are currently no allocation restrictions, a strong focus on water conservation and efficiency is encouraged among Council's water users. Advice on efficient watering practices or on ground improvements that will reduce water use is provided to users as standard practice when increases in water are requested.

Measuring and reporting water usage has become far more important as Goulburn Murray Water has progressively implemented its own water efficiency improvements. Overuse of water and watering without authority are serious matters and the Policy has reinforced user responsibilities to reflect this. Accurate and timely recording of usage enables approved users to easily request an increase in their water allocation if weather conditions demand this.

The Policy now addresses requests for water to support new activities or when a request is received to provide water in a new location. These cannot be approved by Officers as they increase Council's service footprint and must be formally presented to Council for consideration. Consideration will include how the proposed activity will meet Council's objectives, what data there is to support the need and the potential impacts on other activities.

A copy of the original Policy 172 is appended as Attachment two.

## **5. OPTIONS**

### Option 1: Adopt the Policy 172 Management and Sale of Council's Temporary Raw Water Assets

Adoption of the policy will provide guidance to Officers and community organisations that access Council's raw water on:

- when and under what conditions water will be available
- the sale of temporary water and,
- the extent to which Council should mitigate the risk of drought using carryover water

This option is recommended by officers.

### Option 2: Not Adopt the Policy 172 Management and Sale of Councils Temporary Raw Water Assets

Not adopting the policy will mean Council will be unable to effectively and efficiently manage its temporary water resources

This option is not recommended by officers.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

### Internal consultation:

- Parks and Gardens team members
- Recreation Manager
- EMG

### External consultation:

- Goulburn Murray Water

## Councillors:

- 02/03/2021 Council Briefing Session.

## **7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no Council Policy and relevant law has been identified within this report.

## **8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## **10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## **11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025**

Flourishing local economy  
A resilient long-term economy attractive to local and external investors

Resilient protected and healthy natural environment  
Sustainable water and energy use

Well planned places  
Attractive and useable sites of importance  
Quality, attractive recreational spaces

## **12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

### **Issues:**

No issues have been identified

### **Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.



#### **14. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

#### **15. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

#### **16. CONCLUSION**

The policy has been reviewed and the changes have been discussed with Council at its 02/03/22 briefing session. The draft policy is now presented for adoption.

#### **17. ATTACHMENTS**

1. Policy 172 - Proposed [9.1.1 - 5 pages]
2. Policy 172 - Current [9.1.2 - 5 pages]

# Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets



<b>Council Policy Number</b>	172
Date adopted	March 2022
Scheduled for review	March 2024

## 1. Preamble

This policy sets out how Campaspe Shire Council allocates and uses its raw water assets. This includes the sale of temporary raw water and the actions required to ensure sufficient raw water is available to conduct its activities and for the maintenance of nominated parks, gardens and recreation reserves.

## 2. Purpose

To provide guidance on the allocation, use and sale of Campaspe Shire Council's ('Council') temporary raw water assets.

## 3. Definitions

Raw Water Asset	Council owned raw water
Allocation Bank Account	Victorian Water Register Allocation Account for identification of ownership and registration of water licence details
Seasonal Allocation	Amount of water made available to holders of water shares depending on water availability and current seasonal conditions
Carry Over	Unused water in the ABA available to carried forward to the next season
High/Low Reliability Water Share	Legally recognised, secure entitlement to a defined share of water against which seasonal determinations are made
Market Price	Price determined by the highest of the last ten water sales

## 4. Policy Statement

Council requires an amount of raw water to conduct its business activities and for the maintenance of its parks, gardens and recreation reserves recognising the important health and wellbeing benefits that green spaces provide for its community. Council holds water assets of 826 megalitres of high reliability water and 338 megalitres of low reliability water. This water is primarily used to keep Council owned parks, gardens and recreation reserves green, in road making activities and in a small range of Council businesses e.g. the Saleyards and Echuca Caravan Park.

The Victorian Irrigation system is designed to enable businesses to plan with greater certainty. Through the use of "carry over" Council has been able to plan to meet business needs in periods of drought. Low percentage allocations of water can severely impact the amount of high reliability water available. In years of full water allocation Council will have an excess of water however in times of drought and low percentage allocation there is barely sufficient to meet priority needs.

It is important that a system is in place that ensures Council water users such as Council recreation reserves and their Committees have a clear understanding of how much water is allocated to them, their responsibilities regards tracking usage and how to attain/maintain water efficiencies.

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

In droughts the role of green spaces becomes even more important to our communities. Planning for extreme drought situations to ensure Council has sufficient raw water to meet its needs requires Council to determine an amount of water to hold in reserve. The system allows for water to be “carried over” when there is enough storage capacity. In this way Council can hold sufficient water to meet its needs for a set period. Council's total raw water use in any given year varies considerably and is dependent on seasonal conditions however around 250 megalitres would be the maximum usage per annum.

In a year when there is a full raw water allocation Council has a surplus of water that may be sold on the temporary market. The use of water in agriculture produces an economic benefit in excess of the value of the water used. This policy seeks to increase the probability that the economic benefit produced from the use of the water Council has sold is retained (as far as possible) within the municipality. Council recognises that it cannot guarantee that the economic benefit can be retained in the municipality.

##### **5. Recreation reserves access to Council's raw water**

Council contributes to the cost of maintenance at a number of recreation reserves (both Council owned and/or managed, and Crown owned and managed) under its Policy 093 Council Contributions to Recreation Reserves Maintenance.

Being consistent with Policy 93 Council will provide (when possible) access to its raw water regardless of the land tenure arrangements of a town's primary recreation reserve i.e. if it is on Crown Land with a Committee of Management ('CoM') direct to the Crown, raw water will be provided on the same basis as Council owned and/or managed reserves.

If raw water access is not available to the reserve, Council will allow the use of up to 10% of a reserve maintenance funds to be used to pay potable water costs

The amount of water available will be determined according to the assessed service level requirements and the particulars of the soil type of that reserve.

Recreation reserves seeking to introduce new activities that will require water or will increase the need for water must apply in writing to Council stating the rationale and providing evidence of need. An assessment will be conducted by the relevant department to determine if the proposal is in line with Council's strategic directions and service levels, evidence to support the need and impacts on existing services. New activities that require water are an increase in Council service level and therefore require a Council decision. If approved, an appropriate amount of water will be allocated to the reserve.

##### **6. Efficient management of Council's water resources**

- Council will consolidate its water assets into Allocation Bank Accounts ('ABA') that will limit the amount of transfer and sale costs.
- Only Council officers with the appropriate delegation and Goulburn Murray Water ('GMW') authorisation can sell and trade temporary water.
- An annual allocation of water will be made to each recreation reserve or green space based on historic use amounts (where possible). This amount is to act as a target and aims to encourage water use efficiency. This will be communicated to the appropriate recreation reserve committee of management at the start of each water year.
- The annual allocation is an indicative total only (based on the understanding that usage varies according to weather conditions, soil profile difference etc) and if necessary, additional water will be transferred after receiving a request to do so if there is sufficient water available.
- Facilities that require an increase in water allocated will receive a review of their water use that will include assessment of current practices and if required, the provision of professional advice from Council's turf and garden maintenance specialists. This may include advice regarding soil conditioning, watering regimes or other ground management practices that might be implemented to achieve water savings.

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

**Watering of additional playing surfaces**

- Committees/Clubs located at Council owned and/or managed recreation reserves may purchase additional water on the open market at their own cost and transfer it into Council ownership if they wish to carry out additional watering activities above the service level set by Council.

**7. Sale of Temporary Water**

To determine what water is excess to Council's needs the following process will be followed:

- 250 megalitres will be allocated for Council use each year. This will be regardless of the "seasonal allocation" percentage. If there is insufficient water, then the maximum available will be allocated.
- 250 megalitres will be allocated to "carry over" (or the maximum available to carry over if there is insufficient).

All water in excess of the above arrangements should be sold on the temporary market via a locally based Water Broker. Council recognises that it is not able to ensure that the water sold will be delivered/used within the municipality. However, by selling through a locally based water broker there is an increased chance this might occur.

**8. Sale of Permanent Water**

This policy relates to the sale of temporary water only. Permanent water is a Council asset and its sale requires a Council decision. Council's current practice is to not sell permanent water assets.

**9. Distribution of infrastructure costs**

Raw water access incurs infrastructure costs which are determined by Goulburn Murray Water and charged to Council annually. To ensure that Council can equitably recoup the set costs associated with the provision of raw water to recreation reserves a standard formula will be used.

- A unit cost will be set each year based on the formula: Total set infrastructure costs related to the all reserves/number of high reliability water shares used in the prior year at all reserves.
- The unit cost for set charges is then multiplied by the amount of megalitres used at each individual reserve ensuring the proportion of set costs paid is directly related to usage

**10. Administration Requirements**

Each season the recreation reserves ABA will receive a temporary allocation of water. Committees watering Council facilities are required to:

- Maintain appropriate records and provide meter readings to Council as requested
- Ensure water use does not exceed the annual allocated amount
- Make requests for any additional water at least one month prior to it being required
- Advise Council of the Committee nominee to be authorised to order water at a reserve through WaterLine
- Ensure only the authorised individual(s) are used to order water

Overuse of water (using water in excess of the amount allocated without prior authority) may result in being charged for the additional water used. In the case of overuse the five year average price of temporary water will be used as the rate at which water is charged.

Repeated overuse and failure to apply for additional water and will result in access to the ABA being removed.

### 11. Places of Pride

During times of severe water restrictions Council has in the past negotiated the use of potable water for key community green space locations in exchange for providing the water authority with an amount of temporary raw water. This practice requires Council to pay potable water prices to cover the treatment cost incurred by the water authority

While Council can plan for times of drought by allocating a carry over amount, severe drought will likely mean that raw water will only be available for priority sites.

The sites that are prioritised to access raw water are listed below:

- Council owned or managed Recreation Reserves
- Echuca – Civic Centre and Library surrounds, the roundabouts located on major roads in the CBD, Alton Reserve and Hopwood Gardens
- Kyabram – Memorial Gardens, Edis Park
- Rochester – Rotunda Park
- Tongala – Village Green and sound shell area
- Lockington – Lions Park
- Girgarre – Girgarre Park
- Colbinabbin - Hall and playground
- Rushworth – High Street
- Stanhope – Birdwood Hub
- Gunbower – Lions Park water frontage around public toilets and as far as the bridge

### 12. Charging of Community groups using Council Raw Water

Council has made a number of arrangements with organisations that involve the use of its raw water. These organisations and /or the facility have been the subject of a specific Council resolution or there is an historic ongoing Council involvement. The two facilities that fall into this category are:

- Echuca Lawn Tennis Club – uses Council's watering infrastructure to access raw water however pays for the water it uses.
- Back Nine Golf Course – The facility is leased to the Echuca Neighbourhood house. Council's resolution in awarding the tender to the Echuca Neighbourhood house states that the course will receive 44 megalitres per annum at no cost and will be charged for water in excess of this amount.

Recouping the opportunity cost of providing water to these groups is undertaken using the five year average temporary water price achieved on the relevant water system.

### 13. Ad hoc requests for water by community and sporting clubs in the event of severe water restrictions/low allocations/high water prices

In the event of severe water restrictions and/or high temporary water prices Council will prioritise access to its raw water assets based on the following order:

- Council owned recreation reserves, gardens and parks that can access raw water.
- The nominated places of pride listed within this policy.

Crown land owned and operated recreation reserves as nominated in Council's Funding of Recreation Reserves policy as the primary recreation reserve for that town.

Note: access to water in circumstances where there are severe potable water restrictions is reliant on the potable water authority's cooperation.

**14. Exclusions**

Nil

**15. Human Rights**

This policy has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**16. Consultation**

Communication with recreation reserve committees occurs on a regular basis with at least two face to face meetings annually. The way Council charges and allocates water is discussed at these meetings.

**17. Related Legislation**

Nil

**18. Related Policies, Procedures and Strategies**

Council Policy 093 – Council Contributions to Recreation Reserves Maintenance

**19. Attachments**

Nil

**20. Review Period**

Two years

**Responsible officer**

General Manager Development

**21. Administrative Updates**

It is recognised that, from time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter the policy, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a Council department, a change to the name of a Federal or State Government department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be by resolution of Council.

**22. Approval History**

Adopted 28 January 2020  
Revised 22 February 2021

Minute Book Reference No 15 (item 7.4)  
Administrative update to apply consistent reference to Campaspe Shire Council ('Council') and abbreviations

Chief Executive Officer: .....

Date: .....

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

# Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets

<b>Council Policy Number</b>	172
Date adopted	28 January 2020
Scheduled for review	January 2022



Council Policy

## Purpose

To provide guidance on the allocation, use and sale of Campaspe Shire Council's ('Council') temporary raw water assets.

## Policy Statement

Council requires an amount of raw water to conduct its business activities and for the maintenance of its parks, gardens and recreation reserves. Council recognises the important health and wellbeing benefits that green spaces provide for its community. Council holds water assets of 826 megalitres of high reliability water and 336 megalitres of low reliability water. This water is primarily used to keep Council owned parks, gardens and recreation reserves green, in road making activities and in a small range of Council businesses e.g. the Saleyards and Echuca Caravan Park.

It is important that a system is in place that ensures Council water users such as Council Recreation Reserves and their Committees have a clear understanding of how much water is allocated to them, their responsibilities regards tracking usage and how to attain/maintain water efficiencies. Council provides maintenance funding to a number of Recreation Reserves. These reserves are the primary recreation reserve in a town however only Council owned/managed reserves have access to Councils raw water. Where possible the policy seeks to ensure equity of access to raw water and if this is not possible, provide a financial offset to account for the higher cost of potable water.

In extreme droughts, the role of green spaces becomes even more important to our communities. Planning for extreme drought situations to ensure Council has sufficient raw water to meet its needs requires Council to determine an amount of water to hold in reserve. The system allows for water to be "carried over" when there is enough storage capacity. In this way Council can hold sufficient water to meet its needs for a set period. Councils total raw water use in any given year varies considerably and is dependent on seasonal conditions however around 250 megalitres would be the maximum usage per annum.

Potable water authorities will introduce restrictions as water resources in droughts becomes scarcer. For Council to respond swiftly and recognizing that not all green spaces can be maintained, a priority listing of green space sites that are on the potable water system is required. These sites would be exempt from restrictions after negotiations with the local water authority. Council can achieve this via negotiation with the water authority to provide it with raw water that the priority green space accesses via the potable water system. Council acknowledges the treatment cost of potable water and will accept it will be charged by the water authority for this water at the relevant potable water rate.

In a year when there is a full raw water allocation Council has a surplus of water that may be sold on the temporary market. The use of water in agriculture produces an economic benefit in excess of the value of the water used. This policy also seeks to increase the probability that the economic benefit produced from the use of the water Council has sold is retained (as far as possible) within the municipality. Council recognises that it cannot guarantee that the economic benefit can be retained in the municipality.

### 1. Recreation reserve's eligible to access to Councils raw water

Council contributes to the cost of maintenance at a number of recreation reserves (both Council owned and/or managed, and Crown owned and managed) under its Policy 093 Council Contributions to Recreation Reserves Maintenance. Therefore to bring a level of consistence:

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

- Regardless of the land tenure arrangements of a town's primary recreation reserve i.e. if they are on Crown Land with a Committee of Management ('CoM') direct to the Crown, raw water will be provided on the same basis as Council owned and/or managed reserves.
- If raw water access is not available Council will allow the use of up to 10% of a reserves maintenance funds to be used to pay potable water costs.

## 2. Efficient management of Council's water resources

- That Council where possible will consolidate its water assets into Allocation Bank Accounts ('ABA') that will limit the amount of transfer and sale costs.
- Only Council officers with the appropriate delegation and Goulburn Murray Water ('GMW') authorisation can sell and trade temporary water.
- An annual allocation of water will be made to each recreation reserve or green space based, where possible on historic use amounts. This amount is to act as a target and aims to encourage water use efficiency. This will be communicated to the appropriate recreation reserve committee of management at the start of each water year.
- The annual allocation is an indicative total only (based on the understanding that usage varies according to weather conditions, soil profile difference etc) and if necessary, additional water will be transferred after receiving a request to do so and if where there is sufficient water available.
- Facilities that require an increase in water allocated will receive a review of their water use that will include assessment of current practices and if required, the provision of professional advice from Councils turf and garden maintenance specialists regards soil conditioning, watering regime or other ground management practices that might be implemented to achieve water savings.

## 3. Sale of Temporary Water

To determine what water is excess to Councils needs the following process will be followed:

- 200 megalitres will be allocated for Council use each year. This will be regardless of the "seasonal allocation" percentage. If there is insufficient water, then the maximum available will be allocated.
- 200 megalitres will be allocated to "carry over" (or the maximum available to carry over if there is insufficient).

All water in excess of the above arrangements should be sold on the temporary market via a locally based Water Broker

Council recognises that it is not able to ensure that the water sold will be delivered/used within the municipality. However, by selling through a locally based water broker there is an increased chance this will occur.

## 4. Sale of Permanent Water

This policy relates to the sale of temporary water only. Council's current policy is to not sell any of its permanent water assets.

## 5. Equity of water set/ Infrastructure costs

To ensure that Council can equitably recoup the set costs associated with the provision of raw water from recreation reserves a standard formula will be used.

- A unit cost will unit be set each year based on the formula: Total set infrastructure costs related to the reserves/number of high reliability water shares used in the prior year at reserves.
- That the unit cost for set charges be applied to water at a per megalitre used basis.

### Watering of additional playing surfaces



- Committees/Clubs located at Council owned and/or managed recreation reserves may purchase additional water on the open market at their own cost and transfer it into Council ownership if they wish to carry out additional watering activities above the service level set by Council.

#### 6. Administration requirements

Committees watering Council facilities are required to maintain appropriate records and to act abide by Councils requests to monitor water use, to request water in advance of overuse and report meter readings.

- Repeated overuse of water and/or failure to monitor and report water use may result in being charged for the additional water used above that allocated at the five year average price for water of temporary water.

#### 7. Places of Pride

During times of severe water restrictions Council has in the past negotiated the use of potable water for key community green spaces locations Council also provides raw water to a number of its gardens and grassed areas where raw water is able to be accessed. With the cooperation of the local water authority, Council may transfer raw water to the authority who in return allows nominated facilities to access this water via the potable system. Council is required to pay potable water prices to cover the treatment cost incurred by the water authority.

The sites that are prioritised to access water are listed below:

- Echuca – Civic Centre and Library surrounds, the roundabouts located on major roads in the CBD, Alton Reserve and Hopwood Gardens
- Kyabram – Memorial Gardens, Edis Park
- Rochester – Rotunda Park
- Tongala – Village Green and sound shell area
- Lockington – Lions Park
- Girgarre – Girgarre Park
- Colbinabbin - Hall and playground
- Rushworth – High Street
- Stanhope – Birdwood Hub
- Gunbower – Lions Park water frontage around public toilets and as far as the bridge

#### 8. Charging of Community groups using Council Raw Water

Over the past 10 years Council has made a number of arrangements with organisations that involve the use of its raw water. These organisations and /or the facility have been the subject of a Council resolution or there is an historic ongoing Council involvement. The two facilities that fall into this category are:

Echuca Lawn Tennis Club – uses Councils watering infrastructure to access raw water.

Back Nine Golf Course – The facility is leased to the Echuca Neighbourhood house. Council's resolution in awarding the tender to the Echuca Neighbourhood house states that the course will receive 44 megalitres per annum and will be charged for water in excess of this amount.

- Recouping the opportunity cost of proving water to these groups is undertaken using the five year average temporary water price achieved on the relevant system.

### 9. Ad hoc requests for water by community and sporting clubs in the event of severe water restrictions/low allocations/high water prices

In the event of severe water restrictions and/or high temporary water prices Council will prioritise access to its raw water assets based on the following order:

- Council owned recreation reserves, gardens and parks that can access raw water.
- Crown land owned and operated recreation reserves as nominated in Council's Funding of Recreation Reserves policy as the primary recreation reserve for that town.
- The nominated places of pride listed within this policy.

Note: access to water in circumstances where there are severe potable water restrictions is reliant on the potable water authority's cooperation.

#### Exclusions

Nil

#### Human Rights

This policy has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

#### Definitions

Raw Water Asset	Council owned raw water
Allocation Bank Account	Victorian Water Register Allocation Account for identification of ownership and registration of water licence details
Seasonal Allocation	Amount of water made available to holders of water shares depending on water availability and current seasonal conditions
Carry Over	Unused water in the ABA available to be carried forward to the next season
High/Low Reliability Water Share	Legally recognised, secure entitlement to a defined share of water against which seasonal determinations are made
Market Price	Price determined by the highest of the last ten water sales

#### Related Legislation

Nil

#### Related Policies, Procedures and Strategies

Council Policy 093 – Council Contributions to Recreation Reserves Maintenance

#### Attachments

Nil

#### Review Period

Two years

#### Responsible officer

General Manager Regulatory and Community Services

#### Administrative Updates

It is recognised that, from time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter the policy, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a Council department, a change to the name of a Federal or State Government department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be by resolution of Council.

#### Approval History

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy



Adopted 28 January 2020  
Revised 22 February 2021

Minute Book Reference No 15 (item 7.4)  
Administrative update to apply consistent reference to  
Campaspe Shire Council ('Council') and abbreviations

Chief Executive Officer: .....

Date: .....

24/2/2021

Council Policy  
Council Policy  
Council Policy  
Council Policy



## 9.2 Advocacy Priorities Plan 2021-2025

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Governance & Strategy	Governance & Strategy		Chief Executive Officer

### 1. SUMMARY

Advocacy is a key role of local government, it's about stepping up to speak out on important issues on behalf of Campaspe residents, ratepayers and businesses. We do this to seek positive outcomes from decisionmakers on important issues, such as new infrastructure, funding for programs, or changes to policy or legislation that will benefit our community.

'Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025: *Lobbying for better outcomes on behalf of our community.*' Supports the delivery of many of the strategic priorities of the Council Plan.

The allows Council to take a proactive approach rather than reactive on issues that are important to our community and region.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Endorse the document 'Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025: *Lobbying for better outcomes on behalf of our community.*'**
2. **Note that copies of the document will be made available to the public via council's website and will be used to advise governments and decision-makers of Council's infrastructure and policy priorities for the coming period.**
3. **Request that copies of the document be forwarded to relevant State and Federal political representatives whose electorates or interests include Campaspe, or whose portfolios are relevant to the priority issues within the document.**

### 3. PURPOSE

To seek Council's endorsement of the draft document 'Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025: *Lobbying for better outcomes on behalf of our community.*'

### 4. DISCUSSION

Advocacy is an important role for local government it's about stepping up to speak out on issues that matter to the local community to seek positive outcomes from decision-makers. This may be on issues such as new infrastructure, funding for programs, or changes to policy or legislation. Funding and support from government also allows councils to progress key local projects and continue to deliver high-quality services to the community.

In recent years, the Shire of Campaspe has stood up on a broad range of issues on behalf of the local community, including national water reform, improved public transport, support for the local agricultural sector, improved telecommunications infrastructure, and funding for local schools and healthcare.

Given the broad range of advocacy issues across the municipality, it is considered valuable to bring together the highest priority issues into a single document that provides clarity to decision-makers and the community on Council's proposed advocacy program for the upcoming period.

Potential advocacy issues have been assessed according to a number of criteria, including:

- The degree of importance to the broader community
- Whether the issue already has a strong strategic profile (e.g. whether it is ‘shovel-ready’ or well understood)
- Whether Council’s ‘ask’ of government is clear
- Council’s capacity to influence change (alone or in partnership)
- Council’s role in the delivery of the target project

The resulting draft document has been entitled ‘Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025: *Lobbying for better outcomes on behalf of our community.*’ The specific advocacy issues are brought to light through a number of sections within the document:

- *Advocacy campaigns* – which communicate the organisation’s five highest priority issues for the period
- *Standing by our communities* – which sets out issues strongly backed by Council, when lobbying is being led through other groups within the community
- *Always in our sights* – which affirms a number of high-level, enduring challenges for the municipality that are persistently on council’s radar

The table below provides further detail on the specific inclusions of the document.

KEY CAMPAIGNS	OTHER DOCUMENT INCLUSIONS
▪ <b>Victoria Park Recreation Reserve Redevelopment</b>	▪ <b>Echuca Wharf Universal Access</b>
▪ <b>Echuca Aquatic Reserve Redevelopment</b>	▪ <b>World Heritage Bid Central Victorian Goldfield</b>
▪ <b>Public transport upgrades</b>	▪ <b>Gargarro Regional Botanic Gardens</b>
▪ <b>Regional trails</b>	▪ <b>Regional Trailer Exchange</b>
▪ <b>Aerodrome upgrades</b>	▪ <b>Water Supply for the Agricultural Sector Colbinabbin – Toolleen – Corop Pipeline</b>
	▪ <b>Connected Communities - Improving Walking &amp; Cycling Linkage</b>
	▪ <b>Co-Location of Early Childhood Education Centres</b>
	▪ <b>Secure and Affordable Water Supply for the Agricultural Sector</b>
	▪ <b>Policy Impacting Freight Routes</b>
	▪ <b>Long-Term Funding Certainty for Regional Road Maintenance and Upgrades</b>
	▪ <b>Building a Grid that Supports Renewables</b>
	▪ <b>Charging the Regions</b>
	▪ <b>Digital Connectivity</b>

- Investing in Rural and Regional Victoria's Future
- Addressing Barriers to Recycling and Reducing Waste
- Education Drives Economic Growth
- Kindergartens: Universal Access to 15 Hours
- Opening the Borders to Business

The timeline of the document aligns to the Council Plan it also seeks to support the delivery of many of the strategic priorities outlined in the Plan. It is possible that other new advocacy priorities may emerge in the interim, however the organisation will respond to such issues in the normal course of business as necessary.

## 5. OPTIONS

Option 1: Endorse the draft Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025: *Lobbying for better outcomes on behalf of our community*

Extensive assessment has been undertaken to ensure that the priority issues affecting the municipality have been appropriately captured, and that these are issues to which the organisation is able to effectively respond.

This option is recommended by officers.

Option 2: Amend the draft Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025: *Lobbying for better outcomes on behalf of our community*

It remains open to council to modify the document to add or remove particular advocacy issues. Given the consultation undertaken to date, further modification is not considered essential at this stage.

This option is not recommended by officers.

Option 3: Not endorse the draft Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025: *Lobbying for better outcomes on behalf of our community*

Advocacy is a key role for local government, and it is vital that council and decision-makers have clarity on the key issues affecting Campaspe communities.

This option is not recommended by officers.

## 6. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- EMG & Department Managers

Councillors:

- 14 02 2022 Email Mayor draft Advocacy Plan
- 08 02 2022 Email Councillors updated draft Priorities
- 28 01 2022 Email Mayor
- 12 01 2022 Council Briefing Session.
- 03 12 2021 Email Councillors draft Priorities

## **7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no Council Policy and relevant law has been identified within this report.

## **8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## **10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## **11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025**

Flourishing local economy  
Stimulated economic activity that provides local jobs

Growing quality of life  
Effective and efficient services available locally

## **12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

### **Issues:**

Nil.

### **Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

## **14. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

## **15. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

## **16. ATTACHMENTS**

1. draft Advocacy Priorities Plan 2021-25 [9.2.1 - 23 pages]



# Advocacy Priorities 2021 - 2025

Lobbying for better outcomes  
on behalf of our community



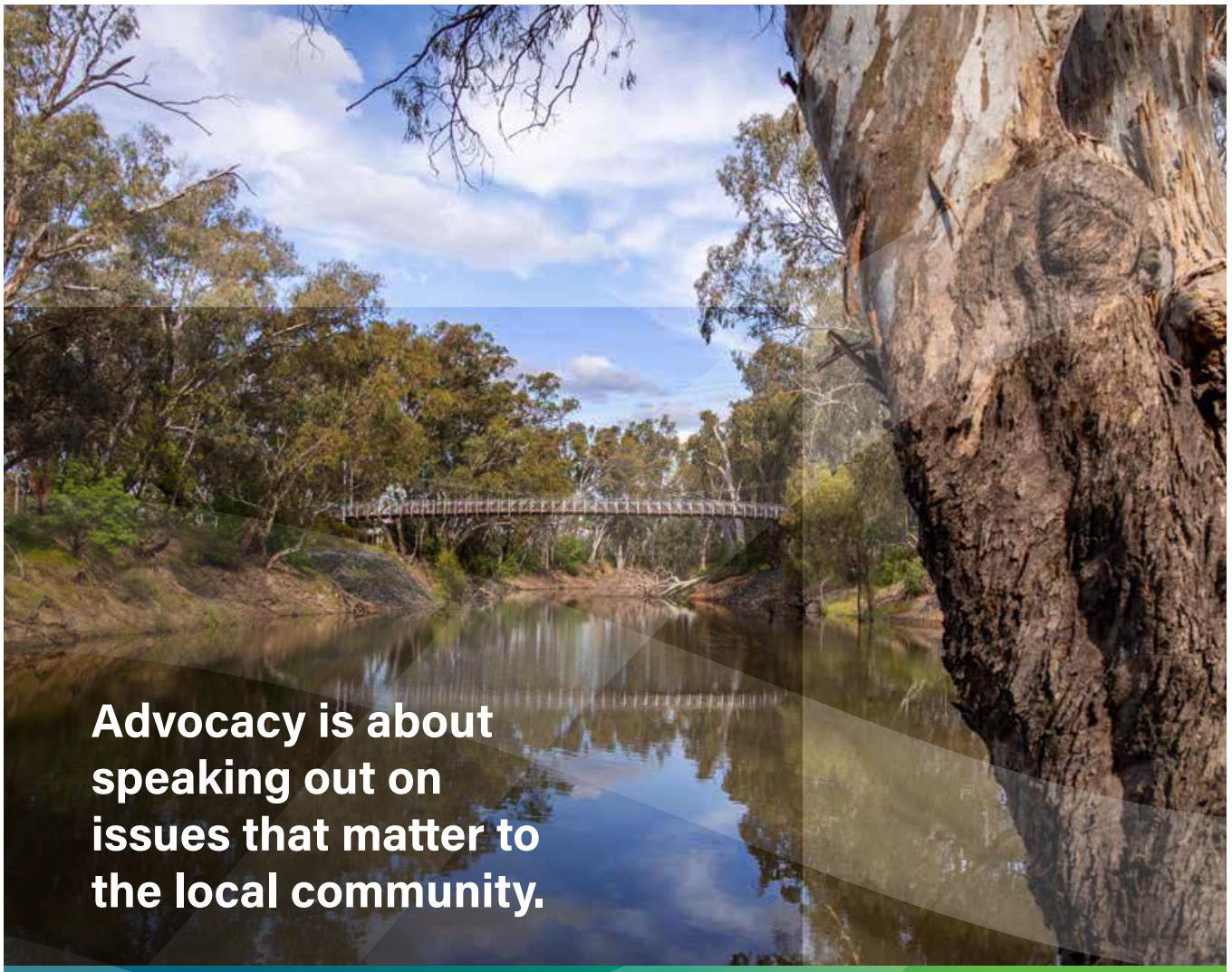


## Acknowledgement of Country

The municipal area of Campaspe lies within the traditional lands of the Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung peoples.

Council acknowledges their unique cultural heritage, and pays our respects to their ancestors, descendants, and emerging leaders as the Traditional Owners of this Country.

We acknowledge their living culture and unique role in the life of this region.



**Advocacy is about speaking out on issues that matter to the local community.**

### **Advocacy is a key role of local government**

For council, advocacy is about stepping up to speak out on important issues on behalf of Campaspe residents, ratepayers and businesses.

We do this to seek positive outcomes from decision-makers on important issues, such as new infrastructure, funding for programs, or changes to policy or legislation that will benefit our community.

### **As times move forward, so do community priorities**

This document highlights the priority infrastructure and policy needs for Campaspe over the period 2021 - 2025.

We also know that new things can crop up in the interim. Council will be ready to engage when new issues emerge that impact the municipality and region.

### **Contents**

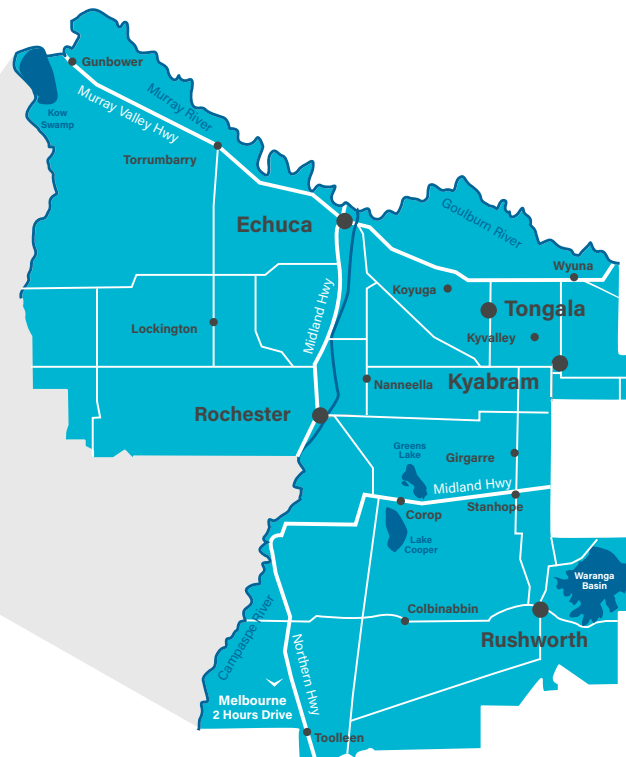
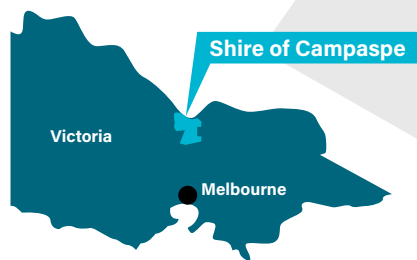
<b>Our Vision</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>About Our Shire</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>About Our Community</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Our Advocacy Partners and Audience</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Now In Focus - Key Campaigns 2021 - 2025</b>	<b>5</b>
Victoria Park Recreation Reserve Redevelopment	6
Echuca Aquatic Reserve Redevelopment	7
Improving Public Transport	8
Regional Trails Experiences	9
Lifesaving Aerodrome Upgrades	10
<b>Standing by our Communities</b>	<b>11</b>
Council Support for Local Issues	11
<b>Always in our Sights</b>	<b>14</b>
The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges	14



# Our Vision

Our places are **vibrant** and **sustainable**,  
our people are **strong** and **supportive**.

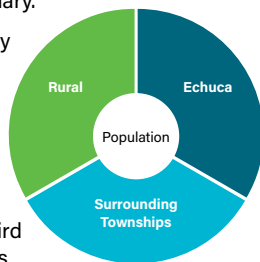
# About Our Shire



## Overview

The Shire of Campaspe sits directly north of Bendigo in the Loddon Mallee region, with the Murray River forming its northern boundary.

The municipality has a resident population of approximately 38,000, with one-third living in and around Echuca, one-third in smaller towns (including Kyabram, Rochester, Tongala and Rushworth), and one-third not in townships but in rural areas. All areas are experiencing population growth.



While the Campaspe economy is overwhelmingly driven by the agriculture, manufacturing, health care and tourism sectors. It can be noted tourism plays a stronger role within Echuca, with the iconic Murray River sitting amongst the state's key tourism destinations.

## Strengths we can build on include

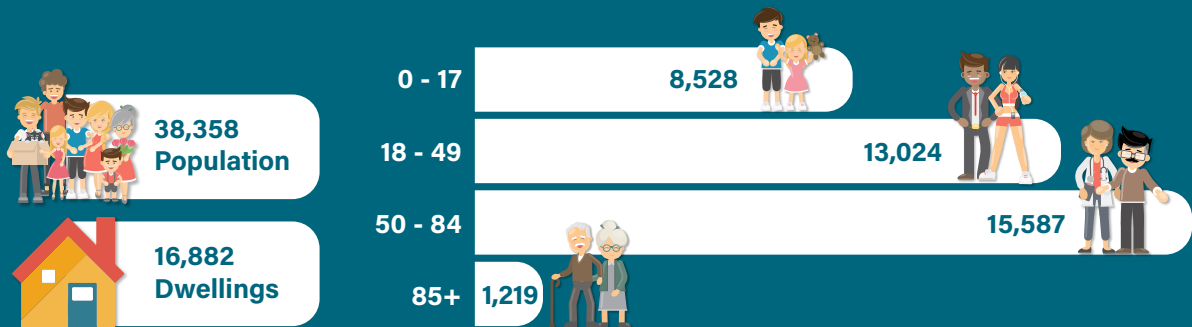
- Road and rail accessibility to Bendigo and Melbourne
- Located centrally to key agricultural regions
- Strong and diversified economy
- Warm climate and access to irrigation
- Relatively high employment levels
- Good access to primary health care and quality primary/secondary education
- High rates of community participation and volunteering
- Natural capital e.g. river systems

## Challenges today and ahead include

- Water security for the agricultural industry
- High costs of inputs for industry
- Transport connectivity and access
- After-hours health care
- An ageing population
- Substance abuse
- Availability of tertiary education and training
- Cross-border regulation
- Climate change
- Waste minimisation and sustainable disposal
- Energy self-sufficiency
- Water sustainability
- Digital connectivity

# About Our Community

## Community Snapshot



### We are growing

2019: 37,600 (ERP)  
2036: 43,000 (forecast)



### We are becoming older and younger

Compared to regional Victoria we have a higher population of both younger people and older people



### We have lower levels of education

53.1% of residents held a qualification of some sort in 2016 compared with 57.2% for regional Victoria.



### We mainly work in

Manufacturing, Agriculture, Health Care, and Tourism



### We have a sizeable Aboriginal population

2.4% of residents are Aboriginal, compared to 1.6% for regional Victoria and 0.8% for the state of Victoria



### On average, we earn less

In 2016 the median weekly income was \$1,081, compared to \$1,124 for regional Victoria and \$1,431 for Australia as a whole

Source - ABS, 2016

# Our Advocacy Partners And Audience

Council sees other levels of government as key partners in building a better community for the future. Likewise, Campaspe works alongside the other councils to ensure that infrastructure and policy outcomes carry wider regional benefits.

Most of council's advocacy priorities will come as no surprise – many of these we have been discussing with the community and government for some time. Many will also be found in regional plans where council has worked to ensure that local priorities are strategically identified.

## Who We Work With



### Federal Government

The federal government holds responsibility for a number of areas of significance to Campaspe, including telecommunications, energy policy and international trade policy - all of which additionally impact on the local agricultural and food processing sector.

Local government also depends on federal financial support to provide critical infrastructure and services to local communities, with roads being a key recipient.

### State Government

The state government is responsible for providing a wide range of services important to Campaspe, including health, education, public transport, and major roads. The state government is also a significant partner in the delivery of local community infrastructure through providing funding to council for a range of projects.

Council works hard to keep the state government informed of local priorities through ongoing dialogue and the development of formal submissions.

### Regional

Campaspe works strategically within a number of council groups - including the Murray River Group of Councils and the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership - to align infrastructure and policy priorities.

The region's key agencies and stakeholders are also essential partners in the successful delivery of important projects and programs.

# Now In Focus

## Our Key Advocacy Campaigns 2021 - 2025

These are our 'big ticket' items: individual projects that will boost liveability and economic opportunities in our communities.

Over the coming period, council will focus its attention on pursuing a number of key local projects with the potential to transform the way we live and do things in Campaspe.

These projects have been researched and planned with local communities over a number of years.

Now 'shovel-ready', these initiatives need the financial support from government to help bring the vision to reality.



## Our Key Advocacy Campaigns 2021 - 2025

## Well Planned Places

## Victoria Park Recreation Reserve Redevelopment

Victoria Park is a key regional recreation space that needs redevelopment following construction of the new Echuca Moama Bridge to cater for sporting and recreation users.

The revised master plan will:

- Replace the existing ageing user infrastructure with a multi-use pavilion and relocation of tennis and netball courts to enable better use of the reserve, increase capacity and preserve native vegetation.
- Upgrade informal paths to connect into the natural bushland and strengthen pedestrian linkages along the Murray River, from Echuca West right across the bridge to Moama, NSW.
- Improve the protection of the arch and water fountains at the entrance as well as aboriginal cultural heritage in the space.
- Add a new ramp, pontoon and car parking area.
- Upgrade playing surfaces and car parking of oval and tennis courts.
- Improve the area for events including Southern 80 Ski Race, sporting carnivals and concerts.



## Why is it important to our community?

- The revision will ensure the project delivers long term sustainability and caters to the needs of the community, visitors, active and passive users and council.
- The current pavilion is not multiple purpose limiting opportunities for other community and sporting groups to use the space.
- The current pavilion doesn't meet the recommended service levels identified by sporting industry bodies as best practice such as AFL, Netball Victoria, etc.
- Delivering safe, connected and accessible pathways will improve community connectedness, engagement, health and wellbeing as well as strengthen links into the natural bush reserve and cross border communities.
- Improved picnic and viewing facilities and amenities will provide an accessible space for the community to gather, connect and enjoy.
- Improved car, boat and trailer parking facilities will support locals and visitors to enjoy and access the river safely.
- Providing for events including Southern 80 Ski Race, sporting carnivals and concerts brings much needed economic stimulus.

## What we're seeking?

- Funding of \$6 million to support staged implementation of the Victoria Park Master Plan.
- Council has already committed \$3 million.
- Estimated total project cost of \$9 million.





## Our Key Advocacy Campaigns 2021 - 2025

## Well Planned Places

## Echuca Aquatic Reserve Redevelopment

Situated on the banks of the mighty Murray River, between the Historic Port of Echuca and the Echuca Moama Bridge, Echuca's Aquatic Reserve is a unique 'natural' amphitheatre surrounded by majestic river redgums.

A space that attracts locals and visitors to enjoy exercise, social gatherings, community markets and events ranging from weddings to car clubs and the award-winning Riverboats Music Festival.

Redevelopment of the Aquatic Reserve is a key milestone in a broader master plan to activate and link the Echuca/Moama riverfront by delivering:

- New accessible sealed paths, and improvements to the existing path network.
- Upgrades to the existing services and amenities.
- Improvements to the stormwater and lagoon system.
- Lighting improvements, including low-level path lighting, and flood and up-lighting of the lagoon and river red gums.
- Additional facilities such as seating, tables, barbeques, bike parking and hydration stations.
- Landscaping using a diverse range of indigenous riverine plants.
- Infrastructure for future extension of the Yorta Yorta Wollithica trail and acknowledgement of the traditional owners.

## Why is it important to our community?

Echuca currently receives 950,000 visitors each year, this is expected to increase to 1 million during 2025-29. This contributes \$187 million to local economic output as well as over 1,000 tourism related jobs.

The redevelopment will provide a central space that is safe and accessible to all residents, communities and visitors to meet, connect and enjoy social and physical activities that improve health and wellbeing and improve user safety.

Addition of hydration stations, picnic tables, BBQ and bike parking facilities will allow people to stop and enjoy the natural environment and encourage active participation and community connections and allow visitors to stay longer and utilise the many goods and service providers the town has to offer.

Preservation and improvement of the area's natural beauty, ecological habitat and environmental integrity will establish the area as a key tourist destination creating new tourism opportunities and visitor attraction along with protecting the natural environment.

Stormwater and lagoon management upgrades will improve the health and attraction of the lagoon wetland and improve irrigation to enable year-round spaces for visitors, community and commercial events.

## What we're seeking?

- Funding of \$3 million to support staged implementation of the master plan.
- Council has already committed \$1.5 million.
- Estimated total project cost of \$4.5 million.



## Our Key Advocacy Campaigns 2021 - 2025

## Community Capacity

### Improving Public Transport

Current service timetabling fails to provide connectivity and frequency, significantly impacting smaller towns and communities accessing larger and regional centres.

Local bus routes have not adequately kept pace with development and a township bus route review is critically overdue.

Revitalisation and activation of the Echuca Rail Precinct creating an integrated transport hub will:

- Integrate services, including an urban bus service at the rail station improving connectivity for locals and visitors.
- Activate commercial and residential development and investment opportunities on surplus rail land.
- Provide universal access and increase activity within the precinct supporting social inclusion and employment opportunities.

#### Why is it important to our community?

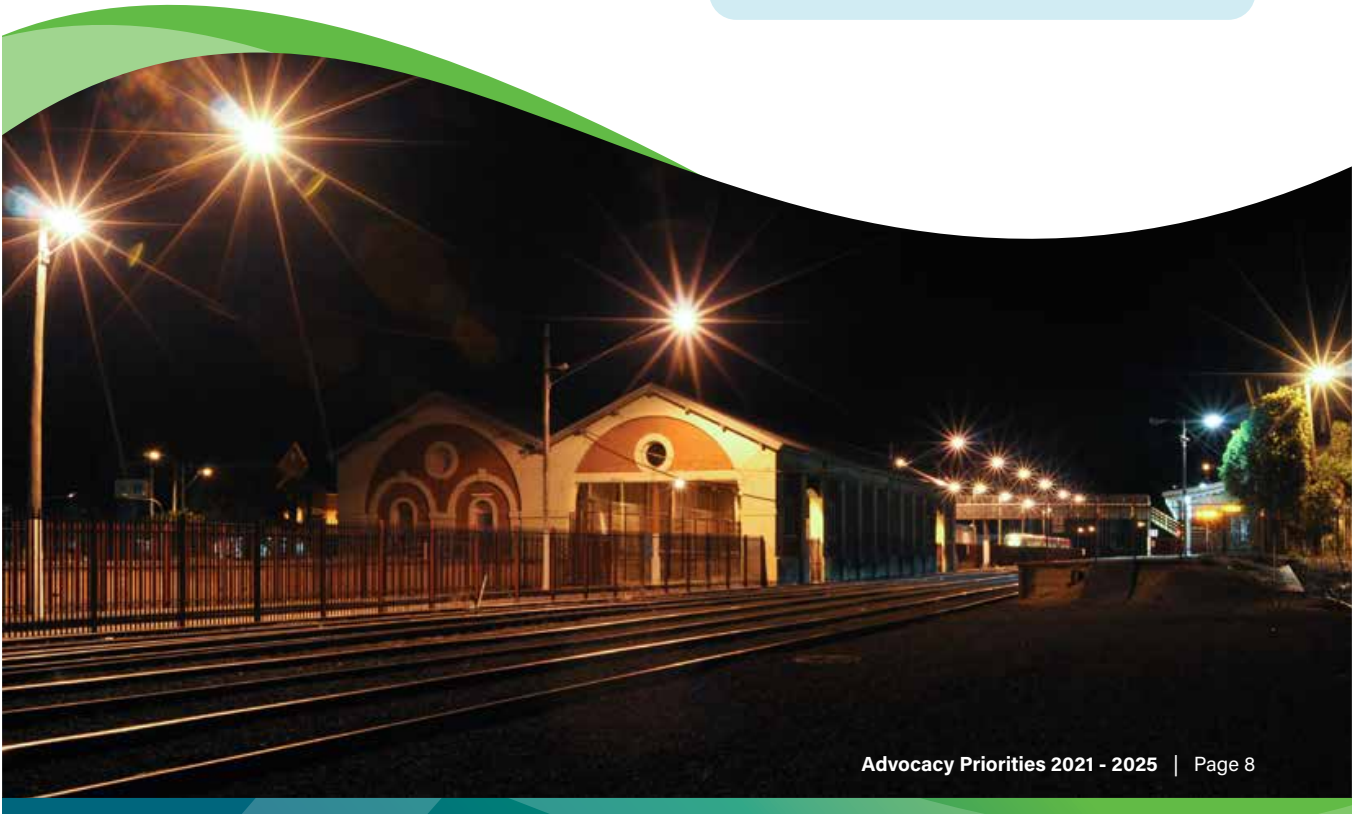
Public transport is vital to local communities, supporting access to essential health, education and professional services, transporting workers to and from jobs and visitors to the region.

Integrated public transport gives convenience, enables social contact and participation in leisure and education activities for those without other means of getting around

Activating the rail precinct will inject stimulus into the local economy, create jobs and opportunities for development. Improve the public realm pedestrian connectivity, safety and servicing.

#### What we're seeking?

- Five return train services each day (comprising 'shuttle' services to Bendigo rather than through-services to Melbourne).
- Improved integration of the region's bus and train networks to minimise travel and waiting times.
- Funding, approvals and support for implementation of the Echuca Rail Precinct Master Plan.



## Our Key Advocacy Campaigns 2021 - 2025

## Well Planned Places

### Regional Trails Experiences

- Murray River Adventure Trail Links
- Waranga Trail

Completion of the Murchison to Heathcote Trail is a priority development identified in the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership Regionally Significant Trails Strategy which travels via Rushworth and takes in historic attractions of the Victorian Gold Rush and local wineries.

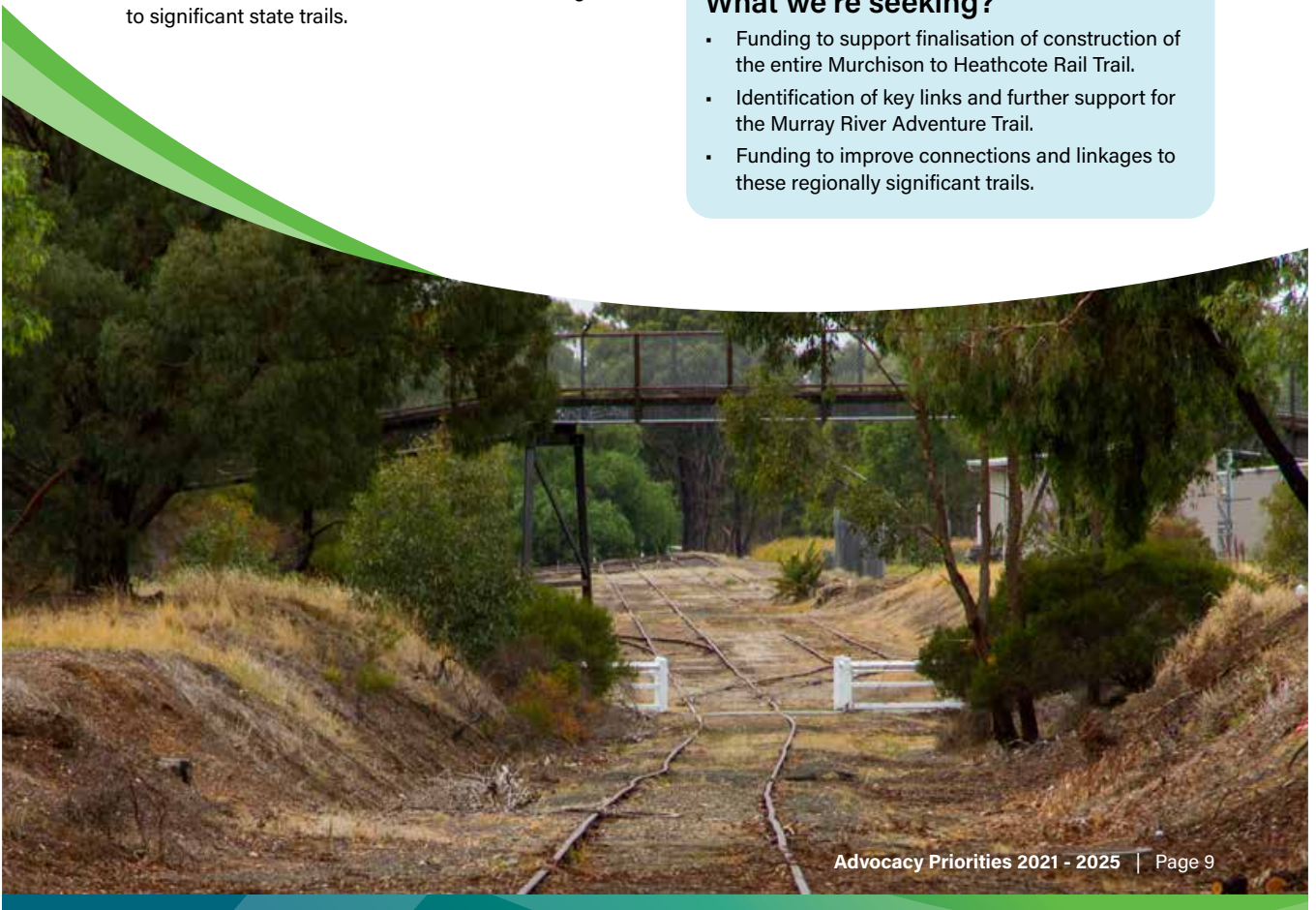
- Continued support and engagement with partners to identify links for our community and visitors to the Murray River Adventure Trail, a proposed multi-sport adventure trail along the length of the Murray River.
- Deliver and improve key shared walking and cycling paths showcasing the uniqueness of the region, connections to the natural environment and linkages to significant state trails.

#### Why is it important to our community?

- The visitor economy is an important industry across the Shire of Campaspe and a significant source of employment for locals. The trails will attract users from outside the local communities and will have an economic benefit to local food and beverage outlets, accommodation facilities and other retail services.
- The Murchison to Heathcote Rail Trail has been designed to be universally accessible catering for different trail experiences, adventurer needs and preferences.
- Nature-based and adventure tourism contributes positively to individual health and wellbeing, improving local liveability, social, cultural and environmental connections and protects sensitive areas.

#### What we're seeking?

- Funding to support finalisation of construction of the entire Murchison to Heathcote Rail Trail.
- Identification of key links and further support for the Murray River Adventure Trail.
- Funding to improve connections and linkages to these regionally significant trails.



## Our Key Advocacy Campaigns 2021 - 2025

## Community Capacity

### Lifesaving Aerodrome Upgrades

Upgrades to provide the capacity and capability to cater for the new larger air ambulance fleet of aircrafts.

- A helipad, all weather access, upgraded lighting and energy efficiencies along with an increase in length and width of the runway, taxiways and aprons and drainage.
- Reconfiguration allowing more planes to land and take off.
- Facilities that meet industry standards and remain operational providing important lifesaving access to healthcare and emergency services to our community.

#### Why is it important to our community?

- Without these upgrades the new Air Ambulance Victoria and the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Service fleet of aircraft will not be able to access the facility, denying our community access to critical life changing medical treatment.
- Support investment and growth in business and tourism.
- Regional airports provide a critical connection to medical based services and clinics and support regional businesses and tourism.

#### What we're seeking?

- Funding of \$2.1 million to enable the project to progress to construction.
- Estimated total project cost is \$4.1 million.
- Council has already spent approximately \$275,000 in detailed design and has committed a total of \$1.9 million.



# Standing By Our Communities

## Council Support For Local Issues

Council's advocacy role includes backing local groups with their lobbying efforts when needed.

There are a number of non-council projects identified as indispensable to the progression of the Campaspe community, in particular in the spheres of education and regional economic development.

Campaspe Shire Council endorses these key projects and the work being undertaken by various community organisations to seek government recognition and funding support.



## Council Support For Local Issues

### Echuca Wharf Universal Access

The Echuca Wharf is an iconic tourism experience where visitors can live and breathe the historic experience of the past by travelling on steam powered paddlesteamers.

Due to the ageing infrastructure the area is inaccessible to the elderly and people with mobility issues, posing safety risks to the public and limiting the use of the wharf by tourism operators.

A new universal all access floating pontoon will improve accessibility to the iconic Murray River and the paddlesteamer experiences delivering an improved tourism product.

#### What we're seeking?

Funding of \$480,000 to support improvements to the visitor experience and construction of a floating pontoon at the Echuca Wharf.

### World Heritage Bid Central Victorian Goldfield

Support 13 Victorian councils working together to secure World Heritage listing for the Victorian Central Goldfields that will place the region and Victoria on the world stage.

#### What we're seeking?

A strong commitment from government to support the bid for a World Heritage listing for the region.

### Gargarro Regional Botanic Gardens

Gargarro Regional Botanic Gardens is located in the small town of Girgarre. The project is being delivered in stages across the next 20 years at a total project cost in excess of \$20 million. The project has completed parklands, water storage, extensive plantings and a feature amphitheatre. Five sensory gardens and a plant nursery are planned, yet to be delivered.

#### What we're seeking?

Funding for detailed design and construction of the remaining stages is needed.

### Regional Trailer Exchange

Echuca, on the Victorian NSW border, is a popular location for freight drivers to exchange trailers and return to their area of origin. NSW Cobb Highway is the start/end of a critical road train network that permits B triple road trains making Echuca a key transport interchange hub.

A trailer exchange is needed to allow drivers to safely park vehicles and improve road safety for the local community and visitors.

#### What we're seeking?

Funding for the identification, design and construction of a dedicated trailer exchange facility.

## Council Support For Local Issues

### Water Supply for the Agricultural Sector Colbinabbin – Toolleen – Corop Pipeline

Investment in water-saving infrastructure extending the existing domestic and stock pipeline providing reticulated water supply south of Colbinabbin towards Toolleen. The pipeline will directly service the existing cropping and mixed farms and expanding viticulture industry.

The pipeline will result in significant water savings by evaporation and seepage from the current dams and open channels as well as expand the area accessible to water and provide certainty to agribusinesses.

#### What we're seeking?

Funding to support a business case to confirm the economic and agribusiness benefit.

### Connected Communities - Improving Walking & Cycling Linkage

Safe, accessible and enjoyable shared pathways that connect missing links, promote active transport and give more people opportunities to be healthy, active, socially and environmentally connected.

More physical activity can help our community feel better physically and mentally and overcome many of the health challenges facing our community.

Compared to other modes, active transport is cheap, healthy and good for the environment but without safe, connected and accessible infrastructure, communities are restricted and active transport is not available.

#### What we're seeking?

Funding to install pedestrian footpaths and cycleways, crossings and facilities to complete connection of the network.

### Co-Location of Early Childhood Education Centres

Co-location of Early Childhood Education Centres into existing schools and included in the planning for new schools across the region. Co-locating services within schools has significant benefits locally. Services are on one site, sharing common rooms and services, infrastructure and equipment provide benefits to parents, staff and the service.

#### What we're seeking?

Funding to support the co-location of kindergartens with already established primary schools across the municipality.

# Always In Our Sights

## The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges

These issues include some of our community's persistent difficulties, which council strives to progress through regional collaboration and sustained dialogue.

Our communities face a range of persistent difficulties – issues that stay on the agenda for successive years and continuously evolve.

Council works to advance these issues through regional collaboration and raising their profile through ongoing advocacy and dialogue with government.





## The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges

### Secure and Affordable Water Supply for the Agricultural Sector

Agriculture needs secure and affordable water supplies to grow fresh produce and raise livestock. Farmers use water to irrigate crops and pasture, apply pesticide and fertiliser, cool crops and control frost.

Scarce water supplies can interrupt agricultural production and threaten regional incomes and jobs.

Protecting and adapting farming for the future means securing reliable, sustainable water supplies.

Victoria is Australia's largest agriculture producer, producing \$15.9 billion worth of agricultural product from only 11.5 million hectares of land.

Better water infrastructure both on and off farm supports agriculture's long-term future and prosperity. Agriculture's growth prospects relies on this infrastructure, particularly highly water-dependent sectors like dairy and horticulture. Modern water infrastructure can also support agriculture businesses to make changes that allow for continued profitability in the face of rapidly changing climate conditions.

#### What we're seeking?

Funding to support on farm efficiencies in irrigation practice and modernisation across the Goulburn Murray Irrigation Region.

### Policy Impacting Freight Routes

Key transport routes unusable due to funding criteria restriction.

The increasing size, demand and mass limits of freight vehicles means that many bridges and culverts across regional Victoria require strengthening to allow travel by Higher Mass Limit Vehicles (HMLVs).

O'Dea Road, Echuca is a key transport route for freight linking to the Murray Valley and Northern Highway. HMLVs cannot use this key town bypass due to 2.5km of unsealed road requiring drainage and culvert infrastructure upgrades owned by Goulburn Murray Water (GMW).

Under the current funding guidelines agencies, such as GMW, cannot apply for funding to upgrade and strengthen these critical pieces of road infrastructure.

Consequently, producers and manufacturers in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District are not able to use many of the key transport routes.

#### What we're seeking?

The eligibility criteria for Roads and Bridges funding needs to be changed to allow agencies (such as GMW) other than road managers to apply for funding to upgrade key infrastructure.

## The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges

### Long-Term Funding Certainty for Regional Road Maintenance and Upgrades

Regional roads support workers and freight, transport regional goods and produce to market, link tourists with regional attractions, and help keep communities connected. Keeping roads and bridges in good condition reduces fuel consumption, tyre wear, and vehicle maintenance and repairs, which in turn reduces vehicle greenhouse gas emissions and their environmental impact.

A large proportion of the road network is old and made from materials not intended for current truck loading and vehicle requirements.

Roads and supporting infrastructure are also vulnerable to extreme weather, which is exacerbated by the impacts of climate change. The quality of regional roads is declining, but keeping communities connected and their economies functioning means regional roads must be properly maintained and upgraded.

The Victorian Government should provide a transparent framework that defines the level of service, or desired condition, of each type of regional road and bridge in a hierarchy based on defined criteria. Not every road needs to be maintained at the same standard but should be maintained to meet its intended purpose.

The Victorian Government should dedicate a 10-year funding program to regional road maintenance and upgrades. Providing road managers the long-term certainty needed to prioritise investments more efficiently, investing in upgrades supports economic and social outcomes.

#### What we're seeking?

Development of a 10-year funding program for regional road maintenance and upgrades.

### Building a Grid that Supports Renewables

The National Electricity grid is ageing and in need of significant transformation to cater for future growth and demand in solar infrastructure in regional communities and in particular the commercial and industrial sectors.

Regional Victoria has vast renewable energy resources to harness solar and wind, however the existing electricity grid is struggling to cater for this growing demand and capacity. Improvements are needed to ensure security, sustainability and transmission across the state.

#### What we're seeking?

Increased investment and review of network connection requirements across Victoria.

Federal and state support for regional towns to progress community led renewables projects delivering local economic development and investment in regional Australia.

Policy commitment to mandate battery storage capacity to be minimum of 180 hours.

## The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges

### Charging the Regions

Rollout of a comprehensive Electric Vehicle (EV) charging network across Victoria is needed.

Expansion of the existing Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure network would enable greater regional connectivity and accelerate EV uptake.

The rollout must incorporate at least one fast charger (25–50kW DC) per municipality across Victoria. Increased chargers would generate increased tourism and economic benefits of \$260 million by 2030, improve air quality and reduce emissions as well as support local supply chains such as installers and equipment manufacturers.

#### What we're seeking?

Industry stimulus of \$5 – 7 million to support a comprehensive rollout of Electric Vehicle charging network across Victoria.

### Digital Connectivity

Digital technology and infrastructure are fundamental to the economic and social growth of regional Victoria. Digital connectivity creates opportunities and decreases barriers.

Quality digital connection is essential for businesses and households to be able to participate and engage in modern life, engaged with friends and family as well as access everyday services, including health care and education. Digital connectivity reduces the need to travel and brings services to the home or business.

One of the biggest challenges faced by rural and regional Victoria is having access to essential services. Without quality NBN connections available many rural and regional communities are falling behind.

Council supports the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership Priority Projects aimed at addressing the digital connectivity gaps.

#### What we're seeking?

Continuation of mobile blackspot funding.

Rollout of very fast connectivity in the region's major centres, and the Gisborne - Bendigo - Echuca corridor.

Rollout free public WiFi in the region's major and smaller centres.

Improved access of rural communities to telehealth to reduce the health inequalities in health service access and provision.

Expansion of the 5G network coverage across regional Victoria.

### Investing in Rural and Regional Victoria's Future

With Victoria's population continuing to expand at a rapid rate, it's essential that a better balance is struck between the growth of Melbourne versus regional Victoria. Many of the state's regions and rural communities lag behind, despite offering great lifestyle opportunities, jobs and affordable housing.

Council calls for long term planning to identify and plan for large and small scale infrastructure projects, investment attraction and economic productivity to match population and demand growth.

This includes mechanisms and funding to support key infrastructure projects in rural areas and regional cities to stimulate population growth outside Melbourne.

Investment in rural areas and regional cities will strengthen local industries, employ local people and support them tackling skills shortfalls and challenges.

Explore options for hydrogen use throughout the region.

#### What we're seeking?

Ongoing commitment to funding and implementation of the Loddon Campaspe priorities of Victoria's Infrastructure Strategy 2021-2051.

Funding to support a hydrogen business plan for Campaspe.

## The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges

### Addressing Barriers to Recycling and Reducing Waste

Reducing waste, reusing materials and recycling resources conserves valuable virgin materials, increases economic productivity, and reduces pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

Victoria is producing more waste today than ever before. From 2000 to 2018, waste generation doubled from 7.4 million to 14.4 million tonnes each year. About 30% was buried in landfill. Resource recovery rates have stagnated at just under 70% of total waste.

In May 2021, the Victorian Government released Victoria's climate change strategy and its waste sector emission reduction pledge, which reduces emissions and also reinforces the Victorian Government's commitment to halving food waste by 2030 and diverting 80% of waste from landfill.

Infrastructure solutions, policies, planning and performance monitoring need to be appropriately funded, adapted over time and supported by targets that incentivise performance that reduce barriers to recycling and reducing waste.

#### What we're seeking?

Adequate infrastructure solutions and funding to match policy change that support reducing waste, reusing materials and recycling resources.

### Education Drives Economic Growth

Evidence shows there is a consistent link between where people live and their educational outcomes at all stages of education.

Rural and remote students have reduced access to education services compared to metropolitan students.

Vocational education and training (VET) is an important pathway for regional and remote students, particularly where directly connecting to local industries and local jobs.

Further, linking future skill requirements to school curriculum will strengthen the transition of students to employment and build a workforce equipped for the future. There are opportunities to expand a number of innovative programs focused on this outcome in the region.

#### What we're seeking?

Ongoing commitment to funding and implementation of the Loddon Campaspe Economic Growth Strategy, particularly supporting the development of vocational training solutions that better serve the needs of businesses in sub-regional centres.

### Kindergartens: Universal Access to 15 Hours

Early childhood education is the foundation for lifelong learning.

The National Partnership Agreement with the Federal Government guaranteeing funding of 15 hours per week for all kindergarten-aged children expired in December 2021. A commitment for a further four years is yet to be established.

Permanent ongoing funding is needed, without ongoing funding for universal access to early childhood education, many families will no longer be able to afford putting their children into kindergarten. This impacts children, their families, and kindergarten staff, and at the same time jeopardises Australia's quality of education.

#### What we're seeking?

Permanent ongoing funding of 15 hours per week for all kindergarten-aged children.

## The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges

### Opening the Borders to Business

Service delivery and regulatory differences between states make living, working and running businesses in border communities more challenging and costly.

COVID-19 state border closures had significant local and regional impacts.

Making it easier to do business across borders has economic benefit, while addressing practice and regulatory barriers to people accessing education, justice, health and other services improves health and social outcomes in border communities – making our border areas better places to live.

Council welcomed the Victorian Government's establishment of a cross-border commissioner and the Victoria's Border Brokers. Council will continue to use this opportunity to advocate for changes that realise:

- Improved coordination of service delivery.
- Opportunities for integrated planning and infrastructure development.
- Removal of red-tape for local businesses.

#### What we're seeking?

Sustained engagement with business and local government to deliver solutions to cross border issues impacting businesses and community through inconsistent regulations and red tape.





Corner Hare and Heygarth Streets, Echuca




Hours: 8.30am to 5.00pm  
Monday to Friday

Postal: PO Box 35, Echuca VIC 3564

Telephone: 03 5481 2200  
1300 666 535

Email: [shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au)

Social:  @CampaspeShireCouncil  
 @campaspeshire  
 #campaspeshire

**Customer Service Centres**

Kyabram, 19 Lake Road

Rochester, 43-45 Mackay Street

Rushworth, 33 High Street

Tongala, 37 Mangan Street

## 9.3 Rushworth Streetscape Project Update - Lessons Learned & Financial Summary

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Projects & Facilities	Projects & Facilities	Manager Projects & Facilities	General Manager Infrastructure

### 1. SUMMARY

To provide Council with information regarding the Rushworth Streetscape Renewal Project, following its decision its meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to vary the scope of work and to present an update of the final 'Stage 1' project costs and 'lessons learned'

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

**That Council note the contents of this report.**

### 3. PURPOSE

At its 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 meeting Council considered a confidential report that recommended the reduction of Works Under Contract (WUC) for C20045, Rushworth Streetscape Renewal.

Along with the endorsed recommendation to vary WUC, the other recommendations requiring follow up action by officers included:

6. *A report be brought to Council after the current contract concludes outlining the total costs incurred and any other relevant information to be gained as future learnings.*

This report brings together information from briefings in February and March 2022 and addresses this recommendation.

### 4. DISCUSSION

#### Financial Summary

This information has previously been presented in the February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, briefing.

The Rushworth Streetscape renewal project commenced in the 2017/2018 FY. Construction was originally scheduled to start in 18/19 financial year but was pushed back to 2020/21 and 2021/22 due to ongoing stakeholder consultation, subsequent re-design, and the need to amend planning permit documentation.

The project had an initial 'total project' budget of \$1,505,000 (ex gst).

A contract for construction works was awarded by Council at its meeting 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at a value of \$1,142,306 (ex) for the construction of the Rushworth Streetscape Renewal project (C20045) and commenced on site late February 2021. This contract was for the entire scope of works, including both the eastern and western footpaths. This scope was later reduced after significant variation costs due in the main to insufficient depth over Telstra services had to be accommodated.

The substantive construction contract had a final cost of \$1,321,013.60 inclusive of all variations. The total project costs including the construction contract, design and documentation, authority fees and charges (e.g. Telstra), project management (external consultant) etc were \$1,584,864.46.

Consequently, there was a total project 'over-run' of \$79,864.46 which was funded from the Contingency Reserve.

This final 'total project' (Stage 1) figure of \$1,584,864.46, while exceeding the original total project budget of \$1,505,000, is less than the estimates provided when consideration for the reduced scope was being worked through and is consistent with the forecasts provided to the mid-September 2021 briefing.

## **Lessons Learned**

A summary of the lessons learned discussions has been provided as Attachment 1.

The summary document focuses on the areas of Risk and Issues, Scope, Communication, Time and Cost.

Upon Practical Completion of the project internal assessments were undertaken and a 'lessons learned' workshop with stakeholders including design, construction contractors, project management and services representatives was conducted on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The discussions were respectful, open, and honest between the different parties.

Put simply, the issues experienced during the construction works were because of the design not being rigorously assessed for constructability prior to a contract being awarded and ground works commencing. An example of this failure was not establishing the vertical location of in ground assets. The clash of construction with these in ground assets resulted in the need to vertically relocate Telstra assets, delayed the construction program, and had budget implications.

Future works of this extent in a complex environment need to be designed in consultation with service and asset owners rather than relying on DBYD or horizontal location techniques alone. Physical location of inground assets 'at the design stage' is required. As an outcome of the 'lessons learned' workshop we have secured a commitment from Telstra staff to 'walk the ground' that the next phase will address (e.g. western side of High St) to ensure that their assets are considered in the design works to come and provide options and alternatives as required.

Greater attention needed to be paid to the specific nuances of working in Rushworth (and more complex urban spaces such as this) and a more detailed investigation to the constraints imposed by properties abutting the construction zones. The proposed design did not adequately consider the basements of the properties on the western side, nor the verandas, and should the project have continued more significant issues would have been encountered. More thorough 'front end' investigation would have avoided the key issues that either did, or would have, impacted the works.

## **Current Status**

Stage 1 of Rushworth Streetscape Renewal achieve Practical Completion on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021. The contract is now in the 12-month defects liability period.

Works have commenced on Stage 2 with the appointment of a consultant Project Manager (PM). Commencing with lessons learned from Stage 1, the PM will lead the review and reflection piece, lead investigation and consultation, and manage the detailed design works. Continuing with the works directly after Stage 1 will help to ensure that knowledge and insight is retained and that the errors of the initial design are not repeated.

## **5. OPTIONS**

Option 1: Take note of the contents of this report.

This option is recommended by officers.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

Internal consultation:

- Rushworth Streetscape Project Manager
- Manager Projects & Facilities
- Infrastructure Development Coordinator
- Engineering Design Coordinator
- Capital Works Coordinator



External consultation:

- EC&C Construction Contractors
- RMG Engineering
- Telstra

Councillors:

- 15 September 2021 Council Meeting.
- 09 February 2022 Council Briefing Session.
- 02 March 2022 Council Briefing Session.

## **7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no Council Policy and relevant law has been identified within this report.

## **8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## **10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## **11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025**

Not applicable

## **12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Issues:**

As identified in the lessons learned

**Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

#### **14. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

#### **15. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

#### **16. CONCLUSION**

It is noted that there are many redundant inground assets which may not appear on DBYD or other authority databases and in most instances the risk will remain with CSC should these assets be encountered during construction activities. It is therefore essential that CSC engage in active investigation to locate and identify in-ground assets not only horizontally but also vertically.

#### **17. ATTACHMENTS**

1. PR 100165 Rushworth Streetscape Renewal Lessons Learned Lessons 1 FINAL RPT [9.3.1 - 2 pages]

## [PR-100165]Rushworth Streetscape Renewal Lessons Learned Summary

**Phase:** DELIVERY

**Object:** LESSONS LEARNED

Category	Lesson	Impact	Recommendation for future projects
Risks and Issues	Drainage Works near post office	During the implementation of the Stage 1 works it was identified that the current design solution for drainage at the eastern side near the post office requires reconsideration. The open drain section adjacent large tree/historic railway line was not proposed to be included in original scope of works. However, this area of drainage was in poor condition and required remediation works	The Stage 2 works require the section of open drain on the eastern side adjacent the Post Office to be addressed
Scope	Ensuring site survey and assessment of existing conditions is thoroughly undertaken during the design phase	During the implementation of the works it became evident that existing features such as driveways and power poles had not been addressed fully considered in the design process, and a number of 'new assets' had to be relocated during construction to suit the actual on-site conditions.	Larger more complex works to include an on-site review by experienced construction personnel to identify key issues prior to finalising the IFT drawings.
Risks and Issues	Western Footpath - existing property basements	The design did not fully consider the impact of basements on the Western side that extend out below the pavement. The proposed design could not be constructed without compromising building structural integrity	Stage 2 works require re-design to reconsider the footpath and associated kerb/road treatments in the vicinity of the identified basements.
Cost	Water Services	Once the kerb removal and road reconstruction works commenced it became apparent that numerous water services did not have adequate cover and would require relocation in order to undertake the kerb works, causing contractor variations and delays	On large projects confirm service depths are during the design phase (potentially even via direct potholing) in order to include relocation, incorporation or avoidance of services. relocation or incorporation in works; in consultation with the service owner.
Risks and Issues	Western Footpath - existing verandah posts	As part of the Stage 1 works on the eastern side of the street it was necessary to realign the new kerb line to ensure existing verandah posts on buildings were not impacted. This change had to be implemented during the construction phase and caused delays/additional costs.	The Stage 2 design needs to include consideration of how the verandah posts on buildings on the western side of the street will be protected.
Communication	Consideration of the impact during construction in terms of	The delayed contract and implementation of the works meant that construction sequencing would impact the annual Easter Fair within Rushworth. Consequently, the contractor was paid to restage their works	Community events likely to be impacted by major construction works should be included as constraints within the tender process so that the Contractor is

	Community Events	to minimise the impact on the Easter Fair (Footnote: Due to COVID 19 restrictions the Easter Fair wasn't actually held in the end, however, the contractor restaging costs were still incurred)	required to consider the associated impacts
Cost	Telstra Service location and confirmation during design phase	During the design phase the line of existing Telstra services (x,y) was located during the survey, however, the depth of the actual services (z) was not considered in detail. Thus once the concrete footpath was removed during the initial phase of construction it was discovered that the Telstra service did not have adequate cover and would require relocation in order to undertake the footpath works. In addition relocation of Telstra services then had a flow on effect for the replacement of existing asbestos pits. This failure to better understand the depth of the Telstra services caused significant extra time, costs ultimately leading to descoping of the overall works.	Confirm service depths during the design phase to ensure the design intent includes provision for relocation or incorporation in works, and consult the service owner .  NOTE: Telstra officers have committed to walking the western side of High Street Rushworth with CSC staff and designers to discuss options regarding construction for the second phase and how we can achieve the same aesthetic look and feel without necessarily clashing with Telstra inground assets.
Risks and Issues	Post Office corner	The planned kerb and footpath alignment at the Post Office corner impacted on both Telstra and stormwater assets and requires realignment. A realigned design was provided during the Stage 1 works but still had issues in terms of impact of existing services.	Stage 2 works will require a renewed assessment of the impact of the new footpath and kerb works. Formal VicRoads approval of the new design will need to be sought during the design phase.
Risks and Issues	Drainage Concerns	Concern has been raised regarding the works undertaken on the eastern side of High Street and how they might impact stormwater flow.	A catchment analysis will be organised to test the construction on the eastern side, including the pedestrian outstands, and help inform the revisiting of design for the western side.

## 9.4 Planning Scheme Amendments Update

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Planning & Building	Planning and Building		General Manager Development

### 1. SUMMARY

This report is to provide Council with an update in relation to the two current planning scheme amendments, being Amendment C117 Echuca West Precinct Structure Plan and Amendment C118 Omnibus.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes

#### 1. The update in relation to Amendment C117 & Amendment C118

### 3. PURPOSE

To update Council in relation to the progress of Amendment C117 & Amendment C118.

### 4. DISCUSSION

**Amendment C117** (Echuca West PSP) is to rezone land in Echuca West consist with a Precinct Structure Plan and Development Contributions Plan prepared by Council and the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA). The amendment has been through all the required processes as defined under the Planning & Environment Act 1987 and has been submitted to Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP) on behalf of the Minister for Planning seeking gazettal (inclusion in the Campaspe Planning Scheme).

On 25 January 2022 Council received a letter from DELWP on behalf of the Minister for Planning. The letter identified some key issues, other matters and required changes to the Explanatory Report. Officers drafted a response and sent all the required information back to DELWP on 2 February 2022. The information sent has been acknowledged by DELWP as being received and has been uploaded into the relevant department portal Amendment Tracking System (ATS). No other formal response or request has been received.

**Amendment C118** (Omnibus) is to implement changes required pursuant to VC148, processes several mapping and zoning changes, and seeks to implement the outcomes of adopted and endorsed documents of Council.

Council officers satisfied the conditional authorisation provided by DELWP on behalf of the Minister for Planning and started exhibition of the amendment on Thursday 3 February for six weeks. As part of the exhibition officers sent letters to affected owner/occupiers, newspaper notices and an information sheet.

Officers have also held five 'drop-in' information sessions at Echuca (x2), Kyabram, Rochester and Rushworth. So far one submission was received which was discussed, resolved, and subsequently withdrawn.

### 5. OPTIONS

#### Option 1: Note

Note the report, recognising that amendments and their processing are defined under the *Planning & Environment Act, 1987*.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

The process in relation to consultation (exhibition) is defined and determined by DELWP and has been met.

## **7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Consideration of the policy and legislative were addressed within the relevant report that was previously submitted to Council, in accordance with the Planning & Environment Act 1987.

## **8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

Consideration of the financial and economic implications were addressed within the relevant report that was previously submitted to Council, in accordance with the Planning & Environment Act 1987.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Consideration of the environmental implications were addressed within the relevant report that was previously submitted to Council, in accordance with the Planning & Environment Act 1987.

## **10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Consideration of the social implications were addressed within the relevant report that was previously submitted to Council, in accordance with the Planning & Environment Act 1987.

## **11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025**

The amendment seeks to 'build vibrant communities' and 'plan for growth' which are listed within the Council Plan.

The delay of either amendment would impact several strategic objectives that are encompassed within the Council Plan themes, such as a strong and engaged community and resilient economy.

## **12. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

## **13. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

## **14. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

## **15. CONCLUSION**

C117 remains an urgent and important amendment for the growth of Echuca West. Council has worked in collaboration with the VPA, relevant referral agencies (including DELWP) and landowners to get the amendment through to DELWP for gazettal.

C118 is an important and large amendment which seeks to transform the planning scheme, while introducing some critical changes and policies, consistent with approved documents/strategies. Officers will continue to monitor the exhibition process and will seek to resolve submissions if achievable. The amendment is likely to be the subject of a formal report to Council in May 2022.

## **16. ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

## 9.5 Australian Local Government Association Motions

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Declan Moore	Office of the CEO		CEO

### 1. SUMMARY

The next NGA is to be held in Canberra from 19-22 June and will be the next opportunity for ALGA to clearly outline and articulate an agenda to a new or returning Federal Government.

ALGA is currently calling for motions for consideration at the NGA. Motion must represent a strategic issue of national importance.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

**That Council endorse the following motions for submission to Australian Local Government Association for consideration at the National General Assembly:**

- This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program funding for local governments and allocate a proportion of this funding for infrastructure design of community infrastructure in partnerships with local communities.**
- This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to amend the necessary Legislation, regulations and/or Contractual arrangements to ensure that both Telstra and NBNCo, their subsidiaries and contractors, cannot pass the cost of relocating their buried infrastructure on to local government if the publicly available 'as built' (or 'as laid') plans do not accurately record the location(s) of their assets.**

### 3. PURPOSE

To seek endorsement of motions to be submitted to Australian Local Government Association for consideration at the National General Assembly.

### 4. DISCUSSION

As the national voice of local government, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) advocates on behalf of Australia's 537 councils for funding and policy outcomes that support local governments to deliver better results for their communities.

Each year ALGA holds a National General Assembly (NGA) in Canberra where councils from around our nation discuss current and emerging challenges and opportunities and advocate to the Federal Government on critical issues facing our sector.

The motions passed at NGA inform ALGA's strategic direction and national advocacy objectives.

The next NGA is to be held in Canberra from 19-22 June and presents an opportunity for ALGA to clearly outline and articulate an agenda to a new or returning Federal Government.

The theme for the NGA is *Partners in Progress*, focusing on how partnerships, particularly between the Australian Government and local governments, can tackle the immediate challenges facing communities and help prepare for the future.

ALGA is currently calling for motions for consideration at the NGA. Motion must represent a strategic issue of national importance.

Importantly any motions submitted must meet the following criteria:

- Be relevant to the work of local government nationally;
- Be consistent with the themes of the NGA;
- Complement or build on the policy objectives of your state and territory local government association;
- Be from a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association; Propose a clear action and outcome; and
- Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.

All motions must demonstrate a clear national objective, a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion and have the endorsement of Council.

The priority areas for Campaspe are economic recovery, transport, and community infrastructure, building resilience, circular economy and intergovernmental relations. In support of these priority areas the following motions are proposed:

#### **One**

*This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program funding for local governments and allocate a proportion of this funding for infrastructure design of community infrastructure in partnerships with local communities.*

(Refer Attachment One)

#### **Two**

*This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to amend the necessary Legislation, regulations and/or Contractual arrangements to ensure that both Telstra and NBNCo, their subsidiaries and contractors, cannot pass the cost of relocating their buried infrastructure on to local government if the publicly available 'as built' (or 'as laid') plans do not accurately record the location(s) of their assets.*

(Refer Attachment Two)

### **5. OPTIONS**

#### Option 1: Council endorse the motions as presented

Endorsing the motions at NGA will enable them to be considered for informing ALGA's strategic direction and national advocacy objectives. Importantly those issues are then addressed with Ministers, MPs and decision-makers in Canberra and around the country through Ministerial meetings, forums, budget submissions, and advocacy campaigns by ALGA on behalf of local government.

This option is recommended by officers.

#### Option 2: Council not endorse the motions as presented

Advocacy is a key role of local government. For council, advocacy is about stepping up to speak out on important issues on behalf of Campaspe residents, ratepayers and businesses. To do this is to seek positive outcomes from decisionmakers on important issues, such as new infrastructure, funding for programs, or changes to policy or legislation that will benefit our community. Not endorsing the motions proposed is likely to have a longer term impact on communities.

This option is not recommended by officers.



## 6. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- EMG

Councillors:

- 02 03 2022 Council Briefing Session.

## 7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no Council Policy and relevant law has been identified within this report.

## 8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## 9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## 10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## 11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025

Flourishing local economy

A resilient long term economy attractive to local and external investors

Stimulated economic activity that provides local jobs

Well planned places

Digital connectedness maximising mobility, economic productivity, health care access and education participation

Growing quality of life

Inclusive, connected, culturally diverse and safe

## 12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no issues or risks identified with the proposed motions for ALGA consideration.

## 13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

#### **14. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

#### **15. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

#### **16. ATTACHMENTS**

1. ALGA Motion 2022 LRCI program funding [9.5.1 - 2 pages]
2. ALGA Motion 2022 Underground assets [9.5.2 - 3 pages]

**ALGA Motion**

State: Victoria

Council: Campaspe Shire Council

Contact: Mr Declan Moore, Chief Executive Officer or Mr Andrew Cowin, Manager Governance & Strategy

Council: 2 Heygarth Street, Echuca 3564

03 5481 2200

[shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au)

**Motion:**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program funding for local governments and allocate a proportion of this funding for infrastructure design of community infrastructure in partnerships with local communities.

**National Objective:**

The provision of LRCI program funding from May 2020 has been one of the enablers for local governments to boost local economic recovery through the delivery of increased community infrastructure. Continuing this program will support the national objective of supporting economic recovery across Australia from the COVID-19 pandemic as well as supporting job creation both within Council and through contractors.

Local Government is responsible for the provision of \$x billion worth of infrastructure to local communities across the nation. The direct funding of all local governments through the LRCI program has demonstrated support to local communities both large and small and has allowed for local responses to supporting economic recovery.

Including a component of funding under this program for planning and design of infrastructure will ensure the ongoing pipeline of future projects for delivery and could support community partnerships with both the Australian and Local Governments in the design of community infrastructure for long lasting community benefit.

***Summary of Key Arguments***

The Australian Government is to be commended for investing \$2.5 billion to the LRCI program in support of local governments stimulating economic recovery at a local level through infrastructure projects that will have ongoing community benefit.

Continuing the direct allocation of program funding will support ongoing economic recovery and aid the timely provision of economic stimulus within local communities. This funding also supports the retention and creation of jobs both within local governments and with contractors.

The last three rounds of the LRCI program have focused on infrastructure delivery within defined timelines and have relied upon local governments having 'shovel ready' projects to advance through the program. This has depleted the available projects that can be advanced to the construction phase and delivered within 12 to 18 month timeframes, especially for smaller rural local governments like Campaspe Shire Council.

Allocating a proportion of the program funding for planning and design of community infrastructure will support local governments to have an ongoing pipeline of infrastructure projects to advance to delivery, maintain ongoing economic activity.

Investment in local roads and community infrastructure is a direct demonstration of the Australian Government working in partnership with local governments, in support of local communities and responding to their diverse and specific local needs.

**ALGA Motion**

State: Victoria  
 Council: Campaspe Shire Council  
 Contact: Declan Moore, Chief Executive Officer  
 Council: 2 Heygarth Street, Echuca 3564  
 03 5481 2200  
[shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au)

**Motion:**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to amend the necessary Legislation, Regulations and/or Contractual arrangements to ensure that both Telstra and NBNCo, their subsidiaries and contractors, cannot pass the cost of relocating their buried infrastructure on to local government if the publicly available 'as built' (or 'as laid') plans do not accurately record the location(s) of their assets.

**National Objective:**

Local Government is responsible for billions of dollars' worth of infrastructure in local communities across the nation.

In order to conduct its works efficiently and effectively, councils should be able to rely upon the veracity of data supplied by other entities with respect to the location of their assets (including orientation and depth) within the proposed work area.

**Summary of Key Arguments**

Local government conducts thousands of projects worth billions of dollars to build, repair, renew or replace significant assets across Australia.

Despite investigations and detailed design work to determine potential impacts of 'other agency' underground assets, etc, it is not uncommon to subsequently uncover and/or inadvertently damage other agency assets as works commence, because their location has not been recorded accurately, if at all in the publicly available records (e.g. Dial before you Dig); either to relocate the assets or to avoid them.

Neither agency accepts responsibility should their unrecorded or incorrectly mapped asset be impacted, demanding that councils should conduct exhaustive and expensive exercises to locate them and then avoid them in the works (often incurring additional costs), or replace and/or relocate them at councils' cost should they be otherwise disturbed.

A recent example in Campaspe demonstrates the impact:

Incorrectly recorded location of Telstra Services that turned a small rural town \$1.0M streetscape renewal project (on both sides) into a \$1.4M project to complete just one side of the road, as Telstra required council to relocate their infrastructure to an appropriate depth.

# Disclaimer and legal details



\*Telstra advises that the accuracy of the information provided by Telstra conforms to Quality Level D as defined in AS5488-2013.

It is a criminal offence under the Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth) to tamper or interfere with telecommunications infrastructure.

Telstra will also take action to recover costs and damages from persons who damage assets or interfere with the operation of Telstra's networks.

By receiving this information including the indicative plans that are provided as part of this information package you confirm that you understand and accept the risks of working near Telstra's network and the importance of taking all of the necessary steps to confirm the presence, alignments and various depths of Telstra's network. This in addition to, and not in replacement of, any duties and obligations you have under applicable law.

When working in the vicinity of a telecommunications plant you have a "Duty of Care" that must be observed. Please read and understand all the information and disclaimers provided below.

The Telstra network is complex and requires expert knowledge to interpret information, to identify and locate components, to pothole underground assets for validation and to safely work around assets without causing damage. If you are not an expert and/or qualified in these areas, then you must not attempt these activities. Telstra will seek compensation for damages caused to its property and losses caused to Telstra and its customers. The 5 P's to prevent damage to Telstra assets are listed above. Construction activities and/or any activities that potentially may impact on Telstra's assets must not commence without first undertaking these steps. Construction activities can include anything that involves breaking ground, potentially affecting Telstra assets.

If you are designing a project, it is recommended that you also undertake these steps to validate underground assets prior to committing to your design.

This Notice has been provided as a guide only and may not provide you with all the information that is required for you to determine what assets are on or near your site of interest. You will also need to collate and understand all of the information received from other Utilities and understand that some Utilities are not a part of the DBYD program and make your own enquiries as appropriate. It is the responsibility of the entities undertaking the works to protect Telstra's network during excavation / construction works.

Telstra owns and retains the copyright in all plans and details provided in conjunction with the applicant's request. The applicant is authorised to use the plans and details only for the purpose indicated in the applicant's request. The applicant must not use the plans or details for any other purpose.

Telstra plans or other details are provided only for the use of the applicant, its servants, agents, or Certified Locating Organisation. The applicant must not give the plans or details to any parties other than these and must not generate profit from commercialising the plans or details.

Telstra, its servants or agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused or occasioned by the use of plans and or details so supplied to the applicant, its servants and agents, and the applicant agrees to indemnify Telstra against any claim or demand for any such loss or damage.

Please ensure Telstra plans and information provided always remains on-site throughout the inspection, location, and construction phase of any works.

Telstra plans are valid for 60 days after issue and must be replaced if required after the 60 days.

## Data Extraction Fees

In some instances, a data extraction fee may be applicable for the supply of Telstra information. Typically, a data extraction fee may apply to large projects, planning and design requests or requests to be supplied in non-standard formats. For further details contact Telstra Planned Services.

Telstra does not accept any liability or responsibility for the performance of or advice given by a Certified Locating Organisation. Certification is an initiative taken by Telstra towards the establishment and maintenance of competency standards. However, performance and the advice given will always depend on the nature of the individual engagement.

Neither the Certified Locating Organisation nor any of its employees are an employee or agent for Telstra. Telstra is not liable for any damage or loss caused by the Certified Locating Organisation or its employees.

Once all work is completed, the excavation should be reinstated with the same type of excavated material unless specified by Telstra

The information contained within this pamphlet must be used in conjunction with other material supplied as part of this request for information to adequately control the risk of potential asset damage.

When using excavators and other machinery, also check the location of overhead power lines.

Workers and equipment must maintain safety exclusion zones around power lines

**WARNING:** Telstra plans and location information conform to Quality Level 'D' of the Australian Standard AS 5488 - Classification of Subsurface Utility Information. As such, Telstra supplied location information is indicative only. Spatial accuracy is not applicable to Quality Level D. Refer to AS 5488 for further details. Telstra does not warrant or hold out that its plans are accurate and accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracy shown on the plans. **FURTHER ON SITE INVESTIGATION IS REQUIRED TO VALIDATE THE EXACT LOCATION OF TELSTRA PLANT PRIOR TO COMMENCING CONSTRUCTION WORK.** A plant location service is an essential part of the process to validate the exact location of Telstra assets and to ensure the assets are protected during construction works. The exact position of Telstra assets can only be validated by physically exposing them. Telstra will seek compensation for damages caused to its property and losses caused to Telstra and its customers.

## Privacy Note

Your information has been provided to Telstra by DBYD to enable Telstra to respond to your DBYD request. Telstra keeps your information in accordance with its privacy statement. You can obtain a copy at [www.telstra.com.au/privacy](http://www.telstra.com.au/privacy) or by calling us at 1800 039 059 (business hours only).

## Telstra Damage Cost Recovery & Management



### Why wasn't the cable buried deeper?

There are generally no requirements for a telecommunication carrier to install facilities at a certain depth or specific alignment. Whilst Telstra takes all reasonable steps to lay its facilities at a sufficient depth in accordance with good engineering practice, the actual depth of facilities can vary depending on the location and type of facility.

It cannot be assumed that any facility will be laid at a specific depth, or that it will remain at the depth at which it was laid. Depth can be influenced by the nature of subsoils, the presence of rock, the existence of other facilities or work by others. Changes to the landscape above a facility can occur constantly through natural causes and actions by others; such as erosion, farming or earthworks. Such changes can have the effect of a cable appearing to become shallower over time. Telstra has no control over this. Therefore anyone disturbing the earth even to a very shallow depth must check whether there is cable in the area before commencing any digging, excavations or earth moving activities.

### How does Telstra work out what to charge?

The costs which Telstra are claiming from you are the actual costs of repairing the damage caused to Telstra's facilities. Telstra's labour costs are not charged at a commercial rate and do not include profit or GST.

Telstra may arrange for the required work to be effected by Telstra staff, Telstra approved contractors or a combination of both.

### How could I find out where the cables were?

Dial Before You Dig (DBYD) is a widely advertised national enquiry service that is supported by Telstra, and other Telecommunication carriers including utilities, councils and private organisations. DBYD is NOT owned by Telstra but is an independent body of which Telstra is a member.

Plant location details (plans) and information can be obtained from DBYD by phoning 1100 or via the internet at [1100.com.au](http://1100.com.au). DBYD will forward your request to its members, such as Telstra, who then provide plans and information about their underground facilities in an area. It may take 2 - 5 working days to receive plans and information from Telstra and other DBYD members, and therefore DBYD should be contact well before any works start.

## 9.6 Renaming Luth Street (from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway), Echuca

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Acting Traffic Engineering and Road Use Officer	Assets	Acting Manager Assets	Acting General Manager Infrastructure

### 1. SUMMARY

Council has received a submission from Planright (Echuca) to undertake a road renaming for the western end of Luth Street, Echuca. The reason being that if the western end were to remain as Luth Street, it could result in a risk to public and operational safety for emergency response, cause confusion for transport, communication, and mail services.

Luth Street, Echuca currently presents in two sections, separated by Echuca College (secondary school). The east end of Luth Street from Echuca College to Butcher Street is occupied by established homes and presents as a court and properties are numbered as per the normal street numbering system. The west end of Luth Street, from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway, currently presents as a road reserve with no road surfaces present.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Approve the renaming of Luth Street (west), Echuca between Tech School Drive and Murray Valley Highway to Eucalypt Court, Echuca.**
2. **Advertise the proposed renaming of Luth Street (west), Echuca between Tech School Drive and the Murray Valley Highway to Eucalypt Court, Echuca for public consultation as per Naming Rules of Places in Victoria 2016 Consultation Section 7.1 Minimum Requirements.**
  - a. **Public consultation to be open for a period of no less than 30 days as per the Naming Rules of Places in Victoria 2016 Consultation Section 7.1 Minimum Requirements.**
  - b. **In the event no objections/submissions are received, Council to lodge the proposed renaming of Luth Street (west), Echuca between Tech School Drive and the Murray Valley Highway to Eucalypt Court, Echuca with the Office of Geographic Names (OGN).**
  - c. **Should objections/submissions be received, a further report be presented to Council summarizing the objections/submissions and recommendations.**
3. **Advise all relevant parties of the name change, in the event that Council makes an application, and it is approved by the Office of Geographic Names (OGN).**
4. **Receive a further report, should an application be made by Council but be declined by the Office of Geographic Names (OGN), be presented to Council with a new renaming proposal.**

### 3. PURPOSE

To seek approval from Council, as the naming authority, for the renaming of Luth Street, Echuca between Tech School Drive and Murray Valley Highway to Eucalypt Court, Echuca.



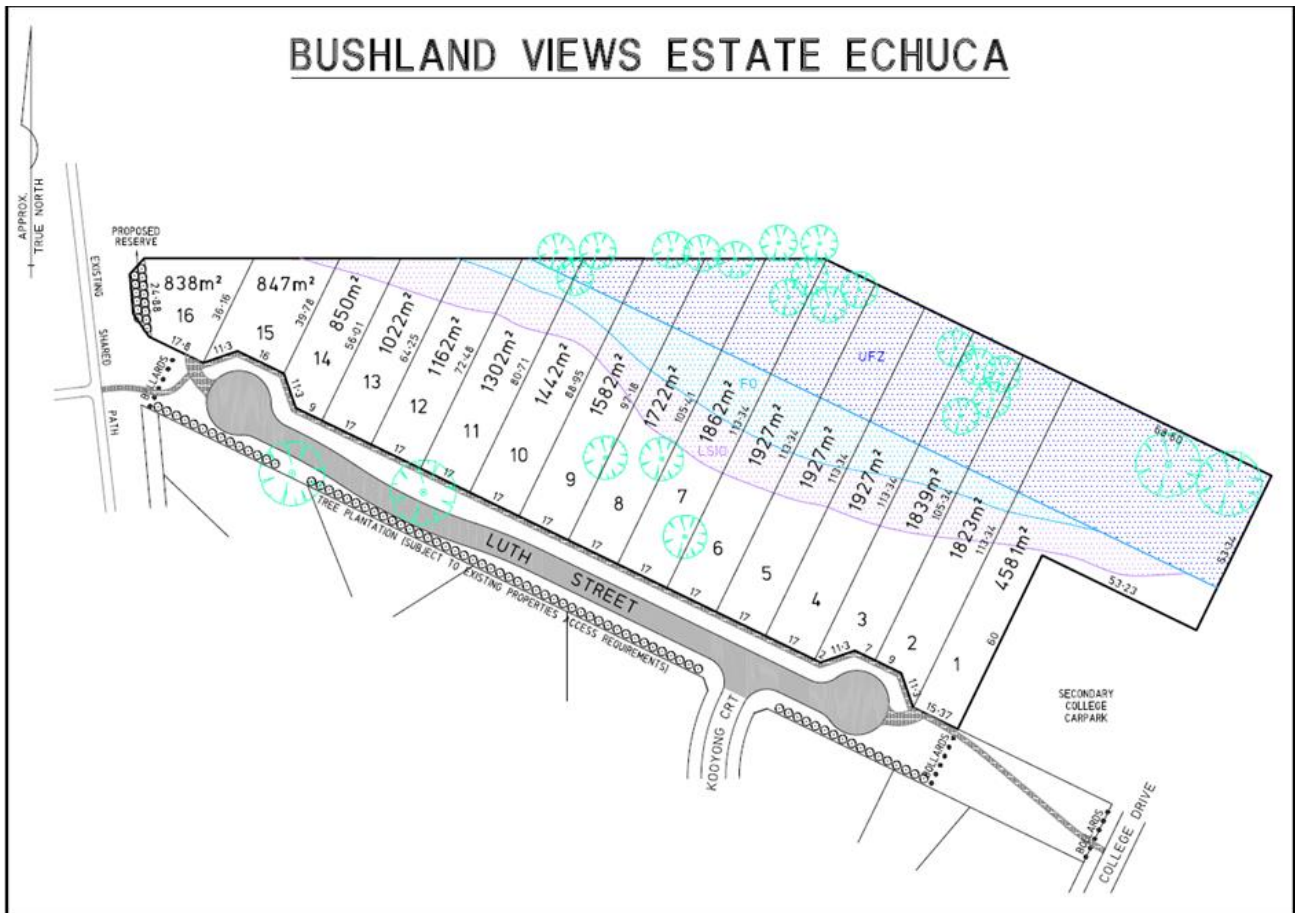
#### 4. DISCUSSION

Luth Street Echuca currently presents in two sections which has been separated by Echuca College (secondary school). The east end of Luth Street from Echuca College to Butcher Street is occupied by established homes and presents as a court and properties are numbered as per normal street numbering system. West end of Luth Street from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway, currently presents as a road reserve with no road surfaces present. The image below indicates the west end highlighted yellow and east end highlighted green.



The approved subdivision *Bushland Views Estate* (refer image below) will construct the west end of Luth Street into a road as per planning approval, with a court at either end. Property numbering will be conducted in accordance with Council's Procedure PR140 Street Numbering. The proposed renaming of the west end of Luth Street from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway as Eucalypt Court is in line with Council's Policy 168 Street Naming and Numbering and the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria (Statutory requirements for naming roads, features, and localities 2016).

## BUSHLAND VIEWS ESTATE ECHUCA



The approved sub-division Bushland Views Estate to date is not yet titled and will not affect the potential purchasers at this time. Therefore, no residents will be affected by the proposed name change from the west end of Luth Street from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway to the proposed Eucalypt Court.

However, if the west end of Luth Street from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway is to remain named as Luth Street, it could cause numbering issues that will result in a risk to public and operational safety for emergency response, cause confusion for transport, communication, and mail services. Renaming the west end of Luth Street to the proposed Eucalypt Court will remove the potential risk of public safety and is recommended.

Luth Street from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway in its current form runs parallel to the rear or side boundary (northern fence lines) of existing residential properties of which do not have approved rear or side access. These properties will be separated by the road reserve of the west end of Luth St (proposed to be Eucalypt Court).

### 5. OPTIONS

#### Option 1: Approve the renaming of the west end of Luth Street

Approve the renaming of the west end of Luth Street Echuca (from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway) to Eucalypt Court to alleviate any public and operational safety for emergency response, cause confusion for transport, communication, and mail services.

This option is recommended by officers.

#### Option 2: Do not approve of the renaming of the west end of Luth Street

Not approving the renaming of the west end of Luth Street Echuca (from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway) would cause numbering issues that could result in a risk to public and operational safety for emergency response, cause confusion for transport, communication, and mail services.

This option is not recommended by officers.

## 6. CONSULTATION

### Internal consultation:

- Planning Department
  - Road Services Unit

### External consultation:

- Office of Geographical Names

## 7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and the following Council Policy and/or relevant law are impacted by this report: The proposal is in accordance with the following policies and legislation:

- Council Procedure A140 Street Numbering
- Council Policy 168 Street Naming and Numbering
- Naming Rules for Places in Victoria 2016
- Geographic Place Names Act 1998

## 8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## 9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## 10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## 11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025

Not applicable

## 12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

### Issues:

#### Issue 1: Street Numbering

If the west end of Luth Street from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway is to remain named as Luth Street, it will cause numbering issues that could result in a risk to public and operational safety for emergency response, cause confusion for transport, communication, and mail services.

**Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

**13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

**14. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**15. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

**16. CONCLUSION**

To approve the renaming of the west end of Luth Street (from Tech School Drive to Murray Valley Highway) to alleviate street numbering issues and possible public and operational safety risks regarding emergency response, causing confusion for transport, communication, and mail services.

**17. ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

## 9.7 IWM Strategic Directions

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Environmental Project Officer - Conservation	Assets	Acting Manager Assets	Acting General Manager Infrastructure

### 1. SUMMARY

Integrated Water Management (IWM) is a collaborative approach to water planning and management. It works by bringing together organisations that have an interest in aspects of the water cycle to understand each other's needs and find ways to share resources and conserve and innovate water. The Coliban Strategic Directions Statement articulates the collaborative intent and shared agreement of all stakeholders involved in the Coliban Integrated Water Management Forum.

The Coliban Strategic Direction Statement includes an update on progress to date, case studies illustrating IWM in the region and details of the planned and potential projects designed to meet the strategic themes and key challenges over the next three to five years. The plan has been developed to complement other water, climate change, First Nations' rights and catchment strategies and plans that apply to the region.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

- Note the update on the IWM program across the Shire of Campaspe.**
- Endorse the Coliban Strategic Directions Statement – Draft 2022, noting that should there be significant changes in the ‘final’ document, it will be returned to Council for review.**

### 3. PURPOSE

To note the update on the Integrated Water Management Program and seek endorsement of the Coliban Strategic Directions Statement – Draft 2022.

### 4. DISCUSSION

In 2017 the Victorian Government established the Integrated Water Management (IWM) Program to promote collaborative planning and management of water, land and related services to maximise the ecological, economic and social benefits.

The IWM program established 15 forums across the Victoria, based on catchment areas, to represent community values and local opportunities in planning and to put IWM into practice, delivering actions from the *Water for Victoria Plan (2016)*.

Campaspe Shire Council is a member of two IWM forums, Coliban and Goulburn Broken, as the shire is located across two catchments.

In 2018 both the Coliban and Goulburn Broken IWM Forums developed Strategic Directions Statements (SDS). The SDS details the regional context, shared vision and water related outcomes for the catchment, as well as a list of IWM opportunities developed by the Forum.

The release of the SDS coincided with funding from the Victorian Government to initiate delivery of the IWM opportunities. From this funding Campaspe Shire Council was the lead for the project *Planning for future water management – Campaspe Integrated Water (IWM) Strategy*. The Strategy was developed in partnership with the community industry and government agencies, including the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Coliban Water, Goulburn Valley Water and the Goulburn Broken and North Central Catchment Management Authorities.

Through the Goulburn IWM Forum, Campaspe was a member of the Place-based Small Town Wastewater Management project. This project investigated how to develop a long-term plan to coordinate the improvement of wastewater management for towns with septic systems across the Goulburn Broken IWM region. The Environmental Health and Planning Teams participated in this project.

From the second round of funding for implementation of the SDS, Campaspe is the lead for the project *Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca*. This project is a collaboration between Campaspe Shire Council and Coliban Water to investigate the feasibility of a recycled water scheme from the Echuca West Water Reclamation Plan for irrigation of key public spaces in Echuca. This project was delayed during COVID and is now underway. Council will be updated with the findings of this feasibility study later in the year.

Now that the Forums have been operating for four years, with many of the original IWM opportunities completed, the SDSs across the State are being refreshed. The development of the new Coliban SDS has progressed to draft for final review by the Forum and practitioners, with the document to be ready for organisation approvals shortly.

The Coliban Strategic Directions Statement – Draft 2022 is attached for review and endorsement. Due to the short response time for the final report, Council is requested to endorse the draft document. Should there be significant changes to the final report, the final report will be referred to the April Council Meeting.

## 5. OPTIONS

### Option 1: Endorse the Coliban Strategic Directions Statement – Draft 2022

This will show Council's participation in Coliban Integrated Water Management project.

This option is recommended by officers.

### Option 2: Not endorse the Coliban Strategic Directions Statement – Draft 2022

Summary of option

Withdraw Council's support and participation in the Coliban Integrated Water Management project.

This option is not recommended by officers.

## 6. CONSULTATION

### Internal consultation:

- Assets Department
- EMG

### External consultation:

- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Regional Integrated Water Management)
- Coliban Integrated Water Management Forum

### Councillors:

- Communication Report

## **7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and the following Council Policy and/or relevant law are impacted by this report: Planning and Environment Act 1987.

## **8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## **10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## **11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025**

Resilient protected and healthy natural environment  
Sustainable water and energy use

Well planned places  
Land and underlying infrastructure suitable for growing populations  
Quality, attractive recreational spaces

Growing quality of life  
Communities have a say on local infrastructure and attractions that stimulate engagement and activity

## **12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

### **Issues:**

Nil

### **Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

## **14. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

## **15. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

## **16. CONCLUSION**

Council is a participant in the regional IWM program and is being asked to endorse the future plans and projects contained within the (Draft) 2022 Coliban Strategic Direction Statement.

## **17. ATTACHMENTS**

1. Coliban IWM Forum 2022 SDS draft for final review [9.7.1 - 38 pages]



# Coliban Integrated Water Management Forum

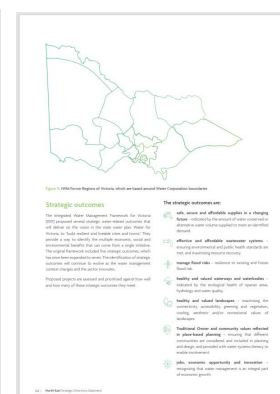
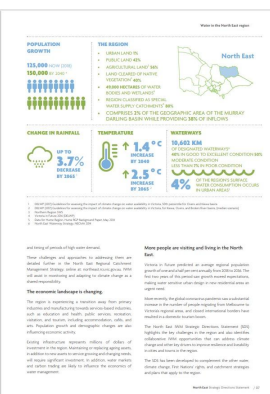
## Strategic directions statement - DRAFT 2022

Draft text presented in plain text.

Guidance text describing the planned content appears in italicised text.

Images/graphics included are examples only, general from previous SDSs. New versions will be designed for the refreshed SDSs with different detail as needed.

Preview of design concept:



Unofficial

## Front matter

- i. Cover*
- ii. Publication information, ISBN, etc*
- iii. Table of Contents*

## Acknowledgements

**The Coliban IWM Forum covers Dja Dja Wurrung, Yorta Yorta, Taungurung and Barapa Barapa country, whose ancestors and their descendants are the traditional owners of this country.**

The 2022 Coliban IWM Forum Strategic Directions Statement has been developed thanks to the contribution of Forum members and practitioners. Their input has progressed through group meetings and workshops, and individual meetings with project sponsors and between collaborators. This process has allowed ideas to develop into mature project themes and initiatives.

Collaboration and cross-pollination have been key outcomes of the Forum, with ideas being shared and improved by input from project partners.

*Forum members:*

- Campaspe Shire Council
- Central Goldfields Shire Council
- City of Greater Bendigo
- Coliban Water
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation
- Gannawarra Shire Council
- Goulburn Murray Water
- Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water
- Greater Western Water
- Hepburn Shire Council
- Loddon Shire Council
- Macedon Ranges Shire Council
- Mitchell Shire Council
- Mount Alexander Shire Council
- North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA)
- Taungurung Clans Aboriginal Corporation
- Victorian Planning Authority
- Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation

## Foreword

Water is fundamental to the people and natural environment of our beautiful region, which depend on water to grow and thrive. Ensuring that our large cities and small regional towns have the resilience needed to be healthy, active and engaged communities is part of the mission of the Coliban IWM Forum.

For me, the defining feature of our work in the Forum is the manner in which it formalises the informal mechanisms currently operating across our region. We are working together towards shared goals and responsibilities to provide sustainable and healthy water for our environment and our people, in spite of the challenges of a changing climate. The Forum acknowledges these working relationships and prompts us to seek more collaborators in our community.

We remember the adversity faced during the Millennium Drought and how that period galvanised action for building infrastructure to underpin our water security. Many members of the Forum have been involved with the emergency responses to major flooding events in xxx and the localised flash-flooding that occurs in built-up environments. Our group has first-hand knowledge of environmental degradation of our waterways and the projected impacts of a changing climate on our water resources. And, importantly, there is a deep understanding amongst all of the great benefits that communities receive from green spaces and the positive presence of water in the environment.

We are blessed to have First Nations communities who have a strong knowledge of and connection to Country, and many leaders who deeply understand the challenges presented by our water variability. They are strategic thinkers who are committed both to short-term pragmatic solutions and longer-term strategic requirements to move our region to one where water is sustainably sourced, used, managed and valued. Our region benefits enormously from the leadership connections and existing working relationships between organisations, that include local government, water authorities, catchment management authorities, Traditional Owner groups and the State Government central policy and enabling unit in DELWP. All these participants play a specific role and have a deep understanding of each element of our water cycle.

I acknowledge all the work our Forum member agencies do, thank them for their involvement in preparing this Strategic Directions Statement, and wish them well in their ongoing efforts.

We are better together. My ongoing desire is that the formalised relationships and focus made possible by the Forum provides greater understanding, support and inspiration that will help us all as we work together towards a sustainable water future.

Jenny Dawson

Chair Coliban IWM Forum

## Executive summary

The *Integrated Water Management (IWM) Framework for Victoria* (September 2017) is designed to help regional stakeholders to work together, ensuring the water cycle contributes to the liveability of towns and cities in Victoria, with communities at the centre of decision making.

The Coliban Integrated Water Management Forum is one of 10 regional IWM Forums enabling the collaborative local implementation of the Framework.

### Vision

**Resilient and liveable communities.**

### Purpose

**Working together to create water cycle outcomes that support the future health and resilience of our environment and communities.**

The 2018 Strategic Directions Statement (SDS) articulated the collaborative intent and shared agreement of all stakeholders involved in the Coliban IWM Forum. This 2022 update provides a progress report on the Forum's activity, its changing priorities, and future opportunities. It describes the water security challenges and opportunities of the region, sets the strategic direction for the next few years, and outlines the 'best endeavours' or ways in which IWM is and will be applied through projects proposed, in progress and completed for the region.

### Key themes and challenges

The Forum's experience since establishment has highlighted the need to focus our Vision to address three key areas of greatest need:

- We need water for landscapes, for people and for the environment, and for healing Country.
- With a growing regional population in both large and small settlements, the Coliban region needs to do more with the water it has, and manage and plan accordingly.
- Hotter, drier conditions and strong community expectations for greater climate action means we need to act now to adapt to a rapidly changing climate.

The priorities and projects of the Forum have been developed to meet these emerging challenges.

### Opportunities

Fifteen opportunities have been identified in the region and these have been grouped into three themes that respond to the above challenges:

#### Water for People and Environment

1. Implementing Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan
2. Wanyarram Dhelk - Starting the Healing
3. Outfall Retrofit Scheme / Pilot Program
4. Forest Creek Revitalisation Project
5. Echuca Aquatic Reserve

### **Making More of Water Resources in a Changing Climate**

6. Drought Proofing Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge
7. Developing an Alternative Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens
8. Alternative Water for Priority Community Assets
9. Increased flows in the Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits
10. Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways
11. Campaspe Planning for the Future (Recycled Water)

### **Integrated Planning for a Sustainable Future**

12. Water Sensitive Urban Design for New or Upgraded Developments (Land & Buildings)
13. Bendigo Regional Employment Precinct
14. Macedon Ranges North IWM Plan
15. Servicing Small Townships

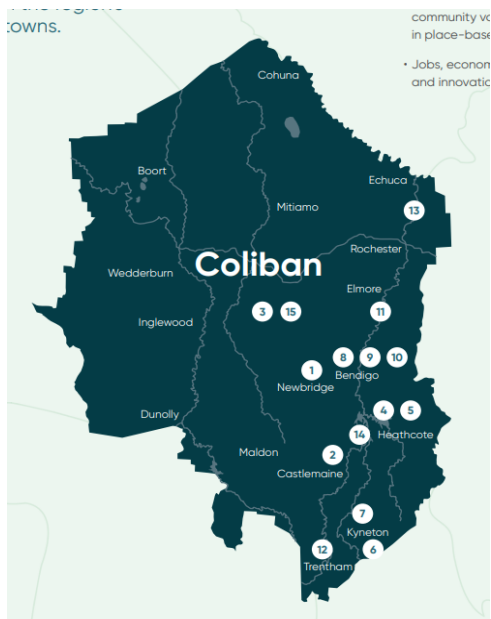


Figure 1: Location of IWM opportunities across the Coliban region.

## Better Together: Integrating Water Management in Victoria

### The first water custodians

First Nations clans have been living in balance with the natural environment in Victoria, practising culture, caring for Country and waterways, and maintaining sophisticated water management systems for tens of thousands of years.

More than 6,000 years ago, the Gunditjmara worked with the waterways along the Budj Bim lava flow in south-western Victoria, engineering an extensive and sophisticated aquaculture system to trap, store and harvest kooyang - short-finned eel. That system still lives and operates, the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape is now an UNESCO World Heritage List site.

Within north central Victoria, the Dja Dja Wurrung (Yes Yes speaking) Jaara (people of this Country) believe that all of Country has Murrup (spirit), all things from creation are made of the same source of life. Water has spirit. For the Taungurung, the First People of the rivers and mountains, "Our waterways are the lifeblood of Country; they are the blood and tears of our ancestors." Yorta Yorta people conserved the landscape and waterways for thousands of generations. "We are freshwater people that maintained and occupied a landscape containing floodplains and grasslands that continue to provide an abundance of natural resources that are easily accessible throughout the seasons." These lands and waters are also part of the history and culture of the Barapa Barapa, Wamba Wemba, Wadi Wadi people and clans represented by Barengi Gadjin Land Council (Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk).

### Pressures emerge and evolve

European settlement and the gold rush of the 1850s saw thousands of people flock to Victoria to seek their fortunes. This created many towns, yet also had big and long-lasting impacts on the creeks and gullies and displaced Traditional Owners from their Country.

Victoria's regional towns and cities have thrived with the provision of urban drinking water and sanitation services. Irrigated agriculture and dryland farming have both played important roles in Victoria's history and growth. Today, Victoria is the nation's largest food and fibre exporter<sup>1</sup>. Much of the water flowing into the Murray-Darling Basin System comes from the Victorian high country, and underpins irrigated agriculture in several states.

The complex challenges of water management continue throughout the state: we have lived through the Millennium Drought and experienced flooding, bushfires and extreme weather. We have seen the consequences of the overuse and overallocation of water in one area affecting the availability and/or quality of water in another. Significant investment and interventions have been required to start returning water to our rivers and floodplains, yet more remains to be done.

Water managers are now operating in an increasingly complex and uncertain environment. The drivers of change are both social and environmental, including climate change, population growth, shifting migration patterns associated with the coronavirus pandemic, economic challenges, and policy changes. But our beautiful state remains a wonderful place to live, and we continue to see the population increase. Regional Victoria is expected to grow from 1.5 million people in 2015 to 2.2 million over the next 30 years to 2051<sup>2</sup>.

The liveability of our regional towns and cities and the health of our environment and economy depend on the availability of water. Access to water is also important for social wellbeing and holds intrinsic cultural value for Aboriginal Traditional Owners. Therefore, we need an integrated and collaborative approach to adapt to change and maximise value across the whole water cycle.

### What is Integrated Water Management? How can it help address challenges?

The current water supplies and liveability of towns and cities owe much to the collaborative work done to date by water corporations, local and state government, communities and Catchment Management Authorities. We have the challenges of population growth and the threats of climate change and natural

<sup>1</sup> Victorian Food and Fibre Export Performance Report 2019-20

<sup>2</sup> Victoria in Future

disasters, but we also have the benefits of past experience and established relationships. Together, we can make decisions today that we will celebrate in the future.

**Integrated Water Management (IWM) is a collaborative approach to water planning and management. It works by bringing together organisations that have an interest in aspects of the water cycle to understand each other’s needs and find ways to share resources and conserve and innovate with water. It has the potential to provide greater value to our communities by identifying and leveraging opportunities to optimise outcomes - environmental, social and economic.**

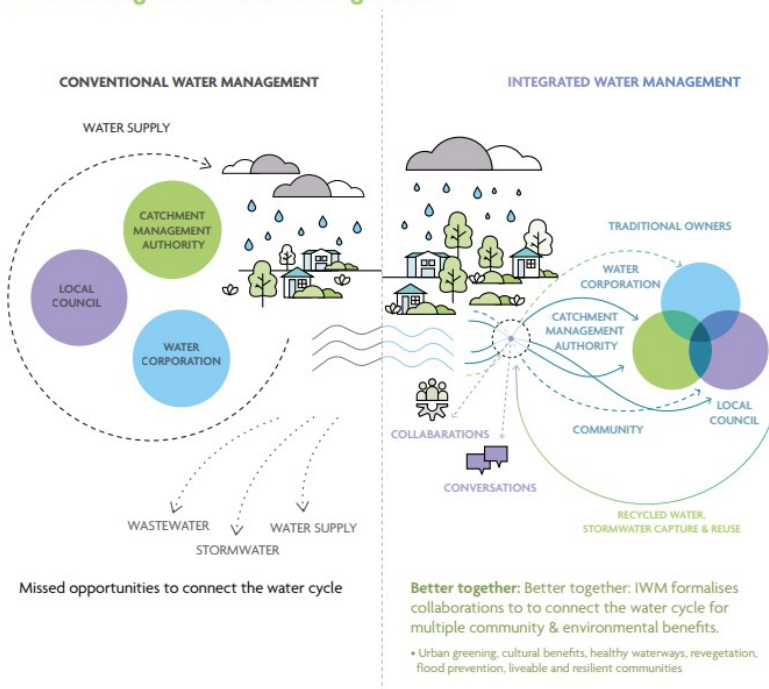
While everyone has a responsibility to conserve and protect water, there are a number of key groups charged with making decisions about water within each region. These groups include:

- Traditional Owner groups, who have a deep knowledge of and connection to the region’s waterways and Country;
- water corporations, that manage the water storage, water supply, and wastewater services;
- local governments, that manage stormwater, regulate local development and undertake strategic planning for future growth; and
- catchment management authorities, that plan for flood management and work with landholders to consider the interactions of land, water and biodiversity.

The decisions these groups make individually, can have significant impacts on the quality and availability of the water for others in the catchment and further downstream. So, it makes sense they collaborate towards common goals and share the benefits.

IWM is an approach that can be applied at multiple scales from water planning at the local park, right up to the whole of catchment. IWM can connect climate-change adaptation, planning and open space, water security and other strategies, so that collaborators can add value to each other’s projects.

**What is Integrated Water Management?**



*Figure 2: How does IWM work? Conventional water management saw a more siloed approach to water management, resulting in missed opportunities to connect water back into the urban water cycle. The IWM approach brings water managers together to plan and deliver new opportunities that save and re-use water, resulting in greener, wetter urban environments. Listening to and consulting with Victorian communities about how they want water managed is critical to informing IWM decision making. Communities are directly consulted on IWM Plans and through existing Catchment Management Authority, Water Corporation and Local Government strategies.*



### How are we applying Integrated Water Management?

To facilitate IWM across Victoria, the Victorian Government Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) supported the establishment of IWM forums across 10 regions of Victoria (Figure 3), in addition to five metropolitan IWM forums in Greater Melbourne. The forums bring together leaders of local water sector organisations to explore, prioritise and oversee the development of local IWM projects. Prioritised projects are managed and implemented by dedicated Working Groups and are captured within individual IWM plans. Where appropriate, Forums involve other organisations and groups that are not part of the water sector, but have direct or indirect interests in water management and land use planning, such as community and indigenous groups, planning authorities, VicRoads, developers, educational institutions, or large landholders.

Being collaborative, IWM builds on existing partnerships and planning processes, and aims to break down silos between independently operating, water decision-makers – encouraging Forum members to consider the water cycle of their own service delivery, and its interdependencies or overlaps with other members. Forum members consider waters in rivers, streams and bays, wastewater, drinking water, stormwater, and water treatment processes.

While collaboration can take more time and effort than planning for just one water service in isolation, working together achieves better outcomes for the environment, society, and economy by finding mutually beneficial ways to share water, assets, and costs.



Figure 3: IWM Forum Regions of Victoria, which are based around Water Corporation boundaries

### Strategic outcomes

The *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria (2017)* proposed several strategic water-related outcomes that will deliver on the vision in the state water plan, *Water for Victoria*, to “build resilient and liveable cities and towns”. They provide a way to identify the multiple economic, social and environmental benefits that can come from a single initiative. The original framework included five strategic outcomes, which has since been expanded to seven. The identification of strategic outcomes will continue to evolve as the water management context changes and the sector innovates.

Proposed projects are assessed and prioritised against how well and how many of these strategic outcomes they meet.

**The strategic outcomes are:**



safe, secure and affordable supplies in a changing future – indicated by the amount of water conserved or alternative water volume supplied to meet an identified demand.



effective and affordable wastewater systems – ensuring environmental and public health standards are met, while maximising resource recovery.



manage flood risks – resilience to existing and future flood risk.



healthy and valued waterways and waterbodies – indicated by the ecological health of riparian areas, hydrology and water quality.



healthy and valued landscapes – maximising the connectivity, accessibility, greening and vegetation, cooling, aesthetic and/or recreational values of landscapes.



Traditional Owner and community values reflected in place-based planning – ensuring that different communities are considered and included in planning and design, and provided with water-systems literacy to enable involvement.



jobs, economic opportunity and innovation – recognising that water management is an integral part of economic growth.

Find out more about how Victoria is applying IWM in *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria (2017)*. Visit [www.water.vic.gov.au](http://www.water.vic.gov.au)

### Strategic Direction Statement – how IWM is happening in the region

This Strategic Directions Statement (SDS) articulates the collaborative intent and shared agreement of all stakeholders involved in the Coliban IWM Forum. It describes the water security challenges and opportunities of the region, sets the strategic direction for the next few years, and outlines the 'best endeavours' or ways in which IWM is and will be applied through projects proposed, in progress and completed for the region.

This is the first update to the Coliban region's SDS, and includes:

- an update on progress to date;
- case studies illustrating IWM in the region; and
- details of planned and potential projects designed to meet the strategic themes and key challenges over the next three to five years.

This SDS has been developed to complement the other water, climate change, First Nations' rights, and catchment strategies and plans that apply to the Region.

## Water in the Coliban region

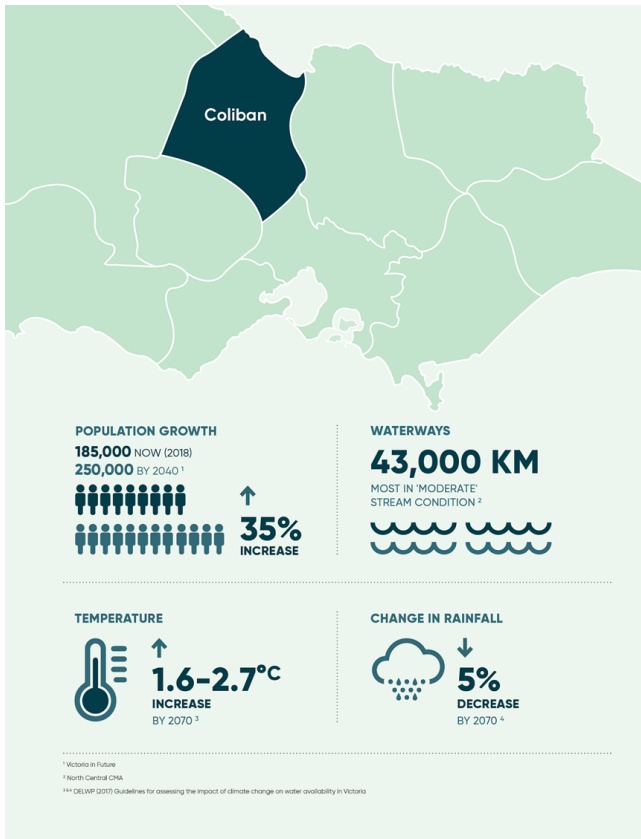
The Coliban region is home to nearly 200,000 people<sup>3</sup>, a diversity of plant and animal life, and the waters from spa country in the south to the Murray River and its floodplains on the border with New South Wales in the north. The area encompasses the lands and waters of the Dja Dja Wurrung, Yorta Yorta, Taungurung and Barapa Barapa country, whose ancestors and their descendants are the Traditional Owners of this country. It supports irrigated agriculture including dairy, orchards and intensive animal farming, as well as dryland cropping. Tourists and day-trippers come year-round to visit the resorts and fine-dining attractions of picturesque towns, the wonder and wildlife of the Wombat State Forest and other beauty spots, Indigenous cultural heritage sites, historical goldrush towns, popular fishing and kayaking locations, and Bendigo's many attractions. Waterbirds of state and national significance flock to the region's wetlands, including cormorants, Great Egrets, herons, Royal and Yellow Spoonbills, and Brolgas. The Northern Plains Grasslands, a critically endangered ecosystem, is home to the Plains Wanderer. Other local wildlife includes kangaroos, squirrel gliders, Growling Grass Frogs, Bogong Moths, and other keystone and iconic species.

The health and liveability of our thriving region is underpinned by water, from the provision of safe drinking water and the management of stormwater and wastewater in urban areas to the rivers, rainfall and other environmental flows that support ecosystems, landscapes and wildlife. Important river systems include the Loddon, Campaspe, Avoca and Murray River systems, which support the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District.

In the south of the region, the annual rainfall is around 1000 mm, while in the north it is as low as 350 mm, and a drier future is predicted. Consequently, water management is key to the region's long-term future.

---

<sup>3</sup> Victoria in Future 2019

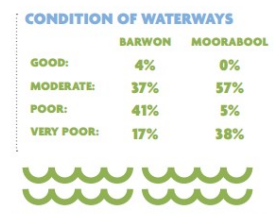


Infographic text and data:

**POPULATION GROWTH**  
 199,000 NOW (2021)  
 238,000 BY 2036<sup>4</sup>  
 20% INCREASE

**CONDITION OF WATERWAYS<sup>5</sup>**

	CAMPASPE	LODDON
GOOD:	7%	0%
MODERATE:	39%	41%
POOR:	33%	26%
VERY POOR:	21%	29%



**TEMPERATURE**  
 1.6-2.7°C INCREASE BY 2070<sup>6</sup>

**CHANGE IN RAINFALL**

<sup>4</sup> Victoria in Future 2019

<sup>5</sup> Third Index of Stream Condition report - ISC North Central

<sup>6</sup> DELWP (2017) Guidelines for assessing the impact of climate change on water availability in Victoria

5% DECREASE BY 2070

## A changing region

The Coliban IWM Forum has been operating for four years. It has experience to draw on and projects to build upon. In addition, major disruptions, such as natural disasters and the coronavirus pandemic, have highlighted the need for the Forum to sharpen its focus, rescope projects, and prioritise activities to address three key challenges or themes.

### **We need water for landscapes, for people and for the environment.**

*Victoria in Future* predicted an average regional population growth of one and a half per cent annually from 2018 to 2036. The first two years of this period saw growth exceed expectations. More recently, the global coronavirus pandemic led to a substantial increase in the number of people migrating from Melbourne to Victoria's regional areas, and closed international borders have resulted in a domestic tourism boom.

Visitors and permanent residents alike need drinking water supplies and wastewater management. Providing cost-effective water services in small towns and rural hamlets is a particularly challenging necessity. People also value healthy parks, waterways and landscapes for recreation and to improve local beauty and liveability.

Green spaces with shade and cooling vegetation are becoming vitally important as the Coliban region experiences a greater number of days of extreme heat. More Victorians died from heat-related illnesses in the fortnight leading up to the Black Saturday bushfires than the number who perished in the fires themselves. This makes 'green infrastructure', such as parks, wetlands and nature reserves, potentially life-saving community assets.

More broadly, some past and current land-use practices and extreme weather events have degraded important ecosystems. IWM offers opportunities to heal Country, rehabilitate and revitalise landscapes, change flows and keep water in nature for longer.

IWM Forums were formed specifically to "build resilient and liveable cities and towns" under the *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria* (2017). As such, the projects focus on urban and urban-serving areas. However, the Forum works in the context of recognising agricultural water needs, which are a significant contributor to the Coliban region's economy, and environmental water needs across the whole catchment. Growth impacts catchments, making the need to consider and manage its repercussions for the water cycle urgent.

**Traditional Owners** are taking an increasingly active and leading role in water management. There is growing recognition of the right of Traditional Owners and First Nations to self-determination and their inherent obligations to continually speak for and look after the Country of their ancestors for current and future generations. Traditional Owners in the Coliban region are taking more of a leadership role.

Victoria is the first state to progress Treaty discussions, the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria has formed, and there is increasing understanding among Victorians of Indigenous rights, connection to Country, and the need for inclusion, consultation, and reconciliation. IWM is increasingly being considered in this context.

The following projects fall under the **Water for People and Environment** theme:

- Implementing Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan
- Wanyarram Dhelk - Starting the Healing
- Outfall Retrofit Scheme / Pilot Program
- Forest Creek Revitalisation Project
- Echuca Aquatic Reserve

### **A growing population and a hotter, drier future under climate change mean the Coliban region needs more water, and to do more with the water it has.**

The Coliban region is already experiencing the consequences of climate change, with a 53 per cent reduction in long-term stream flow into the upper region's storages since 1996. Further reductions are projected. Some of Coliban Water's urban-water supply systems are forecast to have a shortfall in the

next 50 years. A 'business as usual' approach to water management will not allow the region's reduced supply to meet existing or growing demand.

It is also likely the effects of heatwaves, fire, flood and drought in the region will worsen and become more frequent due to climatic change. This will significantly impact ecosystems and communities in the region. Future fires will require water for firefighting. Fires and other natural disasters will demand increased capacity to manage water quality in the catchment to deal with dirty-water events. Changing weather patterns will also influence the growing seasons for agriculture and the timing of periods of high water demand.

These challenges, and approaches to addressing them, are detailed further in the North Central Regional Catchment Management Strategy, online at [northcentral.rcs.vic.gov.au](http://northcentral.rcs.vic.gov.au). IWM will assist in monitoring and adapting to climate change as a shared responsibility.

There is also an opportunity to make better use of water resources, considering both water quality and quantity, and directing water that's fit-for-purpose to where it's needed. This involves exploring opportunities to substitute captured stormwater or treated recycled water for potable water where drinking quality is not required. It also involves seeing discharges and wastewater as opportunities to increase water in the environment, rather than just problems to solve.

The following projects fall under the **Making More of Water Resources in a Changing Climate** theme:

- Drought Proofing Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge
- Developing an Alternative Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens
- Alternative Water for Priority Community Assets
- Increased flows in the Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits
- Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways
- Campaspe Planning for the Future (Recycled Water)

**We are experiencing significant growth in both large and small settlements. We need to manage and plan accordingly.**

The Coliban region is experiencing industrial growth, as well as residential growth. Bendigo is expected to grow to the size of Geelong. Land is opening for residential development around Bendigo and the larger towns. The smaller towns are growing, too. Many new residents are arriving from Melbourne with expectations of urban-style water services. There is a pressing need to ensure the long-term sustainability of accommodating this growth.

The following projects fall under the **Integrated Planning for a Sustainable Future** theme:

- Water Sensitive Urban Design for New or Upgraded Developments (Land & Buildings)
- Bendigo Regional Employment Precinct
- Macedon Ranges North IWM Plan
- Servicing Small Townships

One implication of growth is the increasing use of farm dams. The region already has a large and unsustainable number of farm dams. It's anticipated this policy challenge will be addressed through other organisations and regulations. The Forum, however, will continue to have an interest in this type of water use.

The Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement (SDS) highlights the key challenges in the region and also identifies collaborative IWM opportunities that can address climate change and other significant drivers to improve resilience and liveability in the cities and towns of the region.

The SDS has been developed to complement the other water, climate change, First Nations' rights, and catchment strategies and plans that apply to the region, summarised in Figure X.

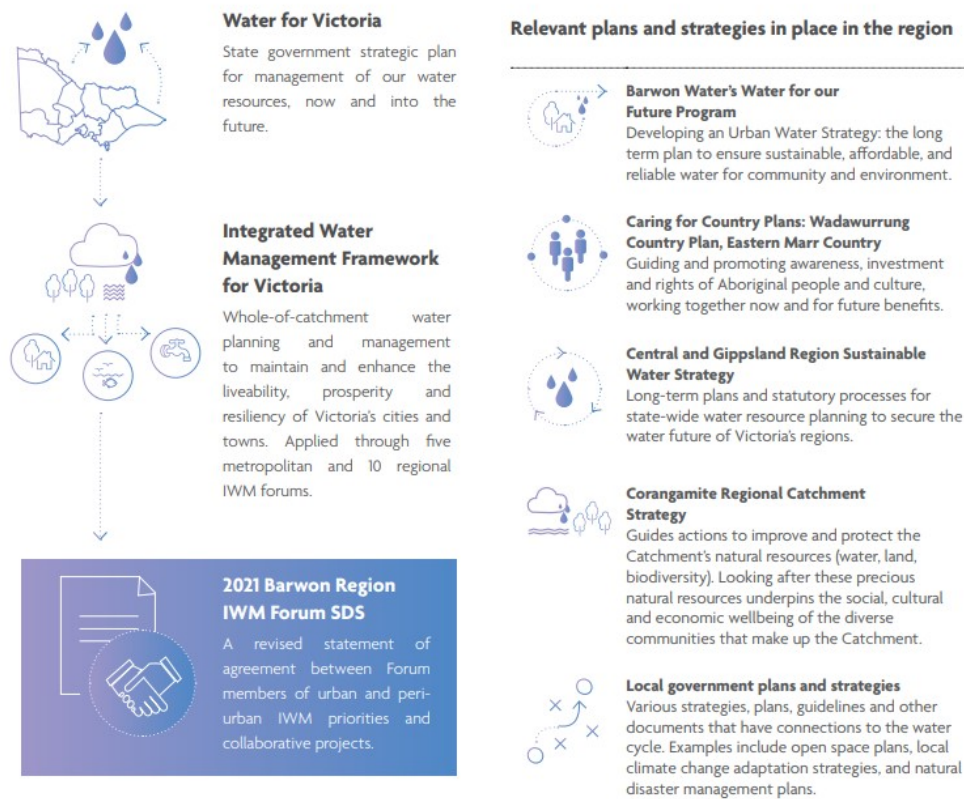


Figure 4: The SDS and related water policies, strategies and plans of the region.

Text for graphic:

**Water for Victoria**

*50-year State Government strategic plan for management of our water resources, now and into the future.*

**Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria**

*Framework to help deliver the Water for Victoria plan to maintain and enhance the liveability, prosperity and resilience of Victoria's cities and towns.*

**Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy**

*Long-term plans and statutory processes for state-wide water resource planning to secure the water future of Victoria's regions.*

**2022 Coliban IWM Forum SDS**

*A revised statement of agreement between Forum members of urban and peri-urban IWM priorities and collaborative projects.*

**Coliban Water 2022 Urban Water Strategy (in development)**

*A detailed 50-year forecast of water demands for local communities, along with supply options to meet these demands. Developed by water corporations.*

**Caring for Country Plans**

*Guiding and promoting the awareness, investment and rights of Aboriginal people and culture, working together now and for future benefits.*

**North Central Regional Catchment Strategy**

*A framework for actions to improve and protect the Catchment's natural resources (water, land, biodiversity). Looking after these precious natural resources underpins the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the diverse communities that make up the Catchment. Incorporating climate change, it is a partnership approach to catchment resilience.*

**Loddon Mallee Climate Ready Plan**

*The Loddon Mallee Climate Ready Plan aims to strengthen the resilience of our people, places and sectors to become climate ready. Uniting individual, community and agency approaches.*

**Local government plans and strategies**

*Various strategies, plans, guidelines and other documents that have connections to the water cycle. Examples include open space plans, local climate change adaptation strategies, and natural disaster management plans.*



## Progress to date

The first Coliban IWM Forum SDS was published in September 2018. It articulated the regional context, the shared vision and the strategic water-related objectives for the region. It also listed IWM opportunities as Ready to Advance projects developed in collaboration by the Forum partners. It can be viewed online at [www.water.vic.gov.au](http://www.water.vic.gov.au).

All of the councils and many other Forum members have IWM at the forefront of their thinking and several are implementing IWM projects independently. The projects – past, current and future – listed in this document and endorsed by the Forum members are those that benefit from a collaborative, multi-party approach.

Our first SDS identified 15 projects that reflect the Coliban IWM Forum's initial priorities and opportunities. Most of these projects are underway or completed. Progress on the 2018 SDS projects is summarised in the table below. Six, including the Reimagining Bendigo Creek project, have been completed. You can read more about this project on page XX. An extension of this project is proposed in this SDS. Five more projects are well underway, including the Managed Aquifer Recharge Potential in the Coliban Region project, which will serve as an important early demonstration project for other regions with highly-developed aquifers. Read about this project on page XX.

The Coliban IWM Forum is flexible and responsive to the changing needs and priorities of local governments and other members. Some projects were delayed as Forum members dealt with greater than expected population growth and the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. Two projects have been rescope and are included in this SDS, and a final two have been set aside in order to direct resources to higher priority projects.

Progress on the 2018 SDS projects is summarised in the table below.

**Table XX – Status of 2018 SDS Projects in Summary**

IWM opportunity	Status	Notes
Reimagining Bendigo Creek	Completed	Strategic plan developed to retrofit the catchment, keeping water in the landscape longer. Received funding. <i>See case study on page XX.</i> Next stage proposed. <i>See page XX</i>
Wanyarram Dheik	Underway	Wanyarram Dheik means to Heal Water. This Traditional Owner-led project complements Reimagining Bendigo Creek project. Next stage proposed. <i>See page XX</i>
Growing Newbridge Sustainably	Completed	A business case and report was prepared, outlining the feasibility of supplying the township of Newbridge with a secure water supply and associated water and sewerage infrastructure.
Water for Now and into the Future in Castlemaine	Completed	An integrated water study was completed which helps to identify opportunities for further detailed investigation as part of SDS2
Aboriginal Water Assessment – Campaspe River	Completed	Measures and prioritises river and wetland health so that Traditional Owners can more effectively participate in water planning and management.
Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Plan	Underway	Funded. Incorporated into Campaspe IWM Framework
Implementation of the Transition Strategy for a Water Sensitive Bendigo	Underway	Funded, and progressed investigation and concept into priority water sensitive urban design sites.
Campaspe: Planning for Future Water Management	Underway	Funded. Project has been re-scoped and included in refreshed SDS. <i>See page XX</i>
Managed Aquifer Recharge Potential in the Coliban Region	Underway	This project has produced a decision support tool <i>See case study on page XX.</i> It has led to a new project: Drought Proofing Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge.



		<i>See page XX</i>
Planning for Sustainable Water Management	Underway	Working towards planning mechanisms for councils for residential and commercial/industrial developments.
Lake Eppalock Hydro-electricity Project: For Country and Environment	Underway	Assessment of cultural and environmental values and business case complete
Macedon Ranges Northern Region IWM Plan	Not started	Project is included in refreshed SDS. See page XX
Greening Trentham for Water Security and Healthy Waterways	Not started	Project has been re-scoped and included in refreshed SDS See page XX
Lake Eppalock Water Quality Assessment	Not started	Superseded to direct resources to more urgent priorities
Hanging Rock Reserve Alternative Water Supply	Not started	Superseded to direct resources to more urgent priorities

## Reimagining Bendigo Creek

### **Dja Dja Wurrung's vision**



*There is a rippling along the Bendigo Creek, there is now undulation. Sounds, when there was none. There is a familiar sense of reawakening as we walk along the banks. There is open, clean water, verged by grasses and reeds that are strong and healthy like us. The Creek is healing and so are we.*

*Activity and conversation, voices of the community, people and children, looking for and anticipating life and movement within the Creek, hoping for new interactions. We now have a place to gather, to listen and to share.*

*The familiar sense and smell of smoke is around us, but not heat, a sweetened cleansing smell that is recognisable to us all, not feared, but welcoming and healing. You are amongst Cultural practice.*

*The ground is clean, and thick with Kangaroo Grass that gently brush against our hands and feet, there are now sensations underfoot, crinkling and crunching in the new life and healing, colours are yellow and as bright as the sun, they are unavoidable in their numbers. What was lost, has now returned.*

*Cultural practices and ceremony supports healing, and encourages cultural interaction, facilitating reconciliation and greater returns to the community.*

### **Collaboration to heal country**

The *Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan* marks a turning point in the creek's history by articulating a long-term vision to revitalise the urban creek. The immediate mission is to "change people's hearts and minds to take united action, so that in a generation's time Bendigo Creek will be a healthy, connected and nurturing place". To guide this, the Plan focuses on the three goals of Catchment, Connections and Culture. These goals aim to restore an urban catchment to slow and heal water, create human connections to the creek, and celebrate Aboriginal and migrant cultures along the creek.

An 18-month co-design process with the Traditional Owners - the Dja Dja Wurrung - relevant agencies and the community developed the *Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan*. The process enabled the Dja Dja Wurrung to articulate their vision for Bendigo Creek, facilitated the community to identify their values and aspirations for the creek, and built collective commitment amongst key stakeholders to implement the plan.








Key lessons from the co-design process include:

- Listen with an open heart and mind;
- Be flexible and allow plenty of time;
- Develop a comprehensive engagement process and trust each other to see it through;
- Enable culturally safe environments that allow Elders the time and space to discuss the project and their aspirations for Country deeply; and
- Have a core team of mixed skills and backgrounds to implement the co-design process.

The project was funded via the IWM forum and supported by partner contributions. The *Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan* is available to view online at [www.bendigo.vic.gov.au](http://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au).



## Projects

IWM opportunity	Strategic outcomes							Location	Scale
									
Implementing Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	Bendigo	City
Wanyarram Dheik - Starting the Healing	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	Med	Bendigo	Park
Developing an Alternative Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens	High	Med	Low	High	High	High	Med	Castlemaine	Precinct
Outfall Retrofit Scheme / Pilot Program	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Med	Med	Castlemaine +/- others	Town / Precinct
Forest Creek Revitalisation Project	Low	Low	Med	High	High	High	Med	Castlemaine	Park
Alternative Water for Priority Community Assets	Med	Med	Low	Low	High	Med	Med	Coliban Water region	Forum area
Drought Proofing Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge	High	Med	Med	Med	High	High	High	Bendigo, Huntly, Axedale, Marong, Heathcote & surrounds	Multiple towns
Increased Flows in Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits	Med	Low	Low	High	Med	High	Med	Coliban River	River reach
Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways	Low	Med	Med	High	High	High	Med	Trentham	Trentham & Forum area
Water Sensitive Urban Design for New or Upgraded Developments (Land & Buildings)	Med	Low	Med	High	High	High	Low	Forum area	Forum area
Bendigo Regional Employment Precinct	High	High	High	Med	Med	Low	High	Bendigo (Marong)	Precinct
Echuca Aquatic Reserve	Low/Med	Low	Low	Med	High	Med/High	Med	Echuca	Precinct / Park
Macedon Ranges North IWM Plan	High	High	Med	High	High	Med	Med	Macedon Ranges (Woodend, Kyneton)	Northern Macedon Ranges



safe, secure and affordable supplies in a changing future



effective and affordable wastewater systems



manage flood risks



healthy and valued waterways and waterbodies



healthy and valued landscapes



traditional owner and community values reflected in place-based planning



jobs, economic opportunity and innovation

[Table will have similar layout to previous SDS. Example (from North East IMW Forum) table shown below for reference only]

Table 1 – North East IWM Ready to Advance Opportunities

IWM opportunity	Strategic outcomes							Location	Scale
Engaging Aboriginal Communities in Integrated Water Management in the North East Region								Region	Forum area
WSUD Guidelines by Council Region								Region	Forum area
Climate Resilient Open Spaces								Region	Forum area
Bright Alternative Water								Bright	Town/City
Myrtleford Integrated Water Plan								Myrtleford	Town/City
Cluster Wastewater Management in Harrietville								Harrietville	Lot Scale
Water Sensitive Industrial Land for Benalla								Benalla	Town/City
Yackandandah – Bells Flat Wetland								Yackandandah	Town/City
Culture and Liveability at the Kiewa – Murray Confluence								Wodonga	Town/City
Corryong Reclaimed Water Reuse								Corryong	Town/City
Tallangatta Reclaimed Water Reuse								Tallangatta	Town/City
Wangaratta North West Growth Corridor								Wangaratta	Town/City
Baranduda Fields								Wodonga	Town/City
Gateway Island Master Plan								Wodonga	Town/City
Sumsion Gardens Wodonga								Wodonga	Town/City
Murray River Connect*								Yarrawonga	Forum area

The status of each IWM opportunity included in the Priority Portfolio reflects the phase of work to be undertaken in this time period.



## Theme: Water for People and Environment

### Implementing the Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan

In 2019-2020, the City of Greater Bendigo, the Dja Dja Wurrung, key regional agencies and the local community co-designed the [Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan](#). The Plan provides a long-term vision for the revitalisation of Bendigo Creek by setting goals with respect to healing the catchment, enhancing

cultural values along the creek and building connections to the creek. A key strategy of the Plan is to retrofit the catchment so that it acts more like a sponge, so that water is kept in the landscape longer and is cleaned via ecosystem services. To put this strategy into action, partner organisations will install water-sensitive urban-design infrastructure and reinstate riparian habitats. This will be guided by traditional ecological knowledge and underpinned with community engagement. Priority projects include:

Construction projects:

1. Construct instream works for Bendigo Creek. The concept design has been completed. The next stage includes taking the concept to detailed design, and obtaining funding and approvals for instream works.
2. Build stage 1 of the Long Gully Constructed wetlands. Detailed design has been completed and is now seeking approvals and funding.
3. Install an Internet-of-Things sensor network to improve monitoring of catchment health. A prototype has been produced and a monitoring plan is under development. Once the plan is finalised, installation locations for the sensor network will be identified.

Design and investigation projects:

1. Design and investigate the feasibility of renaturalising Back Creek. Next steps involve developing a project brief and procuring a consultant.
2. Scope and masterplan a cultural trail along Bendigo Creek, including connecting with Wanyarram Dhelk and designing the 'low-line' cycling route. The next steps will be to develop a project brief, enable a Dja Dja Wurrung advisory committee to lead the design process, and procure a consultant.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>

Subject	Details
<b>Status</b>	Committed and Engaged. Strategic Plan completed and implementation arrangements established.
<b>Lead Agency</b>	City of Greater Bendigo and Djandak
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	North Central CMA, DELWP, Coliban Water, Parks Victoria and La Trobe University.
<b>Location</b>	Bendigo
<b>Timeframe</b>	2022 – 2026 +
<b>Scale</b>	City

### Wanyarram Dhelk - Starting the Healing

This phase of Wanyarram Dhelk will focus on sediment capture and management, to enable Bendigo Creek to start being turned from an urban drain into a valued vibrant waterway.

This project will:

- establish a chain of instream sediment ponds that will be used to capture and manage sediment entering Bendigo Creek;

- design and reinstate riparian areas;
- investigate, identify and reduce current sediment hotspots in the Bendigo Catchment; and
- work with partners to develop a Stormwater Management Plan for the surrounding areas.

This project will build on the recent work completed by Water Tech, including Concept Designs and Site Surveys. It will be an important step in the restoration of Bendigo Creek and a key first step in implementing the Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan.

The preliminary stage will be revisiting the existing Concept Plans and working with key stakeholders to develop and progress to Detailed Design. This will include scoping the Stormwater Management plan, planning and approvals for the proposed works, and implementation following that. The majority of the survey, flood modelling and approvals process is well progressed as part of the preparation work already completed.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Dja Dja Wurrung (Djandak)
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	City of Greater Bendigo, North Central CMA, Coliban Water, EPA
<b>Location</b>	Bendigo, Bendigo Creek downstream of Weeroona Avenue
<b>Timeframe</b>	Phase 1: 2022 - 2024
<b>Scale</b>	Between Weeroona Avenue and Railway Bridge

### Outfall Retrofit Scheme / Pilot Program

Project description: Retrofitting stormwater outfalls around Castlemaine was identified as a key outcome of the *Water for now and into the Future: An Integrated Water Management Opportunities Report* for Castlemaine by Landcare groups.

Multiple stakeholders who attended the Opportunities Identification Workshop identified litter in the creeks, as well as erosion and sediment as key issues in Castlemaine. To mitigate this, gross pollutant traps (GPTs) and erosion remediation works are proposed in the form of rockwork and vegetation to help stabilise soil and prevent erosion.

As a pilot program, based on catchment analysis and site inspections, five sites have been identified in Castlemaine as having potential opportunities for rectifying outfalls and installing GPTs to minimise associated litter and sediment in the creek.

This could be a pilot program across the region, or specific to Castlemaine. The next steps involve securing funding for detailed design work, construction and monitoring.

	Strategic outcome	Strategic outcome	Strategic outcome	Strategic outcome	Strategic outcome	Strategic outcome	Strategic outcome
--	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------



	Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Community values reflected in place based planning	Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Council (if focused in Castlemaine)
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	DELWP, North Central CMA, Coliban Water
<b>Location</b>	Five proposed sites
<b>Timeframe</b>	Phase 1: 2022-2023 Phase 2: 2024 onwards
<b>Scale</b>	Town / Precinct

### Forest Creek Revitalisation Project

This Revitalisation Project is focused on the rehabilitation of a channelised section of urban Forest Creek, Castlemaine, and will:

- create a more natural stream channel while managing stormwater, flood and fire risk;
- facilitate community engagement by linking key trails, interpretative signage and citizen science projects;
- increase community awareness of the cultural significance of Forest Creek;
- Manage sediment and ongoing weed issues;
- create an enhanced aquatic habitat; and
- improve natural habitat and create a wildlife corridor.

The project evolved from an investigation by Professor Ian Rutherford entitled *Options for the Management of Forest Creek in Urban Castlemaine* (Castlemaine Landcare Group 2018)).

It provides Traditional Owner and community benefit by improving the ecology and accessibility of Forest Creek, including a link to a significant site for the Djaara people, Booladj Kiarp Bolealon.

The preliminary stage of the project is well established with the development of an options paper and convening of an Implementation Strategy Group with representatives of Dja Dja Wurrung, Mount Alexander Shire Council (MASC), DELWP, North Central CMA, Castlemaine Landcare and Friends of Campbells Creek.

The project is listed as an action in MASC's report: *Castlemaine Urban Waterways Management Plan and Water For Now and Into The Future: An Integrated Water Management Plan for Castlemaine*.

The next stage involves concept and detailed designs, Traditional Owner and community consultations, gaining required approvals and refined costings. An implementation phase follows. It includes preparatory works such as reed and weed removal, creation of a natural stream morphology, installation of litter controls, revegetation, interpretive signage and associated works. There will be on-going monitoring of completed works.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Dja Dja Wurrung
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	Mount Alexander Shire Council. North Central CMA. DELWP, Friends of Campbells Creek, Castlemaine Landcare Group
<b>Location</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Timeframe</b>	Phase 1: 2021 -22 Phase 2 - 4: 2022 – 2024
<b>Scale</b>	1km Section of Forest Creek in Castlemaine

### Echuca Aquatic Reserve

The redevelopment of the Echuca Aquatic Reserve is a three-year program to improve its environmental and social values. The Reserve offers nature and parklands with a wetland overlooking the Murray River and supports regional tourism with event opportunities (such as the Riverboats Music Festival), ecology education excursions, passive recreation and small functions (such as wedding ceremonies).

The redevelopment includes rehabilitation of the wetlands to treat urban stormwater, construction of Disability Discrimination Act-compliant shared pathways, native vegetation planting, protection of existing large River Red Gum trees, the addition of further public use facilities such as seating and BBQs, and a proposed Indigenous trail.

The design phase is underway and will be followed by the construction of pathways, redevelopment of parkland area and rehabilitation of wetlands. The final phase is the development and construction of the proposed Indigenous trail. Given that the Murray River is part of NSW, the project will continue to work with WaterNSW, which operates that state's river systems.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Low/Med</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Med/High</b>	<b>Medium</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Preliminary Design/ Committed
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Campaspe Shire Council

<b>Implementation Partners</b>	Yorta Yorta, Coliban Water
<b>Location</b>	Echuca (Aquatic Reserve/Murray River)
<b>Timeframe</b>	Phase 1: 2021 Phase 2: 2021-22 Phase 3: 2022-2024
<b>Scale</b>	Precinct/ Park

## Theme: Making More of Water Resources in a Changing Climate

### Drought Proofing Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge

This project aims at taking excess water from reservoirs available under Coliban Water's bulk entitlement in the Campaspe System and storing up to 15 gigalitres of it underground for later reuse. The benefits of the project include:

1. providing water for critical green spaces in Bendigo, Huntly, Axedale, Marong, Heathcote and surrounds, and reducing pressure on Lake Eppalock to support regional liveability during dry periods;
2. supporting Campaspe River flows by reducing the potential for leakage to the groundwater system through increased groundwater level management, potentially providing a source of supply to the Campaspe River in addition to environmental flows;
3. supporting groundwater users in the Lower Campaspe Valley by maintaining groundwater levels and reducing the potential for saline groundwater intrusion, potentially provide an opportunity for groundwater trading for agricultural benefits; and
4. providing a reliable water supply during droughts for Bendigo, Huntly, Axedale, Marong, Heathcote and surrounds.

This initiative builds on previous work undertaken through the 2018 Coliban IWM Forum Strategic Directions Statement that developed a Managed Aquifer Recharge: Decision Support Tool for Integrated Water Management; and a Lower Campaspe Case Study.

The decision support tool provides guidance to water corporations on the viability of managed aquifer recharge within integrated water management. The case study found that managed aquifer recharge is a viable means of improving Bendigo's water security during drought and recommended that a business case be developed.

The next steps include:

- Preparing a business case in collaboration with partners;
- Undertaking initial field investigations to determine a preferred site; and
- Securing funding for a pilot scheme.

	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Effective and affordable wastewater systems	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Community values reflected in place based planning	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>

Subject	Details
Status	Identified
Lead Agency	Coliban Water
Implementation Partners	Goulburn-Murray Water, City of Greater Bendigo, North Central CMA, EPA
Location	Bendigo, Huntly, Axedale, Marong, Heathcote and surrounds
Timeframe	Phase 1: 2022 - 2024 Phase 2: 2024 onwards
Scale	Multiple towns

### Developing an Alternative Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens

Developing an alternative water supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens is identified as a key outcome of the *Water for now and into the Future: An Integrated Water Management Opportunities Report for Castlemaine*.

The industrial district of Castlemaine is a concentrated area of industrial and open space, making it ideal for recycled water. Class A or B recycled water can substitute for a potable water supply for the irrigation demands of the Botanical Gardens and non-potable uses in commercial buildings such as toilet flushing.

The following proposed assets were investigated for this district:

- A pipeline of at least 3.5 km for recycled water for non-potable uses; and
- A supply of recycled water for non-potable uses.

The alignment from the Castlemaine Waste Water Treatment Plant to the industrial district provides opportunity for other areas of Castlemaine to be connected to the recycled water network.

Further investigation is needed to determine the viability of the recycled water scheme, exploring the availability and timing of likely recycled water, potential users, treatment requirements, the location of a storage tank and alignment of the recycled water main, and the pumping requirements needed. Finally, the financial feasibility of this option would depend on the outcome of a cost-benefit analysis of the proposed recycled water scheme compared to the stormwater harvesting opportunities.

The next steps involve scoping of the project with collaborative partners and confirmation of commitment, followed by securing funding and commitment to implement the feasibility study.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
Impact status	High	Medium	Low	High	High	High	Medium

Subject	Details
Status	Identified
Lead Agency	Council & Coliban Water
Implementation Partners	DELWP, Coliban Water

<b>Location</b>	Town / Park
<b>Timeframe</b>	2023 - 28
<b>Scale</b>	Precinct

### Alternative Water for Priority Community Assets

This project aims to identify and aid in securing alternative water supplies for priority community assets, allowing water security during dry periods.

Alternative water supplies (e.g. stormwater, recycled water, groundwater) can provide greater water security for highly valued green spaces (i.e. ovals, public open spaces, gardens, recreational water bodies) during drought, and reduce the pressure on potable water supplies.

The objectives are to engage with local governments to identify priority community assets that use potable water during periods of water shortage, assess water use requirements, consider and compare alternative water sources and demand saving initiatives, and provide support to community groups to secure funding and implement works.

The next steps include:

1. Secure commitment and funding for a consultancy;
2. Set up a project team to finalise scoping for the consultancy; and
3. Engage consultants and manage project.

	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Effective and affordable wastewater systems	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Community values reflected in place based planning	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Coliban Water
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	Local government
<b>Location</b>	Coliban Water region
<b>Timeframe</b>	2022 - 2024
<b>Scale</b>	Forum Area

### Increased flows in Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits

This project aims to increase flows in the Coliban River for cultural and ecological benefits while increasing the operational flexibility of managing water resources by reinstating the hydroelectric plant at Lake Eppalock.

The Coliban River flows are limited to passing flows and spills from Malmesbury Reservoir. The Environmental Water Management Plan for the Coliban River (North Central CMA, 2016) notes that the river is flow stressed and does not have sufficient environmental entitlement to maintain and improve its ecological values.

There is an opportunity for Coliban Water to release water from Malmesbury Reservoir to increase flows to Lake Eppalock, and then pump water from Lake Eppalock to Bendigo via the Goldfields Superpipe. To off-set pumping costs and avoid carbon emissions it is proposed to reinstate the hydroelectric plant at Lake Eppalock.

This initiative builds on previous work undertaken through the Integrated Water Management Forum Coliban Strategic Directions Statement that prepared a business case for the Lake Eppalock Hydroelectricity Project: For Country and Environment.

The business case found that to achieve environmental and cultural benefits for the Coliban River there would need to be an arrangement in place between Coliban Water and North Central CMA / Victorian Environmental Water Holder for water accounting; and that the project presents a significant cost to Coliban Water.

However, if capital funding could be secured for the project on the basis of environmental, cultural and renewable energy benefits then it would be more favourable.

The next steps include:

1. Establish agreement between Coliban Water and North Central CMA / Victorian Environmental Water Holder for water accounting;
2. Secure funding commitments; and
3. Build hydroelectric plant

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>

Subject	Details
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Coliban Water
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	North Central CMA, Victorian Environmental Water Holder, Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Goulburn-Murray Water
<b>Location</b>	Coliban River
<b>Timeframe</b>	2022 - 2028
<b>Scale</b>	River reach

### Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways

The township of Trentham in the Upper Coliban Catchment (UCC), is within the peri-urban boundary of Melbourne and facing high population growth in the coming years. The UCC is a vital source of supply for drinking water and is undergoing significant natural resource investment for Coliban Water, North Central CMA, DELWP and Local Government.

The Trentham Stormwater Quality project aims to make informed decisions with respect to the mitigation of threats to the catchment now and into the future as a result of urban and peri-urban development. The approach is based on assessing the likelihood of drivers of change, e.g. urban development influencing streamflow, and the consequence of these changes, such as degraded waterway health and water quality.

The outcome will be development of a Stormwater Management Plan for the residential and urban areas of the Trentham township. This will also provide for flow on effects to similar townships across the region.

The steps for this project include:

1. Narrow down the extent of assessment (i.e. township boundaries) based on the Upper Coliban Land Use Risk Assessment Scoping Study (Streamology Jan 2020);
2. Engage with the Trentham Sustainability Group to identify community aspirations;
3. Confirm funding requirements for proposed project phases and any in-kind contribution opportunities; and
4. Commit to the project and start briefings.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Coliban Water/North Central CMA
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	Hepburn Shire Council, Goulburn Murray Water
<b>Location</b>	Trentham
<b>Timeframe</b>	Phase 1 - 5: 2022 Phase 6 - 7: 2023
<b>Scale</b>	Trentham and Coliban Forum Area

### Campaspe Planning for the Future (Recycled Water)

Recycled water is a potential source of water for environmental flows that are important to restore and maintain healthy waterways and ecosystems. Alternative water sources reduce the reliance on drinking water to irrigate key public open spaces that are part of or connected to these ecosystems. Finding alternative water sources is particularly important in areas with a tight water balance. Using recycled water captures the value of discharged water and helps to ensure that water resources of different qualities are used in ways that are fit-for-purpose.


The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning has supported Campaspe Shire Council to run feasibility study to investigate the potential to use recycled water as an environmental resource for the Campaspe River and other waterways. The Shire is partnering with Coliban Water, DELWP and Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation.

	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Effective and affordable wastewater systems	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Community values reflected in place based planning	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	High	Medium	Low	Medium	High	Medium	Low

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Underway
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Campaspe Shire Council
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	Coliban Water, Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation
<b>Location</b>	Echuca
<b>Timeframe</b>	2022
<b>Scale</b>	Catchment

**Managed Aquifer Recharge Potential in the Coliban Region**

*A demonstration of the technical feasibility of an approach with state-wide importance.*



A new assessment tool has been developed and used to demonstrate the potential ways to recharge the Lower Campaspe River Valley aquifer. This project provides a way to safeguard Bendigo’s water security in future droughts and a tool for any water corporation considering managed aquifer recharge (MAR) as an option for saving water in times of plenty to reduce pressure on river systems, surface reservoirs and lakes in times of drought.

Goulburn Murray Water worked with implementation partners Coliban Water and the North Central CMA, and consultants RMCG and Aquade, to develop and test the MAR Decision Support Tool for use across Victoria, using the Lower Campaspe River Basin as a case study.

The tool provides much-needed information and guidance on governance to water corporations or other interested parties considering MAR projects, including:

- identifying the capacity and nature of aquifers;
- identifying and quantifying potential sources of recharge water;
- aquifer charging strategies;
- policy issues, including re-injection of treated water or water with different characteristics; and
- addressing the need to integrate stored water management with existing groundwater management plans.



The Lower Campaspe case study identified 16 options and shortlisted plausible approaches for more detailed assessment. It found that managed aquifer recharge is a viable means of improving Bendigo's water security during drought and recommended that a business case be developed.

The next stage of this initiative is outlined on page **XX**.

Ultimately, this initiative aims to boost the reliability of urban water supplies across the State by integrating groundwater and surface water management.



Holding image

## Theme: Integrated Planning for a Sustainable Future

### Water Sensitive Urban Design for New Developments or Upgrade Projects

To assist councils in incorporating Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) into new developments or upgrade projects (e.g. roads, council owned buildings, etc). Examples include:

- passive irrigation of street trees - saves other water for irrigation and supports long term health of the trees to provide better urban heat reduction and amenity. It also reduces flows and improves the quality of stormwater runoff;
- porous pavements – to reduce runoff and improve the quality water flowing into streams or groundwater. It also reduces flooding by retaining moisture in the soil profile for longer, hence reducing the requirement for supplementary watering. In addition, retaining water helps with urban cooling (e.g. keeping grass greener, supporting the health of trees);
- capturing rainfall at the lot level – using tank or grey water for flushing toilets to reduce demand on the potable system; and
- council planning and developing wetlands and other WSUD assets that utilise developer contributions.

It is anticipated that a consultant would be procured to help councils identify and implement the required steps to increase uptake of WSUD. The scope of works will be dependent on participating councils and

their level of experience in implementing WSUD. One potential output is the preparation of a business case for councils to submit to their own organisations to increase WSUD into their operations.

This project is included as a statement of the Coliban IWM Forum's recognition of the importance of WSUD and supporting councils as they embed this approach into their planning and operations. When the opportunity arises for the right project lead organisation, the next steps will be to:

1. Identify individual Council needs and refine the project scope;
2. Secure commitment from councils and project funding (such as allocations from councils and/or DELWP);
3. Set up a working group with representatives from each local council to finalise the scope for a consultancy
4. Engage a consultant and manage the project.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	To be determined
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	All councils, DELWP
<b>Location</b>	Forum Area
<b>Timeframe</b>	Dependent on funding from DELWP and councils. Anticipate project could be of around 6-months duration dependent on council coordination.
<b>Scale</b>	Forum Area
<b>Budget</b>	\$50k to \$100k depending on level of stakeholder engagement, plus in-kind support from councils.

### Bendigo Regional Employment Precinct

The City of Greater Bendigo is proposing to create the Bendigo Regional Employment Precinct. The project aims to create a large industrial precinct (280 Ha), attract new industries and create regional jobs. The initiative will see the City partner with the private sector and government agencies to drive an innovative model of finance and delivery.

The City will utilise an environmentally sustainable approach to design a best-practice industrial precinct that demonstrates water-sensitive urban design, zero carbon and circular economy. To support this, a detailed investigation and plan is required to identify and develop innovative Integrated Water Management options. This will include identifying and evaluating the following:

- alternative water supply options including stormwater harvesting and/or wastewater reuse;
- options for retaining, treating and reusing wastewater and biosolids onsite;
- options for flood management and reducing water quality impacts on the local waterway; and
- options to reduce urban heat generated from the industrial precinct.

The preferred options will then be progressed into planning policy, precinct design controls, infrastructure funding models, concept design and preliminary costings. The next steps will be:

1. Set up a cross-agency working group to oversee and support the IWM component of the industrial precinct;
2. Determine scope of the IWM investigation and design project;
3. Develop a brief for the required investigations and design, undertake a tender process and procure a consultant; and
4. Undertake investigation and concept design.

	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Effective and affordable wastewater systems	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Community values reflected in place based planning	<b>Strategic outcome</b> Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Committed
<b>Lead Agency</b>	City of Greater Bendigo
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	Victorian Planning Authority, Coliban Water, North Central CMA
<b>Location</b>	Bendigo (Marong)
<b>Timeframe</b>	Phase 1: 2022 to 2024 - Planning and investigations Phase 2: 2024 to 2025 - Design, consultation and approvals Phase 3: 2025-31 Construction and development
<b>Scale</b>	Precinct (280 Ha)
<b>Budget</b>	IWM investigation and concept design: \$80-200K IWM detailed design: \$250k+

### Macedon Ranges North IWM Plan

This project is the development of an IWM plan for the northern part of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council area. The IWM plan will explore opportunities and solutions to meet IWM objectives in this region in the face of a drying climate and rapid urban growth around the towns of Woodend and Kyneton .

The region covers a significant portion of the upper Campaspe River catchment. A key focus will be the protection and enhancement of waterway and catchment health whilst servicing the water and sewerage needs of the local communities.

The region overlaps the jurisdictions of two water authorities, Coliban Water and Greater Western Water. This joint IWMP will allow for collaboration to determine and progress the best outcomes for the region and the community regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.

#### NEXT STEPS

1. Convene a joint working group;
2. Confirm the scope and structure for IWM plan; and

3. Gain commitment of funds from the working group organisations and the State.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
<b>Impact status</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	MRSC
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	Greater Western Water, Coliban Water, North Central CMA, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung, DELWP
<b>Location</b>	Macedon Ranges (Woodend, Kyneton)
<b>Timeframe</b>	IWM plan completion by 2023
<b>Scale</b>	Northern Macedon Ranges
<b>Budget</b>	~\$120 - \$140K

### Servicing Small Townships

Smaller townships are potential growth areas that can accommodate new housing both for local residents and 'tree changers' moving away from cities. These small towns need reticulated water and/or sewer to be provided to facilitate growth. There is an opportunity to do this in an innovative manner through the benefits of IWM.

Taradale and Elphinstone, with populations of about 450 and 550 people respectively, are two such towns and are the subjects of an initial scoping project to explore cost-effective provision of water to townships of this size.

Small towns need properly funded domestic water supplies and wastewater and sanitation services to ensure protection of environmental and public health, reducing the risks that come with unsafe drinking water and poorly managed sewage. The lack of these services is an issue for councils in that it inhibits development.

The Forum recognises this need, and that the Taradale and Elphinstone project needs to be broadened to other towns. There is a DELWP statewide steering committee that aims to implement such a strategy. This issue needs to coordinate with other work in the area and with Victoria's Environmental Protection Agency. Fortunately, there are examples of such projects in the Goulburn Broken and North East IWM Forums that Coliban can draw on.

This project is included here as the Forum's statement of intent to address this challenge collaboratively as opportunities become available. It is anticipated this project will be driven by local governments, with the support of an IWM Officer, currently being recruited.

	Strategic outcome Safe, secure and affordable supplies in an uncertain future	Strategic outcome Effective and affordable wastewater systems	Strategic outcome Avoided or minimised existing and future flood risks	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued waterways, wetlands and lakes	Strategic outcome Healthy and valued urban and rural landscapes	Strategic outcome Community values reflected in place based planning	Strategic outcome Jobs, economy and innovation
--	--	--	---	---	--	---	---

	uncertain future						
<b>Impact status</b>	High	High	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Status</b>	Identified
<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Local governments involved</b>
<b>Implementation Partners</b>	To be determined
<b>Location</b>	Taradale and Elphinstone; potentially more locations
<b>Timeframe</b>	To be determined
<b>Scale</b>	Town

## End matter

- *Back cover*
- *Further images*

## 9.8 Local road name for new road in Victoria between Warren Street roundabout and Victorian abutment at new Echuca - Moama Bridge

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Acting Manager Assets	Assets	Acting General Manager Infrastructure	Acting General Manager Infrastructure

### 1. SUMMARY

The Department of Transport (DoT) has asked Council to recommend its preferred name for the section of new road from the smaller Warren Street roundabout across to the new Murray River bridge.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

**That Council advise the Department of Transport that its preferred name for the new section of road, between Warren Street and the new Murray River Bridge, is.....**

### 3. PURPOSE

To seek a Council recommendation for the preferred name for the section of road from the smaller Warren Street roundabout to the new Murray River bridge.

### 4. DISCUSSION

As part of the new bridge project, Council have been asked by DoT to recommend the name of the section of road from the smaller Warren Street roundabout to the new bridge over the Murray River.

For Council's information, the Project Manager for Transport for NSW has suggested that to ensure clarity for emergency and other transportation purposes the name of the section of road on the Victorian side of the bridge should be the same as that in NSW.

Murray River Council will be meeting on 22 March 2022 to determine their preference for the local road and declared highway name. The Administration understands that, at the time of this report, MRC will be considering a recommendation to name the road on the NSW side as Cobb Highway.

Any recommendation made by Council will be subject to relevant consultation and approvals from VicRoads and the Office of Geographical Names (OGN).

Based on the above, EMG discussed potential names, ruling out naming the road after a local identity (alive or deceased), given the potential for it to becoming a divisive issue within the community, both in terms of who was considered and why, and who wasn't and why etc.

- Cobb Highway, which maintains consistency across the bridges and States.
- Bridge Road, pragmatic albeit simple
- Yako, meaning Campaspe in the Yorta Yorta language, though it has been used in an Echuca road name already.

There is merit in either suggestion and Council may of course wish to consider other alternatives.

Noting that names that might result in a duplication (and therefore potential confusion) within a town are unlikely to be approved by OGN.

## **5. OPTIONS**

As noted in the report.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

### Internal consultation:

- EMG
- Road Services

### External consultation:

- MRPV
- Transport NSW

## **7. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and the following Council Policy and/or relevant law are impacted by this report:

Council Policy 168 Street Naming and Numbering

Naming Rules for Places in Victoria 2016

Geographic Place Names Act 1998

## **8. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## **10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## **11. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025**

Well planned places

Land and underlying infrastructure suitable for growing populations

Ability to travel safely and easily by road and rail



## **12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

### **Issues:**

#### Issue 1: Consultation with Yorta Yorta

Should Council recommend the use of a Yorta Yorta name for the new road, then full consultation will be required.

#### Issue 2: Road Naming Requirements

Any suggested name will be subject to agreement with DoT and approval by the OGN.

### **Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

## **14. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

## **15. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

## **16. CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council consider potential names for the new section of road on the basis of information contained in this report.

## **17. ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

## 10 Council Information

### 10.1 Community Event Sponsorship

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Executive Assistant Community	Community		General Manager Community

#### 1. SUMMARY

That Council note the five successful applications received for Community Event Sponsorship.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the following sponsorships were approved, in accordance with the Community Event Sponsorship criteria, and the applicants advised in writing:

- **Kyabram Agricultural Horticultural & Pastoral Society Inc. - \$4,700 to assist with hosting the Kyabram Rodeo to be held on Friday, 11 March 2022,**
- **Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Inc., \$2,000 to assist with costs associated with hosting the Easter Tournament to be held 16 – 18 April 2022,**
- **Nanneella Timmering Landcare Group, \$500 to assist with costs associated with hosting “Regent the Plains – Nanneella 2022” from 29 July – 1 August 2022,**
- **Committee for Echuca Moama Inc., \$1,250 to assist with catering costs for “Welfare Warrior” training sessions to be held at Rich River Golf Club from 8 – 23 March 2022,**
- **Echuca Moama Mountain Bike Club Inc., \$3,500 cash and in-kind support to the value of \$4,922 for waste and traffic management, wharf hire offset, stopping of one boat cruise and temporary event fencing and bunting.**

#### 3. PURPOSE

To note the outcomes of five Community Event Sponsorship applications considered in accordance with the grant guidelines and criteria.

#### 4. DISCUSSION

The Community Event Sponsorship program offers financial support to not-for-profit community organisations, groups and associations to conduct events that contribute to the municipality and support Council's vision.

The program has guidelines for applications submitted to Council.

The following applications were received:

**Kyabram Agricultural Horticultural & Pastoral (AH&P) Society Inc. – requested \$5,000, to assist with toilet hire fees, advertising and sponsorship of the main event at the Kyabram Rodeo to be held at the Kyabram Showgrounds on 11 March 2022.**

The Show Society application is only eligible for \$4,700 as \$300 of the request is for prize money for the main event which is an ineligible expense.

The Kyabram Rodeo is held annually on the Friday night of the Labour Day Long Weekend, and forms part of a three-event series that also includes Merrijig and Chilton on the same weekend. This series attracts a large number of top riders from across Australia, with riders all converging on Kyabram to start the weekend of events.

The Kyabram Rodeo is one of the top five longest running rodeos in Australia which has also been inducted into the Rodeo Hall of Fame.

The event has operated each year since it began in 1946 (except 2021 when it was cancelled due to Covid 19) and began operating as a night rodeo in 2005 after transitioning from a day event on the Monday of the March long weekend.

The night is filled with a full range of events that includes bull and horse riding, barrel racing, team roping, junior events, and a local steer ride.

The event attracts national and local riders to compete and, in the past, before Covid 19, international riders.

Entry fees for spectators range from \$10 for a child (5 – 15 years) and \$65 for a family (two adults & two children (5 - 15years)). Children under 5 years of age are free.

Along with all the action in the arena, there is also a sideshow alley, mechanical bucking bull and variety of food and coffee vans providing a family friendly environment.

The event will be hosted in-line with COVID guidelines/restrictions in place at the time.

Council will receive recognition of the sponsorship through the use of pull up banners and fence scrim at the event and the Campaspe Shire logo will also be used on all promotional material relating to the event, including website and social media.

The application was not submitted within the required three-month notification period.

**Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Inc.** – requested \$2,000, to assist with cool room and PA hire fees, advertising and waste disposal for the Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Easter Tournament to be held from 16 – 18 April 2022.

The committee has introduced new age groups and ability levels to attract more participants to the 2022 tournament (ie. seniors and tri doubles).

The club work with Tennis Victoria and tennis clubs across the state to promote the event as well as local schools, businesses and newspapers.

The event will be hosted in-line with COVID guidelines/restrictions in place at the time.

Council will receive recognition of the sponsorship through the use of teardrop banners at the event and the Campaspe Shire logo will also be used on all promotional material relating to the event, including website and social media.

The application has been submitted within the required three-month notification period.

**Nanneella Timmering Landcare Group (Nanneella Community Inc.)** – requested \$1,000, to assist with Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony costs, hire of portable toilets and catering for the “Regen the Plains 2022” to be held from 29 -31 July 2022.

Coming out of recess, the group held its inaugural “Regen the Plains” which engaged 40 community members to plant and guard 350 native plants around Nanneella and Timmering.

This year the trees will be planted at the Nanneella Recreation Reserve on School Tree Day (29 July) with a Welcome to Country, tree education and planting and on private property on National Tree Day (31 July) with a Smoking Ceremony, lunch and music.

Planet Ark strongly supports National Tree Day with a Seedling Bank grant, supplying native seedlings to schools and community groups to help restore the unique Australian landscape.

The event will be hosted in-line with COVID guidelines/restrictions in place at the time.

Council will receive recognition of the sponsorship through the use of teardrop banners at the event and the Campaspe Shire logo will also be used on all promotional material relating to the event, including website and social media.

The application has been submitted within the required three-month notification period.

**Committee for Echuca Moama Inc.** – requested \$1,250, to assist with catering for the “Welfare Warrior” training sessions to be held at Rich River Golf Club from 8 - 23 March 2022.

Five free “Welfare Warrior” sessions will be offered to 200 community members across a broad range of community and business organisations in the Campaspe and Murray River Councils.

The Welfare Warrior training sessions forms part of a series of events to be held over March to help promote conversation, awareness and training in mental health.

Lance Picioane, founder of Love Me Love You Foundation will deliver the training free of cost. Rich River Golf Club will support the event by waiving the room hire fees for the five sessions. C4EM Inc. will provide the advertising and administration support for the sessions.

The event will be hosted in-line with COVID guidelines/restrictions in place at the time.

Council will receive recognition of the sponsorship through the use of pull up banners at the event and the Campaspe Shire logo will also be used on all promotional material relating to the event, including website and social media.

The application has not been submitted within the required three-month notification period.

**Echuca Moama Mountain Bike Club Inc.** – requested \$3,500 cash and in-kind support to the value of \$5,922 for waste and traffic management, wharf hire offset, stopping one boat cruise, temporary event fencing and bunting, to assist with the inaugural Ride the Murray to be held on 2 & 3 April 2022.

Echuca Moama Mountain Bike Club has seen an opportunity to expand its annual mountain bike race, held in Moama, and has partnered with Auscycling to bring the event together.

Ride the Murray is two days of mountain bike racing in Echuca Moama. **Ride the Port** is new in 2022 and is an Urban Cross-country (XC) mountain bike short course race through the Historic Port of Echuca. **Ride the Track**, which is held each year, is a Cross-country Olympic (XCO) format race at the Moama Five Mile Mountain Bike Park.

*This Urban will be a first in Australia for a cross country mountain bike event. Targeting the historic port provides a backdrop that cannot be achieved in other venues.*

There will a race village set up in the Port Pop up Park for the Ride the Port event where family and friends of competitors will be able to watch the race.

The event will be hosted in-line with COVID guidelines/restrictions in place at the time.

Council will receive recognition of the sponsorship through the use of teardrop banners and fence scrim at the event and the Campaspe Shire logo will also be used on all promotional material relating to the event, including website and social media.

The application has not been submitted within the required three-month notification period.

Organisation	Amount	Amount Recommended	Purpose	Comment
Kyabram AH&P Society Inc.	\$5,000	\$4,700	To assist with toilet hire fees, advertising and sponsorship of the main event at the Kyabram Rodeo to be held at the Kyabram Showgrounds on 11 March 2022.	Approved by CEO  Council sponsorship does not fund prize money; therefore the funded amount is less than the request.
Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Inc.	\$2,000	\$2,000	To assist with costs associated with hosting the 2022 Easter Tournament to be held 16 – 18 April 2022	Approved by CEO
Nanneella Timmering Landcare Group (Nanneella Community Inc.)	\$1,000	\$500	To assist with hosting “Regent the Plains – Nanneella 2022” from 29 July – 1 August 2022	Approved by CEO  Tree plantings to occur at the Nanneella Recreation Reserve in conjunction with Nanneella Primary school and on private land.  Funding provided for the Nanneella Recreation Reserve planting day only.
Committee for Echuca Moama Inc.	\$1,250	\$1,250	To assist with catering costs for the “Welfare Warrior” training sessions to be held at Rich River Golf Club from 8 – 23 March 2022	Approved by CEO
Echuca Moama Mountain Bike Club Inc.	\$3,500 cash plus \$4,922 in-kind support for use of Port of Echuca (Wharf hire & impacting one paddle steamer cruise), waste & traffic management, temporary event fencing and bunting	\$3,500 cash plus \$4,922 in-kind support	To assist with cost associated with hosting the inaugural “Ride the Murray” to be held on 2 & 3 April 2022	Approved by CEO

<b>Events Sponsorship Program fund balance prior to these applications:</b>	<b>\$3,125</b>
<b>Requested Funding:</b>	<b>\$12,750</b>
<b>Funding amount recommended:</b>	<b>\$11,950</b>
<b>2021/2022 Fund Balance: (16 March 2022)</b>	<b>-\$8,825</b>

Council's contribution of \$11,950 cash and in-kind support to the value of \$4,922 in-kind (waste & traffic management, wharf hire offset, stopping one boat ride, temporary event fencing and bunting) will assist in the provision of events with an estimated value of \$151,497.

## 5. CONSULTATION

### Internal consultation:

- Grants Panel
- EMG

## 6. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no Council Policy and relevant law has been identified within this report.

## 7. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

## 8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## 9. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## 10. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025

Growing quality of life  
 Communities have a say on local infrastructure and attractions that stimulate engagement and activity  
 Children, young people and families healthy and well

## 11. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

### Issues:

The current coronavirus pandemic may impact the commencement/holding of some events. This will be worked through with individual organisations regarding the event concerned and restrictions imposed at the time.

## **Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **12. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

## **13. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

## **14. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

## **15. CONCLUSION**

Council received five applications to the Community Event Sponsorship Program. It should be noted that the applications were successful in receiving \$11,950 cash towards event costs and \$4,922 in-kind support, for waste & traffic management, facility hire, stopping of one boat cruise, temporary white event fencing and bunting.

Following the trial Community Equipment Program there remains an unspent allocation of \$47,727. It is proposed this unexpended allocation for the 2021/2022 financial year be transferred to the Community Event Sponsorship budget to provide for any further applications received between February and the end of June 2022.

## **10.2 Notes of Appreciation**

The following have been received:

- Lou Iannacone – sincere thank you for grading the Onion Patch track.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council acknowledge the notes of appreciation as listed.**



## 10.3 Community Equipment Grants Program

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Community Executive Assistant	Community		General Manager Community

### 1. SUMMARY

That Council approve the 37 eligible applications received during the Community Equipment Grants Program (trial).

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve community grant applications as follows:

- \$2,000 Echuca Pistol Club Inc., to purchase target stands and competition fence feet to enable the expansion of competitions at the facility**
- \$2,000 Echuca Moama United Football Club Inc., to purchase training and game equipment**
- \$2,000 Inland Outrigger Canoe Club Inc., to carryout essential maintenance and repairs to single and double Inland Outrigger Canoes**
- \$2,000 Bamawm Extension Pony Club Inc., to purchase cross country jumping equipment**
- \$1,349 Echuca Moama Arts Initiative Inc., to purchase a new laptop for EMAI**
- \$2,000 Kyabram Little Athletics Centre, to purchase a new Glentham T high jump mat**
- \$2,000 Kyabram Youth Club Inc., to purchase sporting equipment for small court and small group exercise to build balance and strength**
- \$1,430 Echuca Bowls Club Inc., to purchase a replacement engine for the lawn roller**
- \$2,000 Rochester & District Horse & Pony Club Inc., to purchase a potable dressage arena**
- \$2,000 Rochester Basketball Association Inc., to purchase size 5 basketballs for U12 competitions**
- \$1,700 Echuca Football Netball Club Inc., to purchase footballs (of various sizes), netballs, bibs, drink bottles and drink bottle holders for junior, men's, & women's football and netball teams**
- \$1,540 Kyabram Valley View Golf & Bowls Club Inc., to purchase four bowling green scoreboards**
- \$2,000 Echuca Moama Rockets Football Club Inc., to purchase footballs, return netting, targets and matting**
- \$1,303 Girgarre Community Group Inc., to purchase a 3 in 1 microwave, gas pizza oven and gas bottle for the community kitchen program**
- \$1,770 Stanhope & District Development Committee Inc., to purchase a microwave, slow cookers, sandwich presses, electric frying pans and rice cookers for the community kitchen program**
- \$2,000 Kyabram Swimming Club Inc., to purchase flippers, buoys and kickboards**
- \$2,000 Bamawm Lockington United Cricket Club Inc., to purchase a Bola Bowling Machine**
- \$2,000 Echuca Clay Target Club Inc., to purchase two laptops and a printer**
- \$2,000 Echuca United Football Netball Club Inc., to purchase football and netball equipment for Net Set Go and Auskick**
- \$2,000 Kyabram Community & Learning Centre Inc., to purchase a blue wren sculpture to be installed in the Kyabram Community Garden/Traffic School space**

- \$2,000 Lockington Bowls Club Inc., to purchase of a 42' zero turn lawn mower**
- \$2,000 Moama Echuca Border Raiders Soccer Association Inc., to purchase 100 soccer jerseys for U7, U9 & U11 competitions**
- \$2,000 Stanhope Football Netball Club Inc., to purchase an electronic scoreboard for netball**
- \$1,087 Rochester Lions Club Inc., to purchase two new smaller footprint bbq's and accessories, urn and PA system for community events**
- \$1,000 Tongala Football Netball Club Inc., to purchase fitness and netball training equipment**
- \$599 KY Project Committee Inc., to purchase a Husqvarna Power Blower**
- \$1,200 Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Inc., to purchase a Husqvarna Blower & vac kit, Husqvarna Blower Unit and Husqvarna Brushcutter**
- \$1,608 Kyvalley Swimming Club Inc., to purchase two outdoor cantilever umbrellas and water fillable bases**
- \$850 Rochester Community Garden (Rotary Club of Rochester Inc.), to purchase a lawn mower, hoes, rake, wheelbarrow and St John's First Aid Kit**
- \$2,000 Kyvalley Progress Association Inc., to purchase a split system air conditioner for installation in the Kyvalley Hall kitchen**
- \$1,118 VICSES – Echuca Unit, to purchase a Stihl battery chainsaw**
- \$1,919 Nanneella Playgroup (Nanneella Community Inc.), to purchase sensory kits, small tables and art easels**
- \$2,000 Rochester Business Network, purchase a PA system and sandwich boards**
- \$1,800 Echuca Moama Model Railroaders Inc., to purchase items to weatherproof and secure a storage trailer**
- \$1,000 Echuca Village Fire Brigade, to purchase a defibrillator and mounting box for use by the community**
- \$2,000 Tongala Family History Group Inc., to purchase a desktop computer and printer**
- \$2,000 Girgarre Football Netball Club Inc., purchase of training equipment including netballs, footballs, jumpers for juniors and exercise equipment**

**3. PURPOSE**

To seek approval of the recommendations for the Community Equipment Grants Program (trial).

**4. DISCUSSION**

The Community Equipment Grants Program was trialled to expend the remaining budget allocation from 2021/2022 Community Grants Program.

The purpose of the program is to provide assistance to community groups and sporting clubs to purchase equipment to support programs and activities.

<b>Trial round Funds Available</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>\$111,000</b>	<b>\$63,273</b>	<b>\$47,727</b>

Expected outcomes for the Community Equipment Grants Program include but are not limited to:

- Conduct local events, activities and programs that celebrate and encourage a diverse, inclusive and welcoming community.
- Promotes art in public spaces including community buildings, streetscapes and open spaces.
- Supports a resilient community through community involvement, social connections and life-long learning.
- Provides sporting, and recreational programs and facilities that facilitate active and healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities.
- Facilitate community health, wellbeing and safety.
- Recognise our unique local cultural identity and heritage.

Applicants must:

- be an incorporated association, or
- not for profit group (e.g. education institution, healthcare, religious or faith based institution), and
- have their application submitted by an appropriate auspicing body which meets the above.

All applications received were assessed by a panel of four staff, across Recreation, Community and Environment teams, using the following assessment criteria, as indicated in the funding guidelines.

• The application identifies clear outcome/s resulting from the purchase/s
• The application addresses one or more of the funding priorities.
• The application clearly demonstrates the link between the purchase/s and the intended outcome/s
• A plan for adding to, or growing, target group/s is outlined
• How will it promote inclusivity of all members of our community and accessibility for all?
• The application outlines matched funding, in kind support or partner contribution (financial and in kind)
• The purchase/s are made in and support Campaspe Shire businesses.
• Value for money in regard to the items being purchased

Panel members who declared a conflict of interest with any of the applications did not participate in the assessment of those applications.

Applicants with outstanding acquittals from a previous grant round are not eligible for funding consideration, as outlined in the guidelines.

Successful applicants are required to submit an acquittal report on outcomes achieved with the funding, within eight weeks of the purchase/s being made.

The report must include receipts and a short statement on the effectiveness of the program/ event/ equipment in achieving the stated outcomes in the application.

Applications can be for a maximum of \$2,000.

- Total funds available for applications: \$111,000
- Total of applications received: \$69,273
- Total allocations recommended: \$63,273

Organisation	Project details	Amount requested	Project expenditure	Amount recommended
Echuca Pistol Club Inc.	IPSC Props – purchase target stands and competition fence feet to enable the expansion of competitions at the facility	\$2,000	\$4,675	\$2,000
Echuca Moama United Football Club Inc.	Training and game equipment	\$2,000	\$4,130	\$2,000
Inland Outrigger Canoe Club Inc.	Inland Outrigger Canoe Club single and double repairs and maintenance	\$2,000	\$2,750	\$2,000
Bamawm Extension Pony Club Inc.	Purchase of cross-country jumping equipment	\$2,000	\$4,500	\$2,000
Kyabram Little Athletics Centre	Purchase a Glenthams T piece High Jump Mat	\$2,000	\$7,992	\$2,000
Echuca Moama Arts Initiative Inc.	New Laptop for EMAI (The Foundry Art Space)	\$1,349	\$1,738	\$1,349
Kyabram Youth Club Inc.	Purchase sporting equipment for small court & small group exercise to build balance and strength	\$2,000	\$2,101	\$2,000
Echuca Bowls Club Inc.	Replacement engine for lawn roller	\$1,430	\$1,430	\$1,430
Rochester & District Horse & Pont Club Inc.	Purchase a portable dressage arena	\$2,000	\$3,460	\$2,000
Rochester Basketball Association Inc.	Purchase size 5 basketballs for U12 competitions	\$2,000	\$2,400	\$2,000
Echuca Football Netball Club Inc.	Purchase footballs (of various sizes), netballs, bibs, drink bottles & drink bottle holders for junior, men's & women's football & netball teams	\$1,700	\$2,990	\$1,700
Kyabram Valley View Golf & Bowls Club Inc.	Purchase four bowling green scoreboards	\$1,540	\$1,540	\$1,540
Echuca Moama Rockets Football Club Inc.	Purchase footballs, netting, ball return netting, targets and matting	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Girgarre Community Group Inc.	Purchase a 3 in 1 microwave, Gas Pizza Oven and gas bottle for the community kitchen	\$1,303	\$1,303	\$1,303
Stanhope & District Development Committee Inc.	Purchase microwave, slow cookers, sandwich presses, electric frying pans and rice cookers	\$1,770	\$1,770	\$1,770

Kyabram Swimming Club Inc.	Purchase flippers, buoys and kickboards	\$2,000	\$2,449	\$2,000
* Kyabram Blue Light	Purchase exercise equipment to support KyFit Program	\$2,000	\$4,500	\$0
Bamawm Lockington United Cricket Club Inc.	Purchase Bola Bowling Machine	\$2,000	\$7,705	\$2,000
Echuca Clay Target Club Inc.	Purchase two laptops and printer	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$2,000
** Kyabram Netball Association Inc.	Purchase netballs, patches, equipment bags, first aid and safety equipment	\$2,000	\$2,509	\$0
Echuca United Football Netball Club Inc.	Purchase football and netball equipment for Net Set Go & Auskick	\$2,000	\$2,065	\$2,000
Kyabram Community & Learning Centre Inc.	Purchase Blue Wren Sculpture to be installed at the Kyabram Community Garden/Traffic School Space	\$2,000	\$4,500	\$2,000
Lockington Bowls Club Inc.	Purchase a 42" zero turn lawn mower	\$2,000	\$7,000	\$2,000
Moama Echuca Border Raiders Soccer Association Inc.	Purchase 100 soccer jerseys for U7, U9 & U11 competition	\$2,000	\$1,400	\$2,000
Stanhope Football Netball Club Inc.	Purchase an electronic scoreboard for netball	\$2,000	\$2,990	\$2,000
Rochester Lions Club Inc.	Purchase 2 new smaller footprint bbq's & accessories, urn and PA system for community events	\$1,087	\$1,237	\$1,087
Tongala Football Netball Club Inc.	Purchase fitness and netball equipment such as netballs, hurdles, ladders, bibs, agility cones, boxing gloves, weights and medicine balls	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$1,000
KY Project Committee Inc.	Purchase a Husqvana Power Blower	\$599	\$599	\$599
Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Inc.	Purchase Husqvarna Blower & Vac Kit, Husqvarna Blower Unit and Husqvarna Brushcutter	\$1,200	\$1,339	\$1,200
Kyvalley Swimming Club Inc.	Purchase 2 outdoor cantilever umbrellas & water fillable bases	\$1,608	\$1,608	\$1,608
Rochester Community Garden (Rotary Club of Rochester Inc.)	Purchase St John's Ambulance First Aid Kit, Maklita Lawn Mower, 2 hoes, rake and wheelbarrow	\$850	\$1,050	\$850
Kyvalley Progress Association Inc.	Purchase and installation of split system air conditioner in Kyvalley Hall kitchen	\$2,000	\$2,598	\$2,000
VICSES – Echuca Unit	Purchase Stihl battery chainsaw	\$1,118	\$1,378	\$1,118
Nanneella Playgroup (Nanneella Community Inc.)	Purchase sensory kits, small table and art easel	\$1,919	\$1,919	\$1,919
Rochester Business Network	Purchase PA System & sandwich boards	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000

Echuca Moama Model Railroaders Inc.	Purchase items to weatherproof and secure storage trailer	\$1,800	\$2,405	\$1,800
*** Echuca Masters Football Club Inc.	Purchase new reversible football jumpers	\$2,000	\$2,630	\$0
Echuca Village Fire Brigade	Purchase a defibrillator & mounting box for use by the community	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$1,000
Tongala Family History Group Inc.	Purchase desktop computer and printer	\$2,000	\$2,403	\$2,000
Girgarre Football Netball Club Inc.	Purchase of training equipment – netballs, footballs, jumpers for juniors and exercise equipment	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$ 2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$69,273</b>	<b>\$113,063</b>	<b>\$63,273</b>

## 5. CONSULTATION

### Internal consultation:

- Executive Management Group

## 6. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no Council Policy and relevant law has been identified within this report.

## 7. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no economic sustainability issues for the municipality have been identified within this report.

## 8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

## 9. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The requirements of Section 9(2)(c) of *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered and no social implications for the municipality have been identified with this report.

## 10. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025

### **Strong and Engaged Communities**

- Enable residents to be active and engaged in their community and support participation in artistic, cultural, sporting, and leisure opportunities.

## 11. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

### **Issues:**

The current coronavirus pandemic may impact the commencement and/or completion of some projects. This will be worked through with individual organisations regarding the projects concerned and restrictions imposed at the time.

## **Risk:**

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **12. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

## **13. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This Report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

## **14. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

## **15. CONCLUSION**

Council received 40 applications for the Community Equipment Grants Program (trial). It is recommended that Council approve 37 applications and advise all applicants, in writing, of the outcome of their application.

The three applications that were unsuccessful were for the following reasons:

- \* application was withdrawn as the equipment was purchased by Kyabram P12 College,
- \*\* application was ineligible as there is an outstanding acquittal from a previous grant, and
- \*\*\* application was withdrawn as the same organisation applied twice to this program.

Council's contribution of \$63,273 will lead to the provision of projects to the value of \$103,424.

Following the trial Community Equipment Program there remains an unspent allocation of \$47,727. It is proposed this unexpended allocation for the 2021/2022 financial year be transferred to the Community Event Sponsorship budget to provide for any further applications received between February and the end of June 2022.

## 10.4 Responsive Grants Program

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
EA General Manager Community	Community		General Manager Community

### 1. SUMMARY

That Council note one successful applicant to the Responsive Grants Program.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

**That Council note the following application was approved in accordance with the Responsive Grants Program criteria:**

- **Rushworth Events Inc. – towards the cost of hosting a Rushworth Newcomers Barbecue to be held on 27 March 2022**

### 3. PURPOSE

To note the outcome of the Responsive Grants Program application considered in accordance with the grant guidelines and criteria.

### 4. DISCUSSION

The Responsive Grants Program provides funding for community initiatives and has guidelines for applications submitted to council.

This month, the following application was received:

**Rushworth Events Inc.** – to assist with the purchase of food, drinks and provide advertising for a Rushworth Newcomers Barbecue.

*“This event was once a regular event on the Rushworth & District events calendar, hosted by the Rushworth Apex Club, and was last hosted in October 2012.*

*At a recent meeting, following investigation around the last time the event was held, Rushworth Events Inc. decided it was time to start planning a ‘newcomers’ event.”*

The barbecue will be free of charge and open to ‘newcomers’ as well as the rest of the township of Rushworth. A show bag with local content will be given to all ‘newcomers’.

The event is scheduled for 27 March which is outside the three-month lead time of the Community Event Sponsorship Program.

Organisation	Amount	Amount Recommended	Purpose	Comment
Rushworth Events Inc.	\$1,000	\$1,000	Towards the purchase of food, drinks and provide advertising for a Rushworth Newcomers Barbecue.	Approved by CEO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the event will encourage community members to make new connections with people in Rushworth and surrounding districts in a casual social environment</li> </ul>



<b>Fund Balance Prior to application approval:</b>	\$24,000
<b>Funding approved:</b>	\$1,000
<b>2021/2022 Fund Balance: (16 March 2022)</b>	\$23,000

## 5. CONSULTATION

### Internal consultation:

- Not required

### External consultation:

- Not required

### Councillors:

- Not required

## 6. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Funds utilised for this program were budgeted in the 2021/2022 financial year.

## 7. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The annual budget allocates funding for Responsive Grants Program requests for community initiatives that demonstrate the need for funds at short notice and can't wait for the Community Grants Program.

## 8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No impact

## 9. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This funding provides support, at short notice, to community groups and organisations to provide a service, program or activity used by, or for benefit of Campaspe Shire residents.

## 10. RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025

### **Strong and Engaged Communities**

- Enable residents to be active and engaged in their community and support participation in artistic, cultural, sporting, and leisure opportunities.

## 11. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

### Issues:

No issues

### Risk:

Risk management has been considered in the preparation of this report and no risks with a high or extreme rating have been identified in this process.

## **12. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

In accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

## **13. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

## **14. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION**

This report has considered and complies with the Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer is so far as this report is not contrary to the existing policy or strategy previously adopted by Council.

## **15. CONCLUSION**

Council received one application to the Responsive Grants Program in October. Council to note that this application was successful.

## 11 Petitions and Letters

- Petition – Walker Road Runnymede

## 12 Notices of Motion

## 13 Urgent Business

## 14 Confidential Business

### Closure of Public Meeting

#### RECOMMENDATION

That pursuant to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), the meeting will now be closed to members of the public in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Act to enable consideration to be given to items that contain confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Act as follows:

- a) Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.
- b) Security information, being information that if released is likely to endanger the security of Council property or the safety of any person.
- c) Land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values.
- d) Law enforcement information, being information which if released would be reasonably likely to prejudice the investigation into an alleged breach of the law or the fair trial or hearing of any person.
- e) Legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies.
- f) Personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.
- g) Private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that:
  - (i) relates to trade secrets; or
  - (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.
- h) Confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a).
- i) Internal arbitration information, being information specified in section 145.

- j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information, being information specified in section 169.
- k) Information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information for the purposes of this definition.
- l) Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.

#### Items

14.1 Land Sale

14.2 Award Contract

14.3 Land Option

14.4 Contractor Engagement

14.5 CEO Performance Plan

Resumption of Public Meeting

## 15 Close Meeting

Declan Moore

Chief Executive Officer