



Council Agenda



Campaspe
Shire Council

Date: 20 July 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.

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For a meeting of the eighth Campaspe Shire Council meeting held on Wednesday 20 July 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

Cr Weller seeks a leave of absence for an indefinite period of time due to personal reasons.

1.2 Leave of Absence

At the 15 June 2022 Council Meeting, Cr Marwood was granted a leave of absence until 5 September 2022.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the following minutes be confirmed:

- Campaspe Council Meeting held on 15 June 2022.
- Unscheduled Campaspe Council Meeting held on 22 June 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 Environment Strategy - Endorsement for Consultation

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

1. SUMMARY

The draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 will guide Council in setting environmental policies and determining roles, responsibilities, and priorities for implementation. It is important the community is consulted during the development of the Environment Strategy 2022-2026.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Endorse the Draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 for consultation purposes**
2. **Consider all feedback made by the public or partners on the Draft Environment Strategy**
3. **Consider adoption the Environment Strategy following consideration of feedback received at a future meeting of Council Meeting.**

3. PURPOSE

To seek endorsement of the Draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 for public consultation.

4. DISCUSSION

The draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 builds on the work of the previous Environment Strategy 2018-2022. The Strategy:

- Describes the environmental programs that Council engages in and aligns with Victorian Government direction.
- Specifies Council's legal obligation with respect to environmental management.
- Documents Council's commitment to voluntary environmental management (discretionary activities).
- Identifies opportunities for Council to partner with organisations to achieve environmental benefits together.

This Strategy is a refresh of the existing strategy, acknowledging the challenges to our natural environment are consistent with those identified four years ago, namely:

- Climate change
- Pest plant and animals
- Ongoing loss of habitat
- Managing water quantity and quality.

The identified themes of:

- Conservation,
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation,
- Community Engagement and Partnerships, and
- Council's responsibilities,

are still considered the priority areas for Council to focus on. The description of the challenges from climate change along with the theme of Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, have been expanded to incorporate the knowledge from research and a greater awareness within the community. One of the long-term aims for climate change adaptation and mitigation is for Council to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035, is an addition to this strategy. This aim is consistent with other regional councils targeting net-zero emissions and is more ambitious than those of both the Australian Government and Victorian Government target of 2050. The development of a Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan will provide the detail for Council to reach the net-zero emissions target by 2035.

The draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 references a variety of Council's documents to illustrate how areas of Council impact the environment. Some of the references include:

- Council Plan 2021-2025
- Advocacy Priorities 2021-2025
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Building the case for waste. Resource Recovery and Waste Management Strategy 2018-2023
- Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program 2019-2024
- Local Law No 9
- Waste Wise Events Guide
- Arbovirus and Mosquito Management Plan 2017-2020
- Open Space Strategy 2022-2032
- Roadside Weeds & Pests Control Plan
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan
- Landscape Plan Guide for Development in Campaspe Shire Council, City of Greater Shepparton and Moira Shire Council.

The draft Strategy also reflects the additional obligations placed on Council with the changes to legislation and state policies, in particular the Local Government Act 2020, Climate Change Act 2017 (and associated documents including Victoria's Climate Change Strategy) and the Environmental Protection Act 2017.

The community engagement for the development of the draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 was incorporated from that community engagement undertaken for the development of the Council Vision and the Council Plan. The results of this engagement showed just over 10% of responses were for the category of environment and sustainable practice, with the four topics featured, water, energy, biodiversity and environmental protection. These topics are addressed across the themes of the draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026.

Direct input from the community will be sought upon the Draft Strategy being endorsed for public consultation. Public consultation will be over four weeks with promotion through council's website and social media. Copies of the Strategy will be sent directly to interested community stakeholder groups and council partners.

5. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- Executive Management Group
- Waste Unit

- Environmental Health Unit
- Planning Unit
- Manager Assets
- Acting General Management Infrastructure

External consultation:

- Goulburn Murray Catchment Management Authority

Councillors:

- 8 June 2022 Council Briefing Session
- 6 July 2022 Council Briefing Session

6. 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 draft Environment Strategy details Council's legal obligations with respect to environment management, including Environment Protection Act 2017 and Environment Protection Regulations 2021, Climate Change Act 2017 and Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.

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 issues of ongoing financial viability of the Council have been identified within this report.

The draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 refers to Council projects that are currently budgeted for and recommends additional projects that are yet to be budgeted for. There is no guarantee that suggested projects and example actions will be funded.

8. 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.

The draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 applies environmental sustainability of the municipal district and promotes climate change adaptation and mitigation. Application of the draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 will assist to reduce environmental and sustainability issues.

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

- Resilient protected and healthy natural environment
- Well managed resources for a sustainable future

- Sustainable water and energy use
- Protected natural environment

11. 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.

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

The endorsement of the Draft Environment Strategy 2022-2026 for public consultation will provide the opportunity for the community to be consulted about the environment, focussing on, conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, community engagement and partnerships and Council's responsibilities.

16. ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Environment Strategy [9.1.1 - 31 pages]



Draft Environment Strategy

2022 - 2026





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 respect 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.

Koorie Market Event, Echuca

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Kyabram Fauna Park

Summary

Vision

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

The Environment Strategy 2022-2026

- Describes the environmental programs that Council engages in and aligns with Victorian Government direction
- Specifies Council's legal obligation with respect to environmental management
- Documents Council's commitment to voluntary environmental management (discretionary activities)
- Identifies opportunities for Council to partner with organisations to achieve environmental benefits together.

The details of Council's responsibilities and actions are expressed across four themes. These are summarised here with their performance indicators:

Conservation

Refer page 16 for details

Performance indicators:

- An increase in the number of community groups/schools that participate in the National Tree Day program. In 2021-2022, four community groups and two schools participated in National Tree Day plantings.
- Roadside Weeds and Pests Program Control Plan prepared in accordance with requirements of the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 and Local Government Victoria.
- Continue to increase native vegetation cover through the Rural Tree Scheme and Council plantings.

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

Refer page 19 for details

Performance indicators:

- Council develops a Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan which sets target emission goals to reach net-zero emissions by 2035.
- Development of Environmental Sustainable Design (ESD) Guidelines. Once adopted, ESD Guidelines are to be applied to all (100%) of Council projects.

Community Engagement and Partnerships

Refer page 22 for details

Performance indicators:

- Actions listed in the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan are completed or ongoing.
- Actions listed in WickED Action Plan are completed or ongoing.
- Updated Arbovirus and Mosquito Management Plan which includes the spread of Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) from Papua New Guinea and northern Australia.
- Implementation of Open Space Strategy 2022-2032.

Council's Responsibilities

Refer page 24 for details

Performance indicators:

- Council does not commit any breaches of environmental legislation.
- All events held on Council owned or Council managed land meet the requirement of the Events Guide.



Gunbower Lions Park

Council

The Environment Strategy 2022-2026 will guide Council in setting environmental policies and determining roles, responsibilities, and priorities for implementation. The implementation will be set each year through an operational Action Plan.

Campaspe Shire Council is committed to the environment with a strategic direction of resilient, protected and healthy natural environment. Council shall lead by its own example in all processes and practices.

The Environment Strategy 2022-2026 builds on the work of the previous Environment Strategy 2018-2022. The Strategy:

- Describes the environmental programs that Council engages in and aligns with Victorian Government direction
- Specifies Council's legal obligation with respect to environmental management
- Documents Council's commitment to voluntary environmental management (discretionary activities)
- Identifies opportunities for Council to partner with organisations to achieve environmental benefits together.

Council's Priorities

Resilient protected and healthy natural environment.

The Council Plan 2021-2025 has three strategic directions for the environment:

- Well managed resources for a sustainable future
- Sustainable water and energy use
- Protected natural environment

This Strategy will focus on the strategic objectives for a resilient protected and healthy natural environment of sustainable land, water and energy use and protected natural environment. The third strategic objective, well managed resources for a sustainable future is acknowledged in this Strategy and addressed in the Waste Management Strategy 2018-2023.

A protected and healthy natural environment and sustainable practices



We understand the role of the natural environment as a base for a healthy community. This means active management and protection where needed, ensuring healthy waterways, well managed forests and roadsides, for future generations especially in light of changing climate. Importantly, our future is one where we use energy and water efficiently and cleanly, and where farmers use their land sustainably. We use Indigenous knowledge and land management practices to manage our natural environment.

Internal Context

The Environment Strategy 2022-2026 aligns with Federal and State legislation, supporting policies, strategies and plans as well as Council policies and plans, including the Council Plan 2021-2025. The connections between the Environment Strategy and key Council strategies and plans are shown in figure 1.

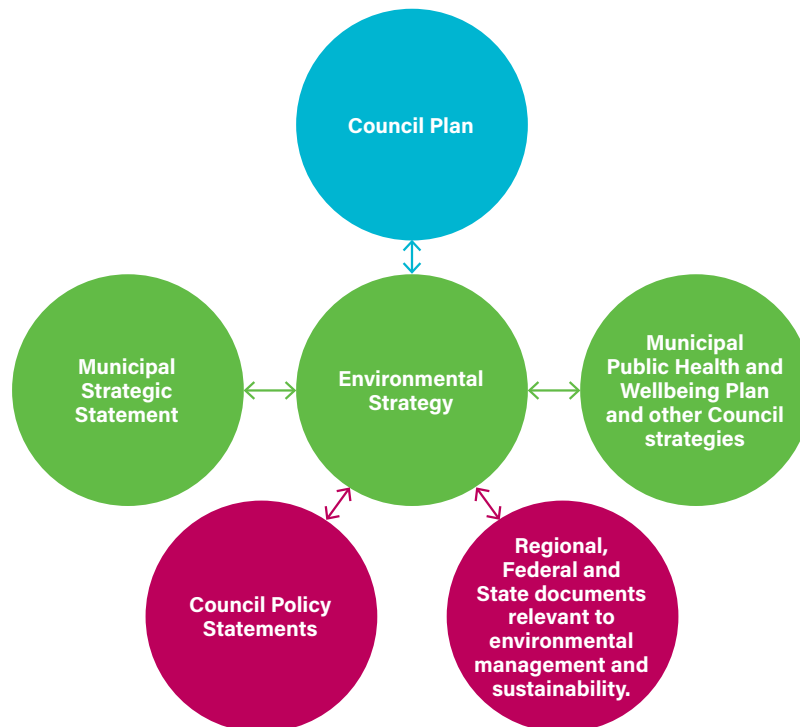


Figure 1: Relationship between Environment Strategy and other key documents.

Funding for the implementation of the Environment Strategy will be sought internally (funding through the Council budget process) and externally through grants and partnerships with Federal and Victorian Government and other community organisations. While all environmental projects listed must be feasible, there are no guarantees of funding.

The Environment Strategy 2022-2026 provides an overview of the environment of the Shire, Campaspe's natural assets and environmental challenges. Council's responsibilities and actions are expressed across four themes:

1. **Conservation**
2. **Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**
3. **Community Engagement and Partnerships**
4. **Council's Responsibilities**

Each theme is described by, policy position, policy rationale, long-term aim, performance indicators and example actions. The policy position includes Council's position on the theme along with a list of legislated responsibilities (Council must do) and discretionary responses (Council chooses to do).

The details of the themes are underpinned by Federal and State legislation, regulations, policies, strategies and plans.

Example actions for each theme are suggested activities to be undertaken and are not a comprehensive list of actions Council will fund or complete each year. For the full list of actions and estimated timelines, refer to the annual Environment Strategy Action Plan.



Kyabram Fauna Park

Environmental

Campaspe's Natural Assets

The Shire of Campaspe is located in north central Victoria, approximately 180km north of Melbourne and covers an area approximately 4,500 square kilometres. The Shire has a population estimated at 38,358, which 2.4% of our population are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, maintaining their ancient and special connection to Country which we as a community value and are working better to understand.

Campaspe's municipal boundary falls within the traditional lands of the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Yorta Yorta Peoples being the Traditional Owners. The Traditional Owners have lived on our traditional lands and cared for our country for thousands of years. Traditional Owners are recognised managers of natural and cultural resources.

Close to 70% of the population lives in the two large and growing towns of Echuca and Kyabram. We also have mid-sized towns that are important hubs for social connection, service and commercial provision. The economy is driven by agriculture, food production and healthcare sectors whilst tourism plays a strong role in Echuca Moama and the Murray River is recognised as among the state's key tourism destinations.

Figure 2 shows the area and location of the Shire of Campaspe, with the Murray River forming the northern boundary, while the Goulburn River forms the eastern boundary and the western boundary is defined by the Bendigo Creek and Kow (Ghow) Swamp.

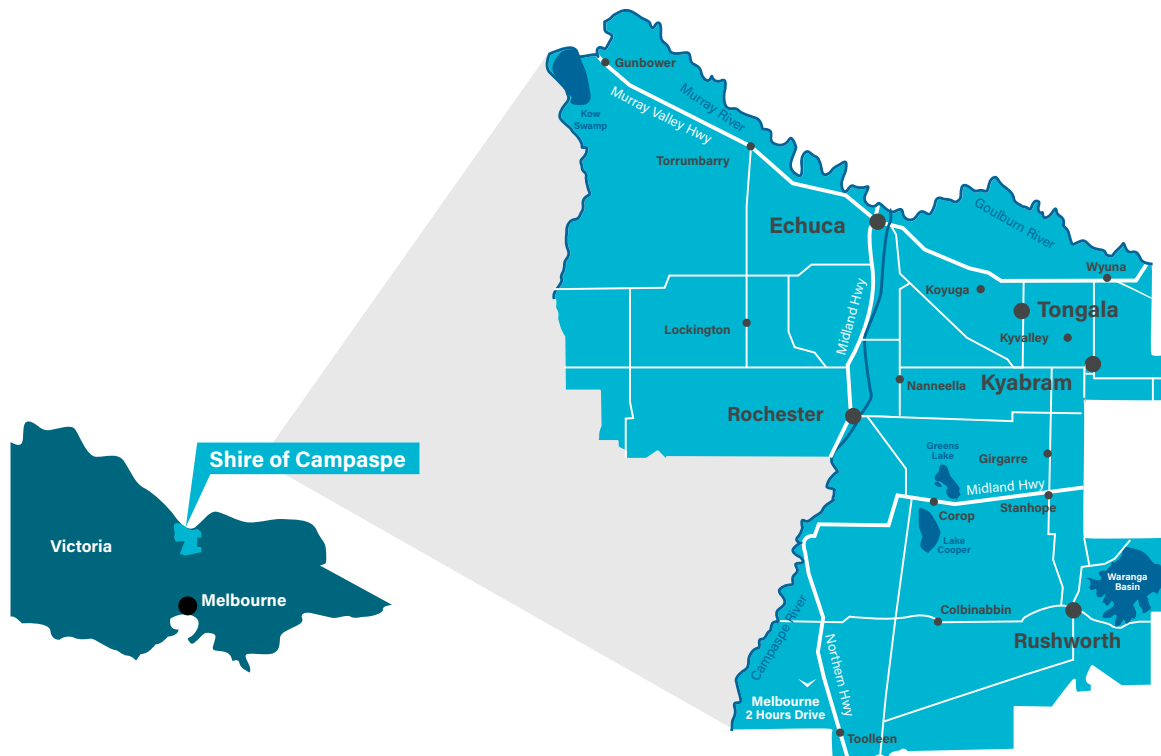


Figure 2: Area and location of the Shire of Campaspe

Environmental

The Shire is characterised by a flat landscape that slopes to the north. There is variation in vegetation types across the plains and river valleys, from plains grasslands to woodlands to river red gum floodplains which provide habitat for native fauna including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates. The majority of land (86%) is privately owned and managed by property owners and occupiers with 12% reserved as Crown Land (that is state parks, reserves and national parks) and just under 2% in road reserves. Of this land, only 2.2% is owned or managed by the Campaspe Shire Council.

While the land across the Shire has been significantly modified as a result of agriculture and irrigation, there is approximately 10% of the natural environment remaining. The significance and importance of these natural areas has been recognised by the Federal and Victorian Government through the development of state and national parks as well as programs targeting the conservation of threatened species.

Since 2001 there has been significant additions to the National Park estate and recommendations for the management of Crown Land through the investigations conducted by the Victorian Environment Assessment Council (and predecessor Environment Conservation Council) which includes:

- **Box-Ironbark Forests & Woodlands Investigation 2001** which established the Whroo Nature Conservation Reserve and land tenure changes to the Box-Ironbark forest around the Rushworth area.
- **River Red Gum Forests Investigation 2008** saw the establishment of Gunbower National Park, Lower Goulburn National Park and Murray River Park as well as the expansion of Terrick Terrick National Park to include the Patho West Grassland; Terrick East Grassland; Tomara Gilgai Grassland; Roslynmead North Grassland; Roslynmead South Grassland; Roslynmead East Grassland; Meadows Grassland; Torrumbarry Grassland; Kotta Grassland; Pinegrove Grassland; Wanurp Grassland; and Canegrass Grassland. Banyule Forest is to become part of the Echuca Historic and Cultural Features Reserve.
- **Remnant Native Vegetation Investigation 2011** made recommendations for land management and recognition of the importance that road reserves play in connecting remnant vegetation and habitats.

The reservation of these national parks is to protect and enhance the native flora and fauna that exists in our region, these diverse habitats are home to many rare and threatened species. These rare and threatened species also exist on private property, with many landholders working with Trust for Nature to covenant their property to protect this biodiversity for the future. Landholders on the Patho Plains look after the largest populations of the Plains Wanderers (*Pedionomus torquatus*) and significant habitat of the Northern Plains Grassland.

At least 48 native flora species and 46 native fauna species that are listed as threatened species are known to occur in the Shire of Campaspe. These threatened species occur across all land tenures, both Crown Land and private freehold. Some of the species of significance include:

- Spiny Rice-flower (*Pimelea spinescens* subsp. *spinescens*) has a category of threat of critically endangered under Federal legislation

Spiny Rice-flower

Across the Patho Plains, DELWP monitors 27 sites of Spiny Rice-flower. Of these 27 sites, 25 are located on roadsides within the Shire of Campaspe.

This makes Campaspe Shire Council the land manager of the most sites of Spiny Rice-flower in Northern Victoria.



- Red Swainson-pea (*Swainsona plaiotropis*), Slender Swainson-pea (*Swainsona murrayana*) and Silky Swainson-pea (*Swainsona sericea*) are all endangered in Victoria
- Weeping Myall (*Acacia pendula*) is assessed as critically endangered in Victoria
- Murray Cod (*Maccullochella peelii*) is endangered in Victoria
- Squirrel Glider (*Petaurus norfolcensis*) is listed as vulnerable in Victoria
- Bush Stone-curlew (*Burhinus grallarius*) is assessed as critically endangered in Victoria
- Golden Sun Moth (*Synemon plana*) is listed as vulnerable in Victoria.
- Stiff Groundsel (*Senecio behrianus*) is critically endangered in Victoria and endangered under Federal legislation.

Environmental

Plains Wanderer – a critically endangered Australian Icon.

There's no other bird like it in the world, they are the sole member of an ancient avian family the *Pedionomidae*. In a study assessing evolutionary distinctness and extinction risk, the Plains-wanderers were ranked number one in the world out of 9,983 bird species.

Plains-wanderers are critically endangered and under imminent threat of extinction with numbers in the wild estimated at 250-1000 and 95% of native grasslands that provide their habitat has been lost to cultivation and urban development.

What's being done?

Government, non-government groups and private landholders are working together to create suitable habitat and increase the populations of birds through captive breeding program.

There are many partners involved in the conservation efforts to protect the Plains-wanderers and increase their population in the wild, including the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Parks Victoria, Trust for Nature, Zoos Victoria, North Central Catchment Management Authority, Campaspe Shire Council, Northern Plains Conservation Management Network, universities and private landholders.

Programs include Plains for Wanderers, funded by the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, Zoos Victoria's captive breeding program, Victorian Government's Biodiversity On-ground Action Icon Species program and grassland management as part of Biodiversity Response Planning. Many of these programs include citizen science with survey assistance from interested landholders and the community.



Photo by John Childs

Draft Environment Strategy | Page 8

Environmental

Challenges

To protect and enhance the natural environment of Campaspe Shire, there are range of challenges that need to be addressed by Council and the community. The key challenges are described below.

Climate Change

The Campaspe Shire is part of the Loddon Mallee Region that has already become warmer and drier, a climate trend that is likely to continue into the future. Since 1950, the changes in the temperature in the Loddon Mallee region has increased 1.2-1.4°C and annual rainfall decline between 100-200mm. Figure 3 shows the changes across the region.

Changes in the Loddon Mallee region since 1950

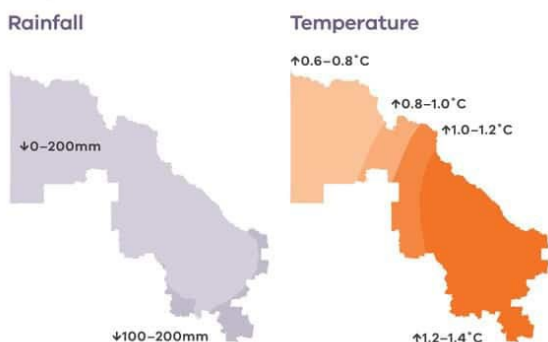


Figure 3. Source: Local climate update Loddon Mallee 2019

The observed changes reported for the Loddon Mallee region in Loddon Mallee Climate Ready Plan (DELWP, 2021) are:

- Longer harsher fire seasons and bushfire smoke (air pollution)
- Seasonal changes
- Changed rainfall patterns and drought
- Extreme heat events
- Storms/extreme rainfall and flooding
- Ecological changes (including pest incursions).

It is important that we continue to take action to adapt to the challenges of climate change as well as reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Without further reductions to greenhouse gas emission, by the 2050s, Loddon Campaspe can expect a warmer and drier climate, as suggested in Figure 4. This local scale climate projection data was developed the Victorian Government and CSIRO as part of the Local climate update – Loddon Mallee (DELWP, 2020).

Anyone under the age of 23 who has always lived in Victoria has never experienced a year of below-average temperature

Climate represents the long-term average weather conditions experienced in a location. Climate is what you expect, but weather is what you get.

Victoria's Climate Science Report 2019.

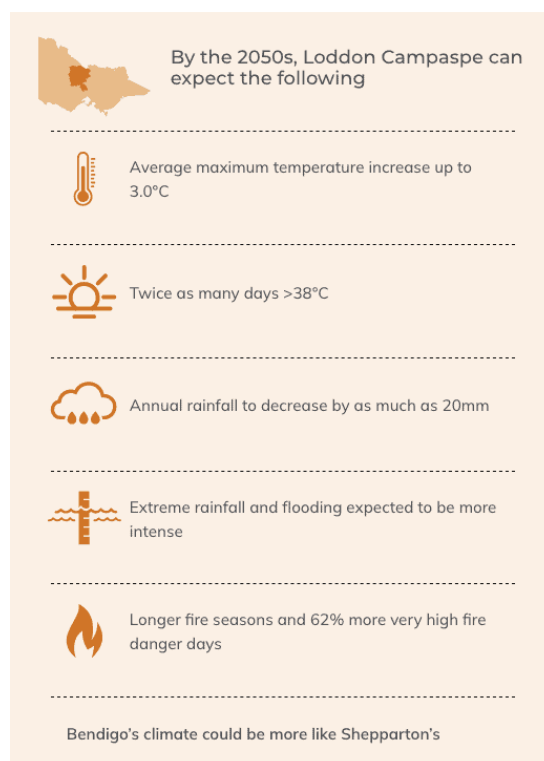


Figure 4. Local scale climate projections for the Loddon Campaspe region. Source: Local climate update Loddon Mallee 2019

Environmental challenges

Adapting to climate change now will reduce future costs and ensure our community’s long-term prosperity. Mitigation is critical to avoid catastrophic climate change. However, even with the strictest cuts to carbon emissions, some climate change is unavoidable. Adaptation is key to responding to these avoidable changes.

The Natural Environment Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2022-2026 (DELWP, 2022) provides examples of actions that provide mitigation, while other actions assist with adaptation. Actions such as conserving water and restoring native vegetation provide both mitigation and adaptation. Example actions are shown in Figure 5.

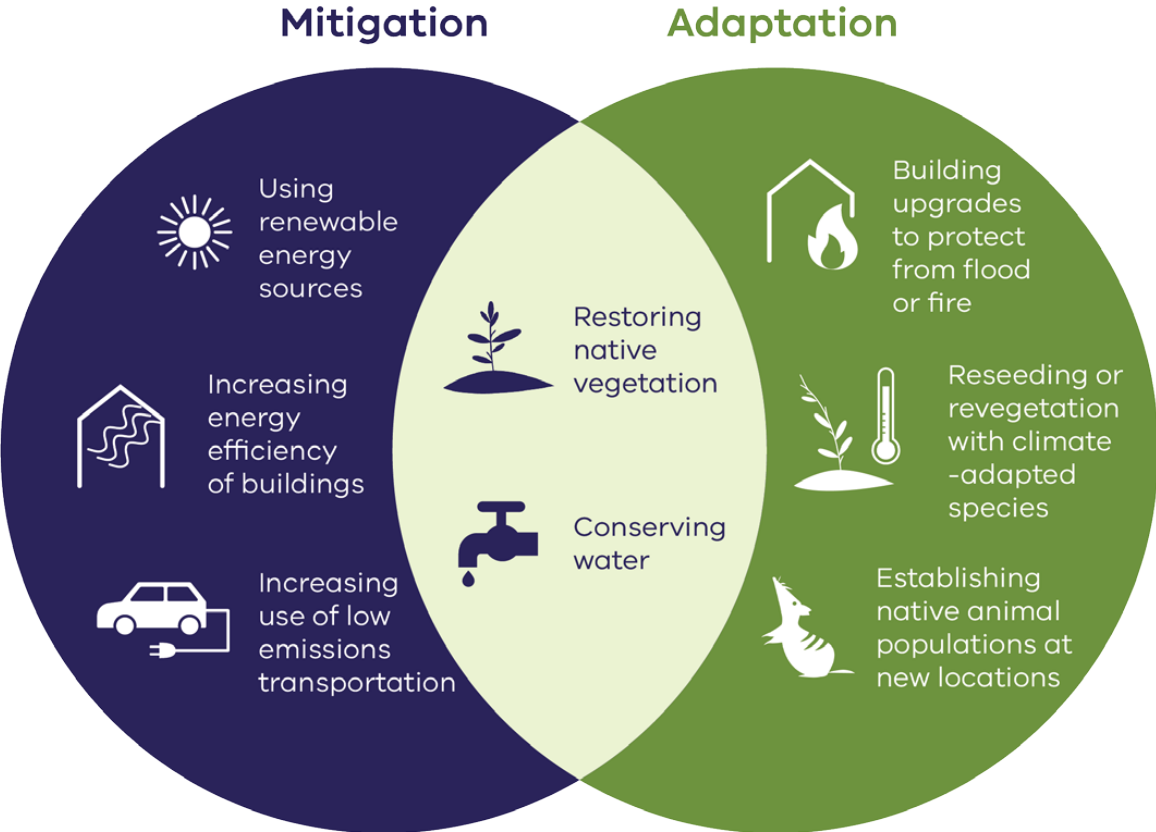


Figure 5. Source: Natural Environment Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2022-2026, DELWP

Environmental challenges

Council has made significant changes in reducing greenhouse gas emissions through:

- Implementation of Watts Working Better Street Lighting Project, reducing power usage by 40% and reducing greenhouse gas emissions annually by 665 tonnes of CO₂-e
- Reducing waste to landfill through introduction of garden organics service across the Shire and increasing recycling opportunities in public spaces
- Installation of 100kW of solar on Echuca Library
- Installation of 60kW of solar and 30kW battery storage at Echuca Basketball Stadium, with the stadium supplying 95% of its own power
- Inclusion of hybrid vehicles into Council fleet
- Participation in the Victorian Energy Collaboration, a project to deliver 100% renewable power to 46 Victorian Councils, preventing 260,000 tonnes of CO₂-e from entering our atmosphere every year – Australia's largest single emissions reduction (mitigation) project by local government.



Environmental challenges

The Climate Council's report, **Uninsurable nation: Australia's most climate-vulnerable places** (Climate Council, 2022), outlines the top 20 most at-risk Federal electorates to climate change-related extreme weather events. The metric used for the ranking is the percentage of 'high risk' properties in each electorate across Australia. The ranking used a timeframe of 2030 for comparing climate risks with a high emissions scenario. The total risks from hazards that significantly impact buildings were considered: bushfires, riverine flooding, extreme wind, coastal inundation and surface water flooding.

The number 1 most at-risk Federal electorate by 2030 is Nicholls (Victoria) which covers the Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Campaspe, Greater Shepparton, Moira and parts of Strathbogie and Mitchell. Nicholls received top ranking with 26.5% of properties will be uninsurable by 2030 and the rate as high as 56% of properties for Greater Shepparton. **'While climate change affects all Australians, the risks are not shared equally. In the most extreme instances, areas may become uninhabitable'** (Climate Council, 2022). Insurance will be increasingly unaffordable or unavailable in large parts of Australia due to worsening extreme weather. The availability of affordable insurance is paramount to the safety and well-being of communities, as well the broader economic resilience of Australia.

Pest Plants and Animals

Pest plants (weeds) and animals are a threat to biodiversity and agricultural production in the Shire. The Centre for Invasive Species Solutions has found that the average cost of weeds in Australia is \$4.8 billion dollars from weed control costs and production losses (McLeod, 2018). Overall, the costs of weeds has increased 20% since the last economic impact report from 15 years ago (McLeod, 2018).

Under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 landowners are responsible for the management of pest plants and animals on their property. All landowners have a responsibility to eradicate regionally prohibited weeds, prevent the growth and spread of regionally controlled weeds, and prevent the spread of established pest animals.

Council is responsible for the management of pest plants and animals on the land that it owns or manages. The responsibility for the management of weeds on roadsides is the land manager. Council has developed a Roadside Weed and Rabbit Control Plan. This plan is implemented with funds provided by Local Government Victoria under the Roadside Weeds and Pest Program. By reducing noxious weeds across the Shire, the threat to biodiversity and native vegetation quality, agricultural production, landscape values, waterway habitats and amenity is reduced.

Campaspe Shire Council weed management on roadsides from October 2020 to December 2021 included treatment of:

- 711 Blackberry sites across 366km of roadside
- 1,378 Briar Roses treated across 949km of roadside
- 41 sites of Artichoke Thistle across 100km of roadside
- 2,422 African Boxthorns were treated across 1,282km of roadside
- 26 sites of Prickly Pear across 59km of roadside was treated
- 77 sites of Paterson's Curse were treated over 142km of roadside
- 120 plants of Bridal Creeper were treated across 230km of roadside
- 362 sites of Horehound across 728km of roadside was treated
- 55 sites of Silverleaf Nightshade was treated across 118km of roadside, predominantly across the Patho Plains.

Environmental challenges

Ongoing Loss of Habitat

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services has identified changes in land and sea use as the top key driver of biodiversity loss. Loss of habitat occurs through; the loss of native vegetation (amplified when it includes old hollow-bearing trees); poor natural regeneration, changes to riverflows, wetlands and floodplains; removal of woody debris and changes to fire frequency and intensity.

Native vegetation extent is mapped by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and defined as vegetation extent (layer labelled NV2005). The following map, figure 6, indicates the vegetation extent across the Campaspe Shire, covering both the Goulburn Broken Catchment and North Central Catchment as of 2005. This is the most up to date mapping available from DELWP.

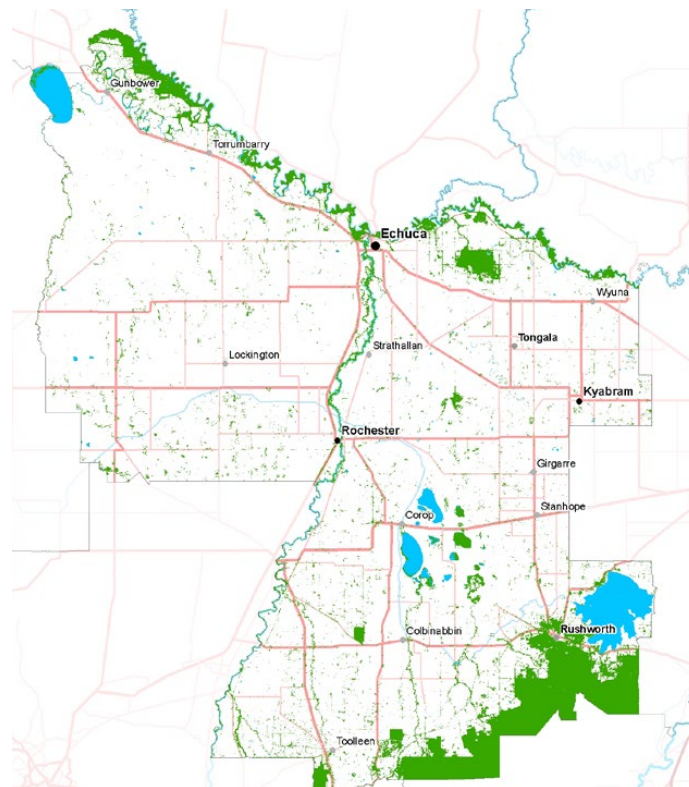


Figure 6. Map of native vegetation cover for the Shire. Source: Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

The loss of habitat not only reduces the native flora present but reduces the fauna it can support. Habitat fragmentation is listed as a threatening process for fauna in Victoria under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988. More than 2,000 species, communities and threats are listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.

While large-scale clearing of native vegetation no longer occurs in the Shire, continued incremental losses have adverse consequences for biodiversity and the

functioning of ecosystems. This impact is significant across agricultural landscapes where there is little remaining native vegetation.

'Cleaning up' of roadsides and remnant areas also leads to incremental loss of native vegetation as logs, branches and litter provide important habitat for both flora and fauna. The loss of isolated paddock trees due to burning of crop paddocks also leads to incremental loss of biodiversity in the Shire.

Environmental challenges

Managing Water Quantity and Quality

Managing water quantity and quality is an ongoing challenge for many stakeholders across the Shire and the region. Council has responsibilities for urban stormwater, for statutory planning processes for development and wastewater as well as Council's own water use (potable and raw).

Integrated Water Management (IWM) is the term used to describe the collaborative approach to planning and managing all elements of the water cycle, including delivery of water, wastewater and stormwater management contribute to water security, public and environmental health and urban amenity. In 2020 Council completed Planning for future water management: Campaspe Integrated Water Management (IWM) Strategy to provide a long-term pathway for dealing with water-related challenges in a collaborative, integrated manner for the benefit of the Shire's communities.

The management of stormwater is important to urban communities to avoid risks posed to water quality by minimising the impacts of flow, sediment, nutrients, pathogens, toxicants, litter and pollutants in surface water.

Water security for the agricultural sector remains a key issue through access to water, water quality and the price involved. The separation of land and water entitlements has resulted in water trading which influences local water availability and price. The delivery of water for agriculture, industry and towns can be managed for a positive impact on the environment, providing environmental benefits as it flows through the system. This is managed by the water authorities with input from the Catchment Management Authorities.



Torrumbarry Weir



Aquatic Reserve, Echuca

Themes

Conservation



Key Terms

Biodiversity – biodiversity encompasses all components of the living world; the number and variety of plants, animals and other living things across land, rivers, coast and ocean. It includes the diversity of their genetic information, the habitats and ecosystems within which they live, and their connections with other life forms and the natural world.

Native vegetation – plants indigenous to the area including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses.

Noxious weeds – certain plants that are declared under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994. Landholders have an obligation to treat noxious weeds according to their classified category.

Policy Position

Council acknowledges:

- The significant environments and landscapes across the Shire, from the Box-Ironbark Forests of the south to the woodlands, waterways (rivers, tributaries and wetlands) and Northern Plains Grasslands of the floodplain, to the Murray River to the north.
- The importance of effective management of public land, including road reserves, bushland reserves, parks and recreation spaces.
- The importance of planning to protect native vegetation in areas subject to land use change, including future industrial, residential areas and road reserves.
- The importance of integrated water management in Council's roles as a land manager, responsible authority and infrastructure manager.
- The importance of pest animal and weed control, on the land Council manages as well as supporting the community to address this issue.
- The connection to country and the management of country by Traditional Owners, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Yorta Yorta Peoples. The application of traditional knowledge to natural resource management improves sustainable environmental and cultural outcomes.

Council must:

- Implement Council's legislative and policy responsibilities to protect the health of ecological systems.
- Ensure that Council's actions and land management practices incorporate appropriate biodiversity conservation measures and lead by example.
- Support the implementation of the Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy and North Central Catchment Management Strategy and their sub-strategies.

- Prepare and publish a Roadside Weed and Pest Animal Management Plan in accordance with the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 and Roadside Weeds and Pests Program of Local Government Victoria.
- Meet the obligations of the Environment Protection Act 2017 including the general environment duty to reduce the risk of harm from your activities: to human health and the environment; from pollution or waste.
- Apply the no net loss objective of the native vegetation removal regulations, by applying the three-step hierarchy of avoid, minimise and offset to Council's own projects and as statutory authority under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Council chooses to:

- Deliver the Rural Tree Scheme by assisting rural landholders to increase the native plants in the landscape.
- Undertake an advocacy role to support the community to manage Queensland Fruit Fly.
- Advocate for the community on new and emerging environmental issues.
- Support Clean Up Australia Day to raise awareness and reduce littering in our community.
- Support community groups to undertake environmental projects with financial support from various grant programs.
- Collaborate with partners to implement actions.
- Support Kyabram Fauna Park acknowledging their role in conservation and water management for the town of Kyabram. The Park's wetlands form part of Kyabram's stormwater catchment system, filtering water, slowing the flow to the Goulburn River system and reducing flash flooding in the Kyabram township.

Themes

Conservation



Policy Rationale

Council recognises:

- The need for a healthier environment for current and future generations.
- The importance of healthy catchment and waterways.
- The presence of threatened species, at least 48 flora species and 46 fauna species that are listed under Federal and State legislation.
- The need to partner with lead agencies to address emergencies, floods, fires, and storms as directed by the Northern Victorian Integrated Municipal Emergency Management Plan: Campaspe 2018.

The application of legislation including:

- Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.
- Planning and Environment Act 1987.
- Environmental Protection Act 2017 and Environment Protection Regulations 2021.

- Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 and Flora and Fauna Guarantee Amendment Act 2019.
- Wildlife Act 1975.
- Fisheries Act 1995.
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- Water Act 1989.

The application of strategies and guides:

- Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037.
 - And implementation through Biodiversity Response Planning.
- Campaspe Roadside Conservation Strategy.
- Landscape Plan Guide for Developments in Campaspe Shire Council, City of Greater Shepparton and Moira Shire Council.
- River Red Gum Parks Management Plan, Parks Victoria July 2018.

Long-term Aims

- To protect, manage and restore native vegetation habitats, including grasslands and wetland vegetation.
- To increase the extent and quality of native vegetation and biodiversity across the Shire.
- Support the availability of water for the environment, agriculture and industry.

Performance Indicators

- An increase in the number of community groups/schools that participate in the National Tree Day program. In 2021-2022, four community groups and two schools participated in National Tree Day plantings.
- Roadside Weeds and Pests Program Control Plan prepared in accordance with requirements of the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 and Local Government Victoria.
- Continue to increase native vegetation cover through the Rural Tree Scheme and Council plantings.

Themes

Conservation



Example Actions

- Continue to contribute to the operating and maintenance costs of salinity control works to GBCMA on behalf of the Murray Darling Basin Commission.
- Implement the Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan.
- Continue to deliver on legislated roles in planning and land use management and continue to lead by example as a land manager, controlling noxious weeds and implementing best practice for land management.
- Provide ongoing training for Council staff on awareness and best management practice for native vegetation and weed management.
- Develop and adopt the Urban Tree Management Plan.
- Continue the Rural Tree Scheme to support rural landholders to increase biodiversity through the purchase of plants.
- Participate in the Goulburn Murray Valley Regional Fruit Fly Program.
- Review the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan in line with EPA Act changes.



Themes

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation



Key Terms

Adaptation – is action taken to prepare for actual or expected changes in the climate, in order to minimise harm, act on opportunities or cope with the consequences (Climate Change Act 2017).

Climate change – means a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods (Climate Change Act 2017).

Mitigation – measures taken to reduce adverse effects on the environment and/or manage associated risks. In the context of climate change, it generally refers to human inventions that reduce the sources of greenhouse gases (DELWP, 2017).

Policy Position

Council acknowledges:

- The impacts of climate change influence the resilience and success of the community, business, industry and the environment.
- Extreme weather events have already impacted our communities and services, and these are predicted to become more frequent. Since the 1950s our climate has become warmer and drier.
- Natural disasters are increasing in frequency and severity as a result of the changing climate.
- The community wants action taken to reduce the impacts of climate change.

Council must:

- Responsibly manage energy and water consumption with the aim of increasing efficiency which reduces costs and impacts on the environment.
- Must promote the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks.
- Prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan with consideration of climate change.
- Incorporate consideration of climate change and relevant state and national plans into strategic planning. The long-term adverse consequences of climate change for future generations are incorporated into Council planning, decisions and actions.

Council chooses to:

- Lead by example in responding and adapting to climate change.
- Support community, business and industry to respond to the impacts of a changing climate.
- Adopt, support and promote sustainable and affordable energy options.
- Continue to partner with other agencies, government departments, businesses and the community to share knowledge and explore funding opportunities to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Support commercial and residential building owners to access finance (Environmental Upgrade Finance (EUF)) for sustainability or climate adaptation upgrades to existing commercial and residential buildings.

Themes

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation



Policy Rationale

Australian Government signed the Paris Agreement at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which aims to limit an increase in global temperatures to “well below” 2°C (aspirational goal of 1.5°).

- Australian Government greenhouse gas emission reduction targets are:
 - 26 to 28% below 2005 levels by 2030
 - Net-zero emission by 2050.

The Climate Change Act 2017 provides Victoria with the legislative foundation to manage climate change risks, maximise the opportunities that arise from action and drive our transition to a climate resilient community and economy with net-zero emissions by 2050.

- The Act requires the development of a Climate Change Strategy every five years and Adaptation Action Plans for key systems that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.
- Victoria’s Climate Change Strategy (DELWP, 2021a) states the Victorian Government targets to reach net-zero emissions by 2050, based on 2005 level emissions:
 - 28% to 33% by 2025
 - 45% to 50% by 2030.

- Victoria’s Climate Change Strategy sets out the Victorian Government’s actions to reduce emissions by:
 - A clean energy economy, building greener homes and buildings, transformation of the electricity system.
 - Decarbonising gas use, including switching to electricity and developing the renewable hydrogen industry.
 - Transitioning to more zero emissions vehicles.
 - Researching and piloting new solutions for agriculture.
 - Community investment in renewable energy.
- The Adaptation Action Plans have been developed for each of the seven systems: natural environment, water cycle, built environment, education and training, health and human services, primary production and transport.
- The Act provides the option for local government to make a pledge, to make a statement in respect of reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- The Loddon Mallee Climate Ready Plan is a five-year plan with a place-based approach that aims to strengthen capacity on local communities and empower them to work together in response to local challenges that can’t be addressed at the state-wide level.

The planning system in Victoria sets out some of the accountabilities and opportunities in relation to local climate change adaptation, as land use planning plays a key role in managing responses to climate risks and natural hazards including bushfires, flooding, heatwaves, sea-level rise and storm surges (DELWP, 2020a).

Long-term Aims

- Support community, business and industry to respond to the impacts of a changing climate.
- Achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions for Council operations by 2035.
- Adapt to the effects of climate change.
- Farmers and land managers care for their land to enable agricultural productivity with environmental benefits.

Themes

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation



Performance Indicators

- Council develops a Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan which sets target emission goals to reach net-zero emissions by 2035.
- Development of Environmental Sustainable Design (ESD) Guidelines. Once adopted, ESD Guidelines are to be applied to all (100%) of Council projects.

Example Actions

- Develop a Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan which sets target emission goals to reach net-zero emissions by 2035.
- Develop greenhouse gas emissions reporting for Council's emission tailored to local government, utilising the Local Government Energy Saver Program organisational carbon accounting tool and Azility data.
- Promote and support community access to energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emission reductions education and initiatives.
- Collaborate with other local governments and agencies via the Goulburn Broken Climate Alliance to leverage grant funding and partnerships for climate change related projects and initiatives.
- Support businesses and homeowners to access Environmental Upgrade Funding for upgrades that improve sustainability or climate adaptation to existing commercial and residential buildings.
- Review climate change risks to local government are being addressed through planning, project management and asset management.
- Investigate the inclusion of 'green' fleet options into Council's fleet, with fit for purpose options for passenger fleet and alternatives for heavy vehicles.
- Advocate for support for a hydrogen business plan for Campaspe to explore the hydrogen use throughout the region.
- Increase the average star rating for new Council buildings.
- Extend Council's advocacy for building a grid that supports renewables to include support for the community to include gas reliability and security for commercial and residential uses.

Themes

Community Engagement and Partnerships



Policy Position

Council acknowledges:

- Partnering with other agencies, government departments, businesses, industry bodies and the community to deliver projects and solutions to challenges faced.
- Supporting community groups, the link between a healthy environment and the health of the general population.
- Council works in partnership with the community to achieve a healthy natural environment.

Council must:

- Partner with other agencies and government departments to deliver their plans and comply with legislation.
- Councils are constituted as representative bodies that are accountable, transparent, collaborative, efficient and engaged with their communities.
- Collaborate with other councils and governments and statutory bodies.

Council chooses to:

- Strengthen the relationship with Traditional Owners and continue to work together on natural resource management programs with each Traditional Owner enterprise, Djandak, Taungurung Caring for Country and Woka Walla.
- Support Landcare in the Shire through the Campaspe Shire Landcare Steering Committee.
- Support the Municipal Catchment Coordinator role in collaboration with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Moira Shire and Greater Shepparton City Council.
- Be a member of the Goulburn Broken Climate Alliance.
- Support the outcomes of the Place Based Plans and Township Facility Plans through Community Development Officers to ensure local aspirations are managed in partnership with Council's financial restraints.
- Support Kyabram Fauna Park acknowledging their role in conservation and water management for the town of Kyabram.
- Continue to strengthen strong local networks and support communities to leverage off existing ties their neighbourhoods. Increase local knowledge sharing about local climate impacts and adaptation solutions.

Policy Rationale

Council recognises:

- Council has obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 to adopt and maintain a community engagement policy. Campaspe Shire Council, Policy 59 - Community Engagement.
- The best partnerships occur when Council engages with a wide range of stakeholders, looking for common ground and joint outcomes using combined resources.
- Partnerships are important for environmental benefits to occur across the landscape and catchment.

- The significance of engagement through Building the Case for Waste, Resource Recovery and Waste Strategy 2018-23 and Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program 2019-2024, WickED – Waste in Campaspe – Know. Educate. Do.
- Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037.
- Arbovirus and Mosquito Management Plan 2017-20.
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2015-18.

Themes

Community Engagement and Partnerships



Long-term Aims

- The whole community is connecting with nature.
- The community is engaged in the decisions that affect them and the environment.
- Protection of our natural environment and delivery of programs and services to support a connected and healthy community.
- Landscape – sustainable communities supported by clean air, water, land and biodiversity.
- To protect and improve water quality and river health.

Performance Indicators

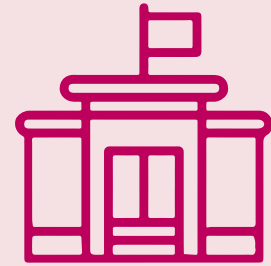
- Actions listed in the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan are completed or ongoing.
- Actions listed in WickED Action Plan are completed or ongoing.
- Updated Arbovirus and Mosquito Management Plan which includes the spread of Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) from Papua New Guinea and northern Australia.
- Implementation of Open Space Strategy 2022-2032.

Example Actions

- Review the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan in line with the EPA Act changes.
- Complete the actions listed in the action plan for Building the Case for Waste, Resource Recovery and Waste Strategy.
- Continue to support Campaspe Landcare Steering Committee.
- Participate in state-wide Victorian Arbovirus Disease Control Program, managing waterways and environments to minimise mosquitoes.
- Continue partnerships with agencies, departments and community groups including (but not limited to) Northern Plains Conservation Management Network, Caring for the Campaspe Reference Group, Municipal Catchment Coordinator Reference Group, Goulburn Broken Local Government Biodiversity Reference Group, Integrated Water Management Forums, Campaspe Environmental Water Advisory Group, Goulburn Murray Valley Regional Fruit Fly Program and Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance.

Themes

Council's Responsibilities



Policy Position

Council acknowledges:

- The Shire has been inherited from previous generations with outstanding environmental, social and economic attributes. Council is committed to passing on the Shire to the next generation in as good (or better) condition as when inherited.
- The importance of Council as a leader in environmental decision-making and activities.
- Supporting the circular economy, to reduce the environmental impacts of production and consumption, while enabling economic growth through productive use of natural resources. Council has two roles in the circular economy, one to provide municipal residual waste and municipal recycling services and a second as a purchaser of products and materials.
- Amenity refers to the pleasant aspects of a place which contribute to its overall character, and in the environment has a wider application which includes a physical component (which could include character and appearance of building and works), quality infrastructure and absence of noise, unsightliness or offensive odours.

Council must:

- Comply with legislative requirements relevant to environmental sustainability, including:
 - Environment Protection Act 2017 and general environment duty (GED) to reduce the risk of harm from your activities: to human health and the environment; from pollution or waste.
 - Local Government Act 2020.
 - Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021.
 - Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.
 - Water Act 1989.
 - Crown Land Reserves Act 1978.
- Implement and enforce legislation that is delegated to Council by Victorian Government agencies, Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), Sustainability Victoria and Department of Health.
- Integrate environmental sustainability across all areas of Council, in decision making and project management.
- Implement Council's Waste Wise Events Guide.
- Implement Council's Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program 2019-2024.

Council chooses to:

- Commit to environmentally sustainable procurement.
- Investigate the use of recycled materials in Council projects.
- Support community groups to undertake projects to benefit our local environment and reduce the impacts of climate change through the Community Grants program.

Themes

Council's Responsibilities



Policy Rationale

Council recognises:

- The application of the triple bottom line, accounting to deliver environmental, social and economic benefits.
- The importance of good governance.

Long-term Aims

- Promote and aid Victoria's transition to a circular economy.
- The protection and enhancement of the amenity and environment of the municipality.

Performance Indicators

- Council does not commit any breaches of environmental legislation.
- All events held on Council owned or Council managed land meet the minimum requirement of the Waste Wise Events Guide.

Example Actions

- Apply the Landscape Plan Guide for Development in Campaspe Shire Council, City of Greater Shepparton and Moira Shire Council for Council projects and encourage its use in the wider community.
- Application of fit for purpose green purchasing.
- Continued application of Local Law No 8 to protect and maintain the amenity of the Shire.



Echuca

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- McLeod, R. (2018) Annual Costs of Weeds in Australia. eSYS Development Pty Ltd. Published by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, Canberra.



Echuca Fishway



2 Heygarth Street, 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

Website: www.campaspe.vic.gov.au

Social:  @CampaspeShireCouncil
 #campaspeShire

Customer Service Centres

Kyabram, 19 Lake Road

Rochester, 43-45 Mackay Street

Rushworth, 33 High Street

Tongala, 37 Mangan Street

9.2 Kindergarten Leases

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Community Health	Community Health	Manager Community Health	General Manager Development

1. SUMMARY

Council's policy 161 - Leases for Local Community Organisations and Artisans sets out the eligibility criteria for entering a community lease on a Council owned facility. This policy has recently been reviewed and one of the eligibility criteria, the annual turnover threshold, has been reduced to \$500,000 inc. GST per annum for community organisations. An unintended consequence of this threshold and its reduction is that funded, not-for-profit kindergarten providers whose turnover exceeds the threshold of the policy will no longer be eligible to enter community leases when current agreements expire, or when these providers seek a new lease on a Council owned facility.

Not-for-profit kindergarten providers of scale typically cross-subsidise the operations of smaller, less viable services, which ensures equity of access to services particularly in regional and rural areas such as Campaspe. Where these services do not have additional income generating potential on site to supplement operations (i.e. provision of centre based care), proposing a commercial lease would have a significant financial impact on the provider's ability to continue to be able to maintain service delivery, especially in smaller rural locations.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Note the content of agenda report 15.2 of the 11 November 2014 Campaspe Shire Council meeting, specifically that:**

"The second stage of transition would see a focus upon the infrastructure associated with the preschools. This would include the development of community leases for the preschool facilities which although at a peppercorn rate would include the cluster manager meeting the building insurance and Fire Service Levy costs incurred by Council as is Council policy. In the medium to long term, these costs would be reduced as preschools became community owned assets or, if services were co-located with school facilities and were disposed of."

2. **Approve the waiver of the annual turnover threshold of policy 161 for Shine Bright Early Years management and other like not-for-profit kindergarten providers who exceed the threshold, where these providers are delivering funded three and four year old kindergarten programs only from Council-owned sites.**

3. PURPOSE

To seek approval for maintaining community / peppercorn leases for not-for-profit kindergarten providers operating in Council owned facilities, where annual turnover exceeds the threshold set by Council Policy 161 - Leases for Local Community Organisations and Artisans. Approval is required to waive the annual turnover threshold requirement within Council Policy 161.

4. DISCUSSION

In 2014 Council determined to cease direct delivery of kindergarten services and to accept the expression of interest of the Loddon Mallee Preschool Association (now known as Shine Bright Early Years Management) to take management of Council's services located at Rochester, Tongala, Lockington, and Gunbower. Following a negotiation of terms of transmission, the kindergartens transitioned to Shine Bright management in 2017. The transfer included for the occupancy of those sites to be formalised on community leases at peppercorn rates.

Along with the four services transitioned to Shine Bright, Council owns most of the kindergarten infrastructure in the municipality. Council owned sites are now occupied by “Early Years Managers” (Shine Bright and Goulburn Region Preschool Management), and one facility remains community managed (Rushworth).

Around the same time as Council's services transitioned to Shine Bright, officers engaged with all kindergarten facility tenants with the aim of strengthening lease arrangements to include enhanced data sharing (to enable Council to better monitor unmet demand for kindergarten services) and to encourage services to join Council's Central Registration scheme. New licence agreements were successfully struck with Colbinabbin and more recently Rushworth kindergartens, and along with the four previously Council-managed services that transitioned to Shine Bright, licence agreement terms and conditions were also renewed with Shine Bright for its services at Echuca East, South and Central (with these sites all transitioning to Shine Bright from independent community management).

Negotiations with the Kyabram Preschool Management Committee were still underway when it ceased operation in July 2021 and transitioned its three services to Shine Bright. Of these three services, one is operated out of a Council owned facility, the Kyabram Municipal Kindergarten on Fenaughty Street, and a community / peppercorn lease is sought.

In 2018 the inaugural Council policy 161 commenced. It set the terms for eligibility for a community lease. The eligibility criteria included the setting of a threshold (\$750,000) for the annual turnover for community organisations.

More recently at its meeting in April 2022, Council endorsed revised policy 161. Key changes in this version include:

- The cost of building insurance will no longer be a tenant responsibility.
- To be eligible for a community lease, the community group / organisation must be able to demonstrate a community benefit in line with the policy and must also not generate an annual turnover that exceeds \$500,000 inclusive of GST.
- Groups will be required to pay a rent in accordance with the schedule of fees endorsed by Council through its annual budgeting process.

5. OPTIONS

Option 1: Waive the turnover threshold component of Policy 161 for not-for-profit kindergarten providers operating in Council-owned facilities, enabling continued access to community / peppercorn leases

Though Council ceased direct delivery of kindergarten services in 2017, Council remains owner of a significant number of kindergarten assets across the municipality. Council continues to explore opportunities for relocation or collocation of kindergarten facilities, however in the interim, all of Council's kindergarten facilities are occupied by not-for-profit or community managed service providers.

Considering turnover as an eligibility criterion for these types of entities to be eligible for a community lease is not appropriate given the turnover is based on per-capita kindergarten funding that is returned to delivering kindergarten programs.

Not-for-profit kindergarten providers can demonstrate a strong community benefit and their services firmly align with the Council Plan priority “Growing Quality of Life”. It is recommended that Council resolve that the threshold component of Policy 161 for not-for-profit kindergarten providers operating in Council-owned facilities be waived, enabling continued access to community / peppercorn leases

Option 2: Implement policy 161 without modification

The revised turnover threshold in Policy 161 adopted April 2022 would preclude Shine Bright Early Years Management (and like not-for-profit kindergarten providers) from entering any new community / peppercorn leases. Similarly, all community leases / licence agreements currently in place for Council-owned facilities occupied by Shine Bright (Echuca Central, Echuca East, Echuca South, Rochester, Stanhope, Gunbower, Tongala and Lockington) would be subject to the provisions of policy 161 at the expiry of these agreements.

Transitioning these services to commercial leases would have a significant negative financial impact the provider's ability to maintain service delivery, particularly in small rural areas with low rates of enrolment.

This option is not recommended.

6. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- The matter has been discussed with Council's Property Team and with the General Manager Development

Councillors:

- 8 June 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.

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

Growing quality of life
Effective and efficient services available locally
Children, young people and families healthy and well

12. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Issues:

Issue 1: Sustainability of service provision in smaller rural locations

A key aspect of the expression of interest process that was undertaken to appoint an alternate provider for Council's own kindergarten services in 2014 was the ability for providers to demonstrate how they will support small services that may otherwise be considered unviable (e.g. Gunbower, Colbinabbin, Stanhope). Shine Bright's service model ensures that larger services cross-subsidise the operations of smaller sites with limited enrolment numbers.

Risk:

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation action
Kindergarten service closure	Possible	Major	High	Community / Peppercorn leases

				to be offered to not-for-profit providers, where facilities are occupied for the delivery of funded kindergarten programs only.
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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

Not-for-profit and community managed kindergarten providers return a strong benefit to community through the provision of funded kindergarten programs, particularly in locations of low population that would be considered unviable by commercial operators. Access to community / peppercorn leases is a key enabler for providers in rural locations to be able to maintain service delivery, where there is no other source of supplementary income to subsidise operations. It is recommended Council waive the annual turnover threshold contained with Policy 161 for these providers.

17. ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.3 Gender Equality Action Plan

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Human Resources	Human Resources	Manager Human Resources	General Manager Corporate

1. SUMMARY

This report presents Council's Gender Equality Action Plan (the Plan) and seeks Council's endorsement of the Plan. The plan has been reviewed by the Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector (the Commission) and Council has received notification from the Commission that it meets the requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020 and has received approval to publish the Plan on Council's website.

While the Plan meets the legislative requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020, the Plan also demonstrates Council's commitment and support for action to address Gender Equality both within the organisation and the broader community.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025, appended as Attachment 9.3.1.**
- 2. Note receipt of the assessment from the Commission of Gender Equality in the Public Sector confirming Council's Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025 meets the requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020.**
- 3. Note that a report monitoring progress of the actions within the Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-25 will be presented to Council on an annual basis.**

3. PURPOSE

To advise Council that the Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025 has been approved by the Commission without modification and seek endorsement of the Plan from Council in recognition of the work being undertaken to address gender inequality.

4. DISCUSSION

The Gender Equality Act 2020 (the Act) came into effect on 31 March 2021. The purpose of the Gender Equality Act 2020 for Councils is:

- “(a) to require the public sector, Councils and universities to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality; and*
- “(b) to require the public sector, Councils and universities to promote gender equality in their policies, programs and services.”*

The Act requires councils to:

1. Develop and implement a Gender Equality Action Plan, which includes the results of a workplace gender audit and strategies for achieving workplace gender equality.
2. Publicly report on their progress in relation to workplace gender equality and delivery of the Gender Equality Action Plan.

3. Promote gender equality in policies, programs and services that impact the public.
4. Complete gender equality impact assessments.

Item 1, was originally required to be submitted to the Commission on 1 December 2021, however in recognition of the challenges being experienced by the local government sector, the Commissioner extended the timelines as follows:

- Workplace gender audit data to be submitted to the Commission by 1 December 2021; and
- Gender Equality Action Plan to be submitted to the Commission by 31 March 2022.

Council submitted the workplace gender audit data and Gender Equality Action Plan in accordance with the nominated timelines.

Council's Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-25 identifies 22 actions to be implemented and recognises that as actions are progressed further actions may be identified that would promote and further progress Gender Equality in the workplace.

One action contained in the Plan was the formation of a staff represented Gender Equality Action Group. Following the development of a Terms of Reference for this group all staff were provided an opportunity to nominate for membership of the group. The first meeting of the Gender Equality Action Group was held on 29 June 2022 and its next meeting is planned for 20 July 2022.

The Gender Equality Action Group is responsible for:

- Supporting the implementation of the actions within the Gender Equality Action Plan.
- Providing feedback and monitoring progress on the implementation of the Gender Equality Action Plan.
- Promoting gender equality and the actions being taken by the organisation within the members staff group(s).
- Seeking feedback and ideas from staff on further actions that could be taken to progress gender equality within the workplace.
- Contributing to the preparation of progress reporting against the Gender Equality Action Plan.
- Encouraging staff to participate in future Workplace Gender Audits.

The Plan is to be monitored on a regular basis and progress reports will be provided to Council on an annual basis and biennial progress reports must be submitted to the Commission.

Progress reports must consider:

- what policies, programs and services were subject to a gender impact assessment
- what actions were taken as a result of the gender impact assessment
- progress in relation to the measures and strategies set out in the Gender Equality Action Plan
- progress in relation to the workplace gender equality indicators, and
- whether any relevant targets or quotas have been met.

Council at any stage can update the Gender Equality Action Plan and resubmit the Plan to the Commission for review and approval.

5. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- The development of the Gender Equality Action Plan provided an opportunity for staff to share their employee experience as part of the workplace gender audit in addition to all Councillors and staff being invited to participate in staff engagement workshops to expand on their experience and contribute ideas that could inform the actions included in the Plan. Section 7 of the Gender Equality Action Plan provides further information on the consultation and engagement undertaken.

External consultation:

- The Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-25 was submitted to the Commission who has performed a compliance assessment and confirmed that Campaspe's Gender Equality Action Plan is compliant with the requirements of the legislation.

Councillors:

- 3 November 2021 Council Briefing Session
- 2 February 2022 Council Briefing Session

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

Inclusive, connected, culturally diverse and safe

11. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Issues:

No issues have been identified in relation to this report.

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's Gender Equality Action Plan (the Plan) is appended as Attachment 9.4.1 and this report seeks Council's endorsement of the Plan. The plan has been reviewed by the Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector (the Commission) and Council has received notification from the Commission that it meets the requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020 and has received approval to publish the Plan on Council's website.

While the Plan meets the legislative requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020, the Plan also demonstrates Council's commitment and support for action to address Gender Equality both within the organisation and the broader community.

16. ATTACHMENTS

1. Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025 [9.3.1 - 33 pages]



Gender Equality Action Plan

2022 - 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

Campaspe Shire Council (Council) is a large regional municipality in northern Victoria, directly north of Bendigo in the Loddon Mallee region. It is one of 79 local government authorities within the state of Victoria.

Council provides a diverse range of services, facilities and projects to its communities and employs a workforce of approximately 500 people (335 FTE) to support the delivery of these services, facilities, and projects.

Council is required to meet a range of legislative obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 and the Gender Equality Act 2020, including the preparation of a Workforce Plan and Gender Equality Action Plan.

A Workforce Plan, required under the Local Government Act 2020, has been completed and approved by the Chief Executive Officer. This plan is available on Council's website.

This is Council's first Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) and outlines a range of actions that have been informed by the results of the workplace gender audit and feedback from staff who participated in staff consultation and engagement sessions led by an external facilitator, details of which can be found in section 5 and 6 of this document.

The actions identified within this plan work in parallel with the focus areas identified in Council's Workforce Plan. Together these actions are aimed at building a more respectful, inclusive culture that supports diversity and empowers staff to be part of the cultural change, with a view to achieving equal opportunity and participation for all.

1.1 Gender Equality

"Gender inequality is not experienced in the same way by all women and men. Different dimensions of identity, including race, geography, sexuality, and disability can intersect and influence individual experiences and outcomes at work. Systemic discrimination and bias – both conscious and unconscious – can create inequalities at every stage of the employment cycle."

(Source: Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) at <https://www.wgea.gov.au/gender-equality-and-diversity>).

Section 6(8) of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* describes gender inequality as being compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience based on Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and other attributes. This concept is referred to as **"intersectional gender inequality"** or **"intersectionality"**.

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2. STRATEGIES AND MEASURES – 2022 TO 2025

From the data collected in the workplace gender audit including the People Matter Survey and the suggestions put forward by staff during the staff consultation and engagement sessions, the following action plan identifies the priority areas for implementation to advance gender equality at Campaspe Shire Council.

Indicator	Objective	Action	Measure	Timeframe	Who
Gender composition of governing bodies	Leadership roles	Showcase community leadership roles and the contributions made of diverse leaders in community newsletters.	A minimum of three (3) community leaders promoted per annum.	Commence 2023	EMG / Comms
	Training	Provide training for elected members on gender equality and unconscious bias.	100% of elected members attend training.	2022 / 2023 / biennially	Governance
Gender composition at all workforce levels	Gender Equality Action Group	<p>Establish a cross functional, gender diverse Gender Equality Action Group who will be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting implementation and monitoring of the GEAP. Actively promoting gender equality across the organisation. Ensuring gender equality is considered in all activities, policies and procedures. 	Group established and meets a minimum four times per year.	June 2022	EMG

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Indicator	Objective	Action	Measure	Timeframe	Who
Gender composition at all workforce levels	Data collection	Review all data collection forms for consistency and develop an information collection statement to outline why the data is being collected and how it will be used.	Information collection statement developed and in use. Forms updated to reflect consistency.	2022 / 2023	MHR & Management
	Inclusive language in all Council communications.	Ensure all Council documents and communications consider diversity and inclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review council publications of last 12 months. Identify areas of improvement and incorporate into future publications. 	2022 2023 / 2024	Management / MHR / Comms
	Position and role descriptions	<p>As a vacancy occurs, critically review each position description to identify those that may have more than one role in them, and whether there are part time or other flexible work arrangements that would suit the role.</p> <p>Ensure advertising highlights those positions where flexible work arrangements would be considered.</p>	<p>Minimum of 5% of vacant positions modified as suitable to incorporate flexible work arrangements.</p> <p>Standard wording developed and evidenced being used in advertising.</p>	2022 / Ongoing	Hiring Manager / MHR

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Indicator	Objective	Action	Measure	Timeframe	Who
Recruitment and promotion	Increase attraction and recruitment of diverse applicants.	When advertising vacant roles, ensure media encompasses a balance of gender and intersectionality.	Standard developed and implemented.	2022 / 2023 / Ongoing	MHR
Recruitment and promotion	Increase attraction and recruitment of diverse applicants.	Analyse existing data to establish a gender and intersectional profile of candidates applying for roles with Council including the total number of applicants, the number of applicants possessing the required qualifications, numbers shortlisted, interviewed and appointed, as a baseline.	Baseline data reported to EMG.	December 2022	MHR
		Commence monitoring of recruitment at all levels by gender and intersectionality and analyse after 12 months to identify any areas for improvement or further training.	Monitoring on quarterly basis and presented to EMG.	March 2023 / Ongoing	
		Ensure recruitment practices and communications emphasise that Council is an equal opportunity employer and encourages people to be part of an organisation that promotes a diverse and safe environment.	Standardised wording incorporated into all recruitment practices and communications.	2022 / Ongoing	MHR

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Indicator	Objective	Action	Measure	Timeframe	Who
Gender impact assessment and review	Improve use of Gender impact assessment tools	Finalise and promote the gender impact assessment tool.	Tool finalised, approved and distributed to key staff.	2022	MHR / Management
		Deliver training to supervisors and key staff responsible for the conduct and implementation of gender impact assessments.	100% of identified staff completed training.	2022/2023 / Ongoing	Management / MHR
Gender Pay Equity	Review and implement gender equality policy and practices across the organisation.	Ensure Council provides a work environment that is inclusive of gender and intersectionality and that new and existing staff are supported.	Improvement in the cultural diversity indicators compared to the 2021 results of People Matter Survey.	2023 / Ongoing	Management / Leadership / GEAP Action Group
		Provide a workplace where staff are encouraged and feel confident to actively participate in meetings and forums.	Participation and attendance rates increase for meetings and forums.	2022 / Ongoing	Management / Leadership
	Increase gender and intersectionality awareness and support	Develop, implement, and ensure staff awareness of intersectionality.	Improvement in the cultural diversity indicators compared to the 2021 results of People Matter Survey.	2023 / Ongoing	MRH / MCD / GEAP Action Group
		Review and improve accessibility to Council offices.	Actions identified for future funding and implementation.	2023	Management / GMC

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Indicator	Objective	Action	Measure	Timeframe	Who
		Review Council's work flexibility policies and practices including benchmarking with other Councils in the region.	Policy reviewed, feedback sought, and policy finalised and distributed.	2023	MHR / EMG
		Promote alternative flexible work arrangements and the parameters that need to be met for the arrangements to be accessed.	Evidence of promotion of flexible work arrangements in staff newsletters, intranet, email communications and at staff meetings.	Commence 2022	MHR / Comms
Gender Pay Equity	Review and implement gender equality policy and practices across the organisation. Increase gender and intersectionality awareness and support.	Review the approval processes and parameters to reduce the barriers for employees to access flexible work arrangements. Make application consistent by development of a communication and advocacy campaign on flexible workplace practices.	Policy reviewed and implemented.	2023 / Ongoing	EMG
Workplace Sexual Harassment	Training and reporting	Management team to reinforce the Employee Code of Conduct, including a zero-tolerance bullying and sexual harassment policy.	Communication messages evidence reinforcement of Employee Code of Conduct.	2022 / Ongoing	EMG / Leadership

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Indicator	Objective	Action	Measure	Timeframe	Who
Workplace Sexual Harassment	Training and reporting	Provide improved training for managers and supervisors on handling complaints about inappropriate behaviour and the process they should follow.	100% of identified managers and supervisors completed training.	2022 / 2024 (biennially)	MHR / TC
		Ensure managers and staff undertake face to face training addressing issues such as unconscious bias.	100% of identified managers and supervisors completed training.	2023 / biennially ongoing	MHR / TC
		Explore the availability of an external provider who can provide staff with an independent contact to discuss issues and receive guidance on pathways to report inappropriate behaviour. Service may also include support for the employee during any subsequent process.	Proposal to Management based on findings of available external provider(s).	2022/2023	GMC / MHR

EMG = Executive Management Group; CEO = Chief Executive Officer; GMC = General Manager Corporate; MHR = Manager Human Resources; Comms = Communications; MCD = Manager Community Development; TC = Training Coordinator.

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3. LEADERSHIP AND RESOURCING

3.1 Leadership commitment to gender equality

The Campaspe Management Team commits to embedding this Plan, devoting appropriate resources to its implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluating, and supporting leaders to deliver the key actions. We will continue to pursue and report on statistics of participation and experiences of our staff.

3.2 GEAP working group

Council will establish a cross functional, gender diverse Gender Equality Action Group who will comprise employees, employee representatives and management, who will be responsible for:

- Actively promoting gender equality across the organisation.
- Ensure gender equality is incorporated into all activities, policies and procedures and other council documents.
- Assisting with the delivery of the actions of this plan.

As well as participating in the delivery of actions of this plan, a further role of the Gender Equality Action Group is to operate as key influencers and advocates for gender equality within both their immediate work area and across the organisation. These key personnel will play a crucial role in assisting Council to successfully achieve gender equity in all facets of our business. Feedback from this group will inform the activities and progress of this action plan.

4. MEASURING PROGRESS

4.1 Biennial reporting

In accordance with the requirements of section 19(1)(a) of the Act, Council will report on progress of the actions of this Plan every two years to the Commission for Gender Equality for the Public Sector. The first report will be submitted in 2024.

4.2 Annual progress

The progress and measurement of the actions of the plan will be reported to Council on an annual basis.

4.3 Internal communications on progress of the action plan

The progress of the actions will be reported to Council via briefing sessions and to staff through internal communication networks including but not limited to the staff intranet (Campaspe Central), monthly staff newsletter (ShireWire), emails and at meetings. Reporting back to staff will occur as milestones are reached and at least six monthly.

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5. CASE FOR CHANGE

5.1 Preparation of the GEAP

When preparing this Action Plan Council considered the principles of the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The overarching principles of “*access to equal power, resources, and opportunities and to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness*” regardless of gender have strongly influenced the development of this action plan.

While historically women have experienced discrimination and disadvantage on the basis of sex and gender, Council is mindful of the inequalities experienced by males, particularly those with caring responsibilities, and other forms of inequality that may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage.

In preparing this action plan Council’s focus has been on fairness and equity for all employees in all aspects of their experience at work.

5.2 Business case for gender equality

Research suggests that organisations that respect and value the diversity brought by both women and men are better able to attract and retain high performers and improve operational performance.

It is not, however, simply about having token women (or men). Gender equality is achieved when people can access and enjoy the same rewards, resources, and opportunities regardless of whether they are a woman or a man. The aim is to achieve broadly equal outcomes for women and men, but not necessarily the same outcome for all individuals.

While Australia has made significant progress towards gender equality in recent decades, women continue to earn less than men, are less likely to advance their careers as far as men and are more likely to spend their final years in poverty. At the same time, men find it more difficult to access flexible working arrangements than women.

Fostering a workforce that promotes gender equality can help to:

- Attract the best employees – a council which is as attractive to women as it is to men will have access to the entire talent pool and is more likely to have a competitive advantage in attracting the best talent available.
- Reduce cost of staff turnover - both women and men are more likely to remain with an organisation where there is a proactive diversity ‘climate’ as they perceive a concrete payoff to themselves by staying in an organisation they view as fair. Evidence indicates that organisations that foster gender diversity will support retention of staff, thereby reducing employee turnover expense.

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- Enhance organisational performance - Studies suggest that promoting gender equality is often associated with better organisational and financial performance. Well managed, diversity brings together varied perspectives, produces a more holistic analysis of the issues, and may invoke greater effort, leading to improved decision-making.
- Minimise legal risks – strategies that promote workplace gender equality by reducing sex discrimination and harassment may minimise risk of financial and reputational loss, as well as reduce the negative impact discriminatory behaviour has on Council's performance.
- Enhance reputation by promoting gender diversity which can help attract and retain the best employees. Having a reputation for promoting gender equality will also enhance Council's image and reputation in the wider community.

Engage men – while Council's workforce is relatively gender balanced, we need to be mindful that men with children increasingly have partners in the workforce and fathers are increasingly seeing their role not simply as breadwinners but also being more actively involved with their children. Men play a pivotal role in promoting gender diversity and must be engaged in leading organisational change and actions.

5.3 Council Values

The following organisational values set the foundations and expectations for how employees treat each other and perform their roles.

Respect	Customer Focus	Accountability	Teamwork	Continuous Improvement
We embrace each individuals' unique talents and value diverse life and work styles. We operate in a spirit of cooperation and value human dignity.	We listen to our customers and deliver services which meet their demonstrated needs. We focus on customer relationships that build trust, confidence, and loyalty. We are responsible for both external and internal customer satisfaction.	We conduct our business in accordance with the highest standards of professional behaviour and ethics. We are open, honest, and ethical in all our interactions with employees, clients, customers, vendors and the public. We are responsible for and take ownership of our actions.	We listen to and respect each other whilst working together to achieve mutually beneficial results. We help one another, value one another's views and make our work environment fun and enjoyable. We are not afraid to stand alone, especially when it is the right thing to do.	We work with enthusiasm and intellect and are driven to build upon what has already been achieved. We improve productivity, processes and ourselves through measurement, analysis, and review.

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5.4 History of Gender Equality work at Campaspe

Prior to the introduction of the Gender Equality legislation Council worked to achieve White Ribbon Accreditation on two occasions. As part of this accreditation Council developed a Gender Equity Policy and provided training to all staff.

While Council no longer seeks accreditation with White Ribbon Australia Council continues to support the following programs.

5.4.1 The Gender Equitable Campaspe Co-design Project

The Campaspe Primary Care Partnership Integrated Health Promotion team (Echuca Regional Health, Kyabram District Health Service, Campaspe Shire Council, Women's Health Loddon Mallee, and Campaspe Primary Care Partnership) conducted research with community members to understand their lived experiences of gender equality and inequality, their beliefs, values and attitudes and their hopes for a more equitable society in Campaspe.

A co-design approach was taken involving in-depth interviews and workshops resulting in the development of strategies to address gender inequality that are feasible, appropriate, and acceptable to community. Workshops were held with Council's Youth Advisory Group and employees.

The four strategies developed are:

1. Supporting people in the workplace to utilise policies and entitlements enabling men and women to balance their career and home life through an integrated program of workplace auditing and education.
2. Gender equity and bystander training to role models and people to influence enabling alignment with and endorsement of young people's views.
3. Delivery of a social marketing and communications strategy specifically for Campaspe to support people to call out gender inequality in a confident and unified way.
4. Identify opportunities to deliver a program to support healthy masculinities for men and boys in schools, sports clubs, and workplaces across Campaspe.

5.4.2 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

An annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. Council supports the campaign and works collaboratively with Campaspe Family Violence Action Group members to deliver education and awareness campaigns. The Campaspe Community Children's Centre and Rochester and District Child Care Centre were involved in the campaign too looking at strengthening the early years sector's knowledge through gender equity and unconscious bias training, identifying and responding to family violence training and implementation of the City of Darebin's "Creating Gender Equity in the Early Years" model at two trial sites in Campaspe.

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5.4.3 Balance for Better

An innovative scholarship program offering financial support to women in the Campaspe and Murray regions whose career path is challenging stereotypes and making important inroads towards true gender equity.

5.4.4 International Women's Day

A global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed worldwide as groups come together to celebrate women's achievements or rally for women's equality.

5.4.5 Campaspe Family Violence Action Group

The Campaspe Family Violence Action Group exists to drive greater integration and coordination of local services – both universal and specialist – for those experiencing family violence in Campaspe; and to prevent family violence before it occurs through evidence-based action on gender inequality in settings across the community.

Priorities of the group:

1. Facilitate a Campaspe that:
 - Promotes organisations and communities to be gender equitable in their practices,
 - Promotes equal and respectful relationships,
 - Understands the gendered dynamics of family violence,
 - Promotes and values women's equal participation in public and private life
2. A service system with the capacity to respond to all who experience family violence in Campaspe that will be achieved by:
 - Working together to align to shared language, a common understanding of family violence, frameworks, and tools of the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework (MARAM), agencies will commit to supporting each in this process.

5.5 Legislative framework

To ensure public sector entities take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality, the *Gender Equality Act 2020* requires all councils to develop a Gender Equality Action Plan every four years.

The objectives of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* (the Act) are to:

- (a) promote, encourage, and facilitate the achievement of gender equality and improvement in the status of women.
- (b) support the identification and elimination of systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs, and delivery of services in workplaces and communities.

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- (c) recognise that gender inequality may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience based on Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation, and other attributes.
- (d) redress disadvantage, address stigma, stereotyping, prejudice, and violence, and accommodate persons of different genders by way of structural change.
- (e) enhance economic and social participation by persons of different genders; and
- (f) further promote the right to equality set out in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The *Act* requires Campaspe Shire Council (Council) to complete a gender impact assessment which must:

- Assess the effects that the policy, program, or service may have on people of different genders.
- Explain how the policy, program or service will be changed to better support all genders and promote gender equality.
- Where practical, apply an intersectional approach to consider how gender inequality may be compounded by disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience because of other factors such as age, disability, or ethnicity.

In addition the *Act* also requires Council to prepare a Gender Equality Action Plan that includes the following:

- Results of the workplace gender audit, and
- Strategies and measures for promoting gender equality in the workplace, based on the results of the workplace gender audit.

In preparing the Gender Equality Action Plan Council must *“take into account the gender equality principles and consult with employees, employee representatives and any other relevant person.”*

Finally, Council must ensure adequate resources are allocated to developing and implementing the Gender Equality Action Plan.

5.6 Connection with other Council Plans

In 2019 Council adopted its fourth Access and Inclusion Strategy 2020-2026 demonstrating Council’s *“commitment to equal participation for people in our community”*. The strategy is provided as a *“roadmap to a more accessible and supportive”* community that includes *“the built environments, the social, economic and natural environments.”*

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The strategy provides the following snapshot of the community profile:

- 21.3% of people have a permanent disability and another 6% have a temporary disability.
- 2.4% of the population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- 6.3% of the population are born overseas and 22.8% were from a non-English speaking background.

The Access and Inclusion Strategy identifies several communities of priority within the municipality and an action plan has been developed to further progress inclusion and address barriers faced by those communities of priority and impact their equal participation.

The communities of priority are:

- Youth
- People identifying as LGBTIQ+
- People with mental illness
- Older people
- Culturally diverse communities
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- People with social disadvantage
- Women
- People with a disability

The Strategy is supported by an Action Plan that is monitored and reported on to Council and the community.

When developing the Gender Equality Action Plan, the Access and Inclusion Action Plan has been considered.

5.7 Gender Equity Policy

Council's Gender Equity Policy, adopted in 2019 and which is currently under review aims to ensure Council as a workplace provides equitable opportunities for its male and female employees and maintains an organisational culture which supports gender equity.

5.8 Respect and Equal Opportunity Policy and Procedure

The focus of Council's Respect and Equal Opportunity Policy is a safe workplace for all employees. The policy articulates Council's commitment to appropriate training in equal opportunity for all employees which is conducted on an annual basis and that all recruitment activities are conducted in a fair and equitable manner. This is further supported by the Recruitment and Selection Procedure.

Council's Respect and Equal Opportunity Procedure requires all employees to be respectful of the rights of others, and to promote diversity, inclusion, safety, and equal opportunity.

The procedure describes the various protected attributes and articulates possible actions for discriminatory, bullying or harassing behaviour.

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5.9 Training provided

The following table identifies the training delivered to employees as part of Council's learning and development program, that supports raising awareness of inclusion obligations.

Training delivered	Target	Year
Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training	Managers	2017
eSafety Woman - empowering women to take control online Domestic Violence Response Training How to Manage Workplace Behaviours Respect in the Workplace	All staff	2018/19
Prevention of Violence Against Women - White Ribbon Creating Value Through Diversity and Inclusion Family Violence Awareness Anti-discrimination, Bullying and Harassment Custodians of Culture Promoting Equality and Respect Identifying & Responding to Family Violence Embedding Aboriginal Perspectives in Early Childhood Combating Occupational Violence & Aggression Dealing With Challenging Behaviour LGBTIQ Inclusive Practice PD Stand Up Bystander Training	Managers All staff All staff Managers Select staff Managers/Supervisors Managers/Supervisors	2019
Law at Work – Antidiscrimination and Equal Opportunity Employment Law for Managers-General Protections Gender Equality and Respect Unconscious bias and gender equality	All staff Managers All staff	2020/21

Training provided has been to individual employees via Council's electronic learning system as well as face to face for groups of employees. The target audiences for the face to face have been to management level with much of the e-learning being disseminated to non-manager/supervisor employees.

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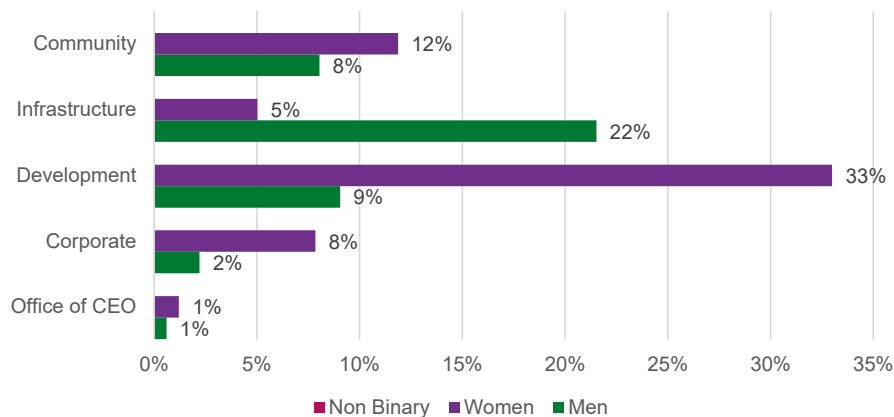
6. BASELINE AUDIT ANALYSIS

The following information provides the results of Campaspe Shire Council's workplace gender audit which comprises data as at the 30 June 2021 as well as an overview of the employee experience survey results, obtained through the People Matter Survey conducted in May 2021.

Council operates with 335 full time equivalent (FTE) staff. At June 30 2021 this was made up of 291 females (58%) and 206 males. (41%). The following information provides a breakdown of that gender composition by work division, salary band and length of service.

6.1 Workforce Data to 30 June 2021

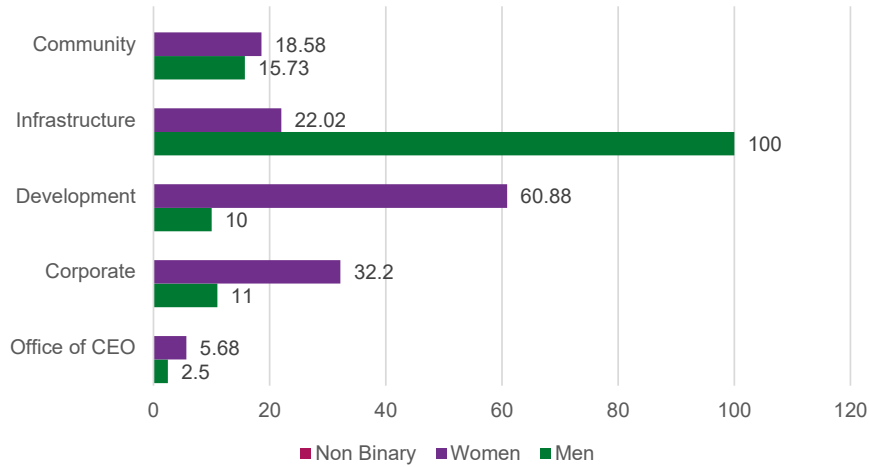
6.1.1 Gender by Division (Headcount)



Of note from the graph above is that 33% of Council's workforce are females in the Development Division. This Division comprises childcare, libraries and community services roles which tend to be filled predominantly by females, although we have recently employed some males to some of these roles. The 22% of males in Infrastructure again is credited to the higher number of males in our outdoor workforce, specifically roads and construction and parks and gardens, although again females are being recruited to some of these roles.

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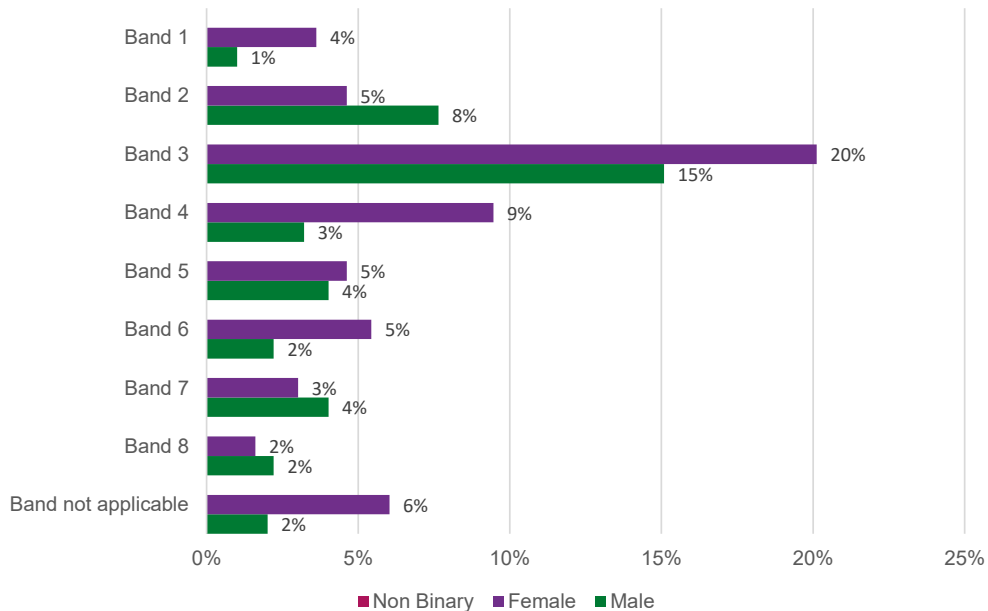
6.1.2 Gender by Division – FTE



In the graph above it is of note that there are significantly more males in the Infrastructure Division which can be attributed to roles mainly in construction and parks and gardens, although we do have a number of females in the parks and gardens teams. The higher number of females in the Development Division can be attributed to an increased number of part time roles which provide more flexibility for and are therefore more appealing as well as the nature of the roles which lends them to more flexible working options.

6.1.3 Gender by band classification

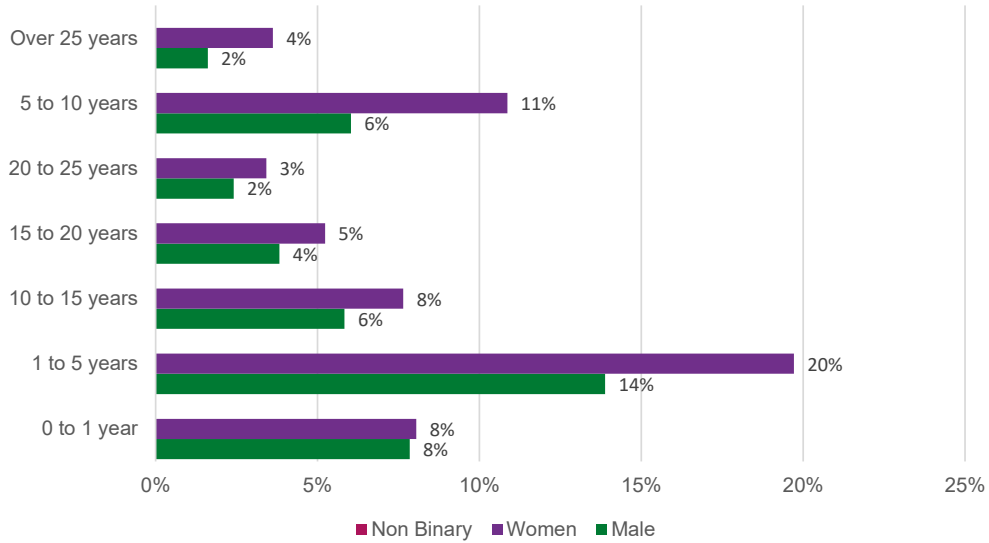
Based on number of employees, below are their classifications



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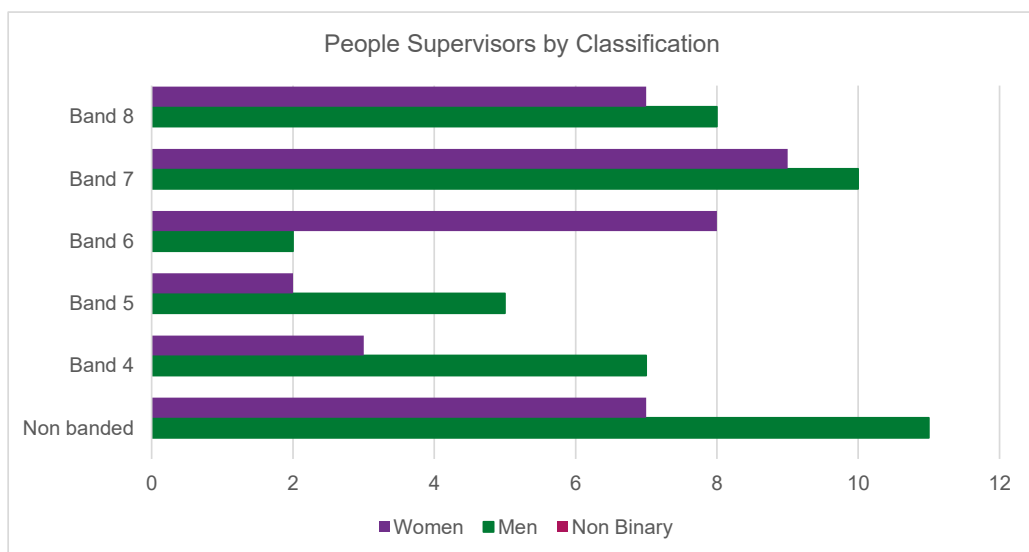
- Of employees at Band 3, 100 are female and 75 are male. Employees at this level work mainly in construction, maintenance, parks and gardens, aquatics and leisure, early childhood teachers and library employees.
- Bands 4,5, and 6 and employees on contract comprise 150 females and 88 males.
- Classification of 'Band not applicable' incorporates maternal and child health nurses, employees on contract and senior officers.

6.1.4 Length of Service



Close to 50% of Council’s workforce has a length of service 5 years or less. Consistently females are represented across all length of service cohorts and are in greater numbers than men.

6.1.5 People Supervisors by Classification



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Council employs a total of 79 employees in supervisory positions. The graph above shows the breakdown of gender of those 79 employees based on their classification level.

- The composition of roles of female supervisors at Band 6 includes positions whose incumbents manage commercial operations, information management and manage childcare centres.
- The Band 7 positions include finance, community health, recreation, customer service and environmental health.

6.1.6 Recruitment

The following snapshot provides a gender breakdown of employees recruited during the 2020/21 financial year by work division and type of employment.

Division and Gender/Type of Employment	Casual	Fixed Term		Permanent		Total
		Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	
CEO Office				1	1	2
Female				1	1	2
Corporate	1	1	1	1	2	6
Female	1	1	1		2	5
Male				1		1
Development	24		1	6	2	33
Female	17		1	1	2	21
Male	7			5		12
Infrastructure	2	10		17	1	30
Female		3		1	1	5
Male	2	7		16		25
Community	10		1	1		12
Female	6		1			7
Male	4			1		5
Total	37	11	3	26	6	83

While overall, the gender of new employees is balanced there remains a higher representation of males being recruited to the Infrastructure Division and a higher representation of females being recruited to the Development Division based on the nature of roles performed within these respective areas as previously outlined in Section 6.1.1.

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6.2 Employee Experience Survey

Campaspe Shire Council participated in the People Matter Survey conducted by the Victorian Public Sector Commission (VPSC) between May and June 2021 and this survey was made available to all Council employees.

The survey collected information on employee's experience regarding equal employment opportunity, career development, diversity and inclusion, flexible working arrangements, and cultural safety within the organisation.

The People Matter Survey was initially made available to all employees from Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 25 June 2021 via a general link which was made available in the intranet, with QR codes at all worksites and via emails.

To increase awareness and encourage participation Council took the following promotion activities:

- **Shire Wire publication**, employees were informed of the purpose of the survey, what would happen with the information, how privacy would be handled, channels to access the survey and who to contact if they had any questions about it.
- **Intranet promotion** in the form of a continuous banner on the introduction screen of Campaspe Central (intranet) with a link to access the survey.
- **Email reminders** from the CEO and respective General Managers, reiterating the importance of participation.
- **Extension of the close date** which was broadly communicated via the intranet and CEO email which provided employees with a further week to participate, until 2 July 2021.
- **Postcards with QR codes** were sent to all of Council's work locations, to allow employees who do not have regular and easy access to other devices or channels, opportunity to participate via their mobile phones.

6.2.1 Workplace gender equality indicators

When completing the survey employees were asked to respond to a range of statements which were grouped under the following five workplace gender equality indicators.

1. Gender composition – employees were asked to respond to statements around the workplace culture within the organisation based on employees of different age groups, genders, sexual orientation, culture, who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander or with a disability.
2. Gendered work segregation – employees were asked to respond to statements about the organisations use of inclusive and respectful images and language as well as cultural safety, diversity, allocation of work, bullying and discrimination.

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3. Recruitment and promotion – employees were asked to respond to statements on recruitment and promotion decisions, barriers to success within the organisation, chance of promotion and learning and development opportunities.
4. Leave and flexibility – employees were asked to respond to statements on the availability and use of flexible work arrangements and the culture of the organisation in support employees with family and caring responsibilities.
5. Workplace sexual harassment – employees were asked to respond to statements on respectful workplace behaviours and the response to bullying, harassment, discrimination and other inappropriate behaviour at work.

At the time of the People Matter survey, Council had 510 employees that were invited to participate in the survey and participation rates are based on this number of staff.

It is also important to note, that the number of employees includes Council's casual workforce, who represent 40% of Council's total employees. Participation of these employees in the survey may be impacted if they were not actively working during the survey period.

At the close of the survey a total of 160 respondents completed the survey, recording a participation rate of 31%, just below the average local government participation rate of 32%.

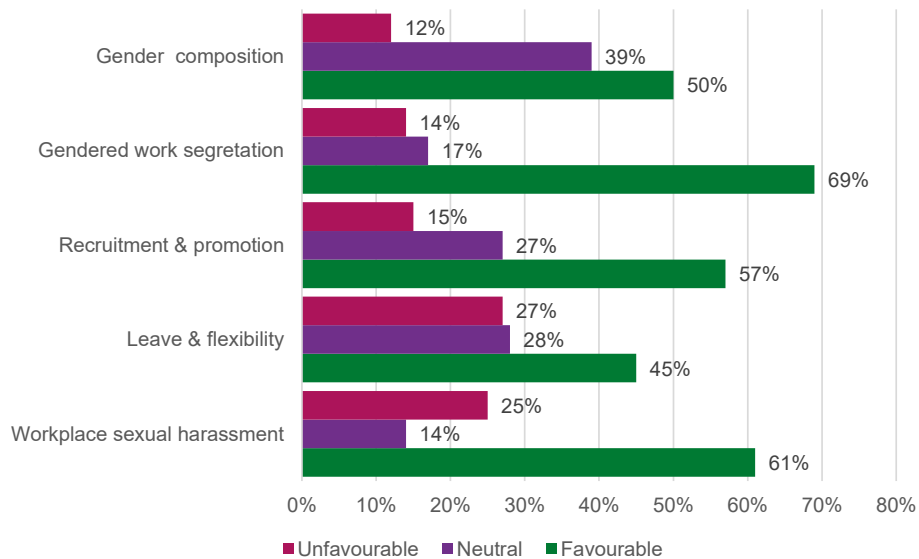
Employees were asked to respond to a range of statements and the results are presented based on those responses using the terms favourable, unfavourable or neutral.

Following is an overview of the results of the surveys.

- **Favourable** results refer to the number of employees who agreed with a positive statement or did not experience the negative behaviours.
- **Unfavourable** results refer to the number of employees who disagreed with a positive statement or did experience the negative behaviours.
- **Neutral** results refer to the number of employees who neither agreed or disagreed or selected 'don't know' or were 'unsure whether they experienced the negative behaviour'.

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6.2.1 Overview



The favourable results for all the workplace gender equality indicators when compared against the benchmark for Victorian Local Government are lower by 11 to 28%. The Victorian Local Government Benchmark is the overall result for the 72 Victorian councils that participated in the People Matter Survey.

While the favourable results are lower than the benchmark, of note in the above results is the number of staff who have responded with a neutral response.

6.2.2 Negative behaviours

These results relate to the number of employees that did or did not experience the negative behaviour or witnessed the negative behaviour at work in the 12 months prior to the survey.

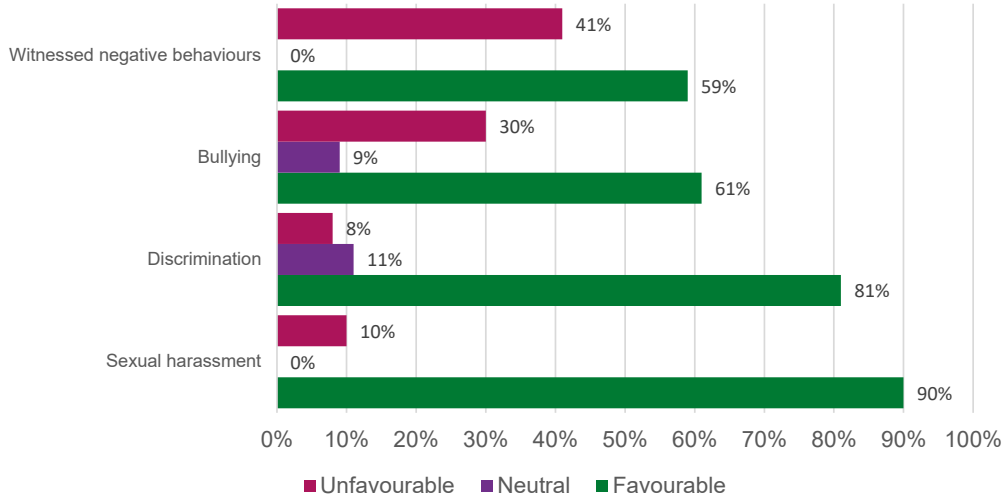
The terms favourable, unfavourable, or neutral for this part of the survey have the following meanings.

- **Favourable** results refer to the number of employees who did not experience the negative behaviour.
- **Unfavourable** results refer to the number of employees who did experience the negative behaviour.
- **Neutral** results refer to the number of employees who were unsure whether they had experienced the negative behaviour.

The favourable results for the negative behaviours of sexual harassment and discrimination when compared against the benchmark for Victorian Local Government are lower by 3%. The favourable results for the negative behaviour of bullying when compared against the benchmark for Victorian Local Government is lower by 17%.

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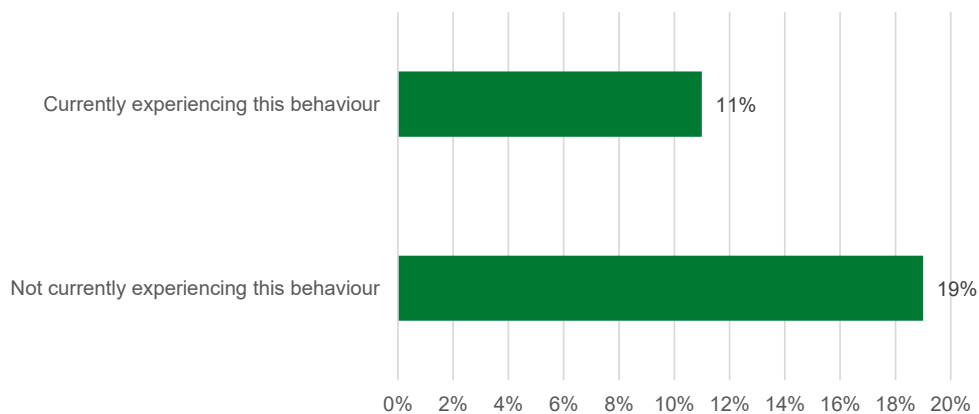
The Victorian Local Government Benchmark is the overall result for the 72 Victorian councils that participated in the People Matter Survey.



NOTE: While some survey respondents indicated they had witnessed or experienced negative behaviours, for the period being reported, Council received one formal complaint. While the formal complaint does not represent what is being reflected in the survey, what is unclear is how the behaviour has been reported within the organisation and how it has been dealt with, if at all.

6.2.3 Bullying

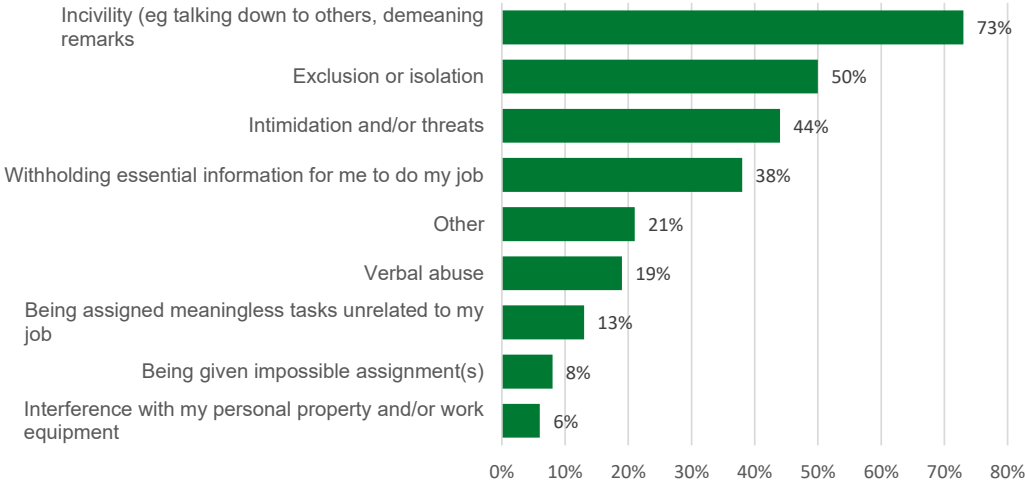
Employees who indicated on the survey that they did experience bullying at work in the 12 months prior to the survey were asked additional questions to understand whether the bullying was currently being experienced at Campaspe Shire Council and the type of bullying experienced.



The graph above shows the breakdown in percentage of the 30% of employees who responded that they had witnessed or experienced bullying behaviours as indicated in the graph at 6.3.2 above.

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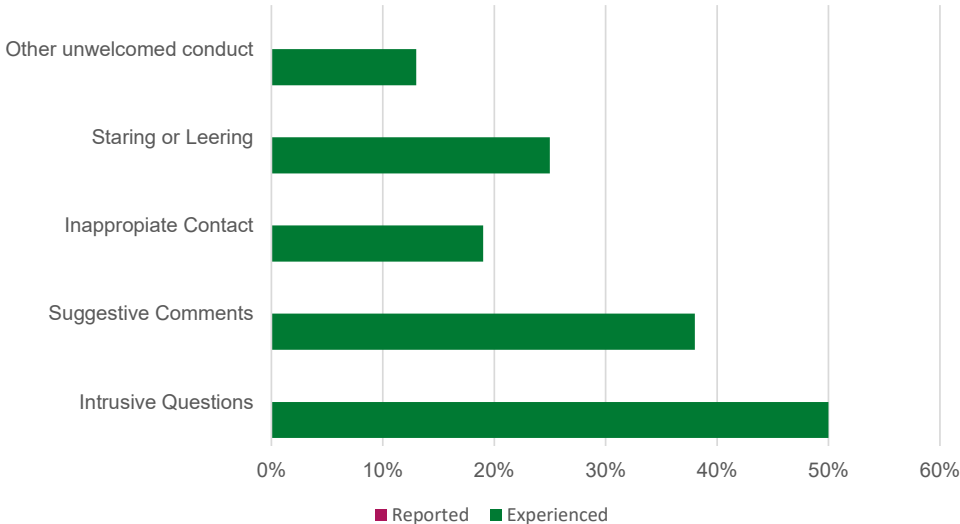
When asked to identify the types of bullying behaviours experienced, employees were able to select multiple types of behaviour.



The graph above shows the breakdown in percentage of the 30% of employees who responded that they had witnessed or experienced bullying behaviours as indicated in the graph at 6.3.2 above

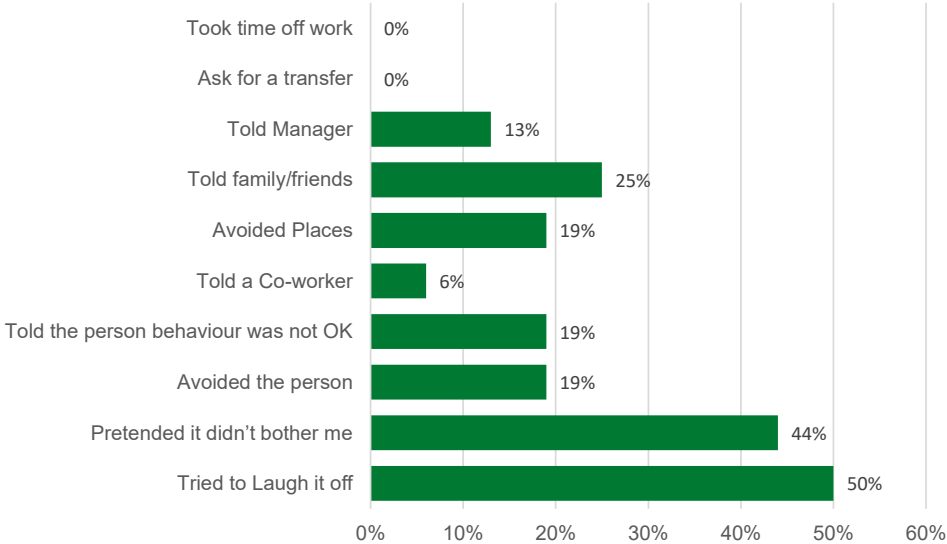
6.2.4 Sexual Harassment

10% of employees indicated on the survey that they did experience sexual harassment at work in the 12 months prior to the survey. Respondents were therefore asked additional questions to understand the type of sexual harassment behaviours experienced.



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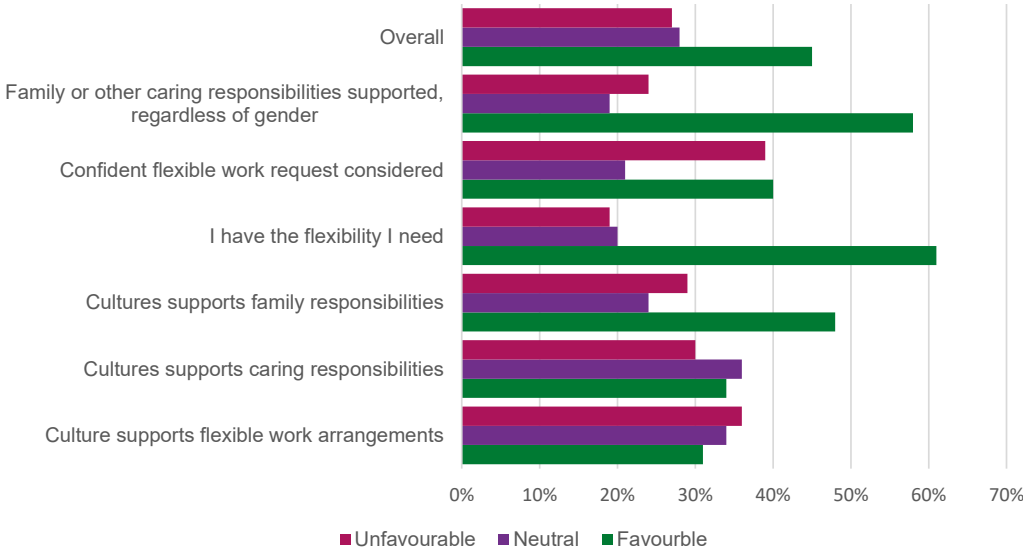
Employees who experienced sexual harassment were also asked if they responded in any of the following ways.



These results were consistent with the results Campaspe Shire Council received through the Victorian Auditor General's Officer report on Sexual Harassment in Local Government conducted in June 2020 and released in December 2020.

6.2.5 Flexible Work Arrangements

Employees were asked to consider whether the organisational culture would support flexible work arrangements.

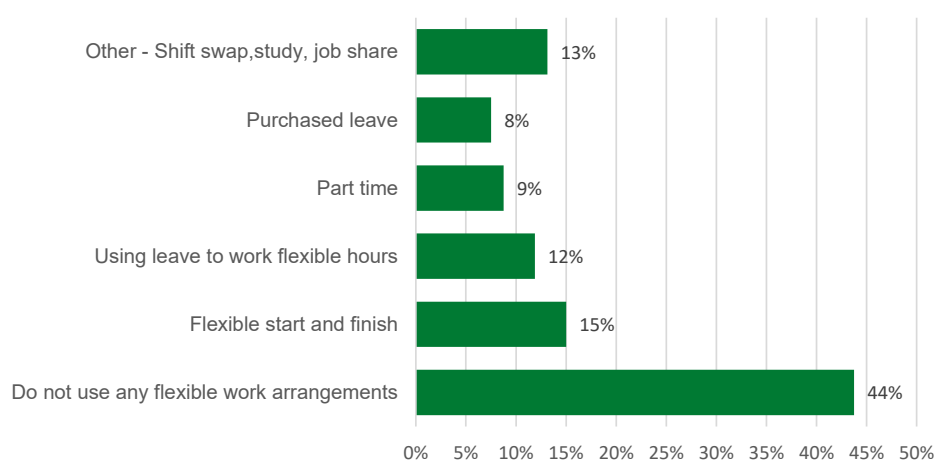


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The terms favourable, unfavourable, or neutral for this part of the survey have the following meanings.

- **Favourable** results refer to the percentage of employees who agreed with the positive statement
- **Unfavourable** results refer to the percentage of employees who did not agree with the positive statement.
- **Neutral** results refer to the percentage of employees who neither agreed nor disagreed with the positive statement.

Employees were also asked if they used any of the following flexible work arrangements.



6.4 Data Gaps

Campaspe Shire incorporates three Traditional Owner Groups: Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung; and Yorta Yorta. Council's workforce has extremely low numbers of employees who have disclosed that they identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Council also has low numbers of staff who disclose nationality other than Australian and therefore are unable to be identified in this report. Further very little data in respect to ethnicity is available. Although Council seeks this information employees have not been forthcoming. This may also relate to a lack of understanding of the difference between ethnicity and nationality.

Disclosing identifying information such as ethnicity or gender upon commencement of employment with Council is voluntary and requires confidence in both the organisation and broader community that disclosing this information will not lead to any negative experiences or discrimination.

Council is aware that we need to create a culture that respects and celebrates diversity and inclusion which may lead to greater disclosure and increased data collection.

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7. CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

In February 2022 Council engaged a consultant to:

- Review and analyse the data from the workplace gender equality data with a view to identifying key themes and points for exploration.
- Conduct staff and management focus group sessions, and
- Provide a report identifying key outcomes and identifying opportunities for improvement.

It was expected that the engagement would also explore:

- incidents of bullying and sexual harassment, the barriers to reporting, alternative options to facilitate increased reporting of incidents and suggestions to build a culture free of bullying and sexual harassment.
- staff recognition expectations, meaning and options.
- Identify options and initiatives for inclusion in the Gender Equality Action Plan.

A Project Reference Group (PRG) was established, comprising 4 representatives from a cross section of the organisation, and led by the General Manager Corporate. This group was responsible for:

- Reviewing the summary analysis of the surveys.
- Approving the key questions and methodology for the focus groups, and
- Reviewing the draft final report from JOST&Co.

A plain language communication statement was sent individually to all employees that outlined the engagement of the consultant, their project brief, how they could participate, support if required and how and when feedback would be disseminated.

Following this communication, all staff were sent a personal invitation to attend a focus group. As numbers for the groups were restricted, initial options for staff were limited. Staff who responded seeking an alternative session were contacted later in the week with further options for groups that were not at capacity.

The focus groups, conducted at various locations in the municipality, during the week of 14 February 2022, were designed to explore the results of all three surveys seeking a greater understanding of the employee experience and how these results are informed (i.e. experienced, observed or perceived).

Participants in the focus groups were asked to identify actions using a start, stop, continue methodology to inform both the Gender Equality Action Plan and the Workforce Plan.

14 face-to-face focus groups, 1 one-to-one session for half a day, and a virtual session for those employees who could not attend any of the sessions the previous week, were conducted by the consultant.

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Attendance rates were less than survey response rates at a total of 115 employees (23% of the workforce).

Employee representatives, including union delegates and Health and Safety Representatives, were offered an opportunity to meet with the consultant in a separate session however none of the invitees accepted the invitation.

A consultation session was held with Councillors and five elected members participated in this session. Council briefings have also been provided along the development process.

7.1 Overview of focus group attendance

Number of employees invited	486
Number of employees absent on leave etc	13
Confirmed attendance of all groups offered	130
Employees who declined invitation	41

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7.2 Key findings / themes from employee consultation

The following were notable themes of the employee consultation sessions run by the consultant.

- Council is an integral workplace in the community – one that fosters teamwork, provides income and friendships.
- A perception that leadership is not visible or accessible and not trusting of staff.
- Anecdotal awareness that the failure to report or call out negative behaviours relates to a mistrust of Council processes together with a fear of speaking up. Historical / longstanding mistrust based on an historical breach of confidentiality over 9 years ago, may have influenced the current results.

The following were employee ideas generated from the focus groups.

STOP	START	CONTINUE
Only offering online training	Zero tolerance of bullying	Checking in and supporting each other
Ignoring requests for feedback	Consistent mechanisms/procedures	Team gatherings
Blaming others for culture issues	Listening to, and action on concerns raised	Respect other cultures and beliefs
Saying 'it is too hard'	Taking accountability for own role	Educate, listen, include
Taking credit for others work	Lead by example	
Forgetting people who do a good job	Celebrating employee differences	
Rewarding staff who are actually doing their role	Communicate and measure progress	
Being closed minded	Unconscious bias training	
	Taking action for poor behaviour	
	Consistency between departments	
	Improve communication to all staff	
	Improvement to flexible work options.	

9.4 Coliban & Goulburn Broken Strategic Directions Statements

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

1. SUMMARY

Integrated Water Management (IWM) is a collaborative approach to planning and management of all elements of the water cycle to maximise economic, social and environmental benefits. Campaspe Shire Council is a member of two IWM forums, Coliban and Goulburn Broken, as the shire is located across two catchments.

Since the Coliban and Goulburn Broken IWM Forums have been operating for four years, with many of the original IWM opportunities completed, each Strategic Directions Statement (SDS) has been refreshed. The final draft of both the Coliban and Goulburn Broken SDS have been released for partner organisations to approve. In the case of Campaspe Shire Council this approval includes the use of the Shire's logo on the documents. Both SDS include project opportunities which may benefit the Shire of Campaspe.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council note:

- The final draft of Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement and Goulburn Broken IWM Strategic Directions Statement.**

That Council approve:

- The use of Campaspe Shire Council logo on the final publication of the Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement and Goulburn Broken IWM Strategic Directions Statement.**

3. PURPOSE

To note the refreshed documents of the Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement and Goulburn Broken IWM Strategic Directions Statement and to approve the use of the Campaspe Shire Council logo as a partner of the IWM Forums.

4. DISCUSSION

In 2018 both Coliban and Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management (IWM) Forums developed Strategic Directions Statements. The Strategic Directions Statement (SDS) detailed 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 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 Broken IWM Forum, Campaspe has participated in 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.

From the second round of funding for implementation of the Strategic Directions Statements, Campaspe is lead for the project *Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca*. This project is a collaboration between Campaspe Shire Council, Coliban Water, Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP) and supported by Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation 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 is currently proceeding.

As the Forums have been operating over four years, with many of the original IWM opportunities achieved, all Strategic Directions Statements across the State have been refreshed. Both the Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement and Goulburn Broken IWM Strategic Directions Statement, have been released as a final draft for partners to approve the use of their logos for publication.

The updated Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement highlights two projects for the Shire of Campaspe, *Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca* and *Echuca Aquatic Reserve*. A description of the *Echuca Aquatic Reserve* project is presented on page 27 as part of the project opportunities. As part of the refresh of the Strategic Directions Statement, there has been another round of funding from the State Government, with *Echuca Aquatic Reserve* project receiving funding for the rehabilitation of the wetlands to treat urban stormwater.

The updated Goulburn Broken IWM Strategic Directions Statement highlights one specific project for the Shire of Campaspe, *Corop Lakes Complex Integrated Water Project* and notes the completed project *Campaspe Shire Strategic IWM Framework*. The *Corop Lakes Complex Integrated Water Project* is led by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and Taungurung Land and Waters Council with support from Parks Victoria, DELWP, Goulburn-Murray Water and Campaspe Shire Council. This project has been identified to see if multiple benefits can be achieved by combining drainage work, which supports irrigation for agriculture, with work to enhance the economic value (tourism and agriculture) of the Corop Lakes Complex for the surrounding townships. The Corop Lakes Complex is in a transitional management phase after the decommissioning of Greens Lake. This project will assist to capture the existing values of the Corop Lakes Complex and provide the opportunity to plan for future use and enhance its environmental and cultural values.

5. OPTIONS

Option 1: Note the Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement and Goulburn Broken IWM Strategic Directions Statement and approve the use of Campaspe Shire Council logo as a partner on the final document.

Summary of option

This will show Council's participation in the Coliban IWM Forum and Goulburn Broken IWM Forum as well as our partnership approach with stakeholders and the community for integrated water management.

This option is recommended.

Option 2: Not approve the use of Campaspe Shire Council logo for the Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement and Goulburn Broken IWM Strategic Directions Statement.

Summary of option

Council does not approve the use of Campaspe Shire Council logo for the Strategic Directions Statement. This does not support the IWM partnership and could impact future opportunities for grant funding.

This option is not recommended.

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
- Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management Forum

Councillors:

- 16 March 2022 Council Meeting
- 13 July 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 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 environmental sustainability issues including mitigation and planning for climate change risks have been identified within this report.

Conserving water – which is both mitigation and planning for climate change risks (adaptation).

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
Protected natural environment

Well planned places
Quality, attractive recreational spaces

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. CONCLUSION

Council is a member of the Coliban IWM and Goulburn Broken IWM Forums, providing Council's logo for the publication of their respective Strategic Directions Statement demonstrates Council's partnership.

17. ATTACHMENTS

1. Goulburn Broken IWM Forum Strategic Directions Statement final draft [9.4.1 - 21 pages]
2. Coliban IWM Strategic Directions Statement final draft [9.4.2 - 21 pages]



Goulburn Broken

STRATEGIC
DIRECTIONS
STATEMENT

2022



Integrated Water
Management Forums



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management Forum proudly acknowledges Victoria's Aboriginal communities and their rich culture and pays its respects to their Elders past and present. The forum also recognises the intrinsic connection of Traditional Owners to Country and acknowledges their contribution to the management of land, water and resources. We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's first peoples and as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and water on which we rely. We recognise and value the ongoing contribution of Aboriginal people and communities to Victorian life and how this enriches us. We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards the equality of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice.

This Strategic Directions Statement has been developed by the Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management Forum, which includes the following organisations:

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Printed by Finsbury Green, Melbourne

ISBN xxxxxxxxxxxx (print)

ISBN xxxxxxxxxxxx (pdf/online/MS Word)

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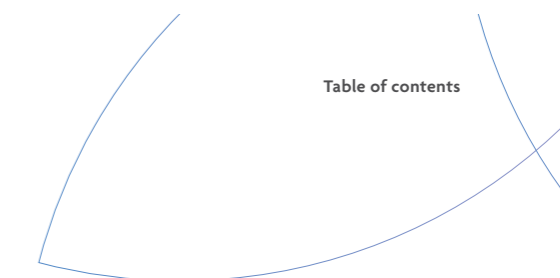
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FOREWORD

We are a region committed to the health and prosperity of our communities.

Our region is vast and diverse. It spans from the fringes of Melbourne in the south to the irrigation districts of the north and west and the foothills of the alpine region in the east. The Goulburn Broken region is situated in Yorta Yorta Country to the north and Taungurung Country to the south, encompassing natural assets that hold significant cultural and ecological value. The region also supports a wide variety of land uses and industries, including agriculture, tourism and recreation.

Our original Strategic Directions Statement (SDS) was released in 2018. Built off the back of strong regional partnerships, the genuine enthusiasm and commitment of our forum members to supporting the health and prosperity of our regional communities remains as strong. Our achievements to date; including projects such as 'Greening Euroa', have improved the resilience of our towns and identified further opportunities to explore integrated water management (IWM) – many of which are included in this revised SDS.

The forum has also provided a platform for Traditional Owners to voice their connection to Country and water and helping to achieve outcomes such as the revitalisation of Horseshoe Lagoon, which is an area of significant cultural value to the Taungurung people.

Our region is not alone in dealing with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. While there have been economic difficulties and a need to adapt, it has brought about a new awareness of what really matters to people, rallying community spirit to strengthen support of our local communities, build our local capacity and resilience, and reconnect with our natural assets that are, quite literally, at our doorstep.

The last few years have also seen an unprecedented level of growth across our regional towns. Whether this is a direct impact of the pandemic, or people are simply placing more value on the lifestyle benefits of regional living, we are nonetheless seeing new challenges in how we, as a region, can support sustainable development in our towns – particularly in relation to water.

While each town faces its own unique challenges, our region is seeing the impacts of increased climate variability, drought and more-frequent bushfires and flooding. The role that water can play to improve the resilience of towns is becoming increasingly evident; and how we manage water in a drying climate is a key focus of many regional groups and strategies. IWM is one piece of this puzzle, and forms part of the wider efforts to address climate change and water security.

The combined challenges of a drying climate, development pressures and sustainable water management make collaboration more important than ever, to identify innovative solutions for water resources that align with Traditional Owner visions for Country. Through our past projects, we have built ourselves a strong foundation in which to pursue these opportunities, and I acknowledge the efforts of all those that have helped deliver on these key outcomes. I have every confidence that we will continue to meet these challenges with the same level of commitment and passion that we have in the past.

Regan Flanagan

Chair, Goulburn Broken IWM Forum.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria* (2017) is designed to help regional stakeholders 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 Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management Forum is one of 10 regional integrated water management (IWM) forums across Victoria that are realising the local implementation of the framework.

The forum's vision is to work together through sustainable water management to enhance urban landscapes and maximise amenity, environment, and economic outcomes for our communities.

The forum brings together regional leaders in sustainable water management, representing Traditional Owners, local governments, statutory authorities and government agencies.

This Strategic Directions Statement (SDS) articulates the collaborative intent and shared agreement of all stakeholders involved in the forum. It describes the water security challenges and opportunities in the region, sets the strategic direction for the next three to five years, and outlines the ways in which IWM is and will be applied through joint projects that connect water back into the water cycle. Just as IWM is an iterative process, this SDS also provides the first update on progress since the initial SDS (2018) and includes case studies exemplifying how IWM is happening in the region.

This SDS has been developed to complement the region's Sustainable Water Strategy, Goulburn Valley Water's Urban Water

Strategy, the Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy, and other strategic plans of forum member organisations.

Building resilience to challenges

The forum's experience since establishment has highlighted the need to focus IWM efforts on key challenges of:

- climate change, which is already impacting the region through extreme weather, reduced rainfall and hotter temperatures
- population growth, with more people moving to and visiting the Goulburn region; and
- changing landscapes that are seeing declines in biodiversity and shifts in land use.

The forum's IWM opportunities have been designed to meet these challenges.

Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton. Credit: Shepparton Shire Council



Figure 1: Locations of IWM opportunities across the Goulburn Broken region. Locations are approximate or representative.

IWM opportunities

Eighteen opportunities have been identified across the region, the locations of which are shown in Figure 1. The forum has identified regional themes that embody the goals and benefits of these opportunities.

Sustainable development

1. Thornton Stormwater Upgrade
2. Implementing Kilmore Creek Landscape Master Plan
3. Sunday and Dry Creeks Landscape Master Plan
4. IWM Plans for Kilmore Development Areas
5. Kilmore Recycled Water Scheme

Green spaces and natural resources

6. Corop Lakes Complex Integrated Water Project
7. Planning for a Green Avenel

8. Greening Euroa – Stage 3
9. Horseshoe Lagoon Master Plan
10. Eastbank Lake Project – Gross Pollutant Trap Options Analysis
11. Recycled Water for Kilmore's Recreation Area
12. Enabling IWM with Developers
13. Nagambie Green Spaces

Small town domestic wastewater

14. Gough's Bay Water Sensitive Town Plan
15. Baddaginnie Wastewater Improvement

Resilient adaptable towns

16. Revitalising Fords Creek – IWM Icon Project
17. Greater Shepparton City Council Area IWM Plan
18. Broken Creek Master Plan

Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management Forum

Strategic Directions Statement 2022 summary

We work collaboratively with partners across the water cycle to find new ways to share resources and conserve water for multiple community and environmental benefits.

We work to meet the water needs of a changing region.

POPULATION GROWTH

190,800 (2021)



254,700 BY 2036



33% INCREASE

* Population data: source: Victoria In Future 2019

* Temperature and rainfall range are highest and lowest predictions for Campaspe and Loddon catchments. Predictions represent the annual average relative to the year 1995. Source: Guidelines for Assessing the Impact of Climate Change on Water Availability in Victoria, November 2020.



CHANGE IN RAINFALL BY 2040
DECREASE BY 13.6%
WITH MORE-INTENSE RAINFALL IN SOME YEARS.



TEMPERATURE
AN INCREASE OF 0.7-1.6°C
IN GOULBURN BROKEN BY 2040*

1. Thornton Stormwater Upgrade

Directing stormwater and greywater through constructed wetlands to purify the water before it enters the Goulburn River.

2. Implementing Kilmore Creek Landscape Master Plan

Implementing the master plan, which highlights the importance of the Kilmore Creek Precinct, and presents a vision for it to become the primary recreational open space and environmental corridor in Kilmore.

3. Sunday and Dry Creeks Landscape Master Plan

Improving recreational access and ecological function at Sunday and Dry Creeks.

4. IWM Plans for Kilmore Development Areas

Creating a framework to embrace natural waterways and implement innovative water efficiency within new developments.

5. Kilmore Recycled Water Scheme

Supplying recycled water from the Kilmore Wastewater Management Facility to irrigate the Kilmore Racing Club and nearby recreation areas.

6. Corop Lakes Complex Integrated Water Project

Enhancement environmental and cultural values at the Corop Lakes Complex

7. Planning for a Green Avenel

Securing continued liveability and sustainability through planning for Green Blue spaces, passive recreation and diverse water supplies.

8. Greening Euroa – Stage 3

Improving drought resilience and enhancing liveability by keeping community spaces green via diverse water supplies.

9. Horseshoe Lagoon Master Plan

Preserving the ecological, recreational and cultural values of Horseshoe Lagoon.

10. Eastbank Lake Project – Gross Pollutant Trap Options Analysis

Preventing pollution from entering the Goulburn River for healthier waterways and improved amenity.

11. Recycled Water for Kilmore's Recreation Areas

Reducing reliance on potable water by irrigating recreation areas with recycled water.

12. Enabling IWM with Developers

Developing a framework for working with property developers to facilitate opportunities for IWM projects – in collaboration with the Great South Coast IWM Forum.

13. Nagambie Green Spaces

Ensuring open spaces and green corridors within the township even during significant dry periods.

14. Gough's Bay Water Sensitive Town Plan

Realising the town's vision to be a best-practice, self-contained, water-sensitive town that will serve as a model for other small towns in the region.

15. Baddaginnie Wastewater Improvement

Improving wastewater management systems in Baddaginnie.

16. Revitalising Fords Creek – IWM Icon Project

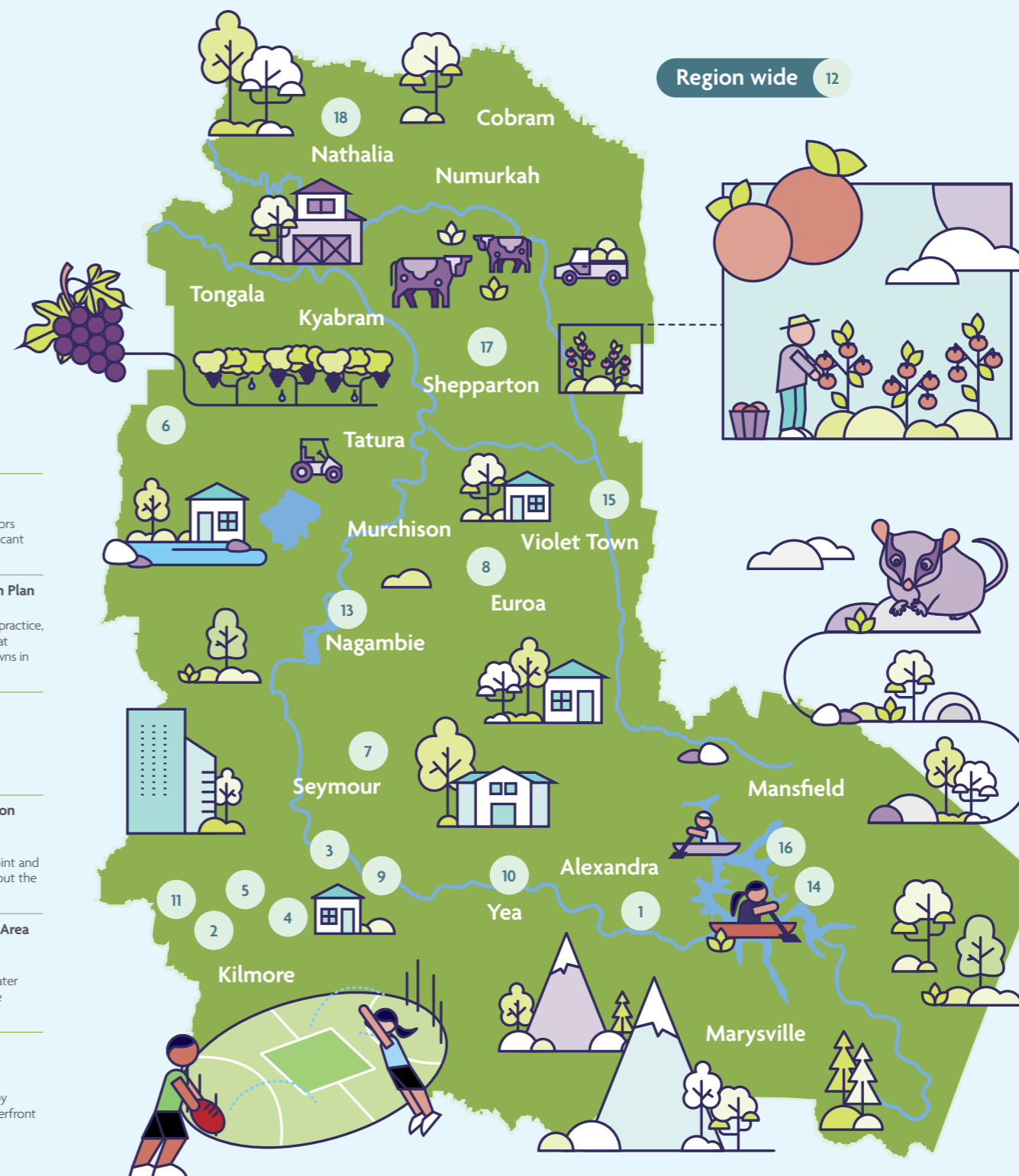
Developing Fords Creek into a focal point and central spine for connectivity throughout the township.

17. Greater Shepparton City Council Area IWM Plan

A single overarching plan to address water management, green spaces and climate change resilience.

18. Broken Creek Master Plan

Enhancing recreational and community-based connections with Broken Creek by creating walking tracks, bridges and waterfront community spaces.



BETTER TOGETHER: INTEGRATING WATER MANAGEMENT IN VICTORIA

The first water custodians

The clans of the First Nations have been living in balance with the natural environment in Victoria, practising their 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, and the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape is now an UNESCO World Heritage List site.

In the Goulburn Broken region, people of the Yorta Yorta Nation and the Taungurung have managed and cared for Country for tens of thousands of years. Their Ancestors developed management strategies that have been handed down to be used today. 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.' In the words of Yorta Yorta people, '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.' The forum recognises the diversity of their cultures and the deep connections they have with Victoria's lands and waters, and values partnerships with them for the health of people and Country.

Pressures emerge and evolve

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 now have opportunities for transformative change, unlocked by stronger than expected population growth and the community's willingness to adapt to the threats of climate change and natural disasters. We also have the benefits of experience and established relationships. Together, we can make decisions today that we will celebrate in the future.

Integrated water management considers all parts of the water cycle as an integrated system to optimise the environmental, cultural, social and economic outcomes for our communities.

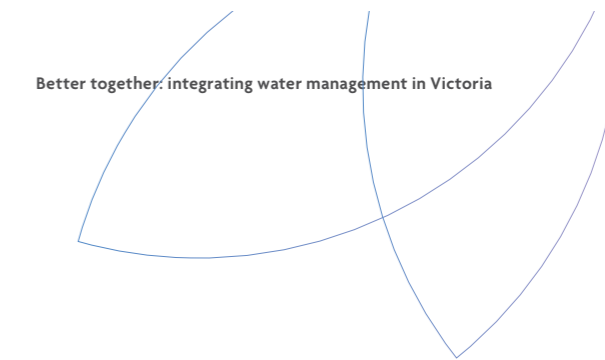
While everyone has a responsibility to conserve and protect water, there are a number of key groups charged with making decisions about water within each region. These groups include:

- Traditional Owner groups, who have a deep knowledge of and connection to the region's waterways, other water resources and Country
- water corporations, which manage the water storage, water supply and wastewater services
- local governments, which manage surface water drainage, protect local waters from degradation and pollution, oversee on-site domestic wastewater planning, regulate local development, and undertake strategic planning for future growth
- catchment management authorities, which plan for flood management and work with landholders to consider the interactions of land, water and biodiversity.

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.

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 to maximise water saving and re-use and share the benefits (Figure 2).

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?

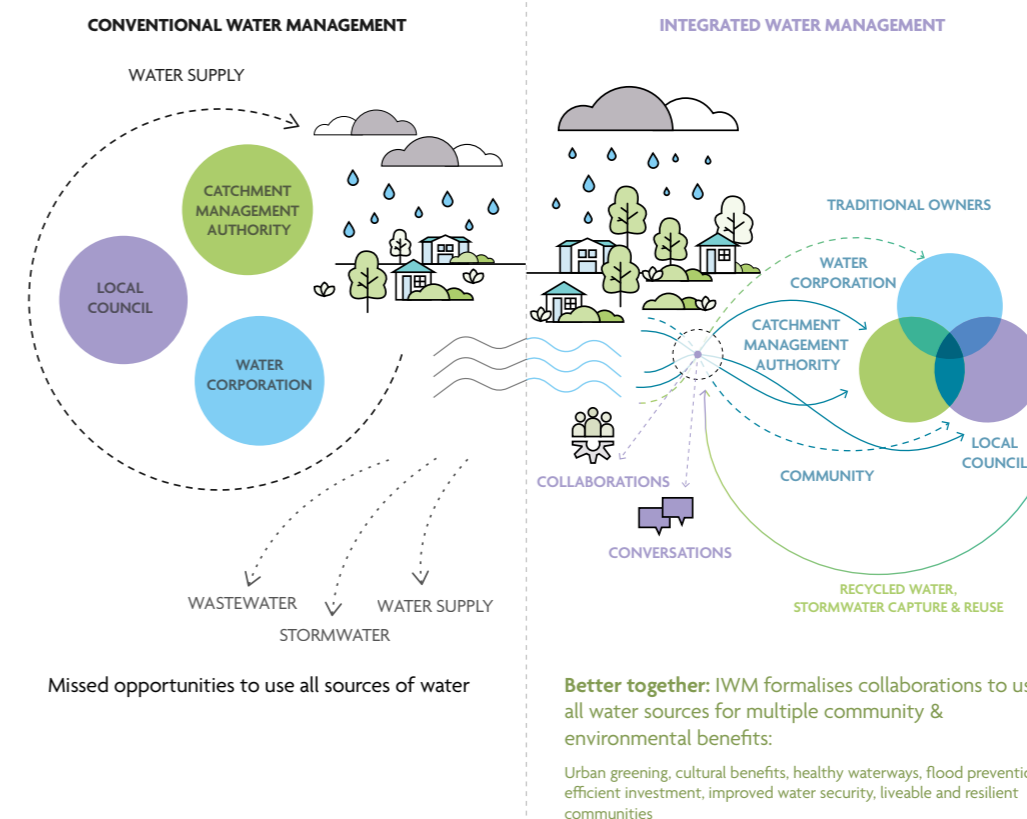


Figure 2 : How does IWM work? Conventional water management saw a more siloed approach to water management, with a single supply source and two discharge systems to move stormwater and wastewater away as quickly as possible, resulting in missed opportunities to use all sources of water. The IWM approach brings water managers together to plan and deliver new opportunities to provide broader benefits to the community. 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 delivering IWM state-wide?

To facilitate IWM across Victoria, the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) supported the establishment of IWM forums across 10 regions of Victoria (Figure 3). These forums bring together leaders of the local water sector to explore, prioritise and oversee the development of local IWM opportunities. Prioritised opportunities are managed and implemented by dedicated working groups and are captured within individual IWM plans. Where appropriate, the 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, Department of Transport, 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 the interdependencies or overlaps with other members (Figure 2). 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, working together achieves better outcomes for the environment, society, and the economy by finding mutually beneficial ways to share water, assets, and costs.

Tree planting, Kilmore. Credit: Goulburn Valley Water



Better together: integrating water management in Victoria



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* (2016), to 'build resilient and liveable cities and towns'. These strategic outcomes provide a way to identify the multiple economic, social and environmental benefits that can come from a single initiative. The original framework included five such strategic outcomes that have 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 project opportunities are assessed and prioritised against how well and how many of these strategic outcomes they meet.

To find out more about how Victoria is applying IWM through the *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria* (2017), visit: www.water.vic.gov.au

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

Low-emission solutions
The forum will also consider IWM opportunities that minimise the release of greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy consumption.

Strategic Directions Statement – how IWM is happening in the region

This SDS articulates the collaborative intent and shared agreement of all stakeholders involved in the forum. It describes the water security challenges and opportunities in 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 opportunities that are proposed, in-progress or completed in the region.

This is the first update to the Goulburn Broken region’s SDS produced in 2018, and includes:

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

This SDS has been developed to complement the other plans and strategies that apply to the region for water, climate change, First Nations’ rights and catchment management (Figure 4).

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



WATER IN THE GOULBURN BROKEN REGION

Covering around 10.5% of Victoria, the 21 million-hectare Goulburn Broken region stretches from its southern boundary near the outskirts of Melbourne, north to the Murray River at the border with New South Wales, east to Mt Buller, and west to the Mt Camel Range.

The region is located within the Murray-Darling Basin, encompassing the valleys of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers and part of the Murray River Valley. Many regard it as ‘the food bowl of Victoria’, with agricultural products including stone fruit, dairy products and fine wines. Its national and state parks are home to such iconic species as the tuan (phascogale), greater glider, powerful owl and mountain pygmy possum and attract many visitors. And its waterways and lakes, such as Eildon and Nagambie, are prime recreational areas.

Traditional Owners have managed the land and water sustainably for thousands of generations and maintain an active connection to Country. In the north of the region is Yorta Yorta Country, which extends from Violet Town into southern New South

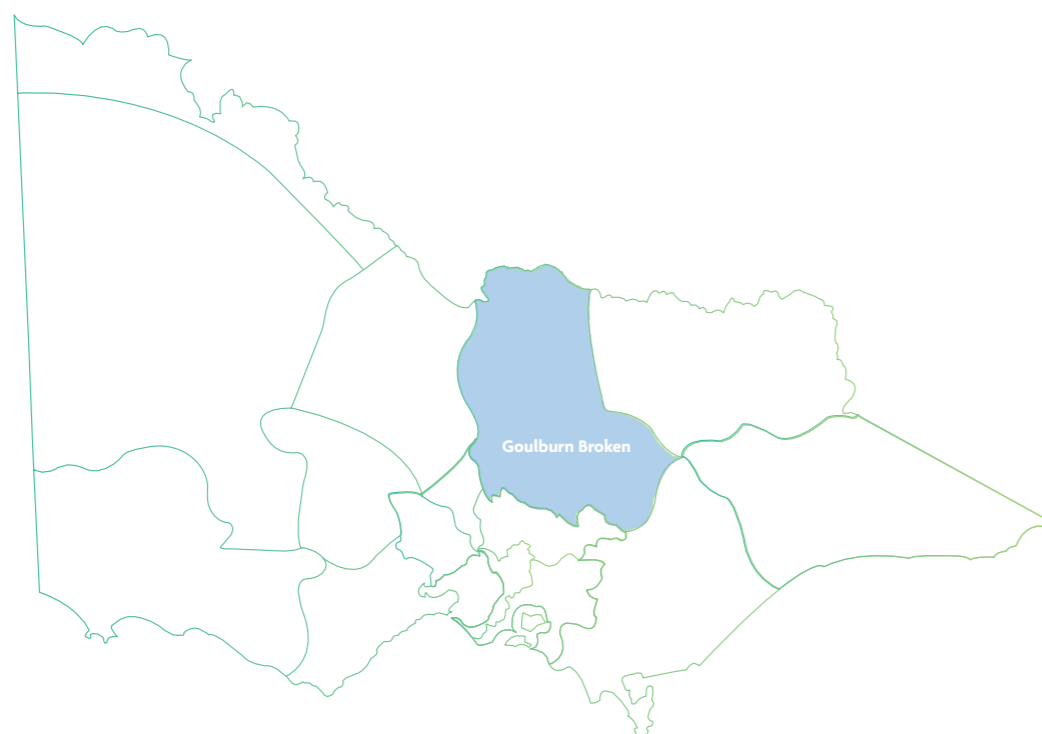
Wales. South of Yorta Yorta is Taungurung Country.

The region’s Registered Aboriginal Parties, Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation and Taungurung Land and Waters Council, work to uphold the interests of the Yorta Yorta and Taungurung peoples with respect to culture and Country. This includes active involvement in natural resource management through joint management agreements and legislative rights to public land.

Land in the region is primarily used for agricultural production (about 63%). The remainder is a mixture of nature conservation, forestry, rural residential and urban.

Black Duck ducklings, Gaynor Swamp, Corop Lakes. Credit: Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority





A CHANGING REGION

The Goulburn Broken region is responding to a range of challenges that have been emerging during the past decade.

Water issues are more prominent and complex

Hotter, drier and more extreme weather events have become common, placing increased pressure on water resources. Waterways and creeks without major dams or weirs are beginning to run dry in summer – threatening water security. Water priorities and decision-making driven from outside the region impact on availability and can cause the unseasonal movement of irrigation water flowing down the Goulburn River, and increased pressures to deliver water down the Murray. Water scarcity and the current and predicted impacts of climate change have configured a more complicated scenario into which to incorporate the aspirations of Traditional Owners.

Biodiversity under pressure

People in the region are building a greater connectedness with nature through recreation, with locals and visitors alike are enjoying activities such as fishing, off-road driving and camping. But the condition of the environment continues to decline. The health of woodland bird populations, insects and the tree canopy are collapsing under the pressures of climate change, recreation and urban encroachment. To these can be added firewood collection and pre-existing threats such as pest plant and animal invasion and land clearing, which negatively impact biodiversity and waterway health. There is a need to adapt revegetation practices to use species that can tolerate the changed climate conditions, whilst still providing important ecological services.

Some landscapes of the region, where property use has changed from agriculture to lifestyle, have seen an increase in vegetation cover and connectivity. But, in other areas, landscape connectivity has been reduced, and the scattered paddock trees have been lost due to an increase in cropping.

Urban population growth and land use is changing

Populations in the region's towns of Mansfield, Nagambie, Kilmore, Broadford and Shepparton are growing. Many people are moving to the region for lifestyle reasons and retirement. The Goulburn Broken region is experiencing additional population growth, boosted by a recent trend of people relocating from metropolitan centres, due to increased flexible work arrangements, cost of living and lifestyle choices, such as access to natural and green spaces.

There is a greater community awareness of the importance of nature. The positive connection between green spaces and mental health and wellbeing is being realised, with increasing use of parks and waterways for recreation and connecting people with their environment. Being able to provide green spaces and shade for regional urban centres in a drying climate is now more important than ever.

Agriculture is changing

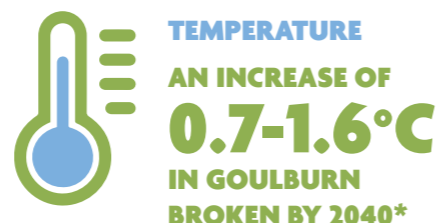
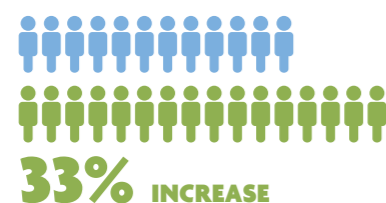
Agriculture occupies the majority of land use in the catchment, with farmers working primarily in dairy (25%), beef (20%), sheep (19%), grains (14%) and horticulture (11%). The largest, most productive, farms are in the irrigation areas north and west of Shepparton, while smaller (by production value) farms are found towards the south of the region.

Northern areas have seen a reduction in area irrigated and an increase in dryland farming, along with significant investment in irrigation modernisation. Northern areas are also seeing fewer dairy farms, but increased cropping.

Some rural areas are changing rapidly from traditional agriculture use to lifestyle and amenity. In particular, urban expansion in the south is encroaching on land that was previously agricultural.

POPULATION GROWTH

190,800 (2021)
254,700 BY 2030



CHANGE IN RAINFALL
BY 2040

DECREASE BY 13.6%
WITH MORE-INTENSE RAINFALL IN
SOME YEARS

WATERWAY CONDITION

EXCELLENT:	6%
GOOD:	9%
MODERATE:	62%
POOR:	18%
VERY POOR:	5%



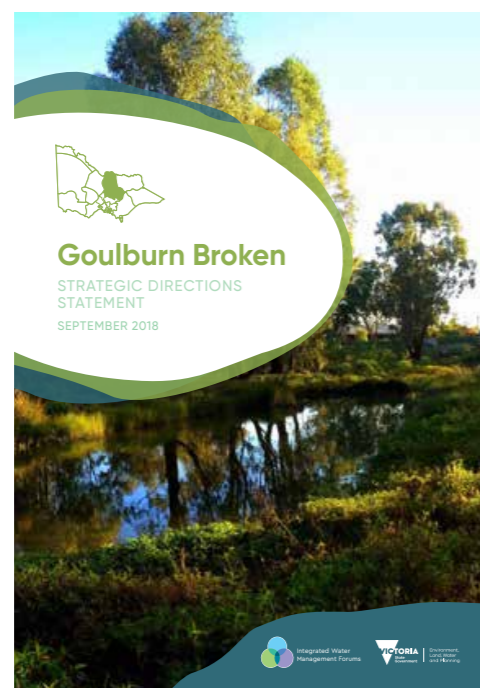
* Population data: Victoria In Future 2019
* Waterway condition: Third Index of Stream Condition report - ISC Goulburn Broken region
* Temperature and rainfall are the highest and lowest predictions across the Goulburn and Broken Catchments. Predictions represent the annual average at 2040 relative to the year 1995. Source: Guidelines for Assessing the Impact of Climate Change on Water Availability in Victoria, November 2020.

1 Goulburn Broken Regional Insights Paper 2020, www.gbcrma.vic.gov.au



PROGRESS SO FAR

The first Goulburn Broken IWM Forum SDS was published in 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



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.

The first SDS identified 13 projects that reflect the forum’s initial priorities and opportunities. Eight projects have been completed, with the remaining four underway.

Progress of the 2018 SDS projects is summarised in Table 1.

Horseshoe Lagoon. Credit: Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority



Table 1: Status summary of IWM opportunities from the 2018 SDS

IWM opportunity	Status	Notes
Murray RiverConnect	Underway	This project was delayed due to COVID-19 but is still underway.
Liveable Nathalia	Completed	The Nathalia IWM plan was completed in 2020. A key recommendation identified within this plan was to implement the Broken Creek Masterplan project. This project is included within the current SDS project list.
Water Supporting an Active Shepparton	Underway	The Munarra Centre for Regional Excellence received funding for a business case.
Eastbank Lake Revitalisation	Underway	This project is long term progressing. Designs and business cases have been completed. A technical project is seeking funding in 2022.
Nagambie Alternative Water Supply	Completed	An IWM plan was developed in 2018 and was followed by a staged implementation plan and market opportunity analysis.
Seven Creeks Flow Investigation	Completed	A workshop and investigation of flows was undertaken in 2020.
Mansfield Water Quality Offsets	Completed	Mansfield completed an IWM plan in 2019. Fords Creek revitalisation was identified through this process.
Greening Kilmore	Complete	The project attracted funding in 2018 and was completed in 2020.
Kilmore Recycled Water Scheme	Underway	Significant progress has been made with this project and it is likely construction will commence in 2022.
Campaspe Shire Strategic IWM Framework	Complete	This project attracted funding, was completed in 2020 and is now being applied at Campaspe Shire Council.
Horseshoe Lagoon Cultural Revitalisation	Complete	This project was funded in 2019 and finished in 2020. The Horseshoe Lagoon Master Plan project is now proposed.
Place-based Small Town Wastewater Management	Complete	This project was completed in 2020 and is now available for councils to use across the state.
Nature and Health	Underway	The project has progressed through collaboration, and a memorandum of understanding was signed between Goulburn Valley Health and Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

Case study

Water reviving culture in Horseshoe Lagoon

Horseshoe Lagoon is a wetland that provides significant habitat for rare and threatened species such as the pied cormorant, azure kingfisher, and eastern great egret. It is a culturally significant place for the Taungurung people, and is valued by other locals for aesthetic, cultural, recreational and environmental reasons. Water management upstream, however, has prevented natural flows from passing through and filling the lagoon.

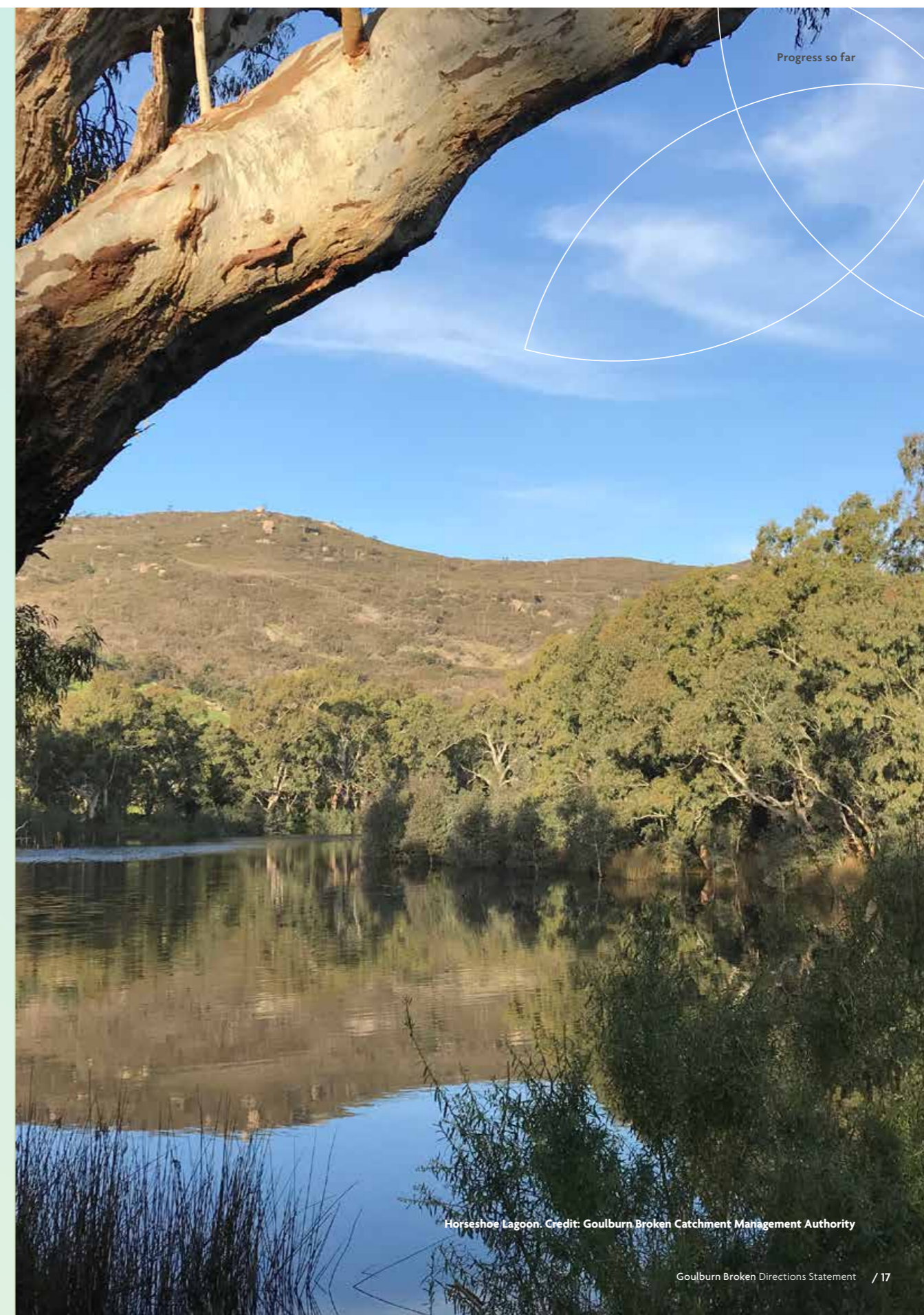
Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) led a project with local landholders, the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and Parks Victoria to develop and deliver the Horseshoe Lagoon Environmental Water Management Plan. The project considered how delivering environmental flows to the Lagoon could protect, respect and enhance its ecological and cultural values.

Traditional Owner leadership was key to the success of this project, with TLaWC and the Taungurung water knowledge group *Baan Ganalina* (Guardians of Water) directly involved in project planning, cultural and ecological assessments, and the eventual delivery of the water. In July 2019, the project began bringing water back into the lagoon – recording approximately 121 megalitres in July-August 2019 alone.

- Bringing water back to the lagoon has enhanced the social, recreational and ecological values of the site, safeguarding Taungurung cultural heritage, and demonstrating Traditional Owner leadership and knowledge in healing and caring for Country for the benefit of all.



Ecological assessments indicate the return of species not seen in the area for decades, including turtles and birdlife.



Progress so far

Horseshoe Lagoon. Credit: Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority

Case study

Helping small towns make big decisions

Many small towns across Victoria still rely on household septic tank systems to manage their wastewater and effluent. The long-term management of these on-site systems becomes increasingly difficult as septic tanks age, town population densities increase, maintenance and management practices slip, and the resources to maintain the tanks diminish. These issues can lead to environmental and human health hazards, posing a barrier to a town's growth.

● ●
 'The availability of the tool will provide the opportunity for the rapid and cost-efficient assessment of the feasibility and costs of alternative wastewater management options for small towns,' says Regan Flanagan, Manager Planning and Climate Resilience Goulburn Valley Water.



While the need to improve wastewater management is clear, the pathway to a more sophisticated system is not straightforward. Difficulties can arise in choosing and funding the right technology, gaining environmental and planning approvals, implementing strategies, and finally, setting in place ongoing management to ensure the chosen technology continues to function.

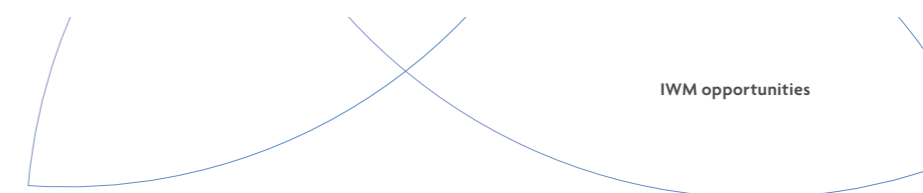
To help improve the decision-making process for wastewater management in small towns across the Goulburn Broken region and other regional areas, Goulburn Valley Water led the development of a Small Town Wastewater Management Tool – a decision-making tool for assessing alternative wastewater management options.

The tool provides much needed guidance on the feasibility and costs of various technical solutions that operate at different scales – from a single lot to whole-of-town. It provides an understanding of the total cost to implement the solution and the cost per lot, which aids in identifying funding mechanisms for these systems. The tool also considers opportunities for integrated water management through using recycled water or improving stormwater management.



Progress so far

Example of a home septic tank system. Credit: Mark Mitchell



IWM OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities that link to and address IWM challenges for the region were identified and developed by nominated practitioners of organisations participating in the forum.

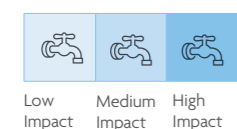
A summary of the priority IWM opportunities is shown in Table 2, with more detail in the following section. This list is dynamic and will continue to be updated to reflect the forum's priorities and opportunities as they arise.

Partners are committing their best endeavours to ensure priority projects and strategies are moved forward, in line with the shared vision and strategic outcomes of the forum.

Table 2: IWM opportunities ready-to-advance in the Goulburn Broken region.

IWM opportunity	Strategic outcomes							Urgency	Impact	Location	Scale
Thornton Stormwater Upgrade								2	13	Thornton	Town
Implementing Kilmore Creek Landscape Master Plan								2	9	Kilmore	Town
Sunday and Dry Creeks Landscape Master Plan								2	9	Broadford	Town
IWM Plans for Kilmore Development Areas								2	9	Kilmore	Precinct
Kilmore Recycled Water Scheme								1	8	Kilmore	Precinct
Corop Lakes Complex Integrated Water Project								1	12	Corop Lakes Complex	Precinct
Planning for a Green Avenel								1	11	Avenel	Town
Greening Euroa – Stage 3								2	10	Euroa	Town

Shade scale



Low Impact Medium Impact High Impact

- safe, secure and affordable supplies in a changing future
- effective and affordable wastewater systems
- manage flood risks

IWM opportunity	Strategic outcomes							Urgency	Impact	Location	Scale
Horseshoe Lagoon Master Plan								2	10	Horseshoe Lagoon/Trawool	Precinct
Eastbank Lake Project – Gross Pollutant Trap Options Analysis								1	9	Shepparton	Precinct
Recycled Water for Kilmore's Recreation Areas								1	9	Kilmore	Park
Enabling IWM with Developers								1	8	State-wide	State-wide
Nagambie Green Spaces								1	8	Nagambie	Town
Gough's Bay Water Sensitive Town Plan								2	14	Gough's Bay	Town
Baddaginnie Wastewater Improvement								0	9	Baddaginnie	Town
Revitalising Fords Creek – IWM Icon Project								2	12	Mansfield, Fords Creek	Town
Greater Shepparton City Council Area IWM Plan								2	12	Greater Shepparton City Council Area	Service Area
Broken Creek Master Plan								2	11	Nathalia	Precinct

- healthy and valued waterways and waterbodies
- healthy and valued landscape
- Traditional Owner and community values reflected in place-based planning
- jobs, economic opportunity and innovation

Thornton Stormwater Upgrade

Untreated stormwater and greywater from Thornton township is currently flowing into the Goulburn River. This presents health risks to the community and other water users in the catchment, and to the viability of local trout farms downstream. Upgrading the stormwater infrastructure will protect water quality and economic opportunities, as well as providing amenity to Thornton township.

The proposed Thornton stormwater infrastructure upgrades will collect stormwater and greywater from properties and direct it through constructed wetlands to purify the water before it enters the Goulburn River. This project will improve local water quality and amenity and also protect economic interests such as the downstream trout farms. There is also the potential for captured water to be used at local farms for agriculture in future. Murrindindi Shire Council completed detailed design in June 2021.

Benefits: effective and affordable wastewater systems, healthy and valued water bodies and economic growth for the local area.



Status	Engaged
Lead agency	Murrindindi Shire Council
Implementation partners	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn-Murray Water
Location	Thornton
Scale	Town

Seven Creeks. Credit: Strathbogie Shire Council



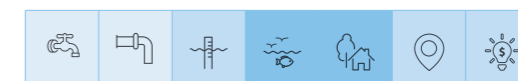
Kilmore water sensitive wetlands. Credit: Goulburn Valley Water

Implementing Kilmore Creek Landscape Master Plan

This project seeks to implement the Kilmore Creek Precinct Landscape Master Plan (2021), developed in consultation with key partners and stakeholders. The master plan highlights the importance of the Kilmore Creek Precinct and presents a vision for it to become the primary recreational open space and environmental corridor in Kilmore, improving local interconnectedness. The draft Greening Kilmore IWM Plan also identified the Kilmore Creek as a priority project 'creating a central green spine'.

The master plan provides recommendations based on a shared vision and principles to guide public improvements to the Kilmore Creek Precinct.

Benefits: The Kilmore Creek Precinct will become the primary recreational open space and environmental corridor in Kilmore, improving local interconnectedness.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Mitchell Shire Council
Implementation partners	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, DELWP, Taungurung Land and Waters Council
Location	Kilmore
Scale	Town



Sunday and Dry Creeks Landscape Master Plan

Broadford is fortunate in having two naturally vegetated and healthy waterways, Dry Creek and Sunday Creek. There are opportunities to build on this open space, creating links to the broader open space network and allowing pedestrians and cyclists to connect with nature. With investment, these natural corridors can provide such recreational connections and improve the ecological function of the waterways.

This project seeks to develop a landscape master plan for the Sunday and Dry Creeks within the township of Broadford and as a link to Mount Piper. This action is identified in the Broadford Structure Plan (adopted by Council in February 2022) and builds upon the flood studies recently completed for this sub-catchment.

Benefits: The development of a landscape master plan for the Broadford waterways will provide ecological and local benefits to the local community.

Status	Identified						
Lead agency	Mitchell Shire Council						
Implementation partners	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Taungurung Land and Waters Council						
Location	Broadford						
Scale	Town						

IWM Plans for Kilmore Development Areas

Kilmore has several new growth areas, which present an opportunity to develop an IWM plan for greenfield sites. Planned development areas include sections of Ryans Creek and Kilmore Creek including recreational areas and residential development.

The plan will create a framework to embrace natural waterways and implement innovative water efficiency within new developments; providing a case study for other growth areas. The project has been identified as a priority in the draft Greening Kilmore IWM Plan.

Benefits: The IWM process will present local benefits to the immediate development and will also serve as an example of IWM planning across the region.

Status	Identified						
Lead agency	Mitchell Shire Council						
Implementation partners	Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Taungurung Land and Waters Council, Goulburn-Murray Water, developers						
Location	Kilmore						
Scale	Precinct						

Kilmore Recycled Water Scheme

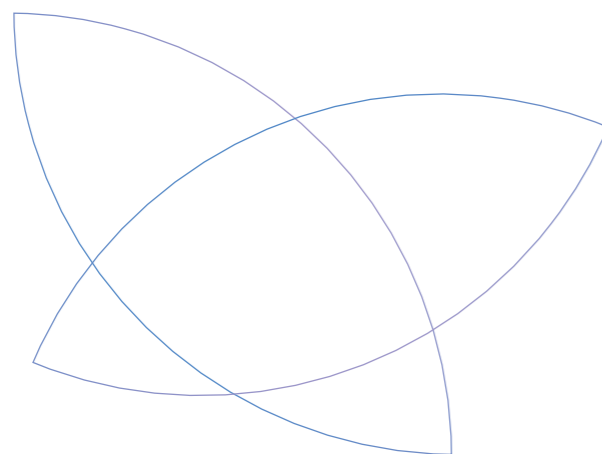
In a drying climate it is important to ensure a reliable supply of diverse water sources for use at council-managed facilities and private business in Kilmore. This will help the community stay cool and green, as well as support important economic activities.

This project will see the construction of a scheme to supply fit-for-purpose recycled water for irrigation from the Kilmore Wastewater Management Facility to the Kilmore Racing Club and council-owned sporting/recreational fields nearby. A detailed design was finalised in June 2021.

The next steps are for collaborative partners to finalise the scope of the works.

Benefits: improved resilience and liveability for Kilmore. This project will contribute to drought proofing community assets and supporting economic growth. It will also make use of a valuable asset – recycled water.

Status	Engaged						
Lead agency	Goulburn Valley Water						
Implementation partners	Mitchell Shire Council, Kilmore Racing Club						
Location	Kilmore						
Scale	Precinct						



Nagambie Lake. Credit: Goulburn Valley Water

IWM opportunities

Corop Lakes Complex Integrated Water Project

The Corop Lakes Complex is an area with high potential for enhancing its environmental and cultural values. Within the complex, One Tree Swamp, Two Tree Swamp, Gaynor Swamp, Mansfield Swamp and Wallenjoie Swamp are already listed as priority wetlands in the Goulburn Broken Water Strategy 2014-2022. An opportunity exists to see if multiple benefits can be achieved by combining drainage work, which supports irrigation for agriculture, with work to enhance environmental and cultural values, while enhancing the economic value (tourism and agriculture) of the Corop Lakes Complex for the surrounding townships.

The Corop Lakes Complex is in a transitional management phase after the decommissioning of Greens Lake. At present, there is no overarching understanding of it to provide the opportunity to plan for future use and enhance its environmental and cultural values. This situation has received considerable public and media attention.

The proposed project will undertake a staged approach beginning with capturing the existing values of the Corop Lakes Complex, including those of the Traditional Owners, and identifying knowledge gaps. Further learning from Traditional Owners and identification of environmental management paired with better drainage for primary production are possible.

Improved effectiveness of using water for the environment would be prioritised. There is also a need to understand the current and future use of the complex for recreation to plan for the management of impacts.

The next steps are to scope the project further with collaborative partners and confirm their commitment. The bedding down of details is required before applying for grants.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Taungurung Land and Waters Council
Implementation partners	Parks Victoria, DELWP, Goulburn-Murray Water, Campaspe Shire Council
Location	Corop Lakes Complex
Scale	Precinct

Planning for a Green Avenel

Avenel is growing rapidly. Without proper planning, the liveability and sustainability of the township could be at risk in a drying climate. Ensuring diverse water supplies are available to keep the township cool and green will be critical.

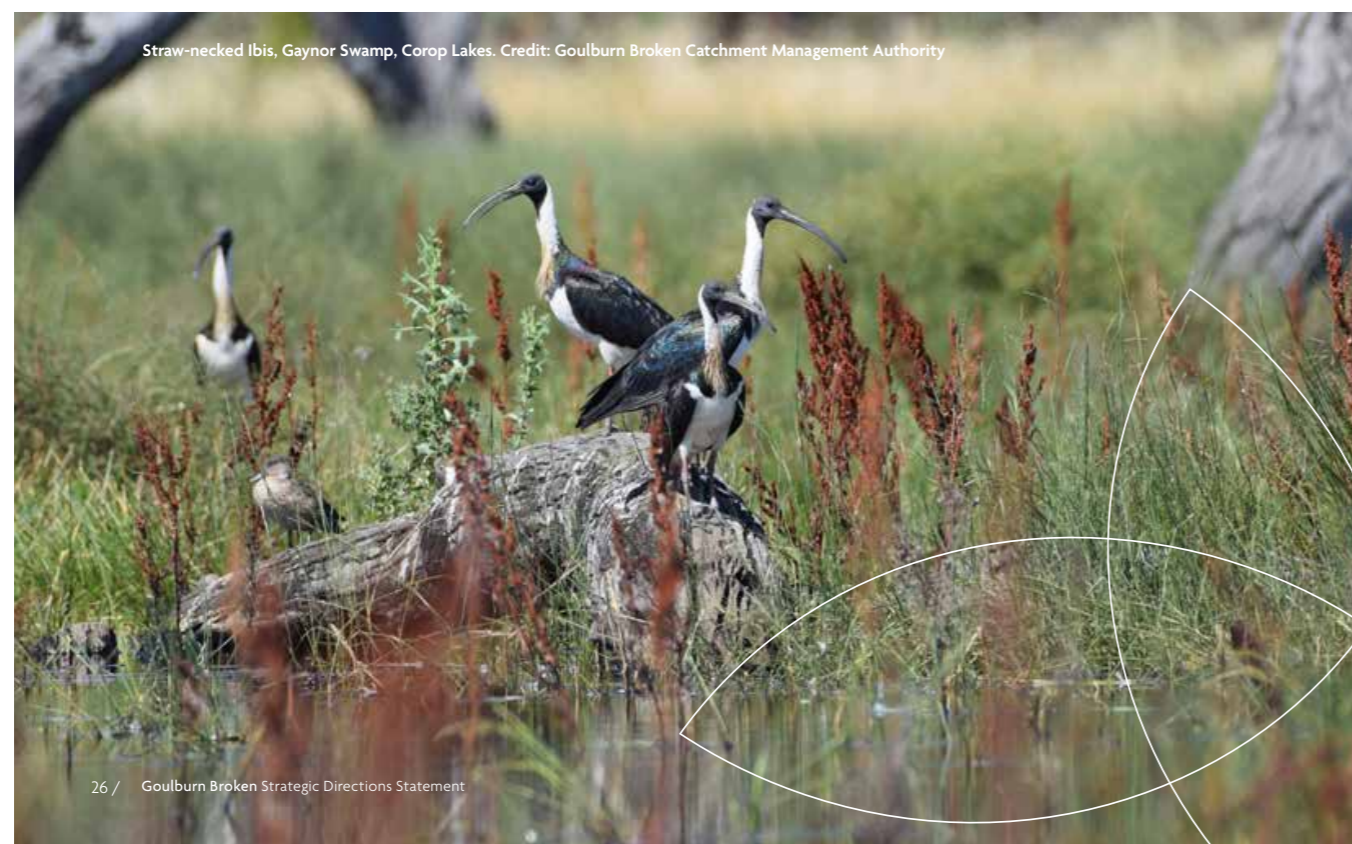
An IWM plan will help secure continued liveability and sustainability through planning for existing and future green blue spaces, passive recreation, and diverse water supplies to support these amenities. Water-sensitive design and planning for future growth will protect the water quality in Hughes Creek and enhance it as a community asset in the centre of town. The project will also work to protect and enhance the cultural values of Hughes Creek. Engagement will ensure the community is at the centre of decision making, and that it backs any proposals.

Council is working on getting to know what developments are happening and to understand better what the water impacts will be. Council will approach potential collaborative partners to further define and develop the project, with the intention of applying for funding.

Benefits: The introduction of IWM will result in cost savings in the long term through the development of community assets such as urban lakes that provide a first point of water treatment, green spaces irrigated by climate independent sources of non-potable water, and urban heat island mitigation due to this greening.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Strathbogie Shire Council
Implementation partners	Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Taungurung Land and Waters Council
Location	Avenel
Scale	Town



Straw-necked Ibis, Gaynor Swamp, Corop Lakes. Credit: Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority



Greening Euroa – Stage 3

The Euroa catchment is highly dependent on rainfall. Raw water availability is declining due to climate change. This project, which is a staged response to the issue, has already seen Goulburn Valley Water upgrade its Euroa Wastewater Management Facility to produce Class B recycled water and commence supply to the community through a standpipe. Finding new ways to use recycled wastewater will help with sustainable water management and improve water security and liveability in the region.

Greening Euroa is designed to improve drought resilience and enhance liveability by keeping community spaces green in a sustainable way. In Stage 2 of the project, detailed design was completed in 2021. Stage 3 will involve construction of a recycled water pipeline and additional standpipes. A review of current stormwater infrastructure will also be undertaken to understand its capacity to handle more frequent intense rainfall events. As part of this process, areas for overflow wetlands will be identified so that stormwater quality can be improved before it discharges into waterways.

Benefits: The project will contribute to and improve the liveability of the region by ensuring the ongoing use of recreation and sporting grounds even during prolonged dry conditions.

Status	Committed					
Lead agency	Strathbogie Shire Council					
Implementation partners	Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority					
Location	Euroa					
Scale	Town					

Horseshoe Lagoon Master Plan

Visiting Horseshoe Lagoon has become popular, and has led to considerable impact on its cultural and environmental values, as well as on the visitor experience itself. A master plan will complement the recent environmental water plan and Taungurung cultural revitalisation actions by identifying visitation impacts as well as effective management principles and actions to address them.

Developing a master plan for Horseshoe Lagoon will enable management of the conservation flora and fauna reserve. It will take the impacts of visitor experience into account, and protect, respect and enhance the cultural and environmental values of the area. Working with all partners, effective management principles and actions will be developed.

Next steps are to establish a working group to scope the project further with collaborative partners and to confirm their commitment.

Benefits: improved river health, protecting Traditional Owner cultural values, economic growth for the local area, increased health and wellbeing opportunities for the local and broader communities, and increased visitor safety.

Status	Identified					
Lead agency	Taungurung Land and Waters Council, Parks Victoria					
Implementation partners	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Mitchell Shire Council, Country Fire Authority, DELWP, Victorian Fisheries Authority, local land holders					
Location	Horseshoe Lagoon/Trawool					
Scale	Precinct					



Euroa Memorial Oval. Credit: Strathbogie Shire Council

Eastbank Lake Project – Gross Pollutant Trap Options Analysis

The Eastbank Lake project is located on the western fringe of the Shepparton CBD, within the Eastbank Civic Precinct and Monash Park. This project is a component of a larger project which aims to revitalise Eastbank Lake. A functional design was completed in 2016 and a preliminary business case was developed in 2018. Eastbank Lake is a catalyst project for the broader greening of Shepparton.

Ahead of the development of a detailed design, an options analysis for gross pollutant trap designs – to be installed in the remnant section of the Goulburn River – is needed. Accumulation of pollutants is a significant issue in the area and an engineering solution will be particularly challenging due to its low elevation in relation to other infrastructure. An innovative Gross Pollutant Trap design will be needed to collect litter and larger pollutants.

Benefits: Understanding the options for Gross Pollutant Traps and their installation prior to commencing other detailed designs and works will benefit the community in preventing further accumulation of pollutants in this area in the short term, as it is unlikely the larger project will attract funding soon. This will increase the health of the waterway and also increase the amenity value of the area.

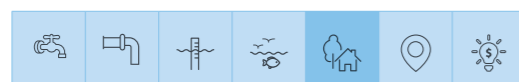
Status	Identified					
Lead agency	Greater Shepparton City Council					
Implementation partners	Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority					
Location	Shepparton					
Scale	Precinct					

Recycled Water for Kilmore's Recreation Areas

The JJ Clancy Reserve in Kilmore uses a significant amount of potable water for irrigation purposes. The use of fit-for-purpose recycled water for irrigation instead, would reduce the use of potable water, and increase the resilience of this important community open space.

This project is a value-add to the recycled water scheme proposed for the Kilmore Racecourse and seeks to provide fit-for-purpose recycled water to Council's recreational JJ Clancy Reserve near the racecourse. This project has been identified in the Draft Greening Kilmore IWM Plan which was developed with extensive stakeholder and community consultation.

Benefits: maintenance of green spaces within the township for recreational purposes.



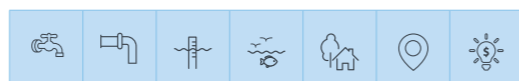
Status	Identified
Lead agency	Mitchell Shire Council
Implementation partners	Goulburn Valley Water, Kilmore Racing Club, JJ Clancy Reserve Committee of Management
Location	Kilmore
Scale	Park

Enabling IWM with Developers

(In collaboration with the Great South Coast IWM Forum)

This project aims to develop an engagement and incentive framework for working with property developers in our region to facilitate greater opportunity for IWM projects. The project will forge closer ties with property developers, building upon existing relationships or creating new ones.

The Great South Coast IWM Forum is currently working to develop a framework for working with developers within their own region. This project will assess the knowledge gained through the Great South Coast framework to consider how to develop and apply such frameworks within the Goulburn Broken region and wider across the state. The framework will outline a collaborative approach and also identify the range of legal mechanisms to enforce standards of work.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Great South Coast IWM Forum
Implementation partners	Goulburn Broken IWM Forum
Location	State-wide
Scale	State-wide

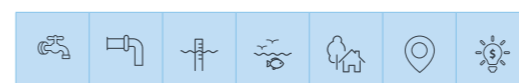
Nagambie Green Spaces

Nagambie is experiencing significant growth from a small base. The population is expected to more than double over the next 10 to 15 years with new residents, retirees and visitors. During peak periods of seasonal visitors and tourists, the population of the township swells to more than three times normal. Additionally, Nagambie Lake is experiencing water quality issues due to untreated stormwater runoff, and there are existing flood issues at the industrial estate and other hotspots within the township.

This project is designed to manage the water issues arising from the significant development of the township, putting surplus water to use in creating greener spaces.

The Nagambie IWM Plan and Market Opportunity Analysis was finalised in 2020. After presentation to the Council, an options analysis and detailed design has been proposed to identify current and future green spaces in Nagambie, as well as to examine opportunities to supply treated stormwater to these spaces to support a green and liveable community. A water-sensitive design can also help address some of the wastewater and flooding issues experienced by the town.

Benefits: provision of open spaces and green corridors within the township even during significant dry periods; enhancement of amenity and the microclimate through the introduction of natural features; reduction of wastewater and stormwater discharge to the environment; and addressing water quality issues in Nagambie Lake.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Strathbogie Shire Council
Implementation partners	Goulburn-Murray Water, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
Location	Nagambie
Scale	Town

Gough's Bay Water Sensitive Town Plan

Gough's Bay is an unsewered town on the banks of Lake Eildon, a major water storage for the Goulburn Catchment. The small lots sizes of the township mean that wastewater is not contained within properties and that there is a high chance of it reaching the Lake. Developing and implementing an IWM plan for Gough's Bay can solve these issues. The community has a vision for a fully self-contained water cycle for the town.

There is an opportunity to make Gough's Bay a best-practice, self-contained, water-sensitive town, that will serve as a model for other small towns in the region. The Gough's Bay Water-Sensitive Town Plan will integrate the water cycle into urban design, to minimise environmental degradation and improve aesthetic and recreational appeal. Upgrades to wastewater and stormwater management will be achieved in ways that improve amenity.

Benefits: effective and affordable wastewater systems, healthy and valued water bodies, and economic growth for the local area. Community values will be reflected in planning.



Status	Committed
Lead agency	Mansfield Shire Council
Implementation partners	Taungurung Land and Waters Council, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn-Murray Water
Location	Gough's Bay
Scale	Town



Installation of a dedicated roof water harvesting trunk main. Credit: Wannon Water

Baddaginnie Wastewater Improvement

Baddaginnie is located on the Broken Creek which is of significant environmental, recreational and cultural value to the surrounding community.

It has identified issues with septic tank wastewater systems which were installed in the 1960s on small allotments (less than 4,000 m²). Due to the size of these small allotments, the wastewater leach fields cannot be contained within each property boundary. An innovative wastewater management option is required for the township.

Benefits: effective and affordable wastewater systems, healthy and valued water bodies.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Benalla Rural City Council
Implementation partners	TBA
Location	Baddaginnie
Scale	Town

Revitalising Fords Creek – IWM Icon Project

This initiative proposes the extensive rehabilitation of the entire reach of Fords Creek within the Mansfield township boundary. The Mansfield IWM Plan identified a community vision to develop Fords Creek into a focal point and central spine for connectivity throughout the township. The revitalisation of Fords Creek is a significant infrastructure project that will provide long term social, cultural, recreational and health values.

Fords Creek is not well connected to the township in terms of amenity and, at present, poses a flood risk, which is to be addressed by the project. The project requires flood mapping for the Ford Creek catchment, as well as an understanding of future stormwater runoff volumes. Detailed design will only be finalised after further engagement with the community.

Benefits: resilience to existing and future flood risk, improved river health, economic growth for the local area, and increased health and wellbeing opportunities for local communities. Cultural values will be reflected in place-based planning.

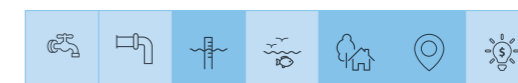


Status	Committed
Lead agency	Mansfield Shire Council
Implementation partners	Taungurung Land and Waters Council, local land holders, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
Location	Mansfield, Fords Creek
Scale	Town

Greater Shepparton City Council Area IWM Plan

Greater Shepparton City Council has many plans and strategies relating to water management, green spaces and climate change. The Council is proposing to assess their effectiveness and bring them together into a single overarching IWM plan for the entire Council service area. This overarching plan will also provide an opportunity to address localised issues such as drainage in Tatura and to find more climate friendly solutions to water pumping (to avoid flooding) in the region. An engagement phase will provide an opportunity to update objectives for the local area.

Benefits: The introduction of IWM will result in cost savings in the long term through the development of community assets such as urban lakes that provide a first point of treatment, green spaces irrigated by climate independent sources of non-potable water, and urban heat island mitigation through this greening.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Greater Shepparton City Council
Implementation partners	Parks Victoria, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Goulburn Valley Water, Yorta Yorta Nation, Taungurung Land and Water Council
Location	Greater Shepparton City Council Area
Scale	Service Area










Ducks in Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton. Credit: Greater Shepparton

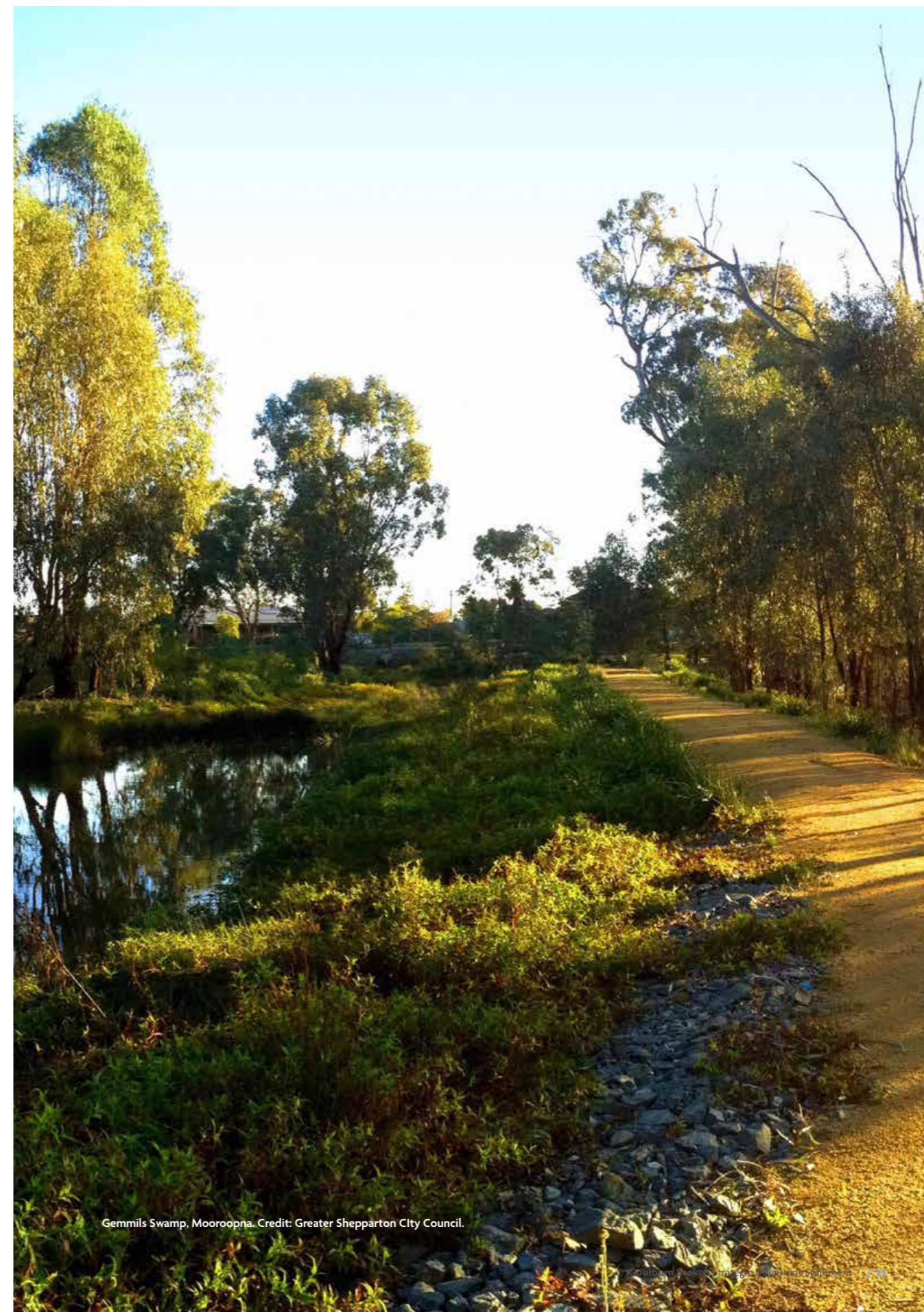
Broken Creek Master Plan

The land management responsibilities of the Broken Creek corridor are distributed across several government agencies. This limits the capacity to develop a strategic and proactive program to deliver projects for maintaining the waterway. Additionally, the community of Nathalia currently has limited access to the Creek as a community space and amenity. Developing the Broken Creek Master Plan presents an opportunity to address management issues and connect the community to Broken Creek as a space for recreation.

The master plan aims to enhance recreational and community-based connections with the creek by creating new walking tracks to link with existing tracks, bridges and other infrastructure. Exercise equipment and waterfront community spaces for events and markets would be included in the design of these loops, as well as signage displaying directions and themes of cultural values, the natural environment and town history. The walking tracks will link the main hub of Nathalia to the creek, as well as better connecting the town to existing recreational areas and the western growth corridor. Messages educating the community about water security may be included in signage. The impacts of increased visitation will be considered and managed.

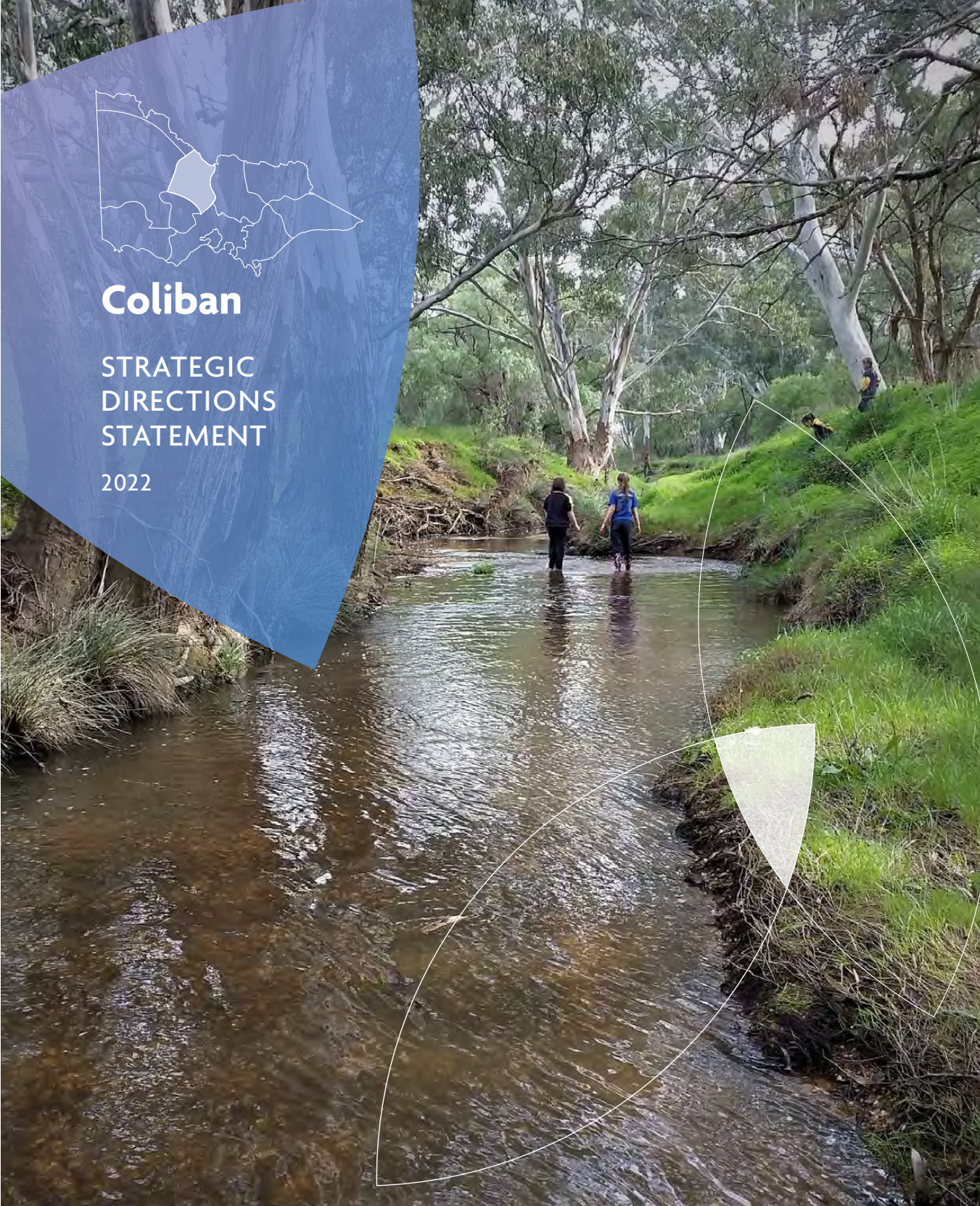
Benefits: provide the community of Nathalia with a healthier and valued waterway as well as green spaces that reflect the community values. The proposed market will provide ongoing economic opportunity for the township. The project can also contribute to improving water security in the region by including education and potentially setting a town water-saving target. This would be decided through a community engagement process. Ongoing management actions will ensure the area thrives into the future.

						
Status	Engaged					
Lead agency	Moirá Shire Council					
Implementation partners	Parks Victoria, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Yorta Yorta Nation, Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn-Murray Water					
Location	Nathalia					
Scale	Precinct					



Gemmils Swamp, Mooroopna. Credit: Greater Shepparton City Council.





Coliban

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS STATEMENT

2022



Integrated Water
Management Forums



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Coliban Integrated Water Management 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 Coliban Integrated Water Management Forum proudly acknowledges Victoria's Aboriginal communities and their rich culture, and pays its respects to their Elders past and present. The forum also recognises the intrinsic connection of Traditional Owners to Country and acknowledges their contribution to the management of land, water and resources. We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's first peoples and as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and water on which we rely. We recognise and value the ongoing contribution of Aboriginal people and communities to Victorian life and how this enriches us. We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards the equality of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice.

The 2022 Coliban Integrated Water Management 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.

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Printed by Finsbury Green, Melbourne

ISBN XXX-X-XXXX-XXX-X (print)

ISBN XXX-X-XXXX-XXX-X (pdf/online/MS Word)

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Cover photo: Bendigo Creek. Credit: Felicity Johnson

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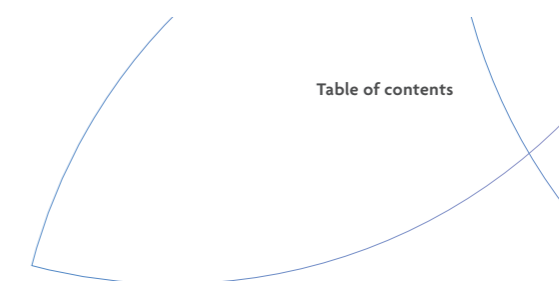
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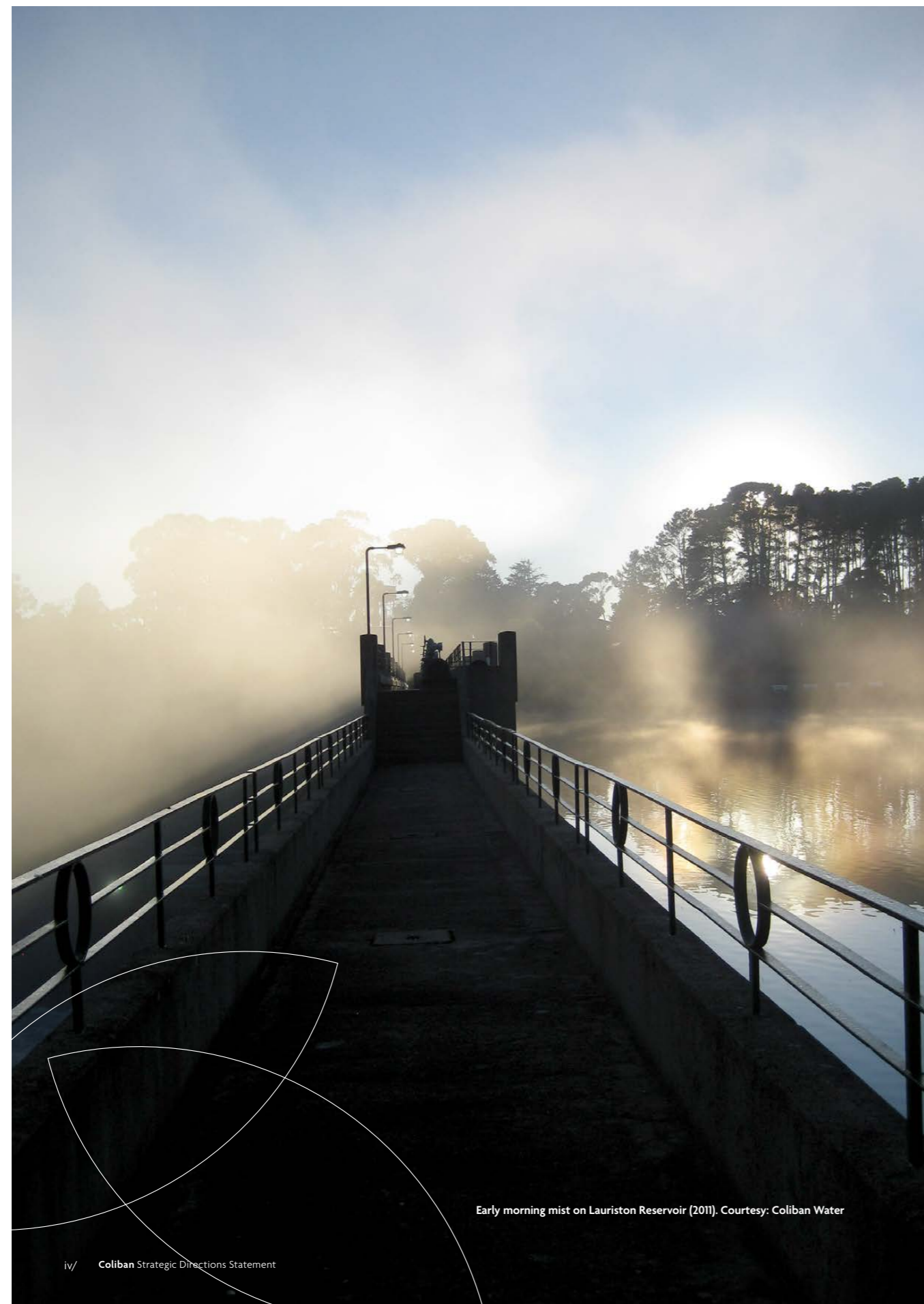
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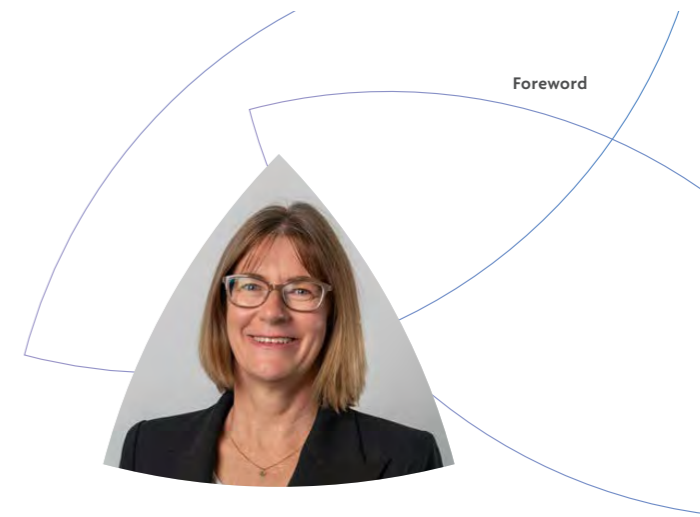
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Early morning mist on Lauriston Reservoir (2011). Courtesy: Coliban Water



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 Integrated Water Management 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 flooding and storm events, such as those of early 2011 and June 2021, 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 of the positive benefits that communities receive from green spaces and the 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 Victoria State Government's central policy and an enabling unit in the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning. 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 Integrated Water Management Forum

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria* (2017) is designed to help regional stakeholders 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 integrated water management (IWM) forums across Victoria that are realising the 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 SDS 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 its 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.

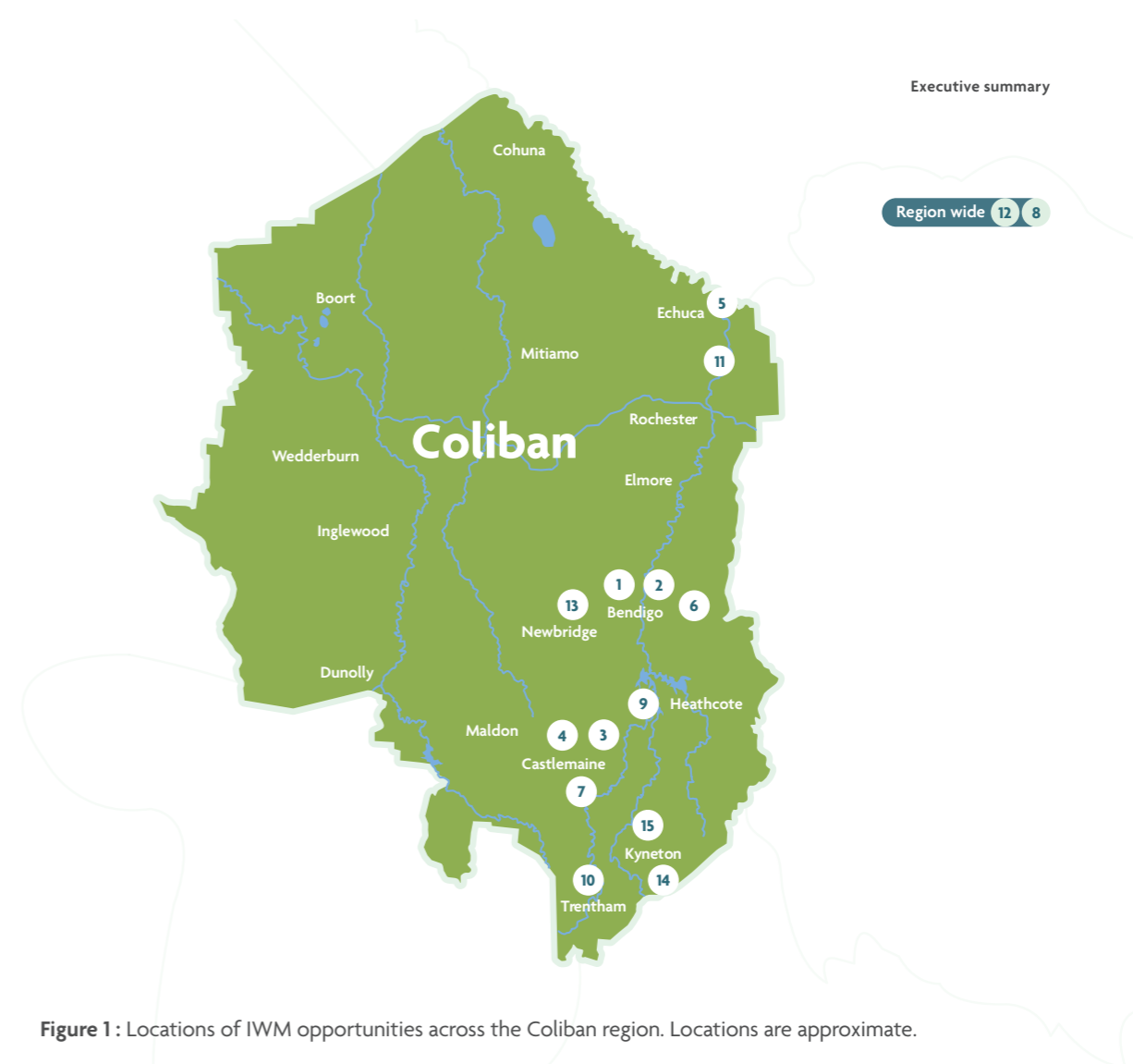


Figure 1: Locations of IWM opportunities across the Coliban region. Locations are approximate.

IWM 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, environment, and healing Country

1. Implementing the Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan
2. Wanyarram Dhehk – Starting the Healing
3. Castlemaine Stormwater Outfall Retrofit Scheme and Pilot Program
4. Forest Creek Revitalisation Project
5. Echuca Aquatic Reserve

Making more of water resources in a changing climate

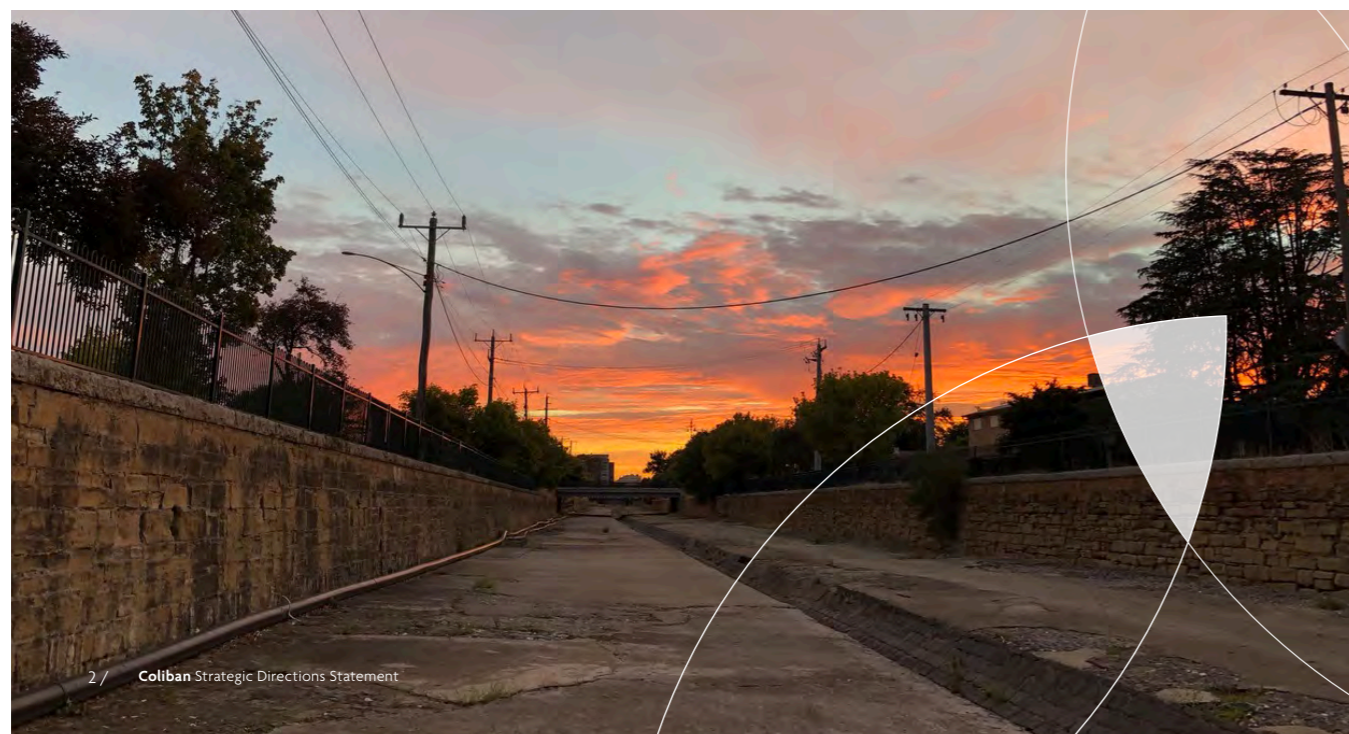
6. Improved Drought Resilience for Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge

7. Diversifying Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens
8. Diversifying Water Supplies for Parks and Gardens
9. Increased Flows in the Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits
10. Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways
11. Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca

Integrated planning for a sustainable future

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

Section of Bendigo Creek. Credit: Bryley Savage

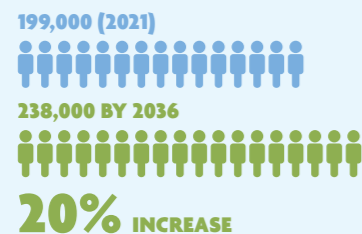


Coliban Integrated Water Management Forum Strategic Directions Statement 2022 summary

We work collaboratively with partners across the water cycle to find new ways to share resources and conserve water for multiple community and environmental benefits.

We work to meet the water needs of a changing region.

POPULATION GROWTH



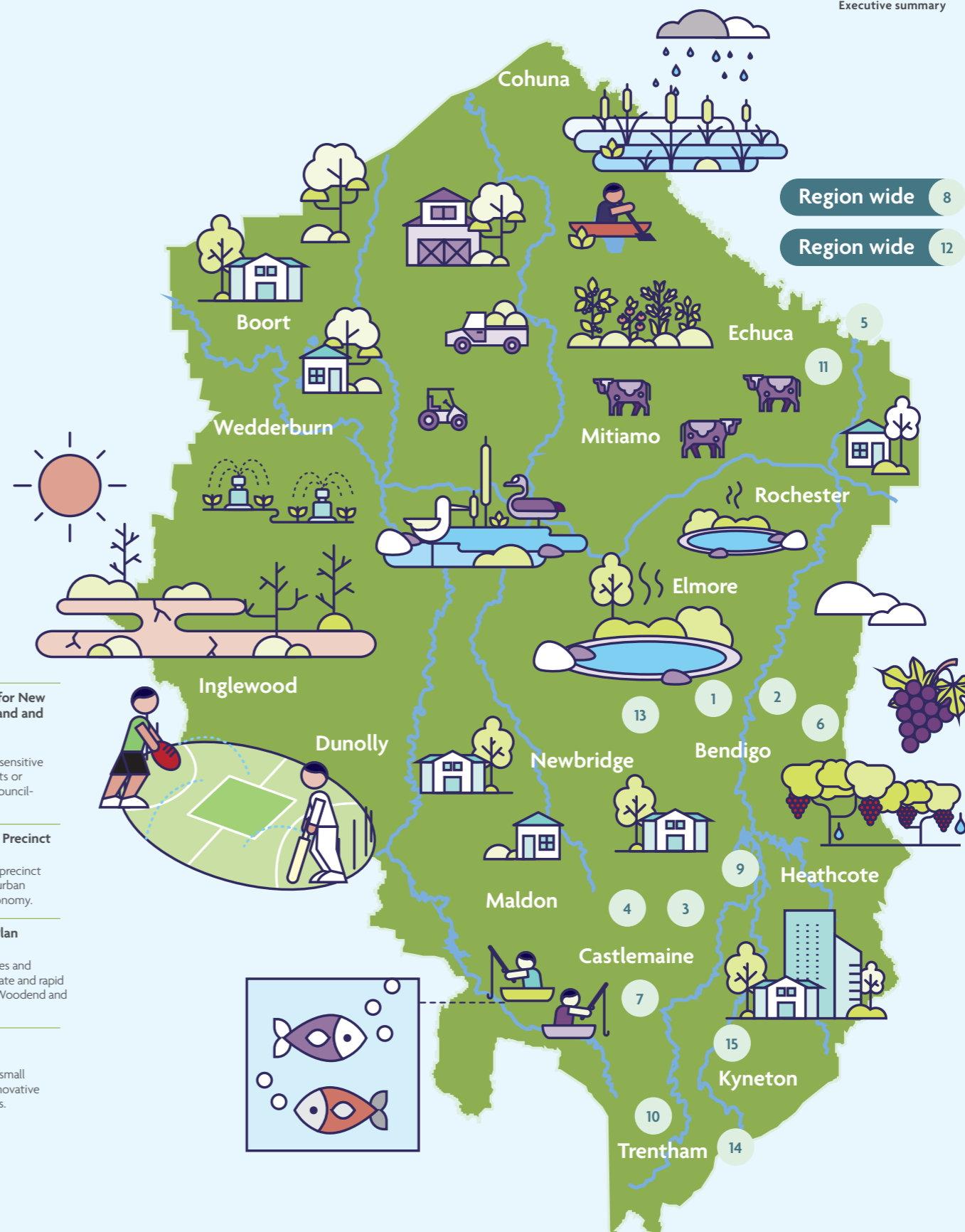
* Population data: Victoria In Future 2019
* Temperature and rainfall range are highest and lowest predictions for Campaspe and Loddon catchments. Predictions represent the annual average relative to the year 1995. Source: Guidelines for Assessing the Impact of Climate Change on Water Availability in Victoria, November 2020.



CHANGE IN RAINFALL BY 2040
DECREASE BY 15% WITH MORE-INTENSE RAINFALL IN SOME YEARS



TEMPERATURE AN INCREASE OF 0.7-1.6°C IN COLIBAN BY 2040



Region wide 8

Region wide 12

1. Implementing the Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan

Further work on the revitalisation of Bendigo Creek, to heal the catchment, enhance cultural values and build connections to the creek.

2. Wanyarram Dhelk - Starting the Healing

Restoring the environmental and Dja Dja Wurrung cultural values of an urban drain and peri-urban waterway guided by the Dhelkunya Dja Country Plan.

3. Castlemaine Stormwater Outfall Retrofit Scheme and Pilot Program

Retrofitting stormwater outfalls around Castlemaine to prevent pollution.

4. Forest Creek Revitalisation Project

Rehabilitation of a channelised section of urban Forest Creek.

5. Echuca Aquatic Reserve

Program to improve the environmental and social values at the Echuca Aquatic reserve.

6. Improved Drought Resilience for Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge

Taking excess water from reservoirs in the Campaspe system and storing it underground for later reuse.

7. Diversifying Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens

Exploring options to use recycled water for irrigation and other uses at the gardens.

8. Diversifying Water Supplies for Parks and Gardens

Providing a wider range of water supply options – such as stormwater, recycled water and groundwater – to maintain the health of valued green spaces during dry periods.

9. Increased Flows in the Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits

Increase flows in the Coliban River for cultural and ecological benefits while increasing the operational flexibility by reinstating the hydroelectric plant at Lake Eppalock.

10. Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways

Managing threats to the catchment from urban and peri-urban development.

11. Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca

Investigating the feasibility of supplying recycled water to existing and new public open spaces, to reduce the demand on potable water supplies.

12. Water Sensitive Urban Design for New or Upgraded Developments (Land and Buildings)

Helping councils incorporate water sensitive urban design into new developments or upgrade projects such as roads or council-owned buildings.

13. Bendigo Regional Employment Precinct

Designing a best-practice industrial precinct that demonstrates water-sensitive urban design, zero carbon and circular economy.

14. Macedon Ranges North IWM Plan

An IWM plan to explore opportunities and solutions in the face of a drying climate and rapid urban growth around the towns of Woodend and Kyneton.

15. Servicing Small Townships

Facilitating the potential growth of small towns in the region by providing innovative reticulated water and sewer systems.

BETTER TOGETHER: INTEGRATING WATER MANAGEMENT ACROSS 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, life and continuing 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 large 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.¹ Much of the water flowing into the Murray-Darling Basin System comes from the Victorian High Country and underpins irrigated agriculture in several states.

¹ Victorian Food and Fibre Export Performance Report 2019-20
² Victoria in Future 2019

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 the return of 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. They include 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 2051.²

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 Traditional Owners. Therefore, we need an integrated and collaborative approach to adapt to change and maximise value across the whole water cycle.

What is IWM? 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, planning and development authorities, communities and, in recent decades, catchment management authorities. While we face the challenges of population growth, climate change and natural disasters, we can also build on the benefits of past experiences and established relationships. Together, we can make decisions today that we will celebrate in the future.

● ●
 Integrated water management considers all parts of the water cycle as an integrated system to optimise the environmental, cultural, social and economic outcomes for our communities.

● ● ●

Better together: integrating water management across Victoria

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 include:

- Traditional Owner groups, who have a deep knowledge of and connection to the region's waterways, other water resources and Country;
- water corporations, which manage the water storage, water supply, and wastewater services
- local governments, which manage surface water drainage, protect local waters from degradation and pollution, oversee on-site domestic wastewater planning, regulate local development, and undertake strategic planning for future growth

- catchment management authorities, which 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 to maximise water saving and reuse and share the benefits (Figure 2).

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?

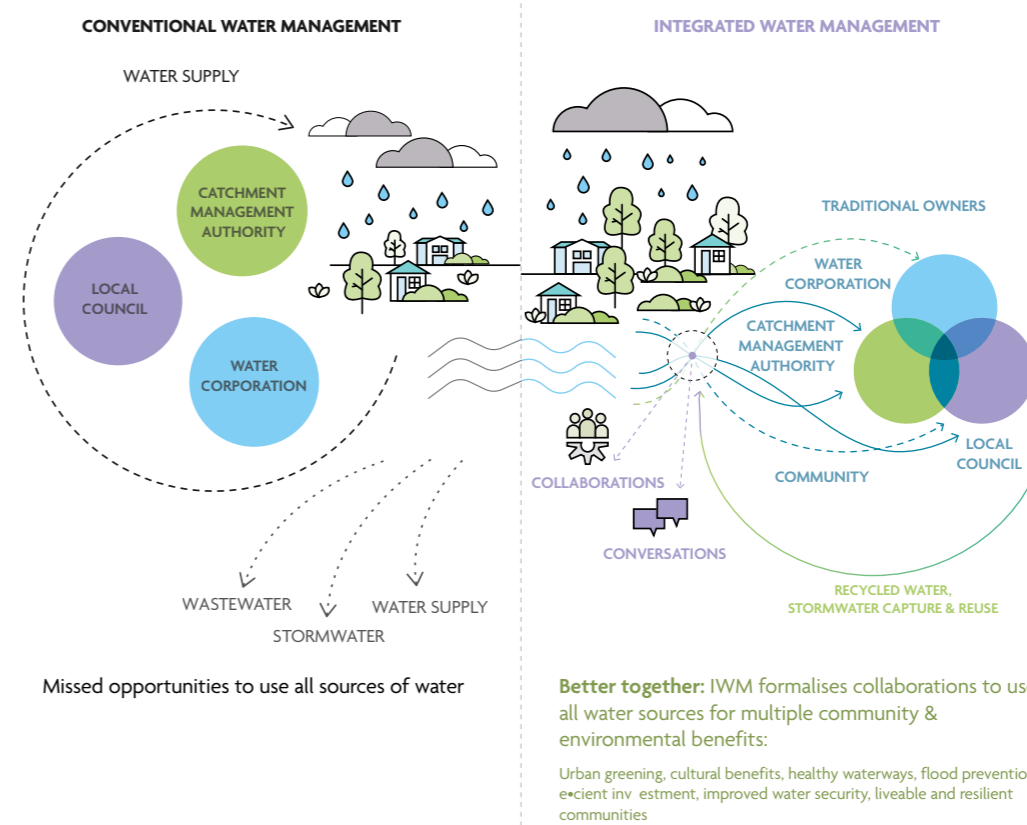


Figure 1: How does IWM work? Conventional water management saw a more siloed approach to water management, with a single supply source and two discharge systems to move stormwater and wastewater away as quickly as possible, resulting in missed opportunities to use all sources of water. The IWM approach brings water managers together to plan and deliver new opportunities to provide broader benefits to the community. 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 delivering IWM state-wide?

To facilitate IWM across Victoria, the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) supported the establishment of IWM forums across 10 regions of Victoria (Figure 3). These forums bring together leaders of the local water sector to explore, prioritise and oversee the development of local IWM opportunities. Prioritised opportunities are managed and implemented by dedicated working groups and are captured within individual IWM plans. Where appropriate, the 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, Department of Transport, 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 the interdependencies or overlaps with other members (Figure 2). 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, working together achieves better outcomes for the environment, society, and the economy by finding mutually beneficial ways to share water, assets, and costs.

Dja Dja Wurrung cremony on Bendigo Creek. Credit: City of Greater Bendigo



Better together: integrating water management across Victoria




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* (2016), to 'build resilient and liveable cities and towns'. These strategic outcomes provide a way to identify the multiple economic, social and environmental benefits that can come from a single initiative. The original framework included five such strategic outcomes that have 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 project opportunities 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 diverse 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 through the *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria* (2017). Visit: www.water.vic.gov.au

Strategic Directions Statement – how IWM is happening in the region

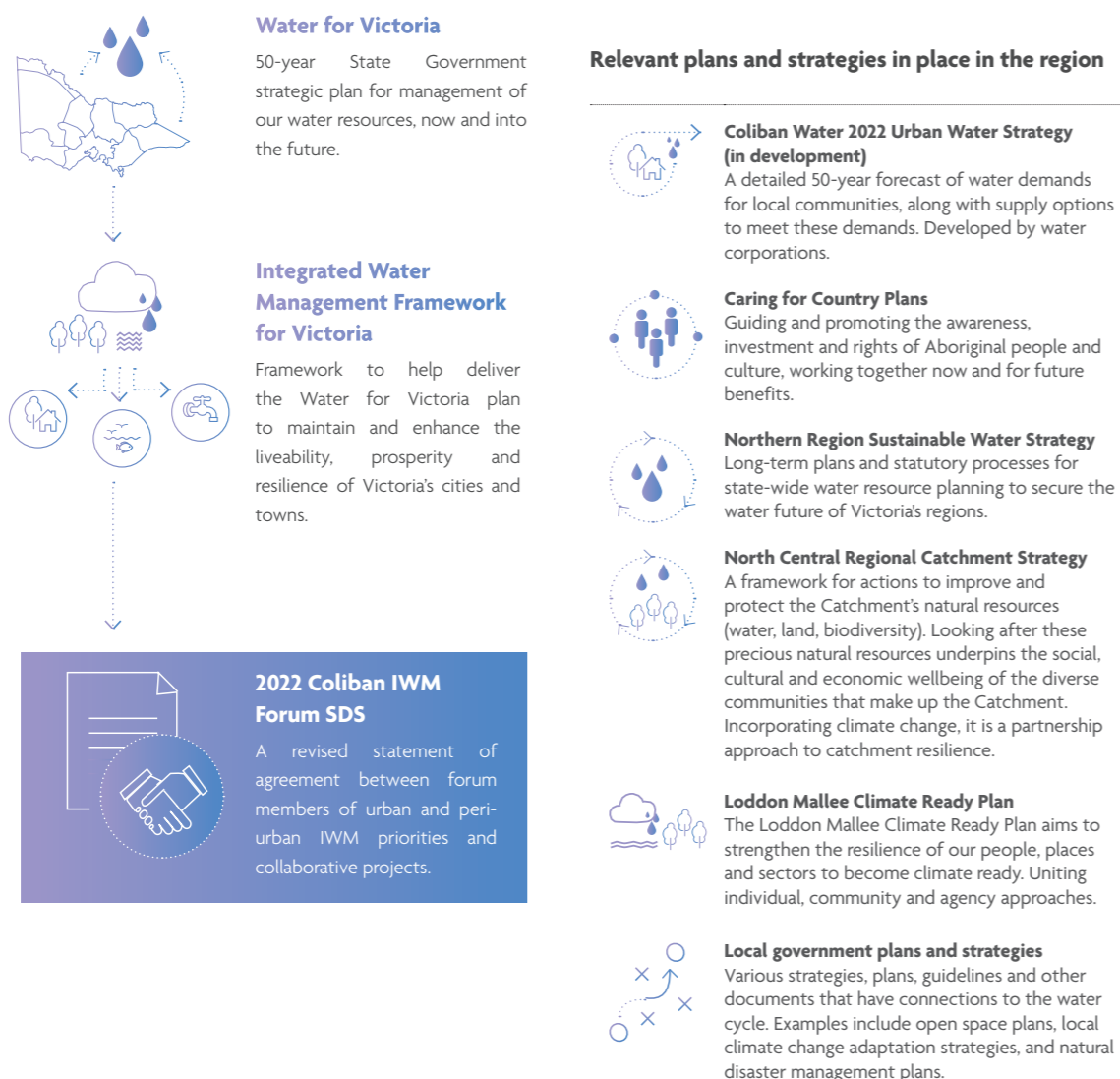
This SDS articulates the collaborative intent and shared agreement of all stakeholders involved in the forum. It describes the water security challenges and opportunities in the region, sets the strategic direction for the next few years, and outlines the ‘best endeavours’ or ways in which IWM is and will be applied through opportunities that are proposed, in-progress or completed in the region.

This is the first update to the Coliban region’s SDS produced in 2018, and includes:

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

This SDS has been developed to complement the other plans and strategies that apply to the region for water, climate change, First Nations’ rights and catchment management (Figure 4).

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



WATER IN THE COLIBAN REGION

The Coliban region is home to nearly 200,000 people, a diversity of plant and animal life, and the waters from the spring and spa region in the south to the Murray River and its floodplains on the border with New South Wales in the north.³ 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. Rainfall in the region can range from an average of more than 1000 mm annually in Trentham to less than 400 mm per year in Boort; and a drier future is predicted⁴. Consequently, water management is key to the region’s long-term future.

³ Victoria in Future 2019
⁴ Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology

Campaspe River, Doaks Reserve. Credit: DELWP



A CHANGING REGION

The Coliban IWM Forum has been operating for four years, providing 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.

Water for people, environment and healing Country

We need water for landscapes, for people and for the environment, and for healing Country.

Victoria in Future (2019) 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.

⁵ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010, 1301.0 - Year Book Australia, 2009-10

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.⁵ 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. The 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 theme of 'water for people, environment, and healing Country':

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

Making more of water resources in a changing climate

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% 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.

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 theme of 'making more of water resources in a changing climate':

- Improved Drought Resilience for Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge
- Diversifying Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens
- Diversifying Water Supplies for Parks and Gardens
- Increased Flows in the Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits
- Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways
- Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca

Integrated planning for a sustainable future

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.

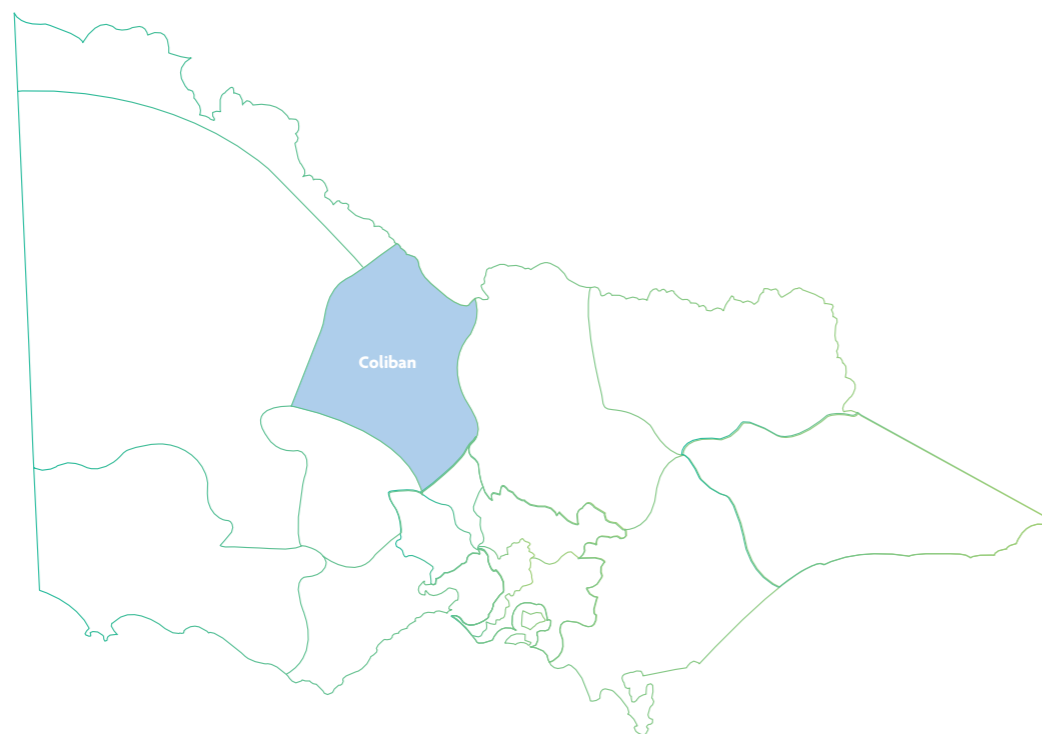
The following projects fall under the theme of 'integrated planning for a sustainable future':

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

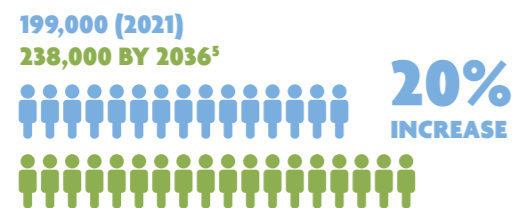
One implication of growth is the increasing use of farm dams. The region already has a large and unsustainable number of farm dams. It's anticipated this policy challenge will be addressed through other organisations and regulations. The forum, however, will continue to have an interest in this type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



Bendigo Creek earth works. Credit: Djandak



POPULATION GROWTH



CONDITION OF WATERWAYS

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



CHANGE IN RAINFALL BY 2040
DECREASE BY 15% WITH MORE-INTENSE RAINFALL IN SOME YEARS⁶



TEMPERATURE AN INCREASE OF 0.7-1.6C IN COLIBAN BY 2040⁷

⁵ Victoria in Future 2019

⁶ Third Index of Stream Condition report – ISC North Central

⁷ Temperature and rainfall predictions represent the highest and lowest predictions for Campaspe and Loddon catchments. They represent the annual average relative to the year 1995. Source: Guidelines for assessing the impact of climate change on water availability in Victoria, November 2020.

PROGRESS SO FAR

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



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 opportunities that reflect the Coliban IWM Forum's initial priorities. Progress made on the 2018 SDS IWM opportunities is summarised in Table 1 on page 17.

Most of these opportunities are underway or completed. Six opportunities, including the Reimagining Bendigo Creek project, have been completed. You can read more about that project on page 18. An extension of that project is also proposed in this SDS. Five more projects are well underway, including the Managed Aquifer Recharge Potential in the Coliban Region project, which serves as an important early demonstration project for other regions with highly-developed aquifers. Read about this project on page 20.

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 so far



Koomba Street planting, Bendigo Creek. Credit: Djandak.

Table 1: Summary of the status of 2018 SDS IWM opportunities

IWM opportunity	Status	Notes
Reimagining Bendigo Creek	Completed	Strategic plan developed to retrofit the catchment, keeping water in the landscape longer. Received funding. See case study on page 18. Next stage proposed. See page 24
Wanyarram Dhelk	Underway	Wanyarram Dhelk means to Heal Water, and is a priority for Djaara (as defined in Delkunya Dja – Dja Dja Wurrung Country Plan). This project provided the first step in the restoration of the Bendigo Creek, removing historical silt and starting to return the creek to a more natural form. Next stage is now proposed. See page 24
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 helped to identify opportunities for further detailed investigation as part of SDS2. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castlemaine Stormwater Outfall Retrofit Scheme and Pilot Program • Forest Creek Revitalisation Project • Developing an Alternative Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens See page 26 and page 29.
Aboriginal Water Assessment – Campaspe River	Underway	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 and underway, with community education elements ongoing.
Managed Aquifer Recharge Potential in the Coliban region	Underway	This project has produced a decision support tool. See case study on page 20. It has led to a new project: Improved Drought Resilience with Managed Aquifer Recharge for Bendigo. See page 28.
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. It has led to a new project: Increased flows in Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits. See page 30
Macedon Ranges Northern Region IWM Plan	Not started	Project is included in refreshed SDS. See page 35
Greening Trentham for Water Security and Healthy Waterways	Not started	Project has been re-scoped and included in refreshed SDS See page 31
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

Case study

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* (2020) 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 – Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation) – relevant agencies and the community developed the *Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan*. The process enabled the Djaara 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 to:

- 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
- 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* (2020) is available to view online at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

Bendigo Botanic Gardens. Credit: City of Greater Bendigo



Progress so far

Wanyarram Dhelk (meaning 'good waterhole'), Phase 2 render, Bendigo Creek. Courtesy: City of Greater Bendigo

Case study

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 to help water corporations considering managed aquifer recharge (MAR) as an option for saving water in times of plenty - to reduce water use from rivers, dams, and lakes in times of drought. MAR is where water is purposefully put in a groundwater aquifer, with the intention of extracting and using that water later. To be successful, all MAR projects must find a source of water, an aquifer that can store the water and a use for the water when it is extracted.

Goulburn-Murray Water worked with Implementation partners Coliban Water, the North Central Catchment Management Authority, and consultants RMCG and Aquade, to develop and test the 'Managed Aquifer Recharge Decision Support Tool' for use across Victoria. The project also tested the technical feasibility of the tool, using the Lower Campaspe Valley Water Supply Protection Area as a case study.

The tool provides much-needed information and guidance to water corporations and other organisations 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
- addressing the need to integrate stored water management with existing groundwater management plans.

●● The Lower Campaspe Valley case study aimed to find a way to safeguard Bendigo's water security in future droughts. It identified 16 possible options and shortlisted plausible approaches for more detailed assessment. The case study found that MAR is a viable means of improving Bendigo's water security during drought.

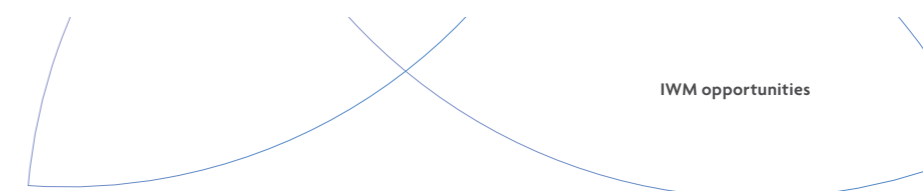
●●● The case study recommended that a business case be developed.

The next stage of this initiative is outlined on page 28.

Ultimately, by further integrating groundwater and surface water management, this tool aims to support water corporations and other organisations to boost the reliability of urban water supplies across the state.



The Campaspe River near Goomong, overlying deeper water-transmitting sediments.
Credit: Scott Ridges, Goulburn-Murray Water.



IWM OPPORTUNITIES

IWM opportunities that link to and address challenges for the region were identified and developed by the nominated practitioners of the forum's participating organisations.

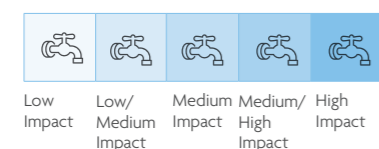
A summary of the priority IWM opportunities is shown in Table 2, with more detail in the following section. This list is dynamic and will continue to be updated to reflect the forum's priorities and opportunities as they arise.

Partners are committing their 'best endeavours' to ensure priority projects and strategies are moved forward, in line with the shared vision and strategic outcomes of the forum.

Table 2: IWM opportunities 'ready-to-advance' in the Coliban region

IWM opportunity	Strategic outcomes							Location	Scale
	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 landscape	Traditional owner and community values reflected in place-based planning	Jobs, economic opportunity and innovation		
1. Implementing the Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Bendigo	City
2. Wanyarram Dhehk - Starting the Healing	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Bendigo	Waterway
3. Castlemaine Stormwater Outfall Retrofit Scheme and Pilot Program	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Castlemaine	Town
4. Forest Creek Revitalisation Project	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Castlemaine	Waterway
5. Echuca Aquatic Reserve	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Echuca	Precinct
6. Improving Drought Resilience for Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Bendigo and surrounds	Region
7. Diversifying Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Castlemaine	Precinct

Shade scale



- safe, secure and affordable supplies in a changing future
- effective and affordable wastewater systems
- manage flood risks

IWM opportunity	Strategic outcomes							Location	Scale
	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 landscape	Traditional owner and community values reflected in place-based planning	Jobs, economic opportunity and innovation		
8. Diversifying Water Supplies for Parks and Gardens	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Coliban region	Service area
9. Increased Flows in Coliban River for Cultural and Ecological Benefits	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Coliban River	Waterway
10. Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Trentham	Town
11. Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Echuca	Town
12. Water Sensitive Urban Design for New or Upgraded Developments (Land and Buildings)	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Coliban region	Forum area
13. Bendigo Regional Employment Precinct	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Marong (Bendigo)	Precinct
14. Macedon Ranges North IWM Plan	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Northern Macedon Ranges	Region
15. Servicing Small Townships	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	Taradale and Elphinstone	Town

- healthy and valued waterways and waterbodies
- healthy and valued landscape
- traditional owner and community values reflected in place-based planning
- jobs, economic opportunity and innovation

WATER FOR PEOPLE, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALING COUNTRY

Implementing the Reimagining Bendigo Creek Plan








In 2019-2020, the City of Greater Bendigo, Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation), 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:

- detailed design and construction of instream works for Bendigo Creek
- building of the Long Gully constructed wetlands
- installation of an 'Internet-of-Things' sensor network to improve monitoring of catchment health – a prototype has been produced, a monitoring plan developed, and sensor locations will be identified
- design and investigation of the feasibility of renaturalising Back Creek
- development of the scope and masterplan for 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 Djaara advisory committee to lead the design process, and procure a consultant.

      	
Status	Implementation
Lead agency	City of Greater Bendigo and Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation)
Implementation partners	North Central Catchment Management Authority, DELWP, Coliban Water, Parks Victoria, La Trobe University
Location	Bendigo
Scale	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
- 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. It is guided by the Dhelkunya Dja Country Plan 2014-2034.

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.

      	
Status	Implementation
Lead agency	Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation) and Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises (Djandak)
Implementation partners	City of Greater Bendigo, North Central Catchment Management Authority, Coliban Water, Environment Protection Authority Victoria
Location	Bendigo
Scale	Waterway

Castlemaine Stormwater Outfall Retrofit Scheme and Pilot Program

Retrofitting stormwater outfalls around Castlemaine was identified as a key outcome of the Castlemaine Urban Waterways Management Plan which was completed as part of the 2018 Water for Now and into the Future in Castlemaine project.

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.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Mount Alexander Shire Council
Implementation partners	North Central Catchment Management Authority, Coliban Water
Location	Castlemaine
Scale	Town

Forest Creek Revitalisation Project

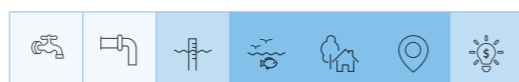
This revitalisation project is focused on the rehabilitation of a channelised section of urban Forest Creek, Castlemaine, and will:

- 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
- 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* (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 Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation), Mount Alexander Shire Council, DELWP, North Central Catchment Management Authority, Castlemaine Landcare and Friends of Campbells Creek.

The next stage involves concept and detailed designs, Traditional Owner and community consultations, gaining required approvals and refining costings. The following implementation phase will include 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.



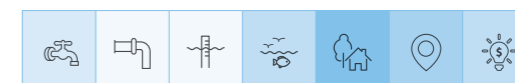
Status	Committed
Lead agency	Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation)
Implementation partners	Mount Alexander Shire Council, North Central Catchment Management Authority, Friends of Campbells Creek, Castlemaine Landcare Group
Location	Castlemaine
Scale	Waterway

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 shared pathway compliant with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*, 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 NSW's river systems.



Status	Implementation
Lead agency	Campaspe Shire Council
Implementation partners	Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Coliban Water
Location	Echuca
Scale	Precinct



Forest Creek, Castlemaine. Credit: DELWP

MAKING MORE OF WATER RESOURCES IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

Improved Drought Resilience for Bendigo with Managed Aquifer Recharge

This project will develop a business case for a managed aquifer recharge (MAR) project, which aims to improve Bendigo's water security during drought. The proposed MAR project aims to take excess water from reservoirs (available under Coliban Water's bulk entitlement) in the Campaspe water supply system and store up to 15 gigalitres of it underground for later reuse. The benefits of the proposed project include:

- providing water for critical green spaces in Bendigo, Huntly, Axedale, Marong, Heathcote and surrounds, to support regional liveability during dry periods
- supporting the health of the Campaspe River by reducing the potential for leakage to the groundwater and potentially providing a source of supply to the Campaspe River in addition to existing environmental flows
- supporting groundwater users in the Lower Campaspe Valley by maintaining groundwater levels and reducing the potential for saline groundwater intrusion
- providing a more reliable water supply for Bendigo, Huntly, Axedale, Marong, Heathcote and surrounds during drought.

This initiative builds on previous work that developed a Managed Aquifer Recharge Decision Support Tool, which was tested on a Lower Campaspe Valley case study (see page 20). 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.

Status	Identified
Lead agency	Coliban Water
Implementation partners	Goulburn-Murray Water, City of Greater Bendigo, North Central Catchment Management Authority, Environment Protection Authority Victoria
Location	Bendigo and surrounds
Scale	Region

Aquifer recharge, Campaspe River near Goornong. Credit: Scott Ridges, Goulburn-Murray Water



Diversifying Water Supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens

Diversifying water supply for the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens is identified as a key outcome of the 2018 Castlemaine Urban Waterways Management Plan which was completed as part of the 2018 Water for Now and into the Future in Castlemaine project.

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 proposed assets investigated for this district were a:

- pipeline of at least 3.5 km for recycled water for non-potable uses
- 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.

Status	Identified
Lead agency	Mount Alexander Shire Council, Coliban Water
Implementation partners	To be determined
Location	Castlemaine
Scale	Precinct

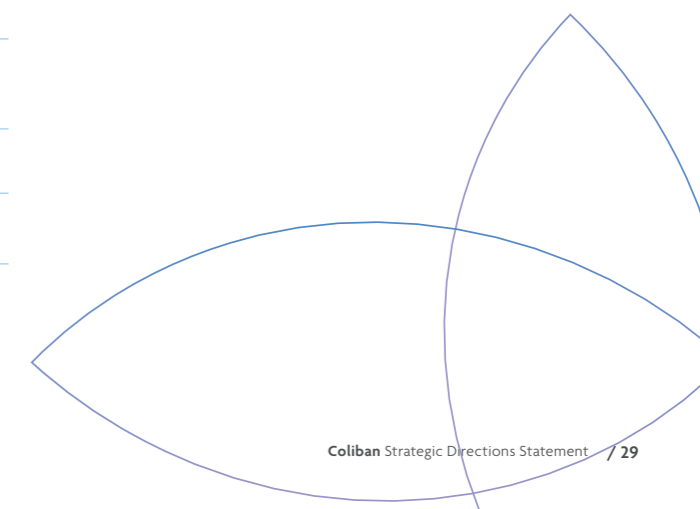
Diversifying Water Supplies for Parks and Gardens

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

A diverse range of water supply sources (e.g. stormwater, recycled water, groundwater) can provide greater water security for highly valued green spaces (such as 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 diverse water sources and demand saving initiatives, and provide support to community groups to secure funding and implement works.

Status	Identified
Lead agency	Coliban Water
Implementation partners	Local government
Location	Coliban region
Scale	Service area





Castlemaine Botanical Gardens. Credit: DELWP

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.

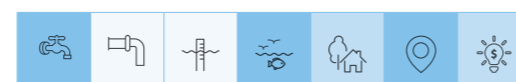
The Coliban River flows are limited to passing flows and spills from Malmsbury Reservoir. *North Central CMA Region Environmental Water Management Plan for the Coliban River (2016)* notes that the river is flow stressed and does not have sufficient water for the environment to maintain and improve its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

There is an opportunity for Coliban Water to release water from Malmsbury 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 Coliban IWM Forum, which developed a business case for the project Lake Eppalock Hydroelectricity Project: For Country and Environment. This work also found that an agreement between Coliban Water, the North Central Catchment Management Authority and the Victorian Environmental Water Holder would need to be established and that the project would be a significant cost for 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 stage is to establish the required agreement, then secure funding, followed by the construction of the hydroelectric plant.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Coliban Water
Implementation partners	North Central Catchment Management Authority, Victorian Environmental Water Holder, Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation), Goulburn-Murray Water
Location	Coliban River
Scale	Waterway

Making more of water resources in a changing climate

Managing Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways

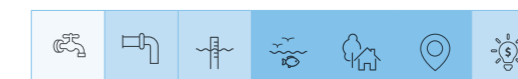
The township of Trentham, in the peri-urban boundary of Melbourne, is facing high population growth in the coming years. The upper Coliban catchment supplies drinking water for Trentham and is the subject of significant investment for Coliban Water, North Central Catchment Management Authority, DELWP and local government.

The Trentham Stormwater Quality and Quantity for Healthy Waterways project aims to make informed decisions about managing threats to the catchment resulting from urban and peri-urban development now and into the future. The approach is based on assessing the likelihood of drivers of change, for example, urban development influencing streamflow, and the consequence of these changes, such as degraded waterway health and water quality.

The outcome will be the development of a stormwater management plan for the residential and urban areas of the Trentham township. It is expected that the plan will inform water planning for urban growth for 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 (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
4. commit to the project and start briefings.



Status	Identified
Lead agency	Coliban Water, North Central Catchment Management Authority
Implementation partners	Hepburn Shire Council, Goulburn-Murray Water
Location	Trentham
Scale	Town



Quarry Street Reserve Lake, Trentham. Credit: DELWP

Recycled Water for a Greener Echuca








With a changing climate the long-term security of potable water supply is becoming a major issue. Coliban Water projections for Echuca show that under high climate change supply scenario, there is a potential for a shortfall in potable water supply as soon as 2028.

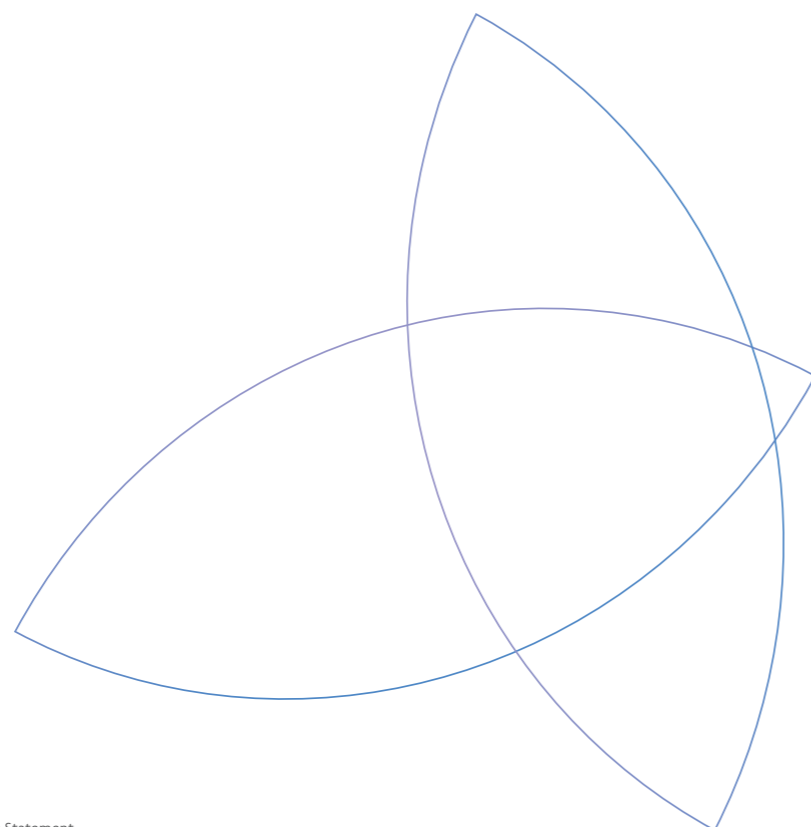
The aim of this project is to investigate the feasibility of supplying recycled water to existing and new public open space to reduce the demand on potable water supplies. It recognises the value of diverse water to reduce the reliance on drinking water and continue to irrigate key public open spaces for a greener, healthier Echuca.

The developing Echuca West precinct has been selected as a feasibility test site. It is close to the Echuca West Water Reclamation Plant and the potential reduction in demand for potable water could allow the area to accommodate up to 5,000 new homes.

The feasibility study will:

- develop a concept design plan for a staged recycled water scheme based on priorities, resources and demand nodes
- modify existing Coliban Water agreements to allow for an allocation of recycled water to be available for use by Council
- investigate upgrades to the Echuca West Water Reclamation Plant, to enable the supply of fit-for-purpose recycled water.

      	
Status	Implementation
Lead agency	Campaspe Shire Council
Implementation partners	Coliban Water, Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation
Location	Echuca
Scale	Town



INTEGRATED PLANNING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Water Sensitive Urban Design for New or Upgraded Developments (Land and Buildings)








Population growth in the region has occurred more rapidly than projected, particularly during the coronavirus pandemic. This more-urgent demand for new housing places pressure on councils. This project aims to provide support and assistance for councils to incorporate water sensitive urban design (WSUD) into new developments or upgrade projects (such as roads or council-owned buildings).

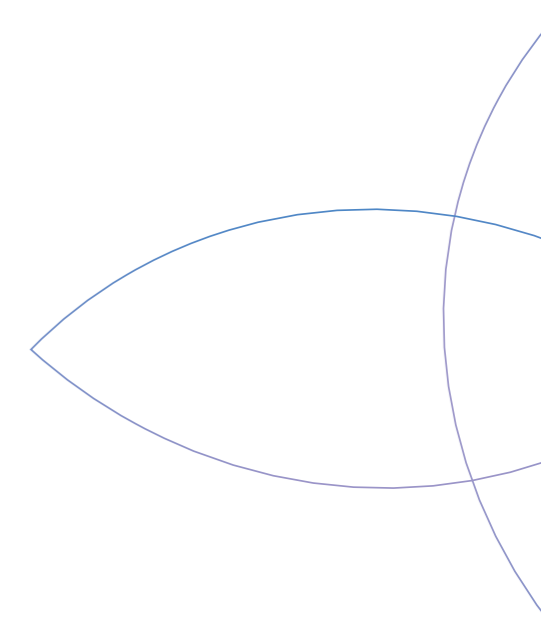
Examples include:

- 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, while also reducing stormwater runoff
- porous pavements - allows water to seep into the ground, reducing surface runoff and helping prevent flooding. It also keeps moisture in the soil profile for longer, reducing the need for supplementary watering and helping with urban cooling
- capturing rainfall at the lot level - using tank or grey water for flushing toilets reduces demand on the potable system
- planning and developing wetlands and other WSUD assets 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.

      	
Status	Identified
Lead agency	To be determined
Implementation partners	To be determined
Location	Coliban region
Scale	Forum area










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 hectare), attract new industries and create regional jobs. The initiative will see the City of Greater Bendigo 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 IWM options. This will include identifying and evaluating options for:

- diverse water supply, including stormwater harvesting and/or wastewater reuse
- retaining, treating and reusing wastewater and biosolids onsite
- flood management and reducing water quality impacts on the local waterway
- reducing 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.

      	
Status	Committed
Lead agency	City of Greater Bendigo
Implementation partners	Victorian Planning Authority, Coliban Water, North Central Catchment Management Authority
Location	Marong (Bendigo)
Scale	Precinct



Golden Square render. Courtesy City of Greater Bendigo








Macedon Ranges North IWM Plan

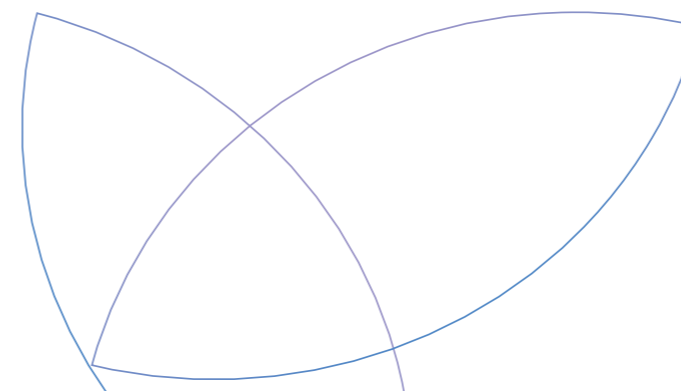
This project is the development of an IWM plan for the northern part of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council area. The IWM plan will explore opportunities and solutions to meet IWM objectives in this region in the face of a drying climate and rapid urban growth around the towns of Woodend and Kyneton.

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 IWM plan will allow for collaboration to determine and progress the best outcomes for the region and the community regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.

A working group will be formed to confirm the scope and structure of the plan and funding will be identified.

      	
Status	Identified
Lead agency	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Implementation partners	Greater Western Water, Coliban Water, North Central Catchment Management Authority, Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation), Taungurung Land and Waters Council
Location	Northern Macedon Ranges
Scale	Region



Servicing Small Townships








Small towns need modern domestic water supplies and wastewater and sanitation services to ensure protection of environmental and public health, by reducing the risks that come with unsafe drinking water and poorly managed sewage. Limitations in these services is an issue for local governments.

Smaller townships are also potential growth areas, that can accommodate new housing both for residents and 'tree changers' moving away from cities. However, these small towns need reticulated water supplies and wastewater and sanitation services provided to facilitate growth. There is an opportunity to do this in an innovative manner through 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.

The forum recognises this need, and that the Taradale and Elphinstone project will need to be broadened to other towns too. Fortunately, there are examples of such projects in the Goulburn Broken and North East IWM regions that the Coliban IWM Forum 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.

      	
Status	Identified
Lead agency	Local governments
Implementation partners	To be determined
Location	Taradale and Elphinstone
Scale	Town



9.5 General Local Law No. 9

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Community Business	Community Business	Manager Community Business	General Manager Community

1. SUMMARY

This report seeks adoption of the General Local Law No.9 2022 in accordance with section 74 of the Local Government Act 2020.

The General Local Law No.9 2022 is a local law made under Part 3, Division 3 of the Local Government Act 2020, and section 42 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

Local laws seek to regulate matters relating to public safety and amenity, the objectives of the local law are to provide for:

- (a) the peace, order, and good governance of the municipal district;
- (b) a safe and healthy environment so that the community can enjoy a quality of life that meets its expectations;
- (c) the safe and equitable use and enjoyment of public places and council land;
- (d) the protection and enhancement of the amenity and environment of the municipal district;
- (e) the fair and reasonable use and enjoyment of private land; and
- (f) the uniform and fair administration of this Local Law.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. **Note the Draft General Local Law No.9 2022 was exhibited in accordance with the section 73 of the Local Government Act 2020.**
2. **Note that 6 submissions were received in response to the exhibition of the Draft Local Law No. 9 2022. Of those submissions received none requested to be heard at a Council meeting. All submitters were responded to in writing.**
3. **Note that five of the submissions were in relation to the normal operations of Council and one submission was in relation to Clause 37 of the Local Law - Caravans and Camping on Private Land. This submission has been considered in the preparation of the General Local Law No. 9 2022.**
4. **Revoke the General Local Law No.8 2015.**
5. **Adopt the General Local Law No.9 2022 which will come into effect from 20 July 2022.**
6. **Publish a notice stating that the General Local Law No.9 has been adopted and including the following:**
 - a) **The title of the local law; and**
 - b) **The objectives of the local law; and**
 - c) **The effect of the local law; and**

d) That a copy of the local law is available for inspection

- i) At the Council's offices; and**
- ii) On the Council's internet site.**

7. Place a notice in the Victorian Government Gazette

8. Provide the Local Government Minister, The Hon. Melissa Horne, a copy of the adopted General Local Law No.9 2022.

3. PURPOSE

To adopt the General Local Law No.9 2022, made in accordance with the requirements of section 74 of the Local Government Act 2020, and section 42 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

4. DISCUSSION

Officers commenced a review of the current General Local Law No.8 mid 2021. Due to the introduction of the Local Government Act 2020 and the requirements of the new legislation in relation to the making of local laws it was determined that rather than a review of General Local Law No. 8 a new Local Law would be developed.

In accordance with section 71 of the Local Government Act 2020, a Council has powers to make local laws for or with respect to any act, matter or thing in respect of which Council has a function or power under this Act or any other Act.

The objectives of the Local Law are to provide for:

- (a) the peace, order, and good governance of the municipal district;
- (b) a safe and healthy environment so that the community can enjoy a quality of life that meets its expectations;
- (c) the safe and equitable use and enjoyment of public places and council land;
- (d) the protection and enhancement of the amenity and environment of the municipal district;
- (e) the fair and reasonable use and enjoyment of private land; and
- (f) the uniform and fair administration of this Local Law.

Council endorsed the draft local law and approved it for public exhibition at the 19 January 2022 Council meeting. The draft local law was on exhibition for a period of 28 days. During this time six submission were received. Of the submissions received five related to the general operations of Council and one related to Clause 37 of the draft Local Law. All submitters were responded to in writing, and none requested to speak to their submission at a formal meeting.

Council engaged Marcus Heath from Russell Kennedy Lawyers to undertake the assessment of the draft local law to ensure its consistency with the requirements of the section 72 of the Act and to provide the certificate pursuant to section 74 (1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

Russell Kennedy Lawyers also undertook the Gender Impact Assessment as required under section 9 (1) of the Gender Equality Act 2020.

5. OPTIONS

Option 1: Adopt General Local Law No.9 2022

Summary of option

The General Local Law No. 9 2022 has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and has been considered by the community through a public exhibition process. The local law meets the requirements set out in section 72 of the Act.

This option is recommended.

Option 2: Do not adopt the General Local Law No.9 2022

Summary of option

The General Local Law No. 9 2022 meets the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and has been considered by the community through a public exhibition process. The local law meets the requirements set out in section 72 of the Act; therefore, the local law is suitable for adoption.

This option is not recommended

6. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- Executive Management, Management & Leadership teams
- Local Laws Coordinator

External consultation:

- Community – public exhibition process
- Marcus Heath – Russell Kennedy Lawyers

Councillors:

- 01 09 2021 Council Briefing Session
- 08 09 2021 Council Briefing Session
- 01 12 2021 Council Briefing Session
- 19 01 2022 Council Meeting
- 08 04 2022 Communication Report
- 06 07 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

Resilient protected and healthy natural environment
Protected natural environment

Well planned places
Attractive and useable sites of importance

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

Local Laws are created to enhance and protect the health, safety, and amenity for residents, businesses, visitors, and the municipality. Council uses local laws to respond to issues and community needs. The local law compliments the responsibilities and powers under both state and federal laws.

17. ATTACHMENTS

1. Certificate pursuant to section 74(1) Local Government Act 2020 Campaspe General Local Law No 9 2022 [9.5.1 - 1 page]
2. Combined Local Law No 9 2022 General Local Law Final [9.5.2 - 78 pages]



**CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 74(1) OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020**

I, **Marcus Heath**, being a qualified person as defined in section 74(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020 (Act)*, hereby certify pursuant to section 74(1) of the Act that I am of the opinion that the proposed Campaspe Shire Council **General Local Law No. 9 2022** is consistent with the local law requirements that are set out in section 72 of the Act.

Dated: 13 April 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marcus Heath', written over a horizontal line.

Marcus Heath

Level 12, 469 La Trobe Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

An Australian Legal Practitioner within the meaning of The Legal Professional Uniform Law (Victoria)



General Local Law No. 9 2022



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PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

1. Local Law

This General Local Law No. 9 2022 is a local law made under Part 3 Division 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and section 42 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

2. Objectives

The objectives of this Local Law are to provide for:

- (a) the peace, order and good governance of the municipal district;
- (b) a safe and healthy environment so that the community can enjoy a quality of life that meets its expectations;
- (c) the safe and equitable use and enjoyment of public places and council land;
- (d) the protection and enhancement of the amenity and environment of the municipal district;
- (e) the fair and reasonable use and enjoyment of private land; and
- (f) the uniform and fair administration of this Local Law.

3. Commencement

This Local Law commences on the day following the gazettal of the Local Law in the Victoria Government Gazette.

4. Revocation of Local Law

On the commencement of this Local Law, General Local Law No. 8 2015 is revoked.

5. Application of Local Law

- (1) This Local Law applies throughout the whole of the municipal district.
- (2) This Local Law does not apply where any act or thing is authorised by any Act, Rule, regulation or the Campaspe Planning Scheme.

6. Definitions

In this Local Law:

<i>authorised officer</i>	means a person appointed by Council under section 224 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> .
<i>building site</i>	means any land prepared for and on which building works are carried out.
<i>building works</i>	includes any activities, events and practices for or in connection with the construction, alteration, demolition or removal of a building.
<i>bulk rubbish container</i>	includes a waste bin, mini-skip, shipping containers and pallet, but does not include a waste bin provided by Council for the purpose of a kerbside waste collection service provided by Council.
<i>busk</i>	to entertain by playing music, dancing, singing, or reciting on a road or on council land.
<i>camp</i>	means the encampment of lodging in a caravan, tent or other temporary structure or vehicle not permanently erected on land.
<i>caravan</i>	means and includes a caravan, motor home, bus and any object or structure having the general characteristics of a caravan, including when wheels or axles have been removed or if the

	caravan is resting directly on the ground or is placed on blocks or other supports.
carriageway	means a portion of a road improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic (but does not include a segregated footway, a shared footway or a bicycle path), and includes any shoulders and areas both at the sides or centre of the carriageway used for the standing or parking of vehicles and, if a road has 2 or more portions divided by a reservation, means each portion separately.
commercial area	means land within a Commercial 1 Zone or Commercial 2 Zone under the Campaspe Planning Scheme.
council	means Campaspe Shire Council.
council land	means land, buildings or facilities which are owned or occupied by or vested in the Council or in respect of which the Council has the care and management.
code	means a Code of Practice incorporated into and forming part of this Local Law.
domestic birds	means small birds such as canaries, finches, budgerigars and the like kept in a domesticated state or under the control of humans.
drain	means a system for the collection, storage and removal of stormwater developed, managed and / or maintained by council.
droving	means the movement of livestock during daylight hours only, either by driving them into the municipality or by driving them along any road or roads through the municipality a distance greater than can be achieved by travelling in one day.
e-cigarette	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Tobacco Act 1987</i> .
event	means an organised recreational, cultural, commercial or social event or gathering of people which is held in a public place or on a public reserve.
festival	means an organised recreational, cultural, commercial or social event or gathering of people which is held on a road and includes a procession or party.
garden waste	means all discarded tree branches, leaves, prunings, lawn clippings and weeds.
goods	means merchandise or wares for sale or display.
graffiti	means any writing, painting or other defacement applied to the exterior surfaces of premises by a person without the prior consent of the owner and/or occupier.
grazing	means the holding of livestock in one area for the purpose of them feeding off roadside vegetation.
gross vehicle mass	of a vehicle has the same meaning as 'GVM (gross vehicle mass)' as defined in the <i>Road Safety Act 1986</i> .
hard waste	includes items that cannot fit in a regular bin and are usually quite large such as fridges, washing machines, couches, cupboards, wardrobes, televisions, furniture, computers, mattresses, and similar items.
household refuse	means all refuse and rubbish produced or accumulated in or about a dwelling but does not include bricks, chemicals, garden waste, medical waste, furniture, fittings or machinery.

<i>industrial area</i>	means land within an Industrial 1 Zone, Industrial 2 Zone or Industrial 3 Zone under the Campaspe Planning Scheme.
<i>land</i>	includes structures permanently fixed to the land.
<i>livestock</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Impounding of Livestock Act 1994</i> .
<i>minor building works</i>	means building work valued at less than \$10,000 excluding demolition and removal of buildings and structures and installation of swimming pools (regardless of value).
<i>motorised vehicles</i>	include all mini-bikes, trail bikes, motor bikes, motor cars, four-wheel drive vehicles, motor scooters, go-carts, skateboards, hover boards and other vehicles which may be propelled by a motor or by mechanical means, but does not include a motorised wheelchair or motorised mobility device used by a person with disability as an aid for their mobility.
<i>municipal district</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
<i>occupier</i>	means the person who is for the time being in charge of the land.
<i>outdoor eating facility</i>	means any tables and/or chairs or other articles located out-of-doors, at which food or drink is served or intended to be served and may be consumed.
<i>permit</i>	means a permit issued under this Local Law.
<i>permanent livestock crossing</i>	means a site at which the movement of livestock either across and/or along a Council controlled road is carried out on more than 52 occasions in any 12-month period.
<i>penalty unit</i>	has the same meaning as defined in Section 110(1) of the <i>Sentencing Act 1991</i> .
<i>police officer</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Victoria Police Act 2013</i> .
<i>prohibited road</i>	means a road or parts of a road declared by Council on which driving or grazing or moving of livestock is not permitted.
<i>public place</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i> .
<i>public reserve</i>	means a municipal place which is outdoors and available for recreational purposes.
<i>refuse receptacle</i>	means a wheeled mobile refuse receptacle of the type issued or approved by Council.
<i>regular movement of livestock</i>	in excess of 52 separate movements in one 12-month period.
<i>residential area</i>	means land within a General Residential Zone, Township Zone or Low-Density Residential Zone under the Campaspe Planning Scheme.
<i>residual waste</i>	includes non-hazardous waste material that cannot be re-used or recycled and needs to be sent to energy recovery or disposal.
<i>road</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> .
<i>road reserve</i>	means all of the area of land that is within the boundaries of a road.

roadside drainage	includes any area excavated, or any pipe culvert, lead wall, channel or natural depression in a road reserve that facilitates the flow of drainage water either along or across the roadway.
rural area	means land within a Farming Zone, and Rural Activity Zone under the Campaspe Planning Scheme.
rural living area	means land within a Rural Living Zone under the Campaspe Planning Scheme.
schedule maps	means the areas defined for the purposes of clause 10 of this Local Law as set out in the schedule to this Local Law.
sign	means any portable sign, notice, structure, banner or other similar device used for the purpose of soliciting goods or services or displaying information.
shopping trolley	means a wheeled container supplied by a retailer for enabling a customer to transport goods.
smoke	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Tobacco Act 1987</i>
smoke free area	means an area designated to be a <i>smoke free area</i> in accordance with clause 11.
street furniture	means tables and chairs, stools and benches, umbrellas, wind frames or similar articles placed on any road or municipal place.
tobacco product	has the same meaning as defined in the <i>Tobacco Act 1987</i> .
trade waste	includes liquid wastewater from a food business or industrial entity that enters the sewer system. This includes all water that is used for the preparation or cooking of food, washing dishes or cleaning, that goes down the drain.
works	includes any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) removal, destruction or lopping of trees (b) removal of vegetation (c) removal of topsoil (d) collection of seed (e) collection of firewood (f) preparation and construction of fire breaks (g) drainage works (h) construct an underpass under a road

7. Conflict with other legislation

This Local Law does not apply where any act or thing is authorised by or under any Act, rule, regulation or planning scheme.

8. Incorporation of Documents

- (1) The document titled "Compliance 11", as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- (2) The document titled "Trading Activities Code of Practice", as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- (3) The document titled "Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities Code of Practice" as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

- (4) The document titled "Livestock Code of Practice" as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- (5) The document titled "Waste Recycling and Food and Garden Waste Code of Practice" as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

PART 2 – ROADS, PUBLIC PLACES AND COUNCIL LAND

9. Behaviour

(1) General

A person must not on council land or on a public place:

- (a) interfere with another person's reasonable use and enjoyment of the council land or public place, (including, but not limited to, using indecent language or fighting); or
- (b) endanger or be likely to endanger health, life or property; or
- (c) destroy, damage or interfere with any building, fence, property improvements, sign, structure, chattel, tree, shrub or plant, garden bed, bird or animal or bird/animal habitat thereon; or
- (d) enter on any area, road or track that is specifically designed for land or vegetation establishment and for which entry is prohibited.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must not urinate or defecate in a public place other than in a toilet facility constructed for that purpose.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

(3) Rollerblades, Skateboards and Scooters

A person must not use rollerblades, skateboards, self-propelled scooters or other similar devices (motorised or not) in any area of the municipality at such times declared by resolution of Council as an area or a time so prohibited for that activity.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

10. Consumption and possession of liquor in a public place and on public reserves

(1) Consumption and Possession of Liquor in a Public Place (excluding public reserves)

A person must not, unless acting in accordance with a permit consume any liquor or have in their possession or control liquor other than in a container with an unbroken seal:

- (a) in a public place (excluding public reserves); or
- (b) in or on any stationary vehicle on a road or at a public place (excluding public reserves) situated within the areas defined on the schedule maps.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

(2) Consumption and Possession of Liquor on Public Reserves

Between sunset and sunrise, a person must not unless acting in accordance with a permit:

- (a) consume any liquor; or
- (b) have in their possession or control, any liquor other than liquor in a container with an unbroken seal;

in or on a public reserve, or in or on a stationary vehicle within a public reserve, located in any area defined in the schedule maps.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

(3) Consumption and Possession of Liquor following a direction

A person must not in a public place or in a stationary vehicle parked in or at a public place:

- (a) have in their possession or control any liquor after a police officer or an authorised officer has directed that person to dispose of the liquor; or
- (b) have in their possession or control any liquor in an unsealed container after a police officer or an authorised officer has directed that person to seal the container; or

- (c) consume any liquor, after a police officer or an authorised officer has directed that person to stop the consumption of liquor.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

(4) Power to Direct

If a police officer or an authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person is in contravention of or has contravened clauses 10(1), (2) or (3), the police officer or the authorised officer may direct the person to surrender the liquor in any unsealed container to the police officer or authorised officer.

(5) Compliance with a Direction

A person to whom a direction is given under clause 10(4) must comply with that direction.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

(6) Seizure of Liquor

If a person to whom a direction is given under clause 10(4) does not immediately comply with that direction, the police officer or an authorised officer may seize any liquor in any unsealed container in that person's possession, and then keep, store, dispose of or otherwise deal with that liquor as they see fit.

(7) Exemptions

This clause does not apply to a person who consumes or possesses liquor in any licensed premises or authorised premises as defined in the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*.

(8) Permit for Consumption of Liquor

In determining whether to grant a permit for the consumption or possession of liquor Council must take into account the following:

- (a) the nature of the event or festival;
- (b) the duration of the event or festival;
- (c) the effect on the quiet enjoyment of people in the municipal district;
- (d) the comment in any submissions received; and
- (e) any other matters relevant to the application or circumstances.

11. No Smoking in Smoke Free Areas

Smoking prohibited

- (1) A person must not smoke a tobacco product or an e-cigarette in a smoke free area.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

- (2) If an authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person is contravening or has contravened sub-clause (1), the authorised officer may direct the person to:
- (i) in the case of a tobacco product, extinguish and then dispose of the tobacco product; or
 - (ii) in the case of an e-cigarette, cease using the device.

Offence to fail to comply with a direction

- (3) A person to whom a direction is given under sub-clause (2) must comply with that direction.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

Council may designate smoke free areas

- (4) Council may by resolution designate any area within the municipal district to be a smoke free area.

- (5) When determining whether to designate a smoke free area, Council must have regard to the following factors:
- (a) the size of the proposed smoke free area;
 - (b) the opinions of any person who is the owner or occupier of any part of the proposed smoke free area;
 - (c) the proximity of the proposed smoke free area to a public place;
 - (d) the extent and outcome of any public consultation on the proposed smoke free area;
 - (e) any benefits to the community which would be achieved by Council designating the proposed smoke free area;
 - (f) any detriment to the community which would be caused by the Council designating the proposed smoke free area; and
 - (g) any other matter the Council considers relevant.

Power to erect signs

- (6) Council or an authorised officer must erect, or cause to be erected, an acceptable no smoking sign in each designated smoke free area.
- (7) This clause does not apply to any smoking that is prohibited by the *Tobacco Act 1987*.

12. Activities on roads and on council land

- (1) Without a permit a person must not on a road or on council land do any of the following:
- (a) place any advertising sign; or
 - (b) display any goods; or
 - (c) place any outdoor eating furniture or associated facilities; or
 - (d) place any structure for the purpose of selling or offering to sell any goods or services; or
 - (e) sell or offer for sale any motor vehicle; or
 - (f) solicit the sale of goods or services;
 - (g) solicit or collect any waste materials, gifts of money, or subscriptions.

NOTE: For processions or festivals on roads controlled by VicRoads, prior consent must be obtained from the Chief Commissioner of the Victoria Police and VicRoads.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (2) A person who is issued a permit under this clause must: -
- (a) comply with the Trading Activities Code of Practice; and
 - (b) comply with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (3) In considering an application for a permit under sub-clause (1), Council must have regard to the requirements of:
- (a) the Trading Activities Code of Practice;
 - (b) the Disability Discrimination Act 1992; and
 - (c) the Public Open Spaces Trading Guidelines
- (4) Commercial and Charitable Activities on Roads and Council Land
- A person must not, without a permit:
- (a) erect or place on any road or on council land, a vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering for sale any goods or services or conducting a raffle or lottery; or

- (b) sell or offer for sale on any road or on council land, any goods carried about on a person or animal; or
- (c) engage in spruiking or promoting goods or services or permit another person to engage in spruiking or promoting goods or services on any road or on council land; or
- (d) give or offer to the public on any road or on council land, any pamphlet or brochure advertising goods, services or events.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (5) Murray Esplanade sign restrictions

A person must not on Murray Esplanade, Echuca between Leslie Street and Little Hopwood Place , without a permit, display or fix a sign or banner or message advertising or promoting any goods, services or event.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

13. Approval for events and festivals

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, conduct an event or festival.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (2) This clause does not apply to a funeral procession on a road or on council land.

14. Busking

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, busk on a road or on council land.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (2) In determining whether to grant a permit to allow busking, Council must have regard to the following:
 - (a) the time and days it is proposed to busk;
 - (b) the roads or areas in which the busking will take place;
 - (c) the impact on pedestrians and traffic;
 - (d) the ability to obtain public liability insurance;
 - (e) whether the busking is part of the entertainment provided within a street trading area; and
 - (f) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.

15. Placement of clothing bins

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, place a clothing bin on council land or on a road.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) A person who obtains a permit to place a clothing bin on council land or on a road must maintain the area surrounding the bin and not allow excess materials to overflow or cause a nuisance.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

16. Repair of vehicles

A person must not, without a permit, perform any work to a vehicle on a road or on council land, except to enable the vehicle to be removed from the road or council land.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

17. Placing bulk rubbish containers on a road

- (1) A person must not, without a permit leave a bulk rubbish container or a shipping container on any part of a road or in contravention of any conditions of a permit issued under this Local Law.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) Any bulk rubbish container or shipping container left on any part of a road in contravention of clause 17(1) may be impounded and removed by or at the direction of an authorised officer.
- (3) Clause 60 applies to any bulk rubbish container or shipping container that has been impounded and removed under this clause.

18. Vehicle crossings

- (1) A person who owns or occupies land must not permit vehicular access from a road onto that land, except where a properly constructed and Council approved vehicle crossing has been provided.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must not, unless a permit has been obtained from Council, construct, install, remove or alter a vehicle crossing.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (3) A person responsible for undertaking any works on a property must maintain the vehicle crossing in an effective condition for the duration of the works as required.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (4) The Council may require the owner or occupier of a property to remove any part, or all of, a vehicle crossing for which there is no longer any point of vehicular access to the property.

- (5) A person who has obtained a permit under this clause for a vehicle crossing must maintain the vehicle crossing to a standard that is safe for all road users.

19. Abandoned Shopping trolleys

- (1) A person must not leave a shopping trolley on any road or on any council land other than an area specifically designated for the storage of shopping trolleys.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (2) Any shopping trolley left on any road or on council land in an area not designated for the storage of shopping trolleys may be removed by an authorised officer and impounded.

- (3) A release fee determined by resolution of Council will apply to the retrieval of goods so impounded pursuant to this clause.

20. Noise in a municipal district or on a road

A person must not on council land or on a road emit, or allow to be emitted, any noise which causes or is calculated to cause interference with a person's use or enjoyment of adjacent or nearby premises.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

21. Playing of golf on council land

A person must not drive or putt golf balls on any council land other than in an area specifically set aside for that purpose.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

22. Use of vehicles on council land

A person must not ride or drive any motor car, motor cycle, bicycle or other vehicle on council land other than in an area set aside for vehicle parking or any designated roadway or bicycle pathway.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

23. Property numbers to be displayed

The owner or occupier of a property that has been allocated a street or rural road number by Council must mark the property with the allocated number. The property number must be:

- (a) at least 90mm in height;
- (b) located on the front boundary alignment;
- (c) in a contrasting colour to its background;
- (d) located as near as practical to the driveway and / or letterbox; and
- (e) visible from vehicles on any adjacent road.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

24. Parked motor vehicles interfering with council functions

The owner of a motor vehicle parked on a road must move or cause the vehicle to be moved in accordance with a notice from Council served on the owner, if Council is of the opinion that the presence of the motor vehicle interferes with any Council function.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

25. Abandoned vehicles

Council may impound any abandoned or unregistered vehicle in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

26. Trees and plants on private property

The owner or occupier of land on which any tree or plant is growing must not allow the tree or plant to obstruct or interfere with the passage of traffic by:

- (a) overhanging any footpath or other part of a road used by pedestrians so that it gets in the way of pedestrians or is likely to cause injury or damage to them;
- (b) extending over any part of the road in such a way that it obstructs the view between vehicles at an intersection; or
- (c) obstructing the view between vehicles and pedestrians where they come close to one another; or
- (d) obscuring a traffic control item from an approaching vehicle or pedestrian; or
- (e) obscuring street lighting; or
- (f) obstructing the view between vehicles and trains at a railway level crossing that does not have gates, booms or flashing lights; or
- (g) otherwise constituting a danger to vehicles or pedestrians, or compromising the safe and convenient use of the road.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

27. Trees and plants on roads

A person must not without having first obtained a permit from Council, plant any trees or other vegetation on any part of a road.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

28. Signs and objects

A person must not place any sign or other object on any land in such a way that it causes an obstruction or interferes with the passage of traffic by:

- (a) overhanging a footpath or other part of a road used by pedestrians so that it gets in the way of pedestrians or is likely to cause injury or damage to them; or
- (b) extending over any part of the road in such a way that it obstructs the view between vehicles at an intersection; or
- (c) obstructing the view between vehicles and pedestrians where they come close to one another; or
- (d) obscuring a traffic control item from an approaching vehicle or pedestrian; or
- (e) obscuring street lighting; or
- (f) obstructing the view between vehicles and trains at a railway level crossing that does not have gates, booms or flashing lights; or
- (g) otherwise constituting a danger to vehicles or pedestrians or compromising the safe and convenient use of the road.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

29. Fences at intersections

A person must not construct or allow to remain in place a boundary fence near any road intersection that reduces visibility or causes an obstruction and interferes with the safe passage of vehicles or pedestrians.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

PART 3 - ENVIRONMENT

30. Dangerous and unsightly land

- (1) An owner or occupier of land in a residential area, commercial area or industrial area must not allow or permit the land to be kept in a manner that constitutes a fire hazard.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) An owner or occupier of land in a residential area must not allow, or permit the land to be kept in a manner, that:

is unsightly or detrimental to the general amenity of the neighbourhood by the appearance of any of the following:

- (i) stored unregistered motor vehicles or vehicles undergoing repairs;
- (ii) machinery or any parts of them, including motor vehicle parts;
- (iii) scrap metal;
- (iv) second-hand timber, furniture and or building materials;
- (v) waste paper;
- (vi) household refuse not contained in a refuse receptacle;
- (vii) rags;
- (viii) bottles;
- (ix) overgrown vegetation;
- (x) grass or weeds in excess of 150mm in height (residential area only); or
- (xi) is not kept free of graffiti.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

31. Open air burning

- (1) A person must not burn or cause to burn any offensive materials in any part of the municipality, including any substance which contains:
- (a) any manufactured chemical; or
 - (b) any rubber or plastic; or
 - (c) any petroleum or oil (other than in an internal combustion engine); or
 - (d) any paint or receptacle which contains or contained paint; or
 - (e) food waste, fish, or other offensive or noxious matter; or
 - (f) any other materials determined by Council from time to time.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must not burn or cause to burn any dead animal so as to create a nuisance except when the burning of a dead animal has been ordered by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (3) A person, including an owner or occupier of land, must not allow to be lit or remain alight, a fire in an incinerator unless on private land of more than 2 hectares which is located in a rural area.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (4) A person must not light a fire in the open air unless the fire is lit:
- (a) for the purpose of cooking food with/or at a barbeque; or
 - (b) on private land of more than 2 hectares located in a rural area; or
 - (c) by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person for the purpose of engaging in a cultural practice.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (5) An owner or occupier of land on which a fire has been lit in breach of this Local Law, must immediately on becoming aware of the fire take all steps necessary to extinguish the fire.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units**32. Interference with council land, drains, pits or footpaths**

- (1) An owner or occupier of land must not allow a tree, shrub, bush, vegetation or any other object on that land to hinder, obstruct, or interfere with the operation of any drain, pit or footpath vested in or under Council's management or control. This includes but is not limited to dirt mounds and skate ramps.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) An owner or occupier of land that abuts the nature strip to that property must not allow vegetation to encroach or interfere with the operation of any drain, pit or footpath.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (3) A person must not in any manner:
- (a) interfere with access to any pit; or
 - (b) construct or place any material, dirt, soil or other matter on a pit lid so as to conceal its location or accessibility; or
 - (c) obstruct the flow of stormwater to a drain or pit; or
 - (d) obstruct or interfere with a water flow in a table drain.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units**33. Caravans and camping on Council land**

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, camp on any council land or on any public place. This subclause does not apply to Aysons Reserve, Lockington Travellers Rest and Girgarre Rest Point.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) A person who camps or who occupies a campsite with a permit under this clause must:
- (a) at all times maintain the campsite in a clean and tidy condition;
 - (b) prior to vacating the campsite remove all litter and other waste from the site to a council authorised disposal point;
 - (c) not camp within 20 metres of any river, stream, spring, creek, dam, bore or watercourse;
 - (d) not dispose of any soap, detergent or similar substance less than 50 metres from any river, stream, spring, creek, dam, bore or watercourse;
 - (e) provide approved toilet facilities, including a facility for the burying of any faeces at least 100 metres from any river, stream, creek, dam, bore or watercourse; and
 - (f) if directed by an authorised officer provide and maintain an approved chemical toilet for use of all persons occupying or visiting the campsite.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (3) The disposal of the contents of any chemical toilet must only be at a Council designated disposal point.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (4) In determining whether to grant a permit under this clause the Council must take into account:
- (a) the location of the land;

- (b) the planning scheme zoning;
- (c) the suitability of the land for camping;
- (d) the number of tents or other structures to be located on the land;
- (e) the length of time the tents and other structures will be erected on the land;
- (f) the availability of sanitary facilities;
- (g) the likely damage to be caused; and
- (h) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.

(5) Campfires

On any council land or in any public place a person must not light or maintain any campfire or barbeque using solid fuel in the open air unless all of the following requirements are complied with.

All fires must:

- (a) be located in a 30cm deep trench;
- (b) be no larger than 1 square metre;
- (c) have vegetation cleared 3 metres above and around the outer perimeter and uppermost point of the fire;
- (d) have an adult in attendance at all times;
- (e) have sufficient water on hand to extinguish fire;
- (f) only be lit if wind speed is below 10kph;
- (g) not be within 7.5 metres of a log or stump;
- (h) only use dry solid fuel;
- (i) be fully extinguished before being left unattended.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

34. Aysons Reserve Camping

- (1) A person must not camp at Aysons Reserve for a period longer than three days (two nights) without obtaining a permit.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must not park more than one caravan on Aysons Reserve.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (3) A person must not camp on Aysons Reserve for a period of more than 28 days in a 12-month period.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (4) A person who camps or who occupies a campsite on Aysons Reserve must:

- (a) at all times maintain the campsite in a clean and tidy condition;
- (b) prior to vacating the campsite remove all litter and other waste from the site to a Council authorised disposal point;
- (c) not camp within 20 metres of the Campaspe River or a bore or watercourse;
- (d) not dispose of any soap, detergent or similar substance less than 50 metres from any river, stream, spring, creek, dam, bore or watercourse; and
- (e) when directed by an authorised officer or Council, provide and maintain an approved chemical toilet for use of all persons occupying or visiting the campsite.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (5) The disposal of the contents of any chemical toilet must only be at a Council designated disposal point.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

35. Lockington Travellers Rest

- (1) A person must not camp at the Lockington Travellers Rest for a period longer than three days (two nights) without obtaining a permit.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must not park more than one caravan at the Lockington Travellers Rest.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (3) A person must not camp at the Lockington Travellers Rest for a period of more than 28 days in a 12-month period.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (4) A person who camps or who occupies a campsite at the Lockington Travellers Rest must:

- (a) at all times maintain the campsite in a clean and tidy condition;
- (b) prior to vacating the campsite remove all litter and other waste from the site to a Council authorised disposal point;
- (c) not camp within 20 metres of a bore or watercourse;
- (d) not dispose of any soap, detergent or similar substance less than 50 metres from any river, stream, spring, creek, dam, bore or watercourse; and
- (e) when directed by an Authorised Officer or Council, provide and maintain an approved chemical toilet for use of all persons occupying or visiting the campsite.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (5) The disposal of the contents of any chemical toilet must only be at a Council designated disposal point.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

36. Girgarre Rest Point

- (1) A person must not camp at the Girgarre Rest Point for a period longer than three days (two nights) without obtaining a permit.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must not park more than one caravan at the Girgarre Rest Point.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (3) A person must not camp at the Girgarre Rest Point for a period of more than 28 days in a 12-month period.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (4) A person who camps or who occupies a campsite at the Girgarre Rest Point must:

- (a) at all times maintain the campsite in a clean and tidy condition;
- (b) prior to vacating the campsite remove all litter and other waste from the site to a Council authorised disposal point;
- (c) not camp within 20 metres of a bore or watercourse;
- (d) not dispose of any soap, detergent or similar substance less than 50 metres from any river, stream, spring, creek, dam, bore or watercourse; and
- (e) when directed by an Authorised Officer or Council, provide and maintain an approved chemical toilet for use of all persons occupying or visiting the campsite.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (5) The disposal of the contents of any chemical toilet must only be at a Council designated disposal point.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

37. Caravans and Camping on Private Property

- (1) An owner or occupier of land in a residential area must not park more than one caravan on the land without obtaining a permit from Council.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (2) An owner or occupier of vacant private land in a residential area must not camp on the land for a period longer than 3 days without obtaining a permit from Council.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (3) A person must not, without a permit, camp on any other private land within the municipality for more than 28 days in a 12-month period.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (4) In determining whether to grant a permit under this clause, the Council must have regard to:

- (a) any relevant standards, guidelines or codes;
- (b) whether a building permit for a dwelling has been granted in respect to the land;
- (c) the adequacy of the standard of habitation on the site;
- (d) the means by which effluent from the camp or facilities is to be treated and the method of disposal;
- (e) whether any rent or charge is being paid by any person occupying the land for the camp to any person in respect of the occupation;
- (f) whether the establishment of a camp will have any effect on the amenity of the area on which it is situated; and
- (g) any other matter relevant the circumstances associated with the application.

- (5) A permit issued under this clause will expire one year after the date it was granted. A permit must not be granted if the effect of the permit entitles the camp to be in existence for more than four years.

38. Motorised Vehicles

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, use a motorised vehicle for recreational purposes on any land (including council land) within a residential area.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (2) An owner or occupier of land within a residential area must not, without a permit, allow another person to use a motorised vehicle for recreational purposes on that land.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (3) The parent or guardian of a person under the age of 17 years, who permits use of a motorised vehicle for recreational purposes on any residential land without a permit, is guilty of an offence unless the Court is satisfied that the motorised vehicle was being used without the knowledge or consent of that parent or guardian.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

39. Heavy and unregistered vehicles

- (1) A person must not, without a permit:
- (a) park, keep or repair a vehicle weighing more than 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass on land:
 - (i) in a residential area; or
 - (ii) on land adjacent to a residential area if vehicle access is provided through a residential area; or
 - (b) keep more than two (2) unregistered vehicles in a residential area.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

40. Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities

- (1) A person carrying out building works on a building site for which a building permit or planning permit has been issued and is not considered minor building works, must:
- (a) obtain an Asset and Amenity Protection Permit from the Council before commencing, or allowing to be commenced, any such building works; and
 - (b) comply with the Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities Code of Practice as amended from time to time.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

- (2) In determining whether to grant an Asset and Amenity Protection Permit, Council must have regard to the Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities Code of Practice.

41. Regulation of household refuse for council operated services

- (1) A person must not place out for collection any residual waste, recycling and/or garden waste, unless contained within an approved refuse receptacle in accordance with the Waste, Recycling and Food and Garden Waste Code of Practice which:
- (a) has been adopted by Council for the purposes of this Local Law; and
 - (b) has the objective of providing an environment where activity related to waste, recycling and food and garden waste complements the safety and amenity of the community

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must not place household refuse or industrial refuse into municipal bins located in parks and recreational reserves and streetscapes.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

- (3) A person must not remove or interfere with any waste, recycling and/or garden organics that is placed into municipal bins located in parks and recreational reserves and streetscapes.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

- (4) A person must not place, or remove residential waste, recycling and/or garden organics into another person's waste receptacle without their permission.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

PART 4 - ANIMALS**42. Dogs and cats**

- (1) An owner or occupier of land in a residential area must not, without a permit, keep or allow to be kept on that land:
- (a) more than two dogs; or
 - (b) more than two cats.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (2) For the purpose of calculating the maximum number of dogs or cats kept, any progeny may be lawfully kept, without a permit, for 12 weeks after birth.
- (3) Council may by resolution exempt any class of dog or cat from the requirement to be kept with a permit under Clause 42(1).

43. Keeping animals in the residential areas

- (1) An owner or occupier of land in a residential area must not keep, or allow to be kept, without a permit more than four different types of animal on that land at any time.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (2) For each type of animal set out in the table below, an owner or occupier of land must not without a permit allow to be kept on that land any more in number of that type of animal than as set out in the table:

Type of Animal	Maximum allowed in residential areas	Maximum allowed in rural living areas	Maximum allowed in rural areas
Dogs	2	2	5
Cats	2	2	5
Poultry (other than turkeys and geese)	8 Fowl 2 Ducks. This includes chicks and ducklings.	8 Fowl 2 Ducks This includes chicks and ducklings	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Turkeys and Geese	None	None	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Pigs	None	None	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Horses, Donkeys, Camels, Cattle, Sheep, Goats	None	None	No limit. No Local Law permit required

Type of Animal	Maximum allowed in residential areas	Maximum allowed in rural living areas	Maximum allowed in rural areas
Ferrets	None	No limit. No Local Law permit required	Not limit. No Local Law permit required
Guinea Pigs	6	6	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Domestic Birds	6	6	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Pigeons	50	50	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Domestic Rabbits	10	10	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Any other livestock or agricultural animal	None	None	No limit. No Local Law permit required
Roosters	None	2	No limit. No Local Law permit required

Penalty 10 Penalty Units

- (3) Sub clause (1) applies to animal keeping under the Planning Scheme which is ancillary to the use of a dwelling on the land.
- (4) Sub clause (1) does not apply when a planning permit has been obtained for land used for the purposes of animal husbandry.
- (5) Keeping of additional animals

In determining whether to grant a permit for the keeping of animals when the number exceeds that which is set out in the Table to clause 43(2), the Council must take into account:

- (a) the zoning of the land;
- (b) the proximity of the area to adjoining properties;
- (c) the amenity of the area to that of adjoining properties;

- (d) the type and additional number of animals to be kept;
- (e) the area of land available for keeping the animals;
- (f) the likely effects on adjoining owners or occupiers;
- (g) whether the animals are being temporarily homed under an approved community foster care network;
- (h) the adequacy of animal shelters;
- (i) whether the animals have been desexed; and
- (j) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.

(6) Accommodation for Animals - Shelters

In determining what may be reasonable shelter, consideration is given using the Code of Practice for the Private Keeping of Dogs and Cats to:

- (a) the type of animal to be kept;
- (b) the height of the shelter;
- (c) the distance from the street frontage of the property;
- (d) the distance from any other street or road;
- (e) the distance from the boundary of any adjoining property; and
- (f) the distance from any dwelling.

(7) Animal shelter standards

All animal shelters must be constructed in accordance with the following standards:

- (a) The floor area of any animal shelter must be sized to allow 0.7 square metres of floor area for each head of poultry kept or be of a size approved by Council for keeping of any other animal.
- (b) An animal shelter must be located in a position approved by Council.
- (c) Animal shelters must be constructed of approved materials and be roofed so as to exclude all rainwater. Roof drainage must be connected to an approved stormwater system.
- (d) The floor of an animal shelter must be constructed in an approved material and the finished floor level shall be a minimum of 80mm above surrounding ground level.
- (e) Shelters for poultry and domestic birds must be constructed so as to be rodent proof.
- (f) Poultry houses must be constructed with a minimum 200mm plinth directly above and around the edge of the floor capable of holding a bed of litter of a minimum depth of 200mm.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

(8) Animal shelter maintenance and cleaning

All animal shelters must be maintained in accordance with the following standards so that:

- (a) all manure, litter and other waste is removed and / or treated as often as necessary so that it does not cause a nuisance or offensive condition;
- (b) all manure, litter and other waste to be stored in a fly and vermin proof receptacle until removed from the premises or otherwise disposed of to the satisfaction of an authorised officer;
- (c) the ground surrounding the shelter is drained to the satisfaction of the authorised officer;
- (d) the area of land within three (3) metres of the area or structure in which the animal is kept must be kept free from dry grass, weeds, refuse, rubbish or other material capable of harbouring vermin;
- (e) all animal food, grain or chaff is kept in vermin proof receptacles;

- (f) the area where animals are kept must be thoroughly cleaned and maintained at all times in a clean and sanitary manner so as not to give rise to any nuisance and to the satisfaction of the authorised officer.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

44. Keeping of livestock

A person must not keep livestock on land that is less than one (1) hectare in area without a permit.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

45. Exercising Pigeons

A person must not exercise pigeons in a residential area, except within the time periods defined as the 2 hours after sunrise and the 2 hours before sunset.

Penalty: 5 Penalty Units

46. Adequate fencing to prevent the escape of animals or livestock

An owner or occupier of land, on which an animal or livestock is kept, must ensure that the land is adequately fenced so as to prevent the escape of the animal or livestock from the land.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

47. Protection of other animals and native fauna and flora

An owner of an animal, or an owner or occupier of land on which an animal is kept, must ensure that the animal does not harm or kill, or destroy, any native fauna or flora, or any other animal.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

48. Domestic animal nuisance to neighbours

An owner or occupier of land must ensure that any animal or bird kept on the land does not cause a nuisance to surrounding or neighbouring landowners.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

49. Dog excrement

- (1) A person in charge of a dog on a road or on council land must:
- (a) not permit the excrement of the dog to remain on that road or on that council land; and
 - (b) carry a device suitable for the removal of any excrement that may be deposited by the dog; and
 - (c) produce the device on the request of an authorised officer.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

50. Livestock Code of Practice

- (1) The requirements of the Livestock Code of Practice must be complied with.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) A permit may be granted to vary a requirement of the Livestock Code of Practice.

51. Livestock being moved between parts of one farm

- (1) The owner of any farm property where livestock are being regularly moved either between two contiguous parts of one farm, or between parts of one farm separated only by parts of the same farm, must drive the livestock through the farm and not along any road or roads.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) Where a farm property abuts both sides of a dividing road, the owner or occupier of the farm property must drive livestock directly across the dividing road, and not along any road or roads.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (3) The owner of any farm property where livestock are being regularly moved between parts of one farm, separated by other land or between two different farms that are separated by other land must drive the livestock through the farm and only use the road for the shortest distance as determined by Council.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (4) A person may apply for a permit to vary the requirements of sub clauses (1), (2) and (3)
- (5) In determining whether to grant a permit under this clause the Council must take into account:
- (a) the impact on any road;
 - (b) the length of the route between the properties;
 - (c) the type and number of livestock to be moved;
 - (d) the likely effects on adjoining owners or occupiers;
 - (e) the proposed duration of the movement; and
 - (f) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application

52. Livestock movement on a road reserve without a permit

- (1) A person is not required to obtain a permit when moving livestock on a Council controlled road (other than droving or grazing or regular movement) provided that they ensure:
- (a) all livestock reach their destination by the most direct route consistent with the requirements of this Local Law and any direction of an authorised officer;
 - (b) livestock are only on the road for the time it takes for the movement to their destination;
 - (c) livestock are only moved in daylight between the hours of sunrise and sunset, unless specific approval is granted by Council for movement outside of these hours;
 - (d) a minimum of one responsible person must be in attendance and supervising the movement at all times;
 - (e) there is no traffic delay that exceeds 5 minutes in any one crossing;
 - (f) the provision, display and function of all signs, poles and other warning devices required by this Local Law, the Road Safety Act (as amended) or any other legislation are displayed; and
 - (g) the number of livestock being moved does not exceed the limits within the Live Stock Code of Practice.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) A person must comply with any direction from an authorised officer with regard to:
- (a) the route to be followed;
 - (b) protection of the road, road reserve, roadside vegetation;
 - (c) any construction on the road;

- (d) roadside drainage;
- (e) to avoid damage caused by livestock movement.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

53. Livestock movement, droving and grazing on a road reserve with a permit

- (1) A permit is required for a person to do any of the following:
 - (a) move livestock on any Council controlled road if the requirements of clause 52 are not able to be compiled with;
 - (b) ride or lead a horse on a footpath or nature strip in a residential area;
 - (c) drive livestock on any Council controlled road;
 - (d) graze the livestock on a Council controlled road.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) In determining whether to grant a permit under this clause, the Council must take into account:
 - (a) whether the application for a permit is accompanied by a certificate from a registered veterinarian declaring the condition of the livestock to be in suitable health and fitness to be driven;
 - (b) the route to be followed;
 - (c) protection of the road, road reserve, roadside vegetation;
 - (d) any construction on the road;
 - (e) roadside drainage; and
 - (f) the requirements of the Livestock Code of Practice.

54. Prohibited droving, grazing, moving of livestock on a road reserve

- (1) Council may, by resolution, prohibit a road or part of a road within the municipal district from being used for the droving, grazing or moving of livestock.
- (2) Notice of resolutions made by Council pursuant to clause 54(1) must be available at Council offices;
- (3) A person who is responsible for or who owns livestock that are being driven, grazed or moved on any prohibited road under this clause commits an offence.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

55. Permanent livestock crossing approval

- (1) A person must not establish a permanent livestock crossing on any Council controlled road unless an approval for the crossing has been granted by Council.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) An application for a permanent livestock crossing approval must be made in writing.
- (3) An application for an approval must be lodged with Council not less than 28 days prior to the date that is planned to commence to use the permanent livestock crossing.
- (4) Approval will be subject to conditions including that the permanent livestock crossing must comply with the Livestock Code of Practice;

56. Responsibility of owners or occupiers of farm properties

- (1) The owner or occupier of any farm property, to or from which livestock are being moved, must ensure that:

- (a) adequate surface treatment measures in accordance with Council's requirements are applied to the road reserve between the carriageway and each property access point; and
- (b) a vehicular crossing, constructed in accordance with Council's requirements, is provided and maintained at points where livestock either enter or exit the farm property.

Penalty: 15 Penalty Units

- (2) In considering an application for a permit, Council must have regard to the requirements of the Livestock Code of Practice.

PART 5 - ADMINISTRATION

57. Issue of Permits

- (1) Where a clause in this Local Law allows a permit to be issued, an application for a permit must be made on an approved form and accompanied by the appropriate fee prescribed by resolution of Council.
- (2) Council may waive, reduce or alter any fee payable under this clause.
- (3) Council may require an applicant to supply additional information or to give public notice of the application.
- (4) Council may:
 - (a) issue a permit, with or without conditions; or
 - (b) refuse to issue a permit.
- (5) Council may exempt a person from the requirement under this Local Law to obtain a permit.
- (6) Council may revoke a permit if it considers that:
 - (a) there has been a breach of a condition of the permit; or
 - (b) a notice to comply issued under clause 67 has not been complied with within the time specified in the notice to comply; or
 - (c) there was a significant error or misrepresentation made in the application for the permit; or
 - (d) it is appropriate in the circumstances to revoke the permit.
- (7) Before making a decision under clause 57(6) to revoke a permit, Council must, if it is practicable to do so, provide the permit holder with an opportunity to make submissions on the proposed revocation of the permit.
- (8) A permit expires on whichever of the following dates occurs first:
 - (a) an expiry date specified in the permit; or
 - (b) the date on which this Local Law sunsets or is revoked.

58. Conditional permits

- (1) A permit may be subject to conditions which the Council considers to be appropriate in the circumstances including:
 - (a) the payment of a fee or charge;
 - (b) a time limit to be applied either specifying the duration, commencement or completion date;
 - (c) the happening of an event;
 - (d) the rectification, remedying or restoration of a situation or circumstance;
 - (e) when the applicant is not the owner of the subject property, the consent of the owner;
 - (f) the granting of some other permit or authorisation; and
 - (g) the requirements of a code of practice incorporated as part of this local law.
- (2) The conditions of a permit must be set out in the permit.
- (3) The Council may, during the currency of a permit, alter the conditions of a permit if it considers it to be appropriate to do so, after providing the permit holder with an opportunity to make comment on the proposed alteration.
- (4) A person who undertakes an activity for which the Council has issued a permit must comply with the conditions of the permit.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

59. Power of authorised officer – urgent circumstances

- (1) An authorised officer may act to remedy any circumstance that threatens a person's life, health or property, or an animal, without serving a notice under clause 67, provided that:-
 - (a) the circumstance arises out of a person's use of council land or failure to comply with a provision of this Local Law;
 - (b) the action taken is no more than the minimum reasonably necessary to remedy the urgent circumstance; and
 - (c) the person on whom a notice under clause 67 would have otherwise been served is notified as soon as possible of the urgent circumstance and the action taken to remedy it.

60. Impounding

- (1) An authorised officer may seize and impound any item which has been or is being used or possessed in contravention of this Local Law.
- (2) If an authorised officer impounds an item under this Local Law they must serve a notice of impoundment on the person who appears to be the owner of the item as soon as possible after the impounding.
- (3) Council may:
 - (a) release the item to its owner on the payment of a fee determined by Council, which is not to exceed an amount that reasonably represents the cost to Council of impounding, keeping and releasing the item; or
 - (b) sell, destroy, dispose of or give away the impounded item if the owner of the item has not paid the fee within 14 days of service of the notice under clause 60(2) or in the case of where the identity or whereabouts of the owner of the item is unknown Council has complied with clause 60(4).
- (4) If the identity or whereabouts of the owner of an item impounded under this Local Law is unknown, Council must take reasonable steps to ascertain the owner's identity and/or whereabouts prior to exercising its powers under clause 60(3)(b).
- (5) Council is entitled to retain from the proceeds of sale of any impounded item, its reasonable costs incurred in impounding, keeping and selling the item.

61. Internal review

A person may make an application for an internal review of an order, direction, notice or decision made under this Local Law in relation to them within 14 days of the order, direction, notice or decision being made.

62. Bonds

- (1) In deciding to grant a permit, Council may require the applicant to lodge with Council a bond of such amount and in such a manner as Council deems reasonable in the circumstances.
- (2) Council may use a permit bond to remedy a breach of that permit or repair any damage caused by any work under a permit.
- (3) On satisfactory completion of any works under a permit, Council must release any applicable bond.
- (4) If after 12 months Council cannot locate a person entitled to the release of any bond, Council may retain the bond and pay the money into its general revenue.

63. Delegation

- (1) Council delegates to its Chief Executive Officer and to all authorised officers the power to:
 - (a) issue, refuse or revoke a permit under this Local Law;
 - (b) require an applicant for a permit to lodge with Council a bond for such amount and in such a manner as deemed reasonable in the circumstances;
 - (c) exempt a person from the requirement to obtain a permit under this Local Law;
 - (d) exempt a person from paying any fee required to be paid under this Local Law or reduce the fee required to be paid under this Local Law;
 - (e) administer this Local Law;
 - (f) enforce this Local Law, including to commence proceedings for an offence against this Local Law; and
 - (g) use a permit bond to remedy a breach of that permit or repair any damage caused by any work carried out under that permit.

64. Fees

- (1) The Council may, from time to time by resolution, determine fees for the purposes of this Local Law.
- (2) In determining fees and charges, the Council may establish a system or structure of fees and charges, including a minimum or maximum fee or charge.

65. Service of notices and other documents

Any notice or other document under this Local Law required or authorised to be given or served to or upon any person may be served by:

- (a) giving it or serving it personally on the person; or
- (b) sending it by post or electronic communication to the person at that person's usual or last known place of residence or business; or
- (c) leaving it at that person's usual or last known place of residence or business with a person who is apparently at least 16 years old; or
- (d) in the case of a company or registered body, serving it in accordance with section 109X or 601CX of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

PART 6 - ENFORCEMENT

66. Offences

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if the person:
 - (a) does something that a provision of this Local Law prohibits to be done or makes an offence; or
 - (b) fails to do something that a provision of this Local Law requires to be done; or
 - (c) engages in an activity without a current permit where a provision of this Local Law requires that person to obtain a permit before engaging in that activity; or
 - (d) breaches or fails to comply with a condition of a permit issued under this Local Law; or
 - (e) fails to comply with a notice to comply or a direction of an authorised officer under this Local Law.

67. Notice to comply

- (1) If an authorised officer believes that a person has contravened or failed to comply with a clause in this Local Law or has contravened or failed to comply with a permit issued under this Local Law, the authorised officer may in accordance with this clause serve on that person a written notice to comply to remedy the contravention or failure to comply.
- (2) A notice to comply must:
 - (a) specify the act, matter or thing which is required to cease or specify the act, matter or thing which is required to be done;
 - (b) specify the time within which the person receiving the notice is required to carry out or cease carrying out any such act, matter or thing;
 - (c) be signed by the authorised officer; and
 - (d) be served on the person named therein in the manner required by this Local Law.
- (3) The time required by a notice to comply issued under this clause must be reasonable in the circumstances. What will be reasonable will vary depending on the matters to be remedied, but should take into account (if applicable):
 - (a) the amount of work involved;
 - (b) the degree of difficulty;
 - (c) the availability of necessary materials or other necessary items;
 - (d) climatic conditions;
 - (e) the degree of risk or potential risk; and
 - (f) any other relevant factor.
- (4) If a person on whom a notice to comply is served, fails to comply with the requirements of that notice, Council may:
 - (a) revoke any permit issued pursuant to clause 57(6); and
 - (b) carry out any work required by the notice to comply in accordance with the procedure set out in section 117 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- (5) A person who fails to comply with a notice to comply issued under this clause is guilty of an offence.

Penalty: 20 Penalty Units

68. Infringement notice

- (1) If an authorised officer believes that a person has committed an offence against this Local Law, the authorised officer may issue to that person an infringement notice.

- (2) An offence for which an infringement notice may be served is an infringement offence within the meaning of the *Infringements Act 2006*.
- (3) The penalty fixed in respect of an infringement notice is the amount set out in the Infringement Penalty Schedule.

69. Application for injunction

An authorised officer may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for a declaration or an injunction to prevent any act or threatened act which is or would be contrary to this Local Law.

70. Additional penalty

- (1) In addition to any penalty imposed pursuant to this Local Law a penalty not exceeding 2 penalty units shall apply for each day after conviction for an offence during which a contravention of this Local Law continues.

The General Local Law No. 9 2022 was adopted on 20 July 2022

The Common Seal of the Campaspe
Shire Council was hereunto affixed)
on the 20 day of July, 2022

_____ Councillor

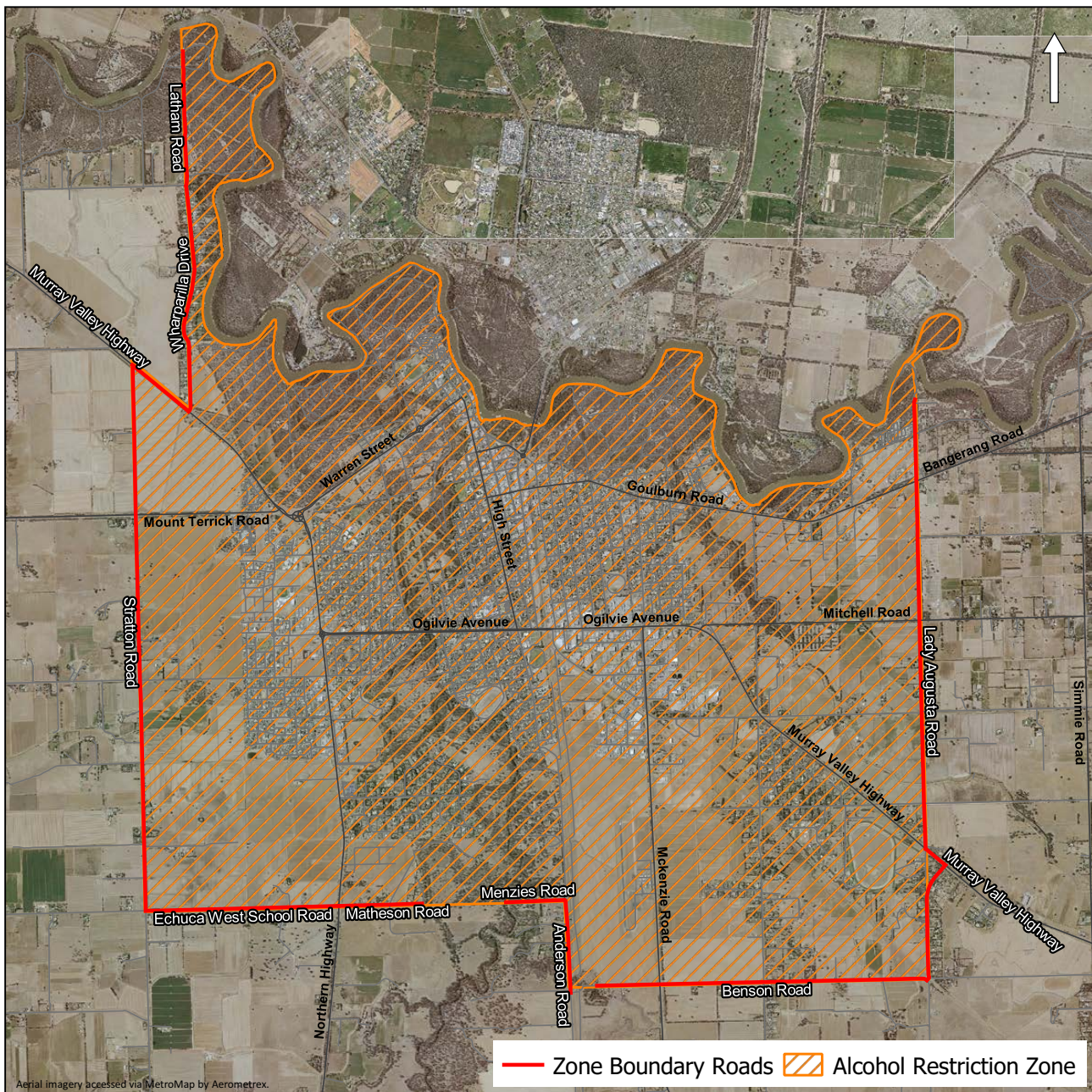
_____ Councillor

_____ Chief Executive Officer

SCHEDULES

DESIGNATED AREAS

Echuca Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 1



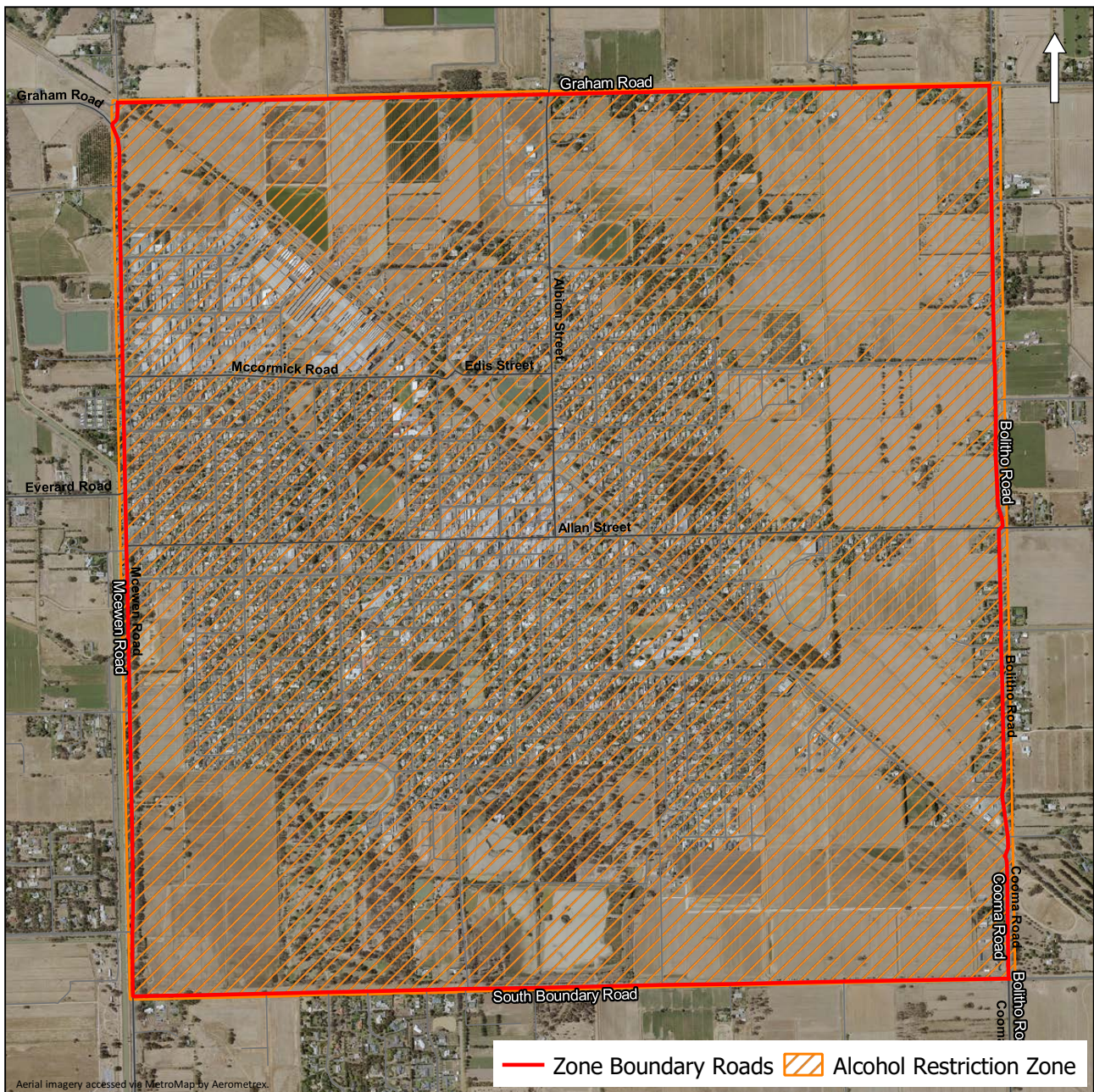
Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Echuca District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by the southern side of the Murray River from the junction of Lady Augusta Road and the Murray River, West along the Murray River to the northern point of the junction of Wharparilla Drive and the Murray River, South to Murray Valley Highway, North West along the Murray Valley Highway to Stratton Road, South along Stratton Road to Echuca West School Road, East along Echuca West School Road and continuing a line joining Matheson Road to the junction of Matheson and Anderson Road, South to Benson Road, East along Benson Road to Lady Augusta Road, North along Lady Augusta Road to the Murray River commencement point.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Kyabram Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 2



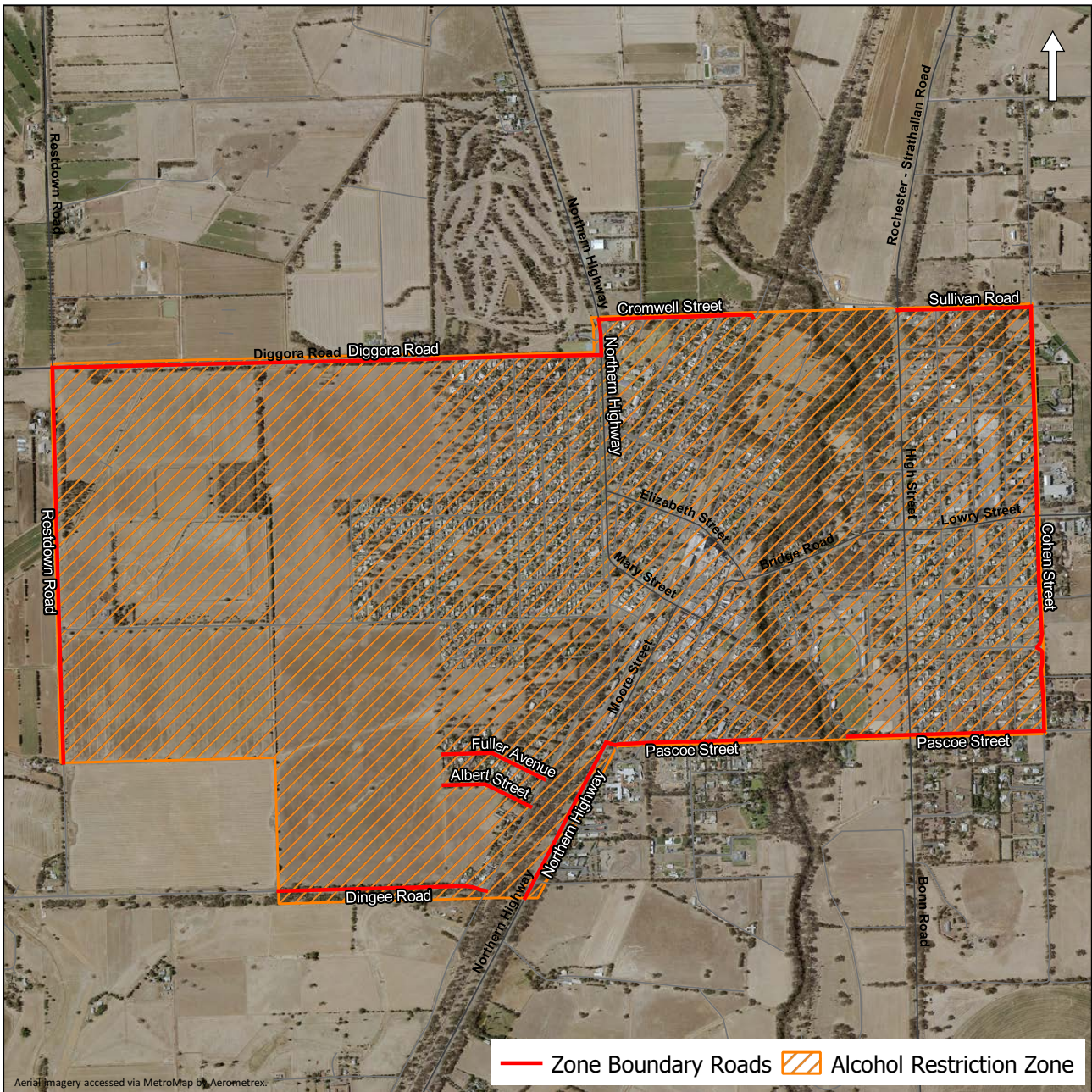
Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Kyabram District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded in the west by McEwan Road, in the north by Graham Road, in the east by Bolitho Road and in the south by South Boundary Road.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Rochester Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 3



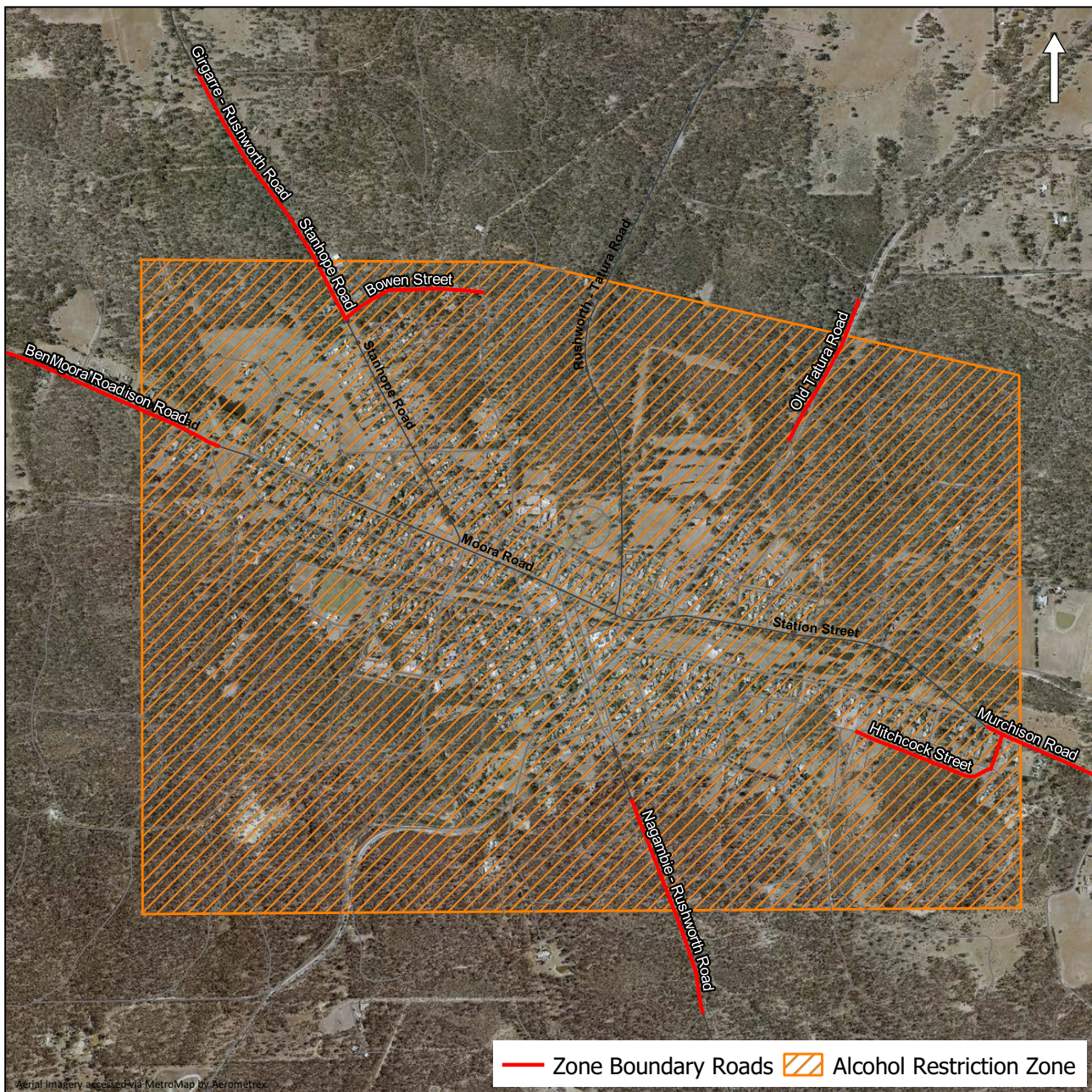
Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Rochester District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded in the north by Diggora Road, east across the Northern Highway to Cromwell Street, east across the Campaspe River to Sullivan Street, bounded in the east by Cohen Road, in the south by Pascoe Street and including Morton Street to Doyle Street, including Doyle Street, west across the railway line to include the south, Fuller Avenue and Albert Street, the western boundary being Restdown Road.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Rushworth Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 4



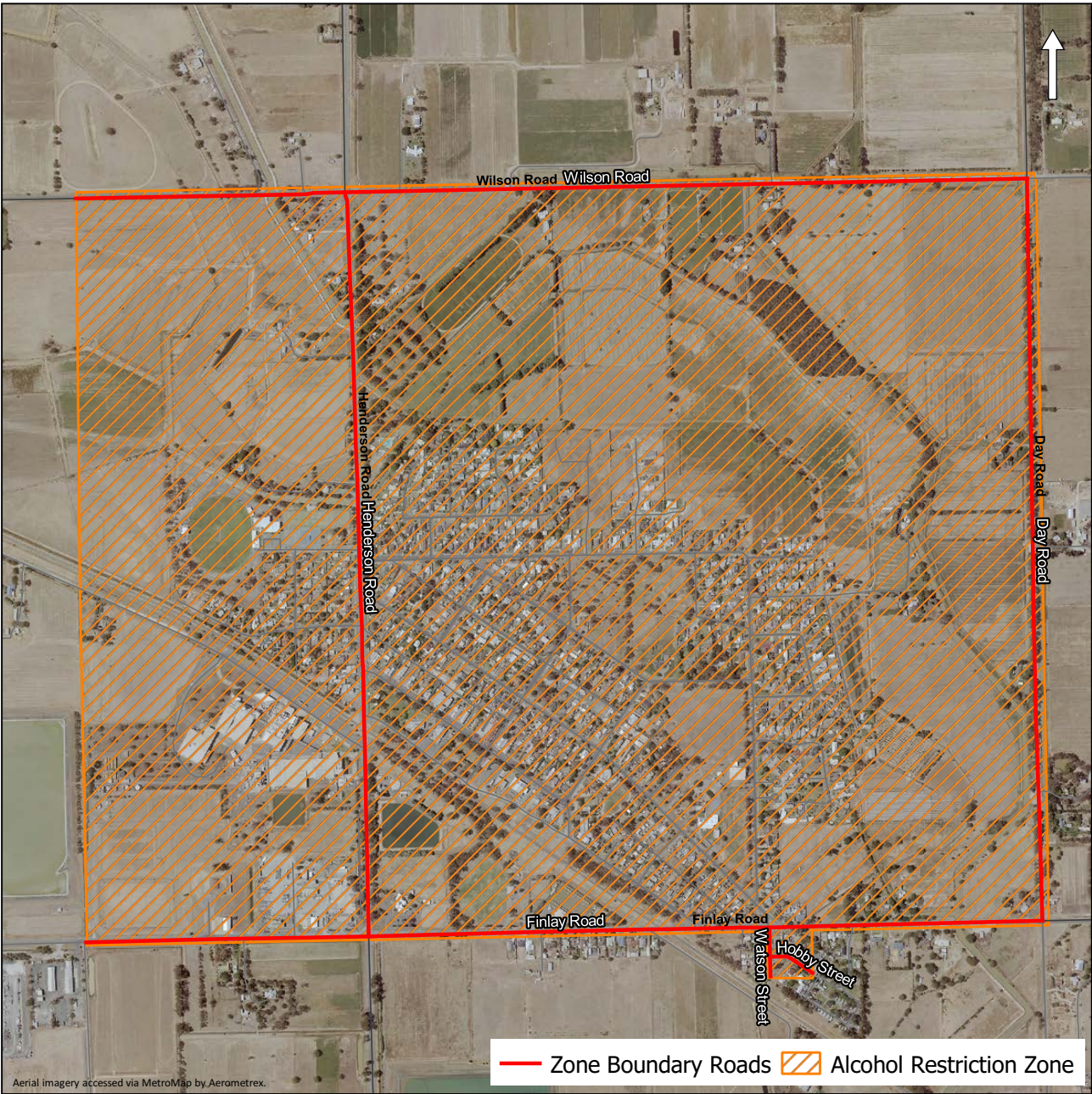
Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Rushworth District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by north along Girgarre-Rushworth Road to and including Bowen Street and Old Tatura Road north – 1 kilometre, east along Bendigo-Murchison Road to and including Hitchcock Street, south along Rushworth-Nagambie Road south 1 kilometre, west along Bendigo-Murchison Road west 2 kilometres.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Tongala Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 5



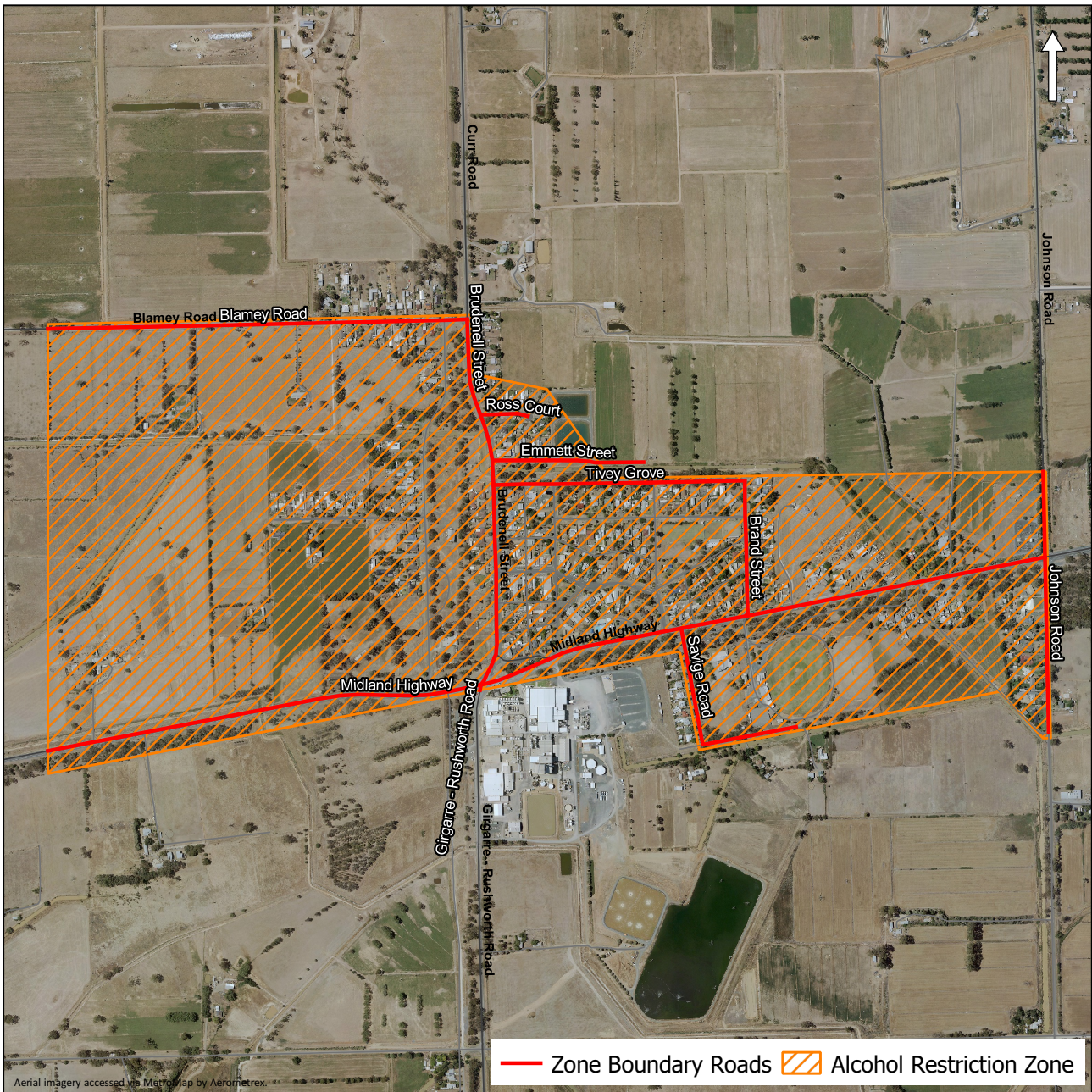
Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Tongala District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by north along Wilson Road, east along Day Road, south along Finlay Road and including Watson Street and Hobby Street, west along 500 metres west of Henderson road.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Stanhope Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 6



Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Stanhope District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by Tivey Grove, Johnson Road, Midland Highway including Savige Road, then one (1) kilometre west of Girgarre-Rushworth Road on Midland Highway, to one (1) kilometre west of Girgarre-Rushworth Road and including Ross Street, Brett Place and Emmett Street, Blamey Road and Girgarre-Rushworth Road.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Girgarre Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 7



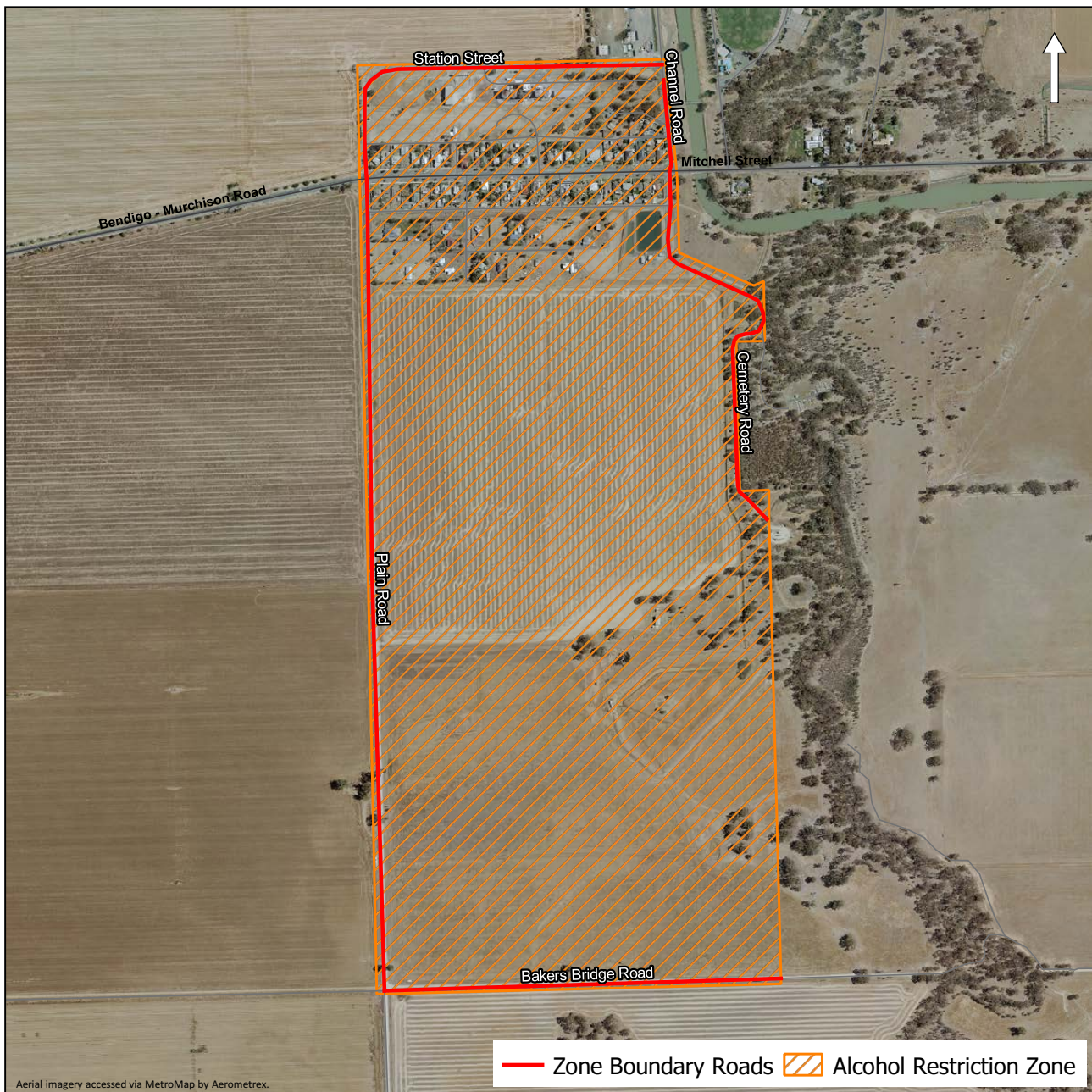
Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Girgarre District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by north along Ferguson Road, east along Curr Road, south along Winter Road and west one (1) kilometre west of Curr Road.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Colbinabbin Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 8



Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Colbinabbin District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by:

North along Station Street

East along Channel Road and Cemetery Road

South along Bakers Bridge Road

West along Plain Road

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Lockington Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 9



Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Lockington District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by

North: One (1) kilometre north of Pannoo Road and Singer Road

East: One (1) kilometre east of Lockington Road

South: One (1) kilometre south of Pannoo Road and Singer Road

West: One (1) kilometre west of Lockington Road

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Corop Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 10



Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Corop District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by
Midland Highway between School Road and Taylor Road.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Gunbower Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 11



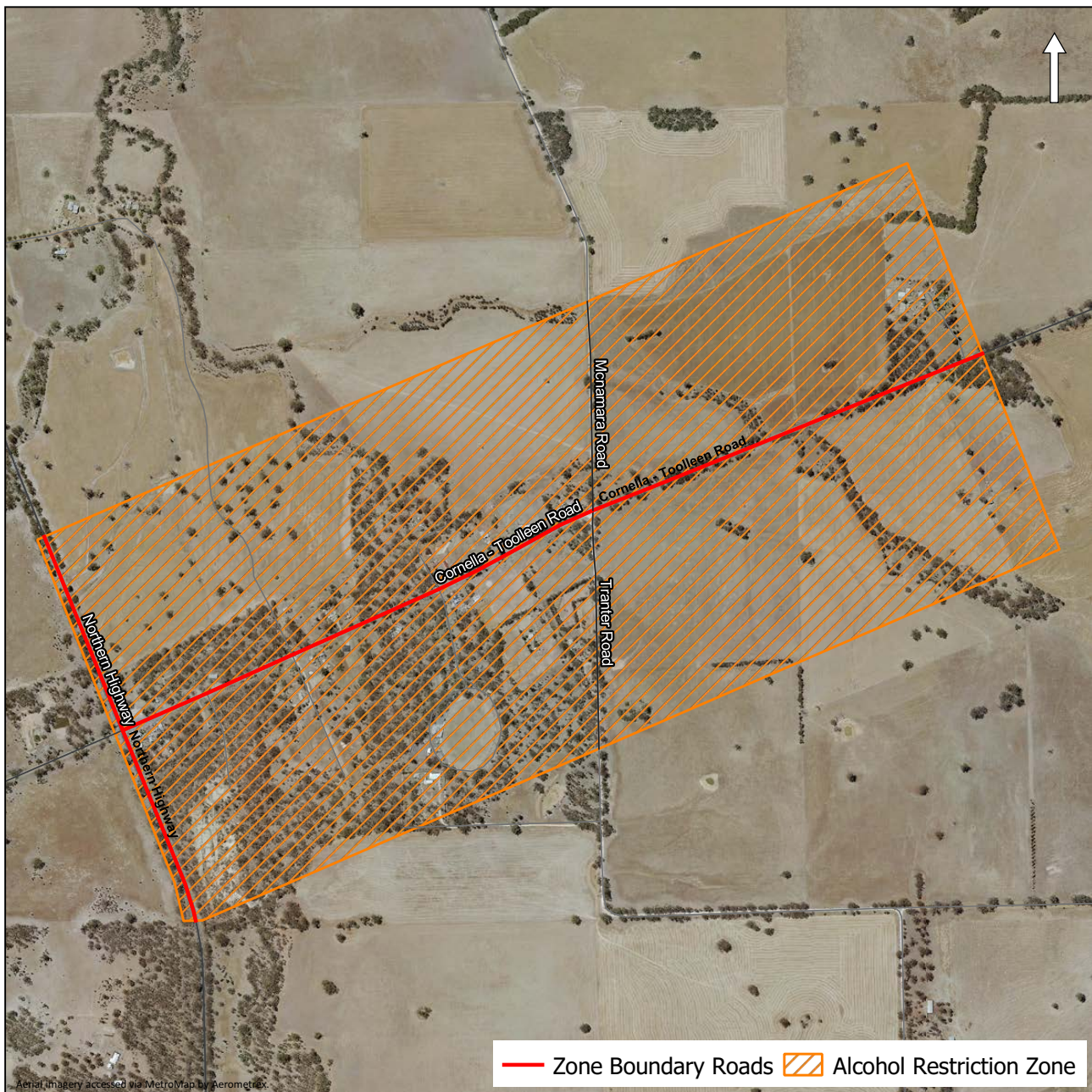
Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Gunbower District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by Murray Valley Highway at Gunbower Island Road, then Gunbower Island Road, Treacy Street, Fox Island Road, Murray Valley Highway, Gunbower-Pyramid Road, Railway Place and including Cleland Street and Scott Street, Market Street, Murray Valley Highway.

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

Toolleen Alcohol Restriction Zone Schedule 12



Consumption of Liquor in Public Places - Toolleen District

Within the area surrounded by the orange hatched area on the map and described as:-

The area bounded by:

West: Northern Highway

North: 500 metres north of Cornella-Toolleen Road

East: One (1) kilometre east of McNamara Road

South: 500 metres south of Cornella-Toolleen Road

All parts of any roads named as bounding the area are included.

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL TRADING ACTIVITIES CODE OF PRACTICE

Preamble

Council has an obligation to prohibit, regulate and control activities, events and practices so that no detriment is caused to the amenity of the neighbourhood nor nuisance to a person in the municipal district.

Council has developed this Code of Practice to ensure that all persons who require a permit before carrying out an activity or practice, or holding an event, understand the minimum acceptable standards under which they must operate.

Objective

The objective of this Code of Practice is to provide:

- (1) clear, safe and unobstructed access at all times for pedestrians of all abilities on footpaths within the Shire of Campaspe.
- (2) the administration of Council's powers and functions.

Definitions

Any word defined in General Local Law No. 9 2022 has the same meaning in this Code of Practice. Further,

Footpath	is the area between the back of kerb line and the building line. The primary activity of the Footpath is longitudinal pedestrian access.
	to assist with the interpretation of this policy the Footpath is made up of a number of zones/areas.
Footpath – Kerbside Zone	this 0.7 metre area extends from the kerb line or kerb invert towards the centre of the footpath and allows for vehicle overhanging and access to and from parked vehicles.
Footpath – Potential Trading Area	is the area 1.8 metres from the building line and 0.7 metres from the kerb line. This is the only area of the footpath where Council may provide approval for trading in goods, café furniture and ancillary items.
Footpath – Walkway Zone	is the 1.8 metre zone immediately adjacent to the building line or property line and is the zone used to facilitate pedestrian access and travel. Pedestrian crossings and kerb crossings are part of the Walkway Zone.
Heritage Overlay	is places with state or local heritage significance to an area
Itinerant Trader	is identified as the person, company or organisation undertaking the selling of goods and services, generally the permit holder.
	a group or individuals involved in a community or charitable event, market or festival are not classified as an Itinerant Trader.

**CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL
TRADING ACTIVITIES CODE OF PRACTICE**

- Itinerant Trading** defined as the temporary or permanent offering of goods or services for sale for the benefit of a person, a company or organisation in a public place or on a street or road from any vehicle, caravan, trailer, bicycle, table, stall or similar structure.
- Council has determined that Itinerant Trading in the municipality can only occur in conjunction with markets, events or festivals.
- Loading Zone** a parking area defined by signage for the loading and unloading of goods by commercial vehicles.

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL TRADING ACTIVITIES CODE OF PRACTICE

Relationship with General Local Law No. 9 2022

The Code has been incorporated by reference in Council's General Local Law No. 9.

Clause 12(1) of that Local Law provides that "without a permit a person must not on a road or on council land do any of the following:–

- (a) place any advertising sign; or
- (b) display any goods; or
- (c) place any outdoor eating furniture or associated facilities; or
- (d) place any structure for the purpose of selling or offering to sell any goods or services; or
- (e) sell or offer for sale any motor vehicle; or
- (f) solicit the sale of goods or services;
- (g) solicit or collect any waste materials, gifts of money, or subscriptions

Clause 12(3) of the Local Law requires Council in considering an application for a permit under sub-clause 12(1), to have regard to the requirements of the Code.

The Code referred to in that clause is this Code of Practice.

Code

- (1) All applications for a permit must be in writing on any form prescribed by Council.
- (2) The permit holder must take out, and maintain during the currency of the permit, in the name of the permit holder a policy of insurance to the value of at least \$10,000,000 against liability for possible personal injury, whether at Common Law or by virtue of any statute or for liability for property damage which may arise or could be held to arise from any act allowed by the permit.
- (3) The permit holder must provide proof of the insurance policy as required to Council when applying for a permit when paying the annual fee and also at any time during the currency of the permit as Authorised Officer may require.

Access to Footpaths

Council may undertake emergency works, without notice, that may alter the slope and surface of any footpath thereby preventing traders from accessing the potential trading area of the footpath at their premise. These works may affect access during the period that the works are undertaken or prevent the use of the footpath for trading on an ongoing basis.

Delineation of Potential trading areas

To identify the Potential Trading zone areas permitted for each business delineation markers are required where the footpath is 5 metres or greater in width. The markers are used to clearly define the areas where traders could set up goods for sale (Potential Trading Area).

The use of markers also assists traders to ensure that they are not in breach of the Disability Discrimination Act, General Local Law No. 9 2022, and the Trading Activities Code of Practice.

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL TRADING ACTIVITIES CODE OF PRACTICE

Delineation Markers will assist business operators to ensure that the Walkway Zone and the Kerbside Zone are kept free from goods to ensure a safe path of travel for pedestrians.

Delineation markers are installed at each corner of the approved trading area for a business.

Where outstands are constructed, delineation markers will be placed at the front of the area to ensure that furniture and trade does not encroach into the walkway zone.

The cost of the markers and the installation is to be paid for by the business owners as part of the application for footpath trading.

- Markers will be installed by council staff or contractors.
- New applications will include the charges at the time the application is received.
- Charges for installation will be a once only charge.
- Repairs to markers or reinstatement of footpath surface will be borne by Council.

Signs on Roads and Public Places

- (1) A sign shall be:
 - (a) a minimum of 600mm high and 400mm in width;
 - (b) if placed on a footpath, a maximum of 900mm high (measured from the ground) and 600mm wide; and
 - (c) if placed on any other part of a road, of a maximum size approved by Council.
- (2) Permitted signs must be secured in place by a means that is not reliant on, or physically tied to any Council infrastructure. The means by which these signs are secured must not extend beyond the circumference of the permitted sign and must be to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer of Council. Any securing device is to be removed with the sign in accordance with permitted display timeframes.
- (3) The following requirements will also apply in respect of signs:
 - (a) inflatable signs, portable electric signs, illuminated, revolving, spinning or flashing signs, flags, balloons and banners are prohibited from the footpath.
 - (b) signs must only be placed on the footpath during the normal hours of trade.
 - (c) signs must not be placed on roundabouts, or on kerb outstands outside the 'normal' alignment of the kerb adjacent to these outstands.
 - (d) signs may not be tied to poles or trees or any other street fixture, and must only be on the footpath while a business is open and must only be outside the premises to which they relate.
 - (e) permission may be granted to allow the placement of a sign outside a premises not occupied by the applicant. Any application must be accompanied by written permission from the proprietor of that business which fronts the footpath on which

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the items are intended to be placed. In this instance public liability insurance must be extended to include this situation of risk.

- (f) the maximum number of signs permitted per premises is two (2).
- (g) any free-standing sign shall be of such material and construction to minimise the risk of being blown over or of causing injury to any person.
- (h) no signs shall remain on the footpath or road outside of trading hours.
- (i) persons placing signs shall produce the permit issued to an Authorised Officer of Council as required.
- (j) any permit issued by Council can be cancelled by Council or have conditions altered or added by Council at any time and for any reason.
- (k) permits shall be subject to a minimum annual fee payable by the permit holder at the time of taking out the permit and thereafter of the commencement of each financial year.
- (l) signs can only be placed as listed below:
 - a. in Echuca, no signs are permitted on the footpath or road in the metered parking area;
 - b. in all other areas only where directed by Council.

Street furniture on Roads and Public Places

- (1) Café furniture and associated ancillary items will only be permitted at premises, which are registered as such under the *Food Act 1984* to serve food and/or beverages.
- (2) The permit holder is responsible for the conduct of patrons at tables and chairs in the outdoor seating area and must:
 - a. ensure that patrons do not move tables and chairs from their positions and obstruct the footpath;
 - b. ensure that patrons do not allow pets, prams or any other personal items to obstruct the footpath; and
 - c. not serve food or beverages to patrons standing on the footpath except for take away sales.
- (3) An Authorised Officer may place a condition on a permit requiring a permit holder to place written reminders to patrons in the outdoor seating area, regarding the above, if deemed appropriate by that Authorised Officer.
- (4) A setback of 0.5 metres is required from each side boundary of a premise to ensure access points from the footpath to the road are retained between each premise. Access points of minimum width 1.0 metre shall also be provided at minimum of every 6 angled parking bays and 3 parallel parking bays. This applies also to the construction of eating platforms (outstands) that comprise of plinths, bollards, ropes or chains that would ordinarily obstruct movement of pedestrians.
- (5) Traders are responsible for the appropriate disposal of all litter generated by patrons of their footpath dining areas.

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- (6) Serving staff at cafes with kerbside trading/serving should facilitate free access by pedestrians and give pedestrians (prams, disabled, etc) passing priority over their own movements into and out of cafes.
- (7) Each operator is responsible for maintaining the outdoor seating area in a tidy manner. A permit may be cancelled or suspended if instances of littering or ongoing untidiness are noted.
- (8) Items which are placed on the footpath must be stable and of good design and are not to damage the footpath.
- (9) Tables and chairs should have a contrasting colour to their background to assist the vision impaired.
- (10) Traders will be responsible for reimbursing Council for any reinstatement works as a result of damage to footpaths caused by chairs/tables etc.
- (11) Tables and chairs may only be displayed outside the premises to which they relate and must be contained within the property line, with the required setback from the property line of 0.5 metres on each side to allow for access. Permission may be granted to extend the placement of tables and chairs to one adjacent premise, however, there must still be a 0.5 metre setback from each property line and an access point provided every 6 angled parking bays and 3 parallel parking bays. Any application must be accompanied by written permission from the proprietor of that business which fronts the footpath on which the items are intended to be placed. In this instance, public liability insurance must be extended to include this situation of risk as per the permit conditions.
- (12) Footpath trading will only be permitted till 11pm unless, in the opinion of an Authorised Officer of Council, the amenity, safety or access of nearby residences will not be affected.
- (13) Any premises that propose to serve alcohol on the footpath must have a planning permit and their liquor licence endorsed as part of the "licensed area" on the liquor licence for those premises.
- (14) Council and its Authorised Officers reserve the right to prohibit chairs backing on to the walkway zone.

Display of Goods on Roads

- (1) In order to provide a consistent, unobstructed walkway, goods displays may only be displayed in the Potential Trading Area.
- (2) Goods and goods stands must only be placed on the footpath during the normal hours of trade.
- (3) Goods (except furniture) must be displayed on stable stands approved by an Authorised Officer of Council. Goods must be displayed on stable stands that are able to withstand adverse weather conditions. Stands must be secured in a manner which ensures that adverse weather conditions will not create a risk for pedestrians, property and passing traffic. Goods and goods stands must not cause any damage to the footpath.
- (4) Goods displays will not be permitted where access to a loading zone or disabled parking bay will be impeded.

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- (5) Goods displays will not be permitted where they will cause difficulty to pedestrians and people exiting or accessing parked vehicles or the footpath. Stands and goods must be free of sharp edges and protrusions and must not present a hazard to pedestrians.
- (6) Each display must not exceed a height of 1.5 metres and a length / width of 0.75 metres. The number of displays will be determined (on application) by Authorised Officers based on this Code.
- (7) Goods should have a contrasting colour to their background to assist the vision impaired.
- (8) Goods displays will not be permitted to overhang either the kerb or walkway. Full-length shop awnings will be considered on a case by case basis to protect goods and may require a planning permit.

Heritage areas of the Shire

(1) Signs

Planning permit requirements in the Planning Scheme may apply to signs on buildings and heritage areas. Signage must be in keeping with the heritage nature of the area, but regardless of location, be in a style that is neat and professional.

(2) Street Furniture

- a. Corporate sponsorship not exceeding 30% of the surface area may be permitted for advertising purposes on screens and umbrellas only in accordance with the specifications set out in the application form to the satisfaction of Council.
- b. In keeping with the heritage areas, tables and chairs must be in accordance with seating type and lettering style guidelines attached to the application form. Works relating to outdoor dining may require a planning permission. As part of the application process the application will be forwarded to planning. A Local Law permit will not be issued until planning permission is granted.
- c. Windbreaks will not be permitted where outstands and bollards have been constructed.
- d. Plastic chairs are not permitted, unless where permitted in an application considered on a case by case basis.

Ancillary Items (umbrellas, enclosures, heaters and pot plants)

Unless authorised by an Authorised Officer, ancillary items will be allowed only in conjunction with café furniture, only for premises that are registered to serve food and/or beverages under the *Food Act 1984*.

Outdoor Speakers / Amplification Equipment

- (1) Speakers that owners propose to affix to a building or veranda may require a planning permit. If these items are fitted without appropriate permission, an Authorised Officer of Council may require the items to be removed. In that event, the speakers must be removed.

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- (2) No live entertainment on council land is permitted without a permit.

Noise Emission

- (1) The permit holder of kerbside seating must take all necessary steps to ensure that no noise or other disturbance emanates from the footpath activity which causes a nuisance to others or causes detriment to the amenity of the neighbourhood.

Heaters

- (1) Due to narrow footpath widths outdoor heaters should, wherever possible, be affixed to the awnings or verandas so as to be located off the footpath. A planning permit may be required in relation to fixed heaters. A Local Law Permit will not be issued until planning permission (where required) is granted.
- (2) If patio heaters, which have a base on the footpath, are to be used they must be licensed as part of a Public Space Permit Agreement and covered by traders' public liability insurance.
- (3) All outdoor heaters must comply with safety standards as specified by the Energy Safe Victoria.
- (4) Solid fuel heaters must not be used on council land.

Umbrellas

- (1) Only approved umbrellas may be placed in the Potential Trading Area.
- (2) If umbrellas are allowed, they must be 2.2 metres high at the lowest point and must not protrude over the kerb. At times when it is raining, water from large umbrellas should be discharged in the areas outside the walkway zone.
- (3) Umbrellas may be secured to the footpath by a lock-in device. Lock in devices will only be approved where the device lies flush with the footpath when the umbrellas are not displayed. Approval for a lock-in device will be given upon special application to Council's Local Laws Unit. Lock in devices for umbrellas should be fitted with a cap or lid covering the hole when the umbrella is not in place.

Plans and specifications for the items must be lodged with Council prior to any umbrella being placed with a lock-in device. If a lock in device is fitted without prior Council approval, an Authorised Officer may require the lock-in device to be removed and the footpath reinstated to its original condition. In that event, the lock-in device must be removed.

- (4) If a lock-in device is not used, umbrellas must be secured to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer.

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Barrier Screens

- (1) Screens or screening devices must be placed where there are tables and chairs for safety reasons.
- (2) There are several types of screens approved by Council:
 - a. temporary canvas screens – of the type commonly provided by coffee companies; and
 - b. high barrier screens – made of safety glass or heavy duty opaque plastic and fitted to the footpath with a locking device.

Temporary Canvas Screens

Temporary canvas screens may only be placed in the Potential Trading Area. A set back of 0.5 metres is required from each property boundary to ensure a 1 metre access point between premises. Temporary canvas barrier screens must be placed so that the screens are stable and secured or weighted so that they will not be moved by patrons or weather conditions.

Barriers must be removed from the footpath when a premise is not open. Signs must be for business identification purposes only, not advertising of products, goods or services.

Full Length Verandah Awnings / Blinds

Full-length awnings/blinds attached from a veranda to the footpath will be considered on a case by case basis and may require planning and road services approval (if permanent).

Planter Boxes

- (1) Planter boxes will only be allowed in the Potential Trading Area
- (2) Planter Boxes must provide a positive contribution to the visual amenity of the street. Permits that allow planter boxes require that they be well maintained with healthy plants. If this is not adhered to the permit for the planter boxes will be revoked and the planter boxes will/must be removed.
- (3) Written permission must be sought/obtained from an authorised officer and may be given for:
 - a. Temporary Planters - must be brought in during non-trading hours.
 - b. Permanent Planters – must be of solid design. A planning permit may also be required.
- (4) Unless written permission is provided by an Authorised Officer, permanent planters may not be used as enclosures unless the outdoor seating area is located on a kerbed outstand and must be placed so as to cause no obstruction to street cleaning vehicles.

Ancillary Items Owned by Business Remaining on the Footpath on a Semi Permanent Basis

- (1) Semi permanent café furniture that is fixed with lock in devices will be allowed subject to approval from an Authorised Officer.

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- (2) Lock-in Screen and Umbrellas – plans and specifications must be lodged with council's Road Services Department and will be assessed on a case by case basis and upon design merit by Road Services Department and planning staff.
- (3) Council reserves the right to place markers along the footpath when deemed necessary to ensure an appropriate minimum pedestrian corridor is maintained at all times. Premises that breach the minimum required clearance may have the footpath marked as part of enforcement action.

Bike Racks, Benches and Other Permanent Fixtures on the Footpath

- (1) Bike racks, benches, bins, pedestrian crossings, fire hydrants and other emergency assets, parking meters, traffic signal boxes, public transport shelters and other permanent fixtures placed on the footpath are public assets and have priority over commercial interests. A minimum clearance of 0.5 metres, or greater if deemed appropriate by an Authorised Officer, will be required on either side of any asset permanently affixed to the footpath. Failure to maintain this clearance will constitute a breach of permit and may result in fines and / or possible cancellation of permit. No items may be placed between parking meters and the Walkway Zone.
- (2) Rubbish bins and parking meters will not be relocated at the request of traders. Traders should take this into account when selecting a site.
- (3) Operators may apply to Council to relocate other Council maintained fixtures such as bike racks and benches. A request in writing must be submitted with the application for a footpath trading permit. If approved, the costs associated with relocations must be met by the applicant.
- (4) The request must include a plan showing the site of the proposed relocation and a letter signed by the trader outside whose premises the rack or bench will be relocated. Council will charge traders for the cost of relocation of public assets.

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The Campaspe Shire Council Trading Code of Practice was adopted by Council on 20 July 2022.

..... Chief Executive Officer

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL

PROTECTION OF COUNCIL ASSETS DURING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES CODE OF PRACTICE

1. PREAMBLE

This Code of Practice (**the Code**) has been developed as a tool to manage the effects of building development within the Campaspe Shire Council, to help protect infrastructure and support the wellbeing of local communities and the environment.

A strategic objective in the Council Plan for the Built Environment is to preserve and enhance public areas and infrastructure to provide safe, accessible and attractive places and facilities. This Code describes minimum performance requirements and encourages responsible building site management to reduce infrastructure damage and protect public amenity and safety. The Code applies to subdivisions, urban and rural development, commercial, industrial and demolition activities.

Major types of infrastructure damage occurring within the Campaspe Shire Council include:

- (1) broken footpaths, kerb and drainage pits;
- (2) road pavement damage (sealed and unsealed);
- (3) silt on roads and in drains; and
- (4) pollution of downstream and receiving water bodies.

Residents who live next door to building sites often endure significant inconvenience and loss of amenity as a result of the conditions which prevail. Problems commonly encountered include:

- (1) storage of material and equipment on roads, footpaths and nature strips;
- (2) waste materials and litter not stored or removed in a responsible manner;
- (3) builders refuse such as wind-blown litter, wrappings, containers, plastics, styrene, etc, escaping from the site; and
- (4) traffic and pedestrian hazards as a result of waste, mud, materials and equipment being left on roads.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Code of Practice is to protect public assets and infrastructure during building work and to provide an environment where activities on and related to building sites and building work complement the safety and amenity of the public and the community.

3. RELATIONSHIP WITH GENERAL LOCAL LAW NO. 9 2022

The Code has been incorporated by reference in Council's General Local Law No.9 2022.

Clause 40 of the Local Law provides that:

- (1) A person carrying out building works on a building site for which a building permit or planning permit has been issued and is not considered minor building works, must:
 - (a) obtain an Asset and Amenity Protection Permit from the Council before commencing, or allowing to be commenced, any such building works, and
 - (b) comply with the Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities Code of Practice as amended from time to time.
- (2) In determining whether to grant an Asset and Amenity Protection Permit, Council must have regard to this Code.

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4. DEFINITIONS

Any word defined in General Local Law No. 9 20224 has the same meaning in this Code of Practice, in addition to the following:

<i>Asset and Amenity Protection Permit</i>	a written permit issued by Council for the protection of public assets and infrastructure during building work;
<i>Builder</i>	the person carrying out building works on any building site;
<i>Builder's refuse</i>	any solid or liquid domestic or commercial waste, debris or rubbish, and, without limiting the generality of the above, includes any glass, metal, plastic, paper, fabric, wood, food, food wrappers and containers, vegetation, soil, sand, concrete, rocks and any other waste material, substance or thing generated by or in connection with building work;
<i>Building</i>	includes any structure or building (whole or part), whether temporary or permanent;
<i>Building site</i>	means any land prepared for and on which building works are carried out.
<i>Building works</i>	includes any activities, events and practices for or in connection with the construction, alteration, demolition or removal of a building.
<i>Construction period</i>	the period in which building work is carried out;
<i>Hoarding</i>	an enclosure that separates a building site from adjacent properties during building works within business zoned precincts or areas of significant numbers of people;
<i>Minor building works</i>	means building work valued at less than \$10,000 excluding demolition and removal of buildings and structures and installation of swimming pools (regardless of value).
<i>Owner</i>	the owner of land on which the building is situated;
<i>Private building</i>	any works undertaken on private land by a private person, business or their nominee that requires a building permit to be issued;
<i>Refuse facility</i>	a suitable rubbish receptacle capable of restricting debris and other waste from leaving a building site;
<i>Site fencing</i>	an enclosure that separates a building site from adjacent properties during building works, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is not less than 1.5 metres in height; (b) is capable of preventing litter from being transported from the building site by wind; (c) has not more than one access opening to the building site which is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) fitted with gates not less than 1.5 metres in height that prevents litter from being transported from the building site by wind; (ii) located to correspond with the location of the vehicle crossing for the building site;

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- (iii) kept closed at all times when building work is not in progress;

Site identification

a sign which is at least 600 millimetres in height and 400 millimetres in width but does not exceed 2 square metres, is erected at the entrance to the building site and is clearly visible from the road, and includes:

- (a) the lot number, as described on the certificate of title relevant to the land;
- (b) the name of a person carrying out building work on the building site;
- (c) the postal address of a person carrying out building work on the building site;
- (d) the contact telephone number or numbers for a person carrying out building work on the building site;

Stormwater system

a stormwater system which provides for the conveyance of stormwater run-off including kerb and channel, open channels, underground pipe systems and natural waterways;

Temporary vehicle crossing

is a structure or material placed that extends from the road to the property boundary or to within the property boundary, sufficient to minimise the damage to public assets such as kerbs and footpaths and to stabilise ground so as to minimise the amount of mud or debris being trafficked by motor vehicles and materials entering and leaving the property during the currency of building work;

Vehicle crossing

entry or exit for vehicles from adjoining land to a roadway;

Waste

any discarded, rejected, unwanted, surplus or abandoned matter (whether solid or liquid) and includes putrescible waste, other residual wastes, and green waste.

5. ASSET PROTECTION

(1) Asset and Amenity Protection Permit

For the protection of public assets vested in Council and for the protection and safety of persons on, adjacent to, opposite, or passing a building site, Council requires a person carrying out building works on a building site for which a building permit or planning permit has been issued to undertake building work, must obtain an Asset and Amenity Protection Permit under clause 40(1) of the General Local Law No. 9 2022.

- (a) On the payment of an application fee as determined by resolution of Council, Council may grant an Asset and Amenity Protection Permit in respect of a building site.
- (b) An Asset and Amenity Protection Permit may allow a person to enter a building site from a road other than by a permanently constructed vehicle crossing whether or not public assets or infrastructure are likely to be damaged.
- (c) An Asset and Amenity Protection Permit may be subject to such conditions as Council determines including:
 - (i) the requirement for an asset condition report to be submitted by the applicant and for the report to form part of the approval;

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- (ii) requiring protection works to be done;
 - (iii) requiring the erection of site fencing or hoardings to the satisfaction of Council;
 - (iv) requiring that any or all public assets or infrastructure damage be repaired, replaced or re-instated within a specified time; and
 - (v) requiring a temporary vehicle crossing to be installed to Council's satisfaction before the commencement of any building work or delivery of any materials to the property, and be maintained for the duration of the building work.
- (d) A person carrying out building works on a building site must repair, to the satisfaction of Council, damaged roads, channels, drains, vehicle crossings or other assets vested in Council which has been determined referable to the building site for which a permit has been obtained.
- (e) If an Authorised Officer identifies that damage has occurred as a result of non-compliance with the Code, the Authorised Officer may arrange for the damage to be reinstated and may seek reimbursement for costs associated with reinstatement, including administrative charges.
- (f) Where in the opinion of an Authorised Officer, an existing driveway crossing, footpath, kerb or other part of the road may be damaged, the person carrying out building works must, when requested, pay a bond to Council.
- (g) The amount of the bond required under clause 65 of the Local Law must be proportionate to the likely cost of repairing any damage and must be refunded on completion of the work or may be retained by the Council to off-set the costs of repairing any damage.
- (h) When in the opinion of an Authorised Officer, the safety of persons on, adjacent to, opposite or passing a building site is at risk, the Authorised Officer may direct further protection works to be undertaken by the person carrying out the building works.

6. SITE CONTAINMENT & IDENTIFICATION

(1) Site Containment

A person carrying out building works on a building site must ensure that;

- (a) All building work is contained entirely within the building site;
- (b) Prior to the commencement of any building works, a building site must be provided with a hoarding or site fencing;
- (c) Site fencing is erected on the boundary of the building site's property line, and must not protrude in or on any land other than the building site where practicable;
- (d) If a builder has more than one adjoining building site, then the site fencing may enclose all of the building sites under the builder's control;
- (e) Each section of the site fencing is erected as close as practicable to vertical at all times;
- (f) Site fencing must remain erected and in place until the completion of the building works;
- (g) Entry to the building site must not take place other than across the vehicle crossing for the building site;

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- (h) Materials must not be deposited, stored or stockpiled on any part of the road without the approval of Council;
- (i) Soil that is stripped from a building site must be stockpiled on the building site for re-use or be transported to a legal place of disposal;
- (j) The requirement to provide site fencing under this clause may be varied by a permit where the permit holder is able to obtain public liability insurance cover for that part of the building site outside the property line.

(2) Site Identification

A person carrying out building works on a building site must provide site identification.

7. INSPECTIONS

- (1) Council may determine if and when inspections of building sites may be conducted.
- (2) Inspections of a building site may be conducted by an Authorised Officer.
- (3) If an Authorised Officer identifies any damage during an inspection of a building site which appears to result from non-compliance with the Code, the Authorised Officer may direct a person carrying out building works on the building site to make the area safe and reinstate the damage within a specified time. The Authorised Officer will provide a person carrying out the building work on the building site with written confirmation either at the time of the inspection or within a reasonable timeframe.
- (4) If Council considers that building works on a building site has created a risk to the public that requires immediate action to make the area safe. Council will undertake appropriate action to remove the risk to the public and recover any costs associated with doing so, including the cost of after hour's attendance as part of the reinstatement costs.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

(1) Noise

A person carrying out building works on a building site shall have regard to General Local Law No. 9 2022, Part 3 Environment 30 – Dangerous and Unsightly Land and Nuisances, regulations, standards and guidelines issued from time to time by the Environment Protection Authority.

(2) Stormwater Protection

Builders must ensure that the building site is developed and managed to minimise the risks of stormwater pollution, through the contamination of run-off by chemicals, sediments, animal wastes or gross pollutants or other associated builder's refuse in accordance with currently accepted best practice. This includes adoption of measures to:

- (a) minimise the amount of mud, dirt, sand, soil or stones deposited on the abutting roads, adjoining land or washed into the stormwater system;
- (b) prevent building clean-up, wash down or other wastes and builder's refuse being discharged offsite or allowed to enter the stormwater system;
- (c) ensure all vehicles delivering materials to the site are prevented from depositing mud, sand, soil or stones onto council's road network;

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- (d) ensure that any waste which has spilled onto the road, nature strip or surrounding area is removed as soon as practicable so that any residues are prevented from entering the stormwater system;
- (e) ensure that any footpath adjacent to the building site or likely to be affected by the building work is kept clear of mud and dirt at all times,
- (f) ensure that the building site is managed and controlled in accordance with the principals of best practice guidelines as issued from time to time by the Environment Protection Authority, Catchment Management Authority or any other relevant water authority or organisation that may come into operation.

(3) Dust

When building work is being carried out, the person carrying out the works on site must ensure that the site is managed to minimise the risk of detrimental effects to the health and amenity of nearby residents caused by reduced visibility, reduced air quality and/or the effects of deposition of dust generated from the building site.

(4) Containment & Removal of Refuse

- (1) When building works are being carried out, the person carrying out the works must:
 - (a) provide a closed refuse facility for the purpose of disposal of builder's refuse which is of robust construction, not less than 1 cubic metre in volume and has a lid which is attached to the container with hinges and from which litter cannot escape;
 - (b) place the refuse facility on the site and keep it in place (except for such periods as are necessary to empty the facility) for the duration of the building work;
 - (c) keep the refuse facility closed to prevent wind borne litter escaping from the refuse facility; and
 - (d) empty the refuse facility whenever full and, if necessary; provide a replacement facility during the emptying process.
- (2) The requirement to provide a refuse facility may be waived at Council's discretion.
- (3) During building works:
 - (a) a person carrying out building works on a building site must ensure that all builder's refuse, which requires containment, is placed in the refuse facility referred to in clause 4(1);
 - (b) a person carrying out building works on a building site must ensure that builder's refuse is not deposited in, or on any land other than in accordance with clause 4(1); and
 - (c) a person carrying out building works on a building site must ensure that builder's refuse is not deposited in or over any part of the stormwater system.
- (4) Builders must remove and lawfully dispose of all builder's refuse including, without limiting the generality of the above, the builder's refuse in the facility referred to in clause 4(1), within 7 days of completion of the building work or issue of an occupancy permit, whichever occurs last.
- (5) Council encourages responsible waste management and the recycling of building waste.

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9. SANITARY FACILITIES

(1) Sanitary Facilities

- (a) Works must not be conducted on a site unless a sewerer toilet or a fresh water flush with water seal type portable toilet (closed) system is provided, and serviced as required (as a guide at least monthly) for the use of the persons on that building site, to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer.
- (b) Notwithstanding sub clause 9(1)(a), if buildings are being constructed on adjacent building sites simultaneously by the same person and Council allows one sewerer toilet system or a fresh water flush with water seal type portable toilet (closed) system between them, no offence will arise.
- (c) An Authorised Officer may enter land at any reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting any sewerer toilet, portable toilet (closet) systems, urinals, pans, receptacles, plant and any other things and places for ascertaining compliance with this part.

10. PEDESTRIANS & TRAFFIC

(1) Pedestrian & Vehicular Traffic - Hazards & Safety

- (a) Building works must not cause an impediment or detriment to or be carried out in an unsafe manner so as to pose a risk to the safety of, pedestrians and vehicles.
- (b) For the purposes of this clause, impediment, detriment and risk to safety to pedestrians or vehicular traffic may be caused by:
 - (i) mud or debris on a road or footpath; or
 - (ii) material referable to building works on a road or footpath; or
 - (iii) equipment referable to building works on a road or footpath; or
 - (iv) excavation on or immediately adjacent to a road or footpath; or
 - (v) damage referable to building works on, or directly adjacent to, a road or footpath; or
 - (vi) building work on a road or footpath
- (c) Works required to be undertaken within the road or road reserve may be subject to the requirement of a traffic management plan in accordance with section 99A of the *Road Safety Act 1986* and Australian Standard AS 1742.3 traffic control devices for works on roads which should be in operation for the duration of the works.
- (d) For the purposes of this clause, the traffic management plan shall include provisions for the safe travel of all vehicular traffic, bicycles and pedestrians.

11. PRIVATE, COMMERCIAL & SUBDIVISION WORKS

(1) The Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities Code of Practice

- (a) The Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities Code of Practice is incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

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- (b) A person carrying out building works for which a building permit or planning permit has been issued, must:
 - (i) obtain an Asset and Amenity Protection Permit before commencing, or allowing to be commenced, any such building works,
 - (ii) comply with this Code of Practice as amended from time to time.

The Campaspe Shire Council’s Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities Code of Practice was adopted by Council on 20 July 2022.

..... Chief Executive Officer

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL LIVESTOCK CODE OF PRACTICE

1. PREAMBLE

Council is committed to public safety, the protection of roads and the conservation of roadside environments.

It has developed this Code of Practice to ensure that all persons who are responsible for livestock understand the minimum acceptable standards under which they operate.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Code of Practice is to:

- (1) Ensure the safety of the public, farmers and stock on Council controlled roads.
- (2) Prevent damage to the road structure and its environs.
- (3) Promote the conservation of flora and fauna on roadside land.

3. RELATIONSHIP WITH GENERAL LOCAL LAW NO. 9 2022

This Code of Practice has been incorporated by reference into the Council's General Local Law No. 9.

Clause 50(1) of that Local Law provides that; "The requirements of the Livestock Code of Practice must be complied with".

The Code referred to in that clause is this Code of Practice.

4. PERMITS

The permit holder must take out insurance, and maintain the insurance cover during the currency of the permit. The insurance cover must be in the name of the permit holder. The insurance policy cover must value \$10,000,000 or more against liability for possible personal injury, whether at Common Law or by virtue of any statute or for liability for property damage which may arise or could be held to arise from any act allowed by the permit.

(1) LIVESTOCK DROVING PERMITS

The route followed must be as specified on the permit unless varied by a direction from an Authorised Officer.

Livestock must travel a daily distance as directed by Council towards their destination.

For the following classes of livestock, the minimum daily distance of travel must be:

Cattle	12 km
Sheep	8 km

Livestock must only be driven in in daylight hours.

Livestock must be accompanied by two or more adults while on any road. They must be competent in handling the livestock. Those persons must supervise the livestock to ensure compliance with this Code of Practice.

Livestock must be in suitable health and fitness to be driven. A certificate from a registered veterinarian declaring the stock condition as suitable will be required to be presented.

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL LIVESTOCK CODE OF PRACTICE

If required by an Authorised Officer, the permit holder must provide extra persons to take charge of the animals.

The permit holder must provide and maintain livestock warning signs pursuant to any guidelines prepared by Council from time to time.

Livestock can only be camped overnight in areas approved by an Authorised Officer.

Livestock camped overnight are not permitted on the carriageway of a road and must be enclosed by a substantial and secure barrier to the requirement of an Authorised Officer.

The person in charge of the livestock must comply with any requirement or direction from an Authorised Officer with regard to the protection of the road, the road reserve, roadside vegetation, any construction on the road or any private property.

Maximum numbers of animals for which a livestock droving permit will be issued:

Cows, heifers, steers, calves, bullocks	400
Sheep	2000
Other livestock as approved by an Authorised Officer.	

Notwithstanding the above clause lesser numbers may be specified by Council for any particular permit.

Dead animals must be immediately disposed of through a licensed knackery or if approved by an Authorised Officer, buried by the roadside.

The issue of a permit will be subject to a fee as determined by Council per droving or burial.

Permit conditions may be altered or amended by Council or its Authorised Officer at any time or for any reason.

Permits will expire on the date specified but if the livestock reach their destination prior to that date then the permit will expire on that day.

(2) **LIVESTOCK GRAZING PERMIT**

The grazing of livestock on roads is only permitted between sunrise and sunset.

Grazing on roadsides adjacent to a property owned by a person other than the permit holder must be approved in writing by that owner.

Livestock grazing is only permitted on the roads stated on the permit.

Bulls are not permitted to graze on any road.

The owner of livestock or the person in charge of the livestock must comply with any directions from an Authorised Officer with regard to the protection of the road, the road reserve, roadside vegetation, any construction on the road reserve or any private property.

Grazing animals must be controlled by a temporary fence constructed and maintained to the requirements of Council. Council may require the fence to be electrified.

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL LIVESTOCK CODE OF PRACTICE

A grazing permit will be issued for a period of 3 to 12 months or a lesser period if stated on the permit.

The permit holder must provide, use and maintain livestock warning signs pursuant to any guidelines prepared by Council from time to time.

Maximum numbers of animals for which a livestock grazing permit will be issued are determined by Council.

(3) PERMANENT LIVESTOCK CROSSINGS

The following conditions will apply to all approvals for permanent livestock crossings unless expressly excluded amended or varied in the letter of approval. The approval holder must:

(1) Road Safety Act

Ensure that the provisions of the *Road Safety Act 1986* and all regulations made thereunder are complied with at all times.

(2) Road Management Act

Ensure that the provisions of the *Road Management Act 2004* and all regulations made thereunder are complied with at all times.

(3) Responsible Person

Ensure a minimum of one responsible person is in attendance to supervise the crossing at all operative times.

(4) Traffic Delay

Ensure that there is no traffic delay that exceeds 5 minutes in any one crossing.

(5) Damage to Roadway, Road Reserve and Native Flora

Ensure there is no damage caused to:

- (a) the roadway;
- (b) any native flora;
- (c) the road reserve;

Council will set such conditions in the approval as it considers appropriate to avoid such damage.

(6) Roadside Drainage

- (a) Ensure that all roadside drainage existing at the time of granting any approval is maintained in the same state of working order and is not damaged or affected by the crossing of livestock.
- (b) Comply with any direction from Council to repair, replace, renew or maintain any roadside drainage works affected by the crossing of livestock with such work to be completed at the approval holder's cost.
- (c) Comply with any direction from Council for roadside drainage works to be completed prior to the issue of any approval.

**CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL
LIVESTOCK CODE OF PRACTICE**

(7) Traffic Warning Devices

- (a) Ensure that all signs, poles and other warning devices required by the Local Law, this code of Practice or any other legislation are properly installed and maintained.
- (b) Any illegal or incorrect signage will be removed by Council at the cost of the approval holder.
- (c) Ensure all signs, poles and other warning devices are removed by the approval holder at the expiration of the approval or as required by legislation.

(8) Laneway Gates and Holding Yards

- (a) Ensure that any holding yards are at least 30 metres from the nearest road reserve boundary, unless impractical to do so.
- (b) Ensure gateways are constructed to the width specified by Council.

(9) Mud on Roads

- (a) Ensure the surface of laneways and holding yards are maintained to minimise the deposit of mud and manure on the road.
- (b) Ensure that any mud, waste, injurious material or substances are removed from the surface of the road after stock have crossed.

The Campaspe Shire Council Livestock Code of Practice was adopted by Council on 20 July 2022.

..... Chief Executive Officer

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL
WASTE, RECYCLING AND FOOD AND GARDEN WASTE CODE OF PRACTICE

1. PREAMBLE

Council is committed to ensuring that any residual waste, recycling and/or food and garden waste service meets the objectives of this code of practice and is contained within an approved bin.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Code of Practice is to:

- (1) Provide an environment where activity related to kerbside waste, recycling and food and garden waste services complement the safety and amenity of the community;
- (2) Reduce the environmental impact related to waste management or waste;
- (3) Provide for the administration of Council's powers and functions.

3. RELATIONSHIP WITH GENERAL LOCAL LAW NO. 9 2022

This Code of Practice has been incorporated by reference into Council's General Local Law No. 9 2022.

Clause 41(1) of that Local Law provides that "A person must not place out for collection any residual waste, recycling and/or food and garden waste unless it is contained within an approved bin in accordance with the Waste, Recycling and Food and Garden Waste Code of Practice".

4. CODE

(1) Prohibited Wastes Placed in a Waste Bin

A person must not place in a waste bin any: -

- (a) Slops or liquid waste;
- (b) Moist waste unless the moist waste has previously been strained and securely wrapped so as to prevent its escape or leakage;
- (c) Ash or ashes unless such ash or ashes have been effectively dampened so as to be non-combustible and free from any heat generating particles;
- (d) Concrete, masonry, bricks, building debris or soil;
- (e) Hazardous chemicals or substances;
- (f) Radioactive material;
- (g) Volatile, explosive or flammable substance;
- (h) Night soil except disposable nappies may be placed in a waste bin;
- (i) The carcass of a deceased animal or bird;
- (j) Oil, solvents, flammable liquids or paint;
- (k) Waste of a shape, size or weight that cannot be contained in such a waste bin;
- (l) Needles or syringes with an attached needle;
- (m) Medical or infectious waste;
- (n) Recyclable material that can go in the recycling bin;
- (o) Batteries;
- (p) Electric waste or
- (q) Any other object or matter which is or may be injurious to health.

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL
WASTE, RECYCLING AND FOOD AND GARDEN WASTE CODE OF PRACTICE

(2) Occupier to Maintain Waste, Recycling and Food and Garden Waste Bins

An occupier of a property who uses Council's collection services must: -

- (a) Keep and maintain on the property the approved bins as issued by Council;
- (b) Keep each bin in good order and in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition;
- (c) Not damage or deface bins;
- (d) Ensure that any damage to a waste, recycling or food and garden waste bin is promptly reported to Council or an agent appointed by Council.

(3) Collection of Household Refuse and Recycling and Food and Garden Waste

An occupier of a property who utilises Council's waste, recycling or food and garden waste collection service must place bins:

- (a) out for collection on such days as determined by Council;
- (b) on the nature strip or road reserve nearest the dwelling or in such other approved location
- (c) in a location that does not interfere with the free movement of pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
- (d) with the lid closed;
- (e) in accordance with published collection information;
- (f) in such a manner that facilitates mechanical collection;
- (g) in a sturdy upright position away from obstacles;
- (h) with the handles facing away from the road;
- (i) with a gap of 30cm between other bins;

An occupier of a property must return bins to their dwelling as soon as practicable on the day of collection after its contents have been collected;

Only the occupier of the dwelling who placed the bin out for collection may add, remove, or interfere with the contents of the bin.

(4) Recycling Acceptable Materials

A person must not place in any recycling or food and garden waste bin any material not expressly listed as permitted by Council to be placed in the respective bin.

A person must only place loose (not bagged) in the recycling bin the following: -

- (a) Glass bottles and jars;
- (b) Milk and juice cartons;
- (c) Aluminum and steel cans including aerosol cans;
- (d) Plastic with codes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 including milk, juice, soft drink, detergent, shampoo bottles, margarine, yoghurt and ice cream containers;
- (e) Paper products including:
 - (i) letters, envelopes and advertising material;
 - (ii) newspapers, magazines and cardboard;
 - (iii) telephone books;
 - (iv) work and school papers.

All food and beverage containers should be empty.

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL
WASTE, RECYCLING AND FOOD AND GARDEN WASTE CODE OF PRACTICE

(5) Food and Garden Waste Acceptable Materials

A person must only place in the food and garden waste bin the following: -

- (a) Organic garden material including:
 - (i) Grass clippings;
 - (ii) Leaves;
 - (iii) Twigs and branches under 100mm in diameter;
 - (iv) Garden pruning's;
 - (v) Animal excrement.

- (b) Organic Food Material including:
 - (i) Fruit and vegetable scraps;
 - (ii) Seafood, fish meat and bones;
 - (iii) Egg shells;
 - (iv) Dairy products;
 - (v) Bread, cereal, pasta and rice;
 - (vi) Tea bags and coffee grounds;
 - (vii) All left over food, cooked and raw;
 - (viii) All processed food;
 - (ix) Used paper towel, tissues and napkins;
 - (x) Compostable bags (AS4736 only);
 - (xi) Shredded paper;
 - (xii) All pizza boxes;
 - (xiii) Hair;
 - (xiv) All beverage containers should be empty;
 - (xv) Compostable food packaging including bamboo and wooden cutlery (AS4736 only).

**CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL
WASTE, RECYCLING AND FOOD AND GARDEN WASTE CODE OF PRACTICE**

The Campaspe Shire Council Waste, Recycling and Food and Garden Waste Code of Practice was adopted by Council on 20 July 2022.

..... Chief Executive Officer

INFRINGEMENT PENALTY SCHEDULE

Clause		Infringement Penalty Units		
		2	3	5
9(1)	Behaviour – general		X	
9(2)	Urinating or defecating in a public place		X	
9(3)	Rollerblades, skateboards and scooters	X		
10(1)	<u>Consumption and possession of liquor in a public place (excluding public reserves)</u>		X	
10(2)	Consumption and possession of liquor on public reserves		X	
10(3)	Consumption and possession of liquor following a direction		X	
10(5)	Compliance with a direction		X	
11(1)	No smoking in smoke free areas			X
11(3)	Offence to fail to comply with direction			X
12(1)	Activities on roads and council land	X		
12(2)	Non-compliance of trading code of practice and disability discrimination act	X		
12(4)	<u>Commercial and charitable activities on roads and council land</u>	X		
12(5)	<u>Murray Esplanade sign restrictions</u>	X		
13(1)	Approval for events and festivals	X		
14(1)	Busking	X		
15(1)	Placement of clothing bins	X		
15(2)	Maintenance of area around clothing bin	X		
16	Repair of vehicles		X	
17(1)	Placing bulk rubbish containers on a road		X	
18(1)	Vehicle crossings		X	
18(2)	Vehicle crossing no permit		X	
18(3)	Maintain vehicle crossing		X	
19(1)	Abandoned shopping trolleys	X		
20	Noise in a municipal district or on a road	X		
21	Playing of golf on council land	X		
22	Use of vehicles on council land		X	
23	Property numbers to be displayed	X		
24	Parked motor vehicles interfering with council functions		X	

INFRINGEMENT PENALTY SCHEDULE

Clause		Infringement Penalty Units		
		2	3	5
26	Trees and plants on private property	X		
27	Trees and plants on roads	X		
28	Signs and objects		X	
29	Fences at intersections	X		
30(1)	Dangerous and unsightly land that constitutes a fire hazard		X	
30(2)	Dangerous and unsightly land amenity of neighbourhood		X	
31(1)	Open air burning offensive materials		X	
31(2)	Open air burning - dead animals		X	
31(3)	Open air burning - remaining alight		X	
31(4)	Open air burning - must not light a fire		X	
31(5)	Open air burning – immediately take steps		X	
32(1)	Interference with council land, drains, pits or footpaths - footpaths		X	
32(2)	Interference with council land, drains - naturestrips		X	
32(3)	Interference with council land, drains - pits		X	
33(1)	Caravans and camping on Council land without a permit		X	
33(2)	Caravans and camping – maintenance of site		X	
33(3)	Caravans and camping – disposal of chemical toilet contents		X	
33(5)	Caravans and camping campfires		X	
34(1)	Aysons Reserve no permit	X		
34(2)	Aysons Reserve one caravan only	X		
34(3)	Aysons Reserve period no longer than 28 days in 12-month period	X		
34(4)	Aysons Reserve – maintenance of site	X		
34(5)	Aysons Reserve – disposal of chemical toilet contents	X		
35(1)	Lockington Travellers Rest no permit	X		
35(2)	Lockington Travellers Rest one caravan only	X		
35(3)	Lockington Travellers Rest period no longer than 28 days in 12-month period	X		
35(4)	Lockington Travellers Rest – maintenance of site	X		
35(5)	Lockington Travellers Rest – disposal of chemical toilet contents	X		

INFRINGEMENT PENALTY SCHEDULE

Clause		Infringement Penalty Units		
		2	3	5
36(1)	Girgarre Rest Point no permit	X		
36(2)	Girgarre Rest Point one caravan only	X		
36(3)	Girgarre Rest Point period no longer than 28 days in 12-month period	X		
36(4)	Girgarre Rest Point – maintenance of site	X		
36(5)	Girgarre Rest Point – disposal of chemical toilet contents	X		
37(1)	Caravans on residential land without a permit	X		
37(2)	Camping on residential land more than 3 days without permit	X		
37(3)	Camping on private land – period no longer than 28 days in 12-month period	X		
38(1)	Motorised vehicle use without a permit of for recreational purpose on any residential land		X	
38(2)	Motorised vehicle use without a permit of for recreational purpose on any residential land by another person		X	
38(3)	Use of motorised vehicle of person under 17 with parent permission		X	
39(1)	Heavy and unregistered vehicles – park keep or repair over 4.5 tonnes without a permit or keep more than two unregistered vehicles		X	
40(1)	Protection of Council Assets During Construction Activities		X	
41(1)	Regulation of household refuse - Non approved refuse receptacle		X	
41(2)	Place household refuse or industrial refuse in municipal bins		X	
41(3)	Remove or interfere with waste, recycling or garden organics placed in municipal bins		X	
41(4)	Place or remove residential waste, recycling or garden organics into another person's waste receptacle without permission		X	
42(1)	Keeping of number of dogs/cats allowed without a permit	X		
43(1)	Keeping of more animals than allowed in residential area	X		
43(2)	Exceeding maximum of animals allow in zones	X		
43(7)	Animal shelter constructed not in accordance with standards		X	
43(8)	Animal shelter maintenance and cleaning not in accordance with standards	X		
44	Keeping of livestock	X		
45	Exercising Pigeons	X		
46	Adequate fencing to prevent the escape of animals or livestock	X		

INFRINGEMENT PENALTY SCHEDULE

Clause		Infringement Penalty Units		
		2	3	5
47	Protection of other animals and native fauna and flora	X		
48	Domestic animal nuisance to neighbours	X		
49(1)	Dog excrement	X		
50(1)	Livestock code of practice Code not complied with		X	
51(1)	Livestock moved between parts of one farm to another only separated by another part of farm		X	
51(2)	Livestock moved between parts of farm divided by road		X	
51(3)	Livestock being regularly moved between parts of one farm separated by other land or different farms		X	
52(1)	Livestock movement on a road reserve without a permit		X	
52(2)	Livestock movement – non compliance with directions by authorised officer		X	
53(1)	Livestock movement, droving and grazing on a road with a permit		X	
54(3)	Prohibited droving, grazing, moving of livestock on a road reserve		X	
55(1)	Permanent livestock crossing approval		X	
56(1)	Responsibility of owners or occupiers of farm properties		X	
58(4)	Complying with conditional permits		X	
67(5)	Failing to comply with a notice to comply		X	

The Campaspe Shire Council Waste, Recycling and Food and Garden Waste Code of Practice was adopted by Council on 15 June 2022.

..... Chief Executive Officer

9.6 Policy 170 - Chief Executive Officer, Councillor and Staff Interaction

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Governance	Governance & Strategy	Manager Governance	

1. SUMMARY

Interaction between the Councillors, CEO and Council staff is critical to achieve a high performing and functioning Council. This ensures that the Councillors are provided with timely and accurate information to enable good decision making when representing the interests of the community. To obtain the appropriate information in a timely manner, the Councillors are required to communicate with not only the CEO, but members of Council staff as well.

In communicating with Council staff, Councillors must maintain compliance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2020, particularly with regards to sections 123 and 124 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Act).

This policy provides guidance to both Councillors and member of Council staff in appropriate communication to allow for performance of their duties as established by the Act.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt Council Policy 170 - Chief Executive Officer, Councillor and Staff Interaction

3. PURPOSE

This policy is pursuant to section 46(3)(c) of the Act that states that the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for managing interactions between members of Council staff and Councillors. This includes ensuring that policies, practices and protocols are in place to support arrangements for interaction between members of Council staff and Councillors.

This policy provides guidance and support for Council staff and Councillors in the performance of their duties as established by the Local Government Act 2020 (Act).

4. DISCUSSION

The Chief Executive Officer, Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy provides the guidance and clarity required by Councillors when needing to interact with Council staff and clarifies the separation of responsibilities between Councillors and staff. The Policy outlines the key staff Councillors may contact dependent upon subject matter and reiterates the provisions of the Act that Councillors are prohibited from improperly directing or seeking to influence Council staff.

The Policy objectives are to:

- acknowledge and recognise the respective roles and responsibilities of Councillors and council staff, in particular the CEO, in accordance with the Councillor Code of Conduct.
- support and assist Councillors and Council staff in respecting the roles and responsibilities of others within Council.
- maintain efficient, effective and transparent decision making and good governance arrangements.
- support compliance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2020, particularly with regards to compliance with Section 123(3)(c) of the Act relating to misuse of position including directing or improperly influencing, or seeking to direct or improperly influence, a member of Council staff and section 124, which states that a Councillor must not intentionally direct, or seek to direct, a member of Council staff.

- recognise the responsibilities of the Council in ensuring that it meets the responsibilities of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 and the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 to protect people from risks to their health and safety including harassment, bullying, violence and discrimination.
- ensure contact with Council staff will be in accordance with the protocols supporting this policy.

5. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- 5 July 2022 Executive Management Group Meeting

External consultation:

- Nil

Councillors:

- 6 July 2022 Council Briefing Session.

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
Effective and efficient services available locally
Inclusive, connected, culturally diverse and safe

11. ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Issues:

Issue 1:

Councillors unable to source timely and appropriate information from members of Council staff as the staff are unsure about what information they can provided to Councillors.

Risk:

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation action
Councillors unable to source timely and appropriate information	Possible	Major	Moderate	CEO to establish mechanisms to ensure information is provided within appropriate timeframes.
Councillors improperly influencing or directing members of Council staff	Unlikely	Major	Moderate	The Policy will assist in providing clear guidance.
Inappropriate communication between Council staff and Councillors.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Council to provide education to members of Council staff.

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.

Issue 2:

Members of Council staff unaware of their rights and responsibilities when communicating with Councillors.

Issue 3:

Councillors either refusing to comply or failing to understand the requirements of Section 123 and 124 of the Act with regards to improperly influencing or directing members of Council staff.

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

The review of this policy assessed the requirements of the Councillors to enable them sufficient communication with Council staff, while at the same time establishing appropriate protocols to reduce the likelihood of a Councillor breaching sections 123 or 124 of the Act.

16. ATTACHMENTS

1. Policy 170 Proposed [9.6.1 - 7 pages]
2. Policy 170 Current [9.6.2 - 5 pages]

Chief Executive Officer, Councillor and Staff Interaction

Council Policy Number 170

Date adopted

Scheduled for review



Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Purpose

This policy provides guidance and support for Council staff and Councillors in the performance of their duties as established by the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act).

This policy is pursuant to section 46(3)(c) of the Act that states that the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for:

“managing interactions between members of Council staff and Councillors and ensuring that policies, practices and protocols that support arrangements for interaction between members of Council staff and Councillors are developed and implemented”

This document establishes the protocols for staff in regard to their interactions with Councillors, while also supporting Councillors in complying with the Councillor Code of Conduct and the Act.

Policy Statement

1. Context

Council consists of the nine democratically elected Councillors (the electoral arm) and the organisation/staff (the operational arm). Councillors appoint the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), determine Council policies and set the strategic direction of the Council and the municipality and delegate Council's powers to the CEO and staff.

The CEO is responsible for the provision of professional advice to Councillors, implementation of Council decisions, and ensuring the effective and efficient management of the day-to-day operations of the Council consistent with the Council Plan, Council strategy and policy.

Good governance and effective service delivery are dependent on how well the relationship between the elected members and the organisation works, as well as an understanding and adherence to the roles and responsibilities of both Councillors and the Council staff.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Employee Code of Conduct and the Councillor Code of Conduct. It ensures Council remains committed to high standards of governance and transparency through efficient and effective communication.

2. Background

The functions of the CEO are defined in Section 46 of the *Local Government Act 2020* which provides that the CEO is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Council. This means that Councillors are not responsible for implementing Council decisions, and do not have any authority to direct Council staff. This section of the Act supports the facilitation of effective administration and avoids staff being subject to conflicting directions. Clear lines of managerial authority are critical. This does not prohibit Councillors from expressing their views about administration matters or implementation, however this must be undertaken through the CEO.

All Councillors are to ensure that all communication with Council staff is in accordance with the protocols of this policy. This is reinforced in section 46(3)(c) of the Act which provides that the responsibility of the CEO is to manage interactions between Councillors and staff.

3. Objective

Policy objectives are to:

- a. acknowledge and recognise the respective roles and responsibilities of Councillors and council staff, in particular the CEO, in accordance with the Councillor Code of Conduct.
- b. support and assist Councillors and Council staff in respecting the roles and responsibilities of others within Council.
- c. maintain efficient, effective and transparent decision making and good governance arrangements.
- d. support compliance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*, particularly with regards to compliance with Section 123(3)(c) of the Act relating to misuse of position including directing or improperly influencing, or seeking to direct or improperly influence, a member of Council staff and section 124, which states that a Councillor must not intentionally direct, or seek to direct, a member of Council staff.
- e. recognise the responsibilities of the Council in ensuring that it meets the responsibilities of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* and the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010* to protect people from risks to their health and safety including harassment, bullying, violence and discrimination.
- f. ensure contact with Council staff will be in accordance with the protocols supporting this policy.

4. Protocols

All interactions between Council staff and Councillors must be courteous, respectful and in accordance with this Protocol.

4.1 Chief Executive Officer

- a. the CEO is the Councillors primary point of communication.
- b. the CEO is responsible for the determination of the appropriate allocation of Council resources required to best support the Mayor and Councillors to undertake their roles. This includes the nomination of Council staff to provide support to the Mayor and Councillors.

4.2 General Managers

- a. Councillors may have direct contact with the relevant General Manager to seek advice, information and support to assist them in carrying out their Official Councillor duties.

4.3 Managers

- a. in contacting a Manager, Councillors are encouraged to use electronic means, such as email, and where appropriate, the relevant General Manager should be copied into the email to ensure information is not missing any relevant information from other areas of Council.

4.4 Council Staff

- a. except for general and polite conversation, Councillors should not be approaching Council staff directly to raise issues or seek information.
- b. Councillors are prohibited from directing or seeking to influence the decision of a member of Council staff. Council staff should inform their Manager, General Manager, or the CEO of any contact made directly to them by Councillors if they feel the communication was in breach of this policy.
- c. if the Manager believes the communication is outside of this protocol the relevant General Manager and the CEO should be advised accordingly.

4.5 Manager Governance

- a. Communication with the Manager Governance is critical to assist the Mayor and Councillors perform their role, along with ensuring the integrity of Council.
- b. Councillors can engage with the Manager Governance or where appropriate, the Governance Advisor to seek advice on governance related matters, including, but not limited to the following:
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Code of Conduct
 - Governance Rules
 - Interpretation and adherence to legislation, such as the *Local Government Act 2020*.
 - Interpretation and adherence to Council Policies

4.6 Governance Officers

- a. Council's Governance Officers perform a range of functions that support Councillors to undertake their role. These administrative functions undertaken by the Governance Officers include, but are not limited to, the coordination of Councillor appointments, invitations, and professional development, along with the provision of meeting agendas and minutes
- b. Councillors can engage with the Governance Officers, as appropriate, to enable the provision of this administrative support to Councillors.

4.7 Manager Communications

- a. the Mayor is the public face of Council and therefore communication with the community through Council's media platforms is an important component of their role. It is essential that the Mayor has access to work with the Manager Communications in respect to media statements, requests and responses.
- b. all media and communication requests from other Councillors can be made through the CEO, relevant General Manager or directly to the Manager Communications.

4.8 Information Systems Helpdesk

- a. where the issue is relatively simple such as an enquiry regarding timing of service delivery or equipment failure, Councillors should direct enquiries via the Governance Officers in the first instance.
- b. Councillors may be referred to the Information Systems Helpdesk if necessary, to resolve the matter.
- c. any associated or more complex issues, including service complaints, are to be raised by Councillors with the Manager Information Communication Technology, General Manager Corporate or the CEO
- d. the Manager Governance is responsible for the approval of replacement items for lost or faulty IT equipment.

5. Privacy

Councillors may receive community requests for support regarding a range of issues. Councillors and Council staff must meet their respective obligations to maintain probity, including adherence to Privacy Principles, in responding to such requests at all times.

6. Communication Protocol Matrix and Definitions

The following matrix outlines the Communication Protocols.

CEO, COUNCILLOR AND STAFF INTERACTION POLICY COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS	Business Area						
	Council Support Officer (first point of contact)	Chief Executive Officer	Relevant General Manager	Relevant Manager	Manager Communications	Manager Governance	Information Systems helpdesk and staff
Subject Matter							
a. Policy Direction and Gaps		✓	✓				
b. Service Development and Review		✓	✓				
c. Routine Service Delivery and Projects	✓	✓	✓	✓			
d. Media and Communications		✓	✓		✓		
e. Governance and other matters		✓				✓	
f. Information Systems and Technology support	✓						✓
g. Administration of a committee or a forum, business or service-related content of committee or forum	✓	✓	✓	✓			
h. Councillor Code of Conduct Matters		✓				✓	
i. Enforcement related matters		✓	✓				
j. Planning and Environment Act		✓	✓	✓			

Subject Matter Guidance Notes

a. Policy Direction and Gaps

Request for information or clarification with regards to issues that relate to policy direction, gaps or contradictions in policy, consideration of alternatives, impact analysis, forward scheduling, budget proposals or priority timetables.

b. Service Development and Review

Request for clarification on service development and review such as perceived service failure, further information on matters sent to Councillors by the administration, interpretation of a policy, clarification of a service level, management response to emerging trends, or information on priority of services or works within a project plan.

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

c. Routine Service Delivery and Projects

Request for information on day to day service and project matters such as perceived minor service failure, information on service levels, information on scheduling of work, or service-related advice to a member of the public.

Where Councillors receive requests from members of the public in the first instance, they should request the member of the public to log a service request via the customer service team and to obtain a service request number to assist any investigation of that enquiry. This approach will enable Councillors to consider performance against documented service standards.

- Councillors may lodge resident or Councillor service requests via eServices through Council's website or email account: shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au.

d. Media and Communications

For assistance with media channel communication.

In accordance with section 18(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020, the role of the Mayor is to be the principal spokesperson for the Council.

e. Governance

Enquiries relating to Council policy and procedures, Local Government Act, Councillor Support or any general enquiries not directly covered in this policy

f. Information Systems and Technology support

For assistance with Council supplied technology.

g. Administration of a committee or a forum, business or service-related content of committee or forum

Support and assistance with Council committees.

Section 54(6)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure the preparation and maintenance of agendas, minutes and reports of the Audit and Risk Committee.

h. Councillor Code of Conduct Matters

Enquiries regarding guidance, interpretation and operation of the Councillor Code of Conduct.

i. Enforcement related matters

In compliance with Sections 123 and 124 of the Act, involvement by elected representatives in any stages of matters concerning investigation and enforcement must not occur.

- Section 123(3)(c) relating to misuse of position including directing or improperly influencing, or seeking to direct or improperly influence, a member of Council staff; and
- Section 124 states that a Councillor must not intentionally direct, or seek to direct, a member of Council staff.

Council makes delegations and authorisations to various Council staff who must, without fear or favour, investigate and enforce various legislation including *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, *Environment Protection Act 1970*, *Food Act 2010*, *Health Act 1958*, *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, *Road Safety Act 1986*.

Delegated and authorised officers must be able to perform investigation, determination of response, management of infringements and prosecutions in a manner that is free of improper direction or improper influence.

Consideration of appeals against the infringement notices will be reviewed in accordance with the relevant guidelines published by the Attorney-General and the internal appeals procedure. Councillors must therefore not involve themselves in matters of investigation and enforcement in a manner that may give rise to a conduct breach.

Where members of the community seek support in relation to such matters, they should be referred to the documentation already provided, including relevant staff identified and available to be contacted.

The provision of related information will be applied in accordance with Privacy Principles.

j. Planning and Environment Act Issues

The Council has significant responsibilities under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. It is important that Councillors are not excluded from participation and that the decision making of the Council is not tarnished by perceptions of bias, predetermination, inappropriate direction or inappropriate influence.

7. Compliance

If a member of Council staff considers that the Councillor has breached the requirements of this protocol, they:

- a. are to advise the Councillor that they are uncomfortable with the interaction and recommend the Councillor speak with either the CEO or relevant General manager if they require any further information, and
- b. report what has occurred to the CEO or Governance Manager.

If a Councillor considers that a member of Council staff has breached the requirements of this protocol, they are advised to:

- a. have no further contact with the member of Council staff, and
- b. report what has occurred to the CEO.

The CEO will assess the matter and determine what further action should be taken.

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*.

Related Legislation

Local Government Act 2020

Related Policies, Procedures and Strategies

Councillor Code of Conduct

Employee Code of Conduct

Councillor Memorandum of Understanding

Council Policy 055 Media Relations

Council Policy 131 Social Media

Council Policy 163 Respect and Equal Opportunity

Attachments

Nil

Review Period

Four years

Responsible Officer

Chief Executive Officer

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

Adopted 17 September 2019

Minute Book Reference No 3519 (Item 7.2)



Revised 19 February 2021

Administrative updated to apply consistent references to Campaspe Shire Council ('Council')

Chief Executive Officer:

Date:

DRAFT

Council Policy
Council Policy
Council Policy
Council Policy



Chief Executive Officer, Councillor and Staff Interaction

Council Policy Number	170
Date adopted	17 September 2019
Scheduled for review	September 2023



Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Purpose

This policy provides guidance and support for Councillors and Campaspe Shire Council ('Council') staff in the performance of their duties. It complements the Councillor Code of Conduct and supports compliance with the 'Conduct and Interests' provisions in the *Local Government Act 1989* ('the Act').

Policy Statement

1. Context

Council consists of the nine democratically elected Councillors (the electoral arm) and the organisation/staff (the operational arm). Councillors appoint the Chief Executive Officer ('CEO') of the organisation, determine Council policies and set the strategic direction of the Council and the municipality. The CEO is responsible for the implementation of Council policy and decisions, service delivery and providing professional advice to Councillors.

Good governance and effective service delivery are dependent on how well the relationship between the elected members and the organisation works, as well as an understanding and adherence to the roles and responsibilities of both Councillors and the organisation.

2. Background

The functions of the CEO are defined in Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 1989* which provides that administrative management of Council is the responsibility of the CEO. This means that Councillors are not responsible for implementing Council decisions. They also have no authority to direct Council staff. This section of the Act supports the facilitation of effective administration and avoids staff being subject to conflicting directions. Clear lines of managerial authority are critical. This does not prohibit Councillors from expressing their views about administration matters or implementation. This can be done through the CEO.

All Councillors are to ensure that all communication with Council staff is in accordance with the protocols of this policy. This is reinforced in section 94A of the Act which provides that the responsibility of the CEO is to manage interactions between Councillors and staff.

Councillors who improperly direct or influence a member of Council staff in the exercise of their duties will be in breach of Section 76E of the Act.

3. Objective

Policy objectives are to:

- a. recognise the respective roles and responsibilities of Councillors and council staff, in particular the CEO, in accordance with the Councillor Code of Conduct
- b. assist Councillors and Council staff in respecting the roles and responsibilities of others in the organisation
- c. maintain transparent decision making and good governance arrangements.
- d. support compliance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*
- e. recognise the responsibilities of the Council in ensuring that it meets the responsibilities of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* and the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010* to protect people from risks to their health and safety including harassment, bullying, violence and discrimination.

4. Procedural guidelines

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Council is efficient and effective, with high standards of governance and transparency:

- a. the Council employs the CEO and the CEO is responsible for the organisation. Therefore, Councillors' primary point of communication should be with the CEO.
- b. contact with other Council staff will be in accordance with the protocols supporting this policy.
- c. Councillors are prohibited under Section 76E of the Act from improperly directing or seeking to influence Council staff.
- d. Councillors may receive community requests for support regarding a range of issues. Councillors and Council officers must meet their respective obligations to maintain probity, including adherence to privacy principles, in responding to such requests at all times.
- e. if a Councillor or staff member has concerns in regard to communications between Councillors and Council staff the matter will be referred to the CEO who is responsible for the management of such interactions.

5. Protocols

To achieve good governance, clear and effective communication protocols for Councillors and Council staff is essential. The protocols which apply to Councillors and Council staff communication are as follows:

- a. all communications between Councillors and Council staff must be courteous and respectful.
- b. unless otherwise specified in the table below, Councillors seeking information or wishing to make comment on a specific matter should do so either via the CEO or, if the matter specifically relates to a particular Division the Councillor may contact the relevant General Manager.
- c. contact between Councillors and Council staff outside of this protocol must not occur.
- d. Council staff are to inform their Manager, General Manager or the CEO of any contact made directly to them by Councillors. If the staff member believes the contact is outside of this protocol the Manager, General Manager and the CEO should be advised accordingly.
- e. the CEO, General Managers and Managers are to be copied in or otherwise formally advised of all communication between their subordinate staff and Councillors.
- f. Councillors are provided building access to the Councillor Lounge 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Councillor support will assist Councillors to access other areas of the building or officers on an as needed basis. Councillors do not have access into the operational staffing areas

CEO, COUNCILLOR AND STAFF INTERACTION POLICY	Business Area						
	Council Support Officer (first point of contact)	Chief Executive Officer	Relevant General Manager	Relevant Manager	Communications Manager	Governance Manager	Information Systems helpdesk and staff
Policy Direction and Gaps		✓	✓				
Service Development and Review		✓	✓				
Routine Service Delivery and Projects	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Media and Communications Issues		✓	✓		✓		
Governance Issues		✓				✓	
Information Systems day to day service matters	✓						✓
Administration of a committee or a forum. business or service-related content of committee or forum	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Councillor Code of Conduct Matters		✓				✓	
Enforcement related matters		✓	✓				
<i>Planning and Environment Act</i>		✓	✓	✓			

6. Explanatory comment

a. Policy Direction and Gaps

Where issues relate to policy direction, gaps or contradictions in policy, consideration of alternatives, impact analysis, forward scheduling, budget proposals or priority timetables.

b. Service Development and Review Issues

Where Councillors are seeking clarification on service development and review such as perceived service failure, further information on matters sent to Councillors by the administration, interpretation of a policy, clarification of a service level, management response to emerging trends, or information on priority of services or works within a project plan

c. Routine Service Delivery and Projects

Where Councillors are seeking information on day to day service and project matters such as perceived minor service failure, information on service levels, information on scheduling of work, or service-related advice to a member of the public.

Where Councillors receive requests from members of the public in the first instance, they should request the member of the public to log a service request via the customer service team and to obtain a service request number to assist any investigation of that enquiry. This approach will enable Councillors to consider performance against documented service standards.

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Councillors may lodge resident or Councillor service requests via eServices through Council's website or email account: shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au.

a. Media and communications Issues

All media and communication requests should be made through the CEO, relevant General Manager or to the Communications Manager.

b. Information systems

Where the issue is relatively simple such as an enquiry regarding timing of service delivery or equipment failure Councillors should direct enquiries via the Councillor Support Officer in the first instance. Councillors may be referred to the Information Systems Helpdesk if necessary, to resolve the matter.

Any associated or more complex issues, including service complaints, are to be raised by Councillors with the relevant Manager, General Manager or the CEO

c. Enforcement Issues

Involvement by elected representatives in any stages of matters of investigation and enforcement must not occur.

The Council makes delegations and authorisations to various staff who must, without fear or favour, investigate and enforce various legislation including *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, *Environment Protection Act 1970*, *Food Act 2010*, *Health Act 1958*, *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, *Road Safety Act 1986* and the Local Laws.

In accordance with section 76E of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Councillors must not direct or seek to direct a member of Council staff in the exercise of a delegated power, or the performance of a delegated duty or function of the Council.

Delegated and authorised officers must be able to perform investigation, determination of response, management of infringements and prosecutions in a manner that is free of improper direction or improper influence.

Consideration of appeals against the infringement notices will be reviewed in accordance with the relevant guidelines published by the Attorney-General and the internal appeals procedure. Councillors must therefore not involve themselves in matters of investigation and enforcement in a manner that may give rise to a conduct breach. Where members of the community seek support in relation to such matters, they should be referred to the documentation already provided, including relevant staff identified and available to be contacted.

Councillors may contact the CEO, relevant General Manager or the Governance Manager with any requests for information regarding such matters. The provision of related information will be applied in accordance with Privacy Principles.

d. Planning and Environment Act Issues

The Council has significant responsibilities under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. It is important that Councillors are not excluded from participation and that the decision making of the Council is not tarnished by perceptions of bias, predetermination, inappropriate direction or inappropriate influence.

Councillors may contact the General Manager Regulatory and Community Services, with any requests for information regarding such matters.

7. Complaints

If a Councillor or a member of Council staff considers that either has breached the requirements of this protocol, they:

- a. may immediately terminate the interaction with the Councillor or Council staff member;
- b. must report, in relation to a Councillor, what has occurred to the CEO or General Manager Corporate Services who must inform the Councillor of the nature of the complaint; or
- c. must report, in relation to a member of Council staff, to the CEO the nature of the complaint.

The CEO or a person selected by the CEO for the purpose who is independent of the parties may, if it is practicable to do so, encourage the Councillor and member of Council staff to attend a mediation. If

held, the mediation and everything said or done with respect to the mediation must be kept confidential by the CEO, Councillor and member of Council staff

If it is not practicable to encourage the parties to attend a mediation or:

- a. encouragement is given but the mediation does not take place; or
- b. the mediation takes place, but the Councillor or member of Council staff still feels aggrieved by the interaction which occurred the CEO may progress the handling of the complaint in the manner set out in the Councillor Code of Conduct or alternatively the Employee Code of Conduct to resolve disputes.

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

Mediation the process by which a neutral third party helps people in conflict negotiate a mutually acceptable outcome.

Related Legislation

Local Government Act 1989

Related Policies, Procedures and Strategies

Code of Conduct

Employee Code of Conduct

Councillor Memorandum of Understanding

Council Policy 131 Social Media

Council Policy 163 Respect and Equal Opportunity

Attachments

Nil

Review Period

Four years

Responsible Officer

Chief Executive Officer

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

Adopted	17 September 2019	Minute Book Reference No 3519 (Item 7.2)
Revised	19 February 2021	Administrative updated to apply consistent references to Campaspe Shire Council ('Council')

Chief Executive Officer:

Date:

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

Council Policy

10 Council Information

10.1 Notes of Appreciation

The following have been received:

- Aileen & John Killip – PS Pevensey Cruise *“My husband and I had the pleasure of cruising with Adam today on the Pevensey. He was a great source of information and made us feel welcome in the cabin.”*

All the displays and audios were very impressive and I’ll be telling everyone that stands still long enough, “go to Echuca and get on the Murray!”

- Karl Devlin, Girgarre - *“I would just like to say what a fantastic job your man does maintaining the road entrances to Girgarre and Stanhope, from my observations very hard working and obviously takes pride in his work. Not knowing this person, I just thought he deserves some recognition for a job well done.”*

- David Parker, Stanhope – compliment to Mark Miller, who takes care of the Stanhope township Parks & Gardens.

“Mark is always polite, hardworking and conscientious from my observations. He makes every effort to keep the area tidy and well kept.”

Marks work and effort he puts in is greatly appreciated.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council acknowledge the notes of appreciation as listed.

10.2 Responsive Grants Program

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Community Executive Assistant	Community		General Manager Community

1. SUMMARY

That Council note one successful application to the Responsive Grants Program.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council;

1. Note that the following application was approved in accordance with the Responsive Grants Program criteria:

- **Rotary Club of Rochester Inc. – to assist with fuel costs to transport donated goods to Evans Head for flood victims, \$500**

3. PURPOSE

To note the outcome of a 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 Council.

This month the following applications were received:

Rotary Club of Rochester Inc. – towards fuel costs to transport donated goods to Evans Head for flood victims.

Members of the Rotary Club are taking essential items (donated) to the Flood victims of northern NSW using the Community Bus & trailer. The funding is to help cover the cost of the fuel for the trip - 3000km round trip, estimated 600+ litres diesel. of diesel.

The Communities of Woodburn, Broadwater and Coraki. The residents in these communities are not back in their homes and many have no power, yet and are living in temporary accommodation.

The Rotary Club of Rochester will contribute \$900+, depending on the cost of diesel, towards the return trip to Evans Head. Rochester Rotary Club members will drive the bus and pay any personal expenses themselves.

Organisation	Amount requested	Amount recommended	Purpose	Comment
Rotary Club of Rochester Inc.	\$500	\$500	To assist with fuel costs to transport donated goods to Evans Head for flood victims	Recommendation approved by CEO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is in recognition of support provided to Rochester and

				district in similar circumstances in 2011
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Fund Balance Prior to application approval: \$21,175

Funding approved: \$500

2021/2022 Fund Balance: (30 June 2022) \$20,675

5. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- Chief Executive Officer

External consultation:

- Not required

Councillors:

- Not required

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

Children, young people and families healthy and well

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 June. Council to note that the application was successful.

10.3 Community Event Sponsorship

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Community Executive Assistant	Community		General Manager Community

1. SUMMARY

That Council note the two successful applications received for Community Event Sponsorship.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council note the following sponsorships were approved, in accordance with the Community Event Sponsorship criteria, and the applicants advised in writing:

- **Kyabram RV Country Music Festival (Kyabram Development Committee Inc.) - \$3,000 to assist with hosting the 2022 Kyabram RV Country Music Festival to be held from 2 – 6 November 2022,**
- **Aldara Yenara Aboriginal Corporation., \$1,000 to assist with costs associated with hosting the Kyabram NAIDOC Family Day to be held on 4 July 2022.**
- **Kyabram Tastes & Tunes (Kyabram Development Committee Inc.) - \$3,000 cash and up to \$3,000 in-kind support (waste & traffic management, temporary white picket fencing, bunting, tally counters, headsets, and synthetic grass) to support Kyabram Tastes and Tunes to be held on 22 October 2022.**

3. PURPOSE

To note the outcomes of three 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 Country Music Festival (Kyabram Development Committee Inc.) – requested \$3,000, towards the cost to host the 2022 Kyabram RV Country Music Festival to be held from 2 – 6 November 2022, an event for all ages that brings the local and regional visitors to the Campaspe Shire.

This event is in its tenth year and has developed each year since its inception. In 2021 the event increased to a four-day event from a two-day event. To encourage greater attendance this year there will be wider promotion of walk-ups and the introduction of Food Trucks at the festival.

The event is not a free community event. Entry fees range from \$20 - \$40 per person for a day pass or \$55 per person for a weekend pass to attend the event.

Local businesses, whilst there are increased visitor numbers in the town for five days, host the Kyabram Bush Market on the Friday, day three of the event, providing another opportunity for an increased spend to retail in Kyabram.

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 submitted within the required three-month notification period.

Negotiation of a multi-year agreement (2023-2025) will be considered for future years.

Aldara Yenara Aboriginal Corporation – requested \$1,000, to assist with costs associated to host the Kyabram NAIDOC Family Day to be held on 4 July 2022 at Kyabram Community & Learning Centre.

This event is an opportunity for community members, indigenous and non-indigenous to come together to participate in a range of activities that support and amplify the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The event will include a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony, didgeridoo performance, traditional dancing, arts & crafts, basket weaving, face painting, colouring competition, live music and a free BBQ lunch.

This is the first time a NAIDOC Week activity has been held in Kyabram and has the potential to become an annual event.

As the cost-of-living increases, the event will provide an opportunity for a day out during the school holidays with minimal cost to the family.

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 was not submitted within the required three-month notification period. This application was considered outside of timeline guidelines as an exception as the organisation is a first-time applicant to the Community Event Sponsorship Program and is a significant event outside of Echuca.

Kyabram Tastes & Tunes Committee (Kyabram Development Committee Inc.) – requested \$5,000 cash and \$3,000 in kind support (waste & traffic management, temporary white picket fencing, bunting, tally counters, headsets and synthetic grass), to assist with the hosting the Kyabram Tastes & Tunes to be held on 22 October 2022.

This is a first-time event for the Kyabram and district community and will be free of charge to attend.

Local food vendors have been invited to submit an Expression of Interest to be part of the event. Expressions of Interest close 24 June. A section of Allan Street will be closed to enable businesses to extend their red line areas to allow for a larger capacity of diners.

The event has a strong adult focus, however, there will be activities for children including magicians, face painting etc.

Baker Boy Band will be engaged to perform on a main stage providing entertainment during the evening.

The organising committee have engaged the local Scouts and Lions Club to help with logistics on the night and will employ security guards and have first aid on site. The event also has the support of Victoria Police through its application for a liquor licence.

The event will be promoted through the Kyabram Free Press, Riverine Herald, Shepparton News and the Kyabram Tomorrow Facebook page.

In comparison to Tongala Eats & Beats, Tastes & Tunes will be a bigger event.

The reason we are giving them \$3,000, even though the panel considered them to be more local, it could be considered a start-up regional event so the additional money (over \$1,000) was believed to be justified.

Council will receive recognition of the sponsorship through the use of banners, both teardrop and fence scrim, at the event held across the weekend.

The Campaspe Shire logo will also be used on all promotional material relating to the event, including website and social media.

The application been submitted within the required three-month notification period.

Events Sponsorship Program fund balance prior to these applications:	\$8,552
Requested Funding:	\$7,000
Funding amount recommended:	\$7,000
2021/2022 Fund Balance: (as at 30 June 2022)	\$1,552

Council's contribution of \$7,000 cash and in-kind support to the value of \$3,000 will assist in the provision of events with an estimated value of \$63,500.

5. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation:

- Grants assessment 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.

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
Inclusive, connected, culturally diverse and safe

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 three applications to the Community Event Sponsorship Program. It should be noted that the applications were successful in receiving \$7,000 cash and in-kind support up to \$3,000 towards event costs.

11 Petitions and Letters

Petition received from Anne Meade.

Request the Campaspe Shire Council to improve drainage and bitumen the south end of Francis Street, Rochester. Recent increase of traffic has caused additional wear and tear and created significant increase in dust. This section of Francis Street is the only remaining urban south of Kyabram Road.

PETITION TO THE CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL


The Chief Executive Officer
Campaspe Shire Council
PO Box 35
Echuca VIC 3564


Dear Sir/Madam,

We the undersigned, hereby respectfully request the Campaspe Shire Council: review & proceed to seal (bitumen) & improve the drainage in the south end of Francis St. Rochester between Everard & Pascoe Str. The increased traffic since new homes have been built & the proposed subdivision of lot 31 Baynes St. has also added to wear, tear & dust created. This section of Francis St is also the only remaining urban unsealed street south of Kyabram Rd.
Please direct all correspondence regarding this request to the Chief Petitioner identified.

CHIEF PETITIONER:

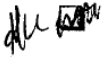
Name: Anne Meade

Address: 

Email: 

Contact Phone: 

Total Number of Signatures: 21

 I, the Chief Petitioner, request to speak to the petition when the response to the petition is presented to Council

GUIDELINES:

1. Outline the details and reasons for the petition.
2. If no Chief Petitioner is identified, all correspondence regarding this matter will be directed to the first named petitioner.
3. Please attach additional petition forms if required.
4. Petitions received by Council will be presented for consideration at the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

PRIVACY COLLECTION NOTICE:

By signing this petition you are providing your information to Campaspe Shire Council who will maintain, store and release it in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act and it may be used to seek clarification and to provide you with information on the outcome of your petition. The information will be accessed by employees and/or Councillors of the Campaspe Shire Council for Council business related activities. The information may also be made publicly available through reporting to committee and local government meetings and may also be given to the State Government agencies for clarification on issues. With the above public disclosure in mind, your information will not be given to any other person or agency unless you have given us permission or we are required by law to do so.

ANNE MEADE

Chief Petitioner Name

A Meade

Chief Petitioner Signature

9/7/2022

Date

PETITION

Should your petition be continued over additional sheets, identify the circumstances of the case (Repeat from page one) on each page.

improve the drainage and bitumenise the South end of Francis St. ROCHESTER. Recent increase of traffic has caused additional wear & tear & created significant increase in dust.

This section of Francis St is the only remaining urban unsealed

Name (print)	Address	Suburb / Town	Signature	South of Vyboran Rd.
Annie Meade	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
GARY BRUCE	[REDACTED]	ROCHESTER	[Signature]	
Jenny Bruce	[REDACTED]	Rochester	J. P. Bruce	
JOHN TOLNORINI	[REDACTED]	ROCHESTER	John T. Tolnorini	
GARY VREDENBURE	[REDACTED]	ROCHESTER	G. Vredenburg	
Dorothy Ignolin	[REDACTED]	Rochester	D. Ignolin	
ER Ignolin	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
HEATHER CURNICK	[REDACTED]	ROCHESTER	H. Curnick	
Ernie Wilson	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
Anthony Lee	[REDACTED]	Rochester	A. Lee	
Sarah Cartledge	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
Leah Weston	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
Fred. Weston	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
Nicholas CARTLEDGE	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
MICK LINGGON	[REDACTED]	ROCHESTER	[Signature]	
Linda Riding	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
Karen Tognolini	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
IAN DEHNE	[REDACTED]	ROCHESTER	I. Dehne	
Graham Meade	[REDACTED]	Rochester	G. Meade	
Deeje Hobson	[REDACTED]	Rochester	[Signature]	
GARY HODSON	[REDACTED]	ROCHESTER	G. Hodson	

Attach additional sheets if necessary and use the same format as this page

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 Sale of Land Property address correction

14.2 Sale of Land - Property address correction

14.3 Lease

Resumption of Public Meeting

15 Close Meeting

Tim Tamlin

Interim Chief Executive Officer