



Colbinabbin Place Based Plan

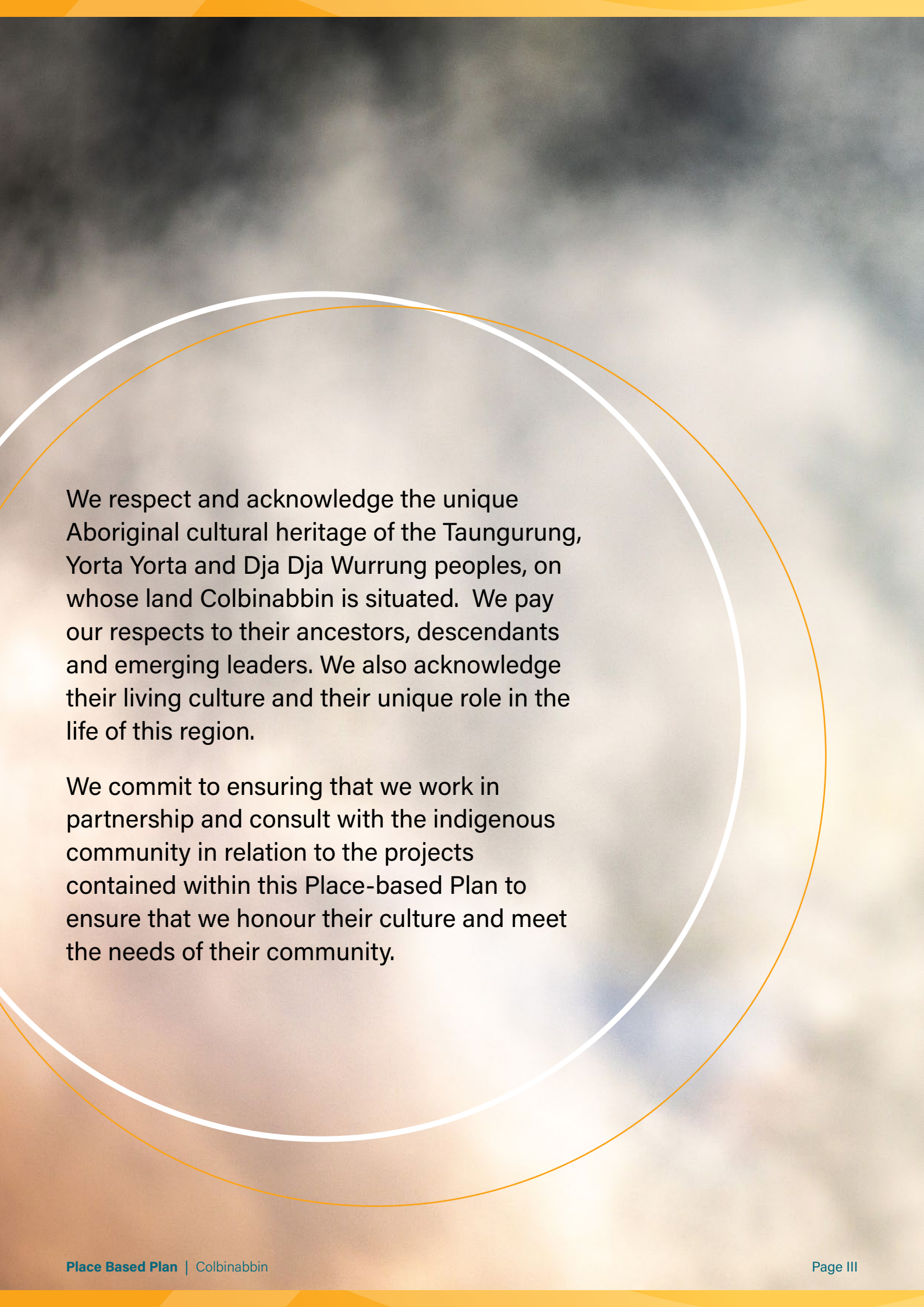
**Our strong spirit and innovative thinking
creates a vibrant and welcoming place
for our community to thrive.**



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We respect and acknowledge the unique Aboriginal cultural heritage of the Taungurung, Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung peoples, on whose land Colbinabbin is situated. We pay our respects to their ancestors, descendants and emerging leaders. We also acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region.

We commit to ensuring that we work in partnership and consult with the indigenous community in relation to the projects contained within this Place-based Plan to ensure that we honour their culture and meet the needs of their community.

1. Executive Summary



Our Community

The people of Colbinabbin are proud of 'Colbo' and have a very strong 'can do attitude' when it comes to improving their town and caring for one another. Residents think outside the square when it comes to solving local issues (such as the potential loss of the general store several years ago) and think big when it comes to putting their town on the tourism map (through the painting of the silos in town).

Local residents say that they like the character of the town, the lifestyle it offers, the climate, the beauty, the history, the location, facilities, organisations and the sense of optimism around growth and development.

Purpose of the Plan

Through the development of this Place Based Plan, the Colbinabbin community has identified the key actions that will enable it to continue to create a vibrant and welcoming place for people to thrive. These actions have been incorporated into the plan and will help guide the community and its partners in delivering important programs, services and infrastructure over the next 10 years.



Our Top Priorities

Through numerous community engagement activities, the Colbinabbin community has identified opportunities to enhance the health and wellbeing of the community and to increase the overall liveability, prosperity and sustainability of the town. The top six projects identified by the community (i.e. those that received the highest number of votes through community engagement activities) include:

1. Swimming Pool

Retain the swimming pool and provide programming opportunities to increase usage and the variety of activities available

2. Play Spaces

Upgrade play spaces to provide quality play opportunities for local children and those visiting Colbinabbin

3. Local Businesses

Encourage people to support local businesses including the general store, the hotel, agricultural businesses and wineries

4. Early Year's Hub

Explore the potential to develop an early year's hub which will provide services such as Maternal and Child Health, kindergarten, childcare, playgroup and allied health services from the one location

5. Events

Develop and enhance events to attract more people to visit Colbinabbin and to provide residents with enjoyable and accessible local activities

6. Recreation Reserve

Upgrade the Recreation Reserve to include the construction of a new multi-purpose community hub that provides opportunities for the delivery of, sport, recreation, social, health, business and community strengthening opportunities. The master plan features a number of other projects that will benefit the town too, including improved walking trails; updated play space; improved shade, lighting and seats; BBQ and picnic facilities; opportunities for informal recreation, etc.



The remaining nine projects, which are all considered by the Colbinabbin community to be very important, are listed in the Action Plan at the end of this plan.

The Process Undertaken

The Colbinabbin Place Based Plan was strongly driven by the community and will help to guide decision making by the community, Campaspe Shire and other key stakeholders in relation to initiatives in Colbinabbin. Over 200 local residents had their say in the future of Colbinabbin from the end of May to the end of July 2022 through:



This engagement built on previous engagement undertaken as part of the development of the Council Plan in 2021/2022 and previous community plan engagement.

The Vision

Together the community has agreed upon a shared vision for the town and surrounding region. It is:

Our strong spirit and innovative thinking creates a vibrant and welcoming place for our community to thrive.

Key Focus Areas

To help achieve the vision, four key focus areas were developed:

- 1. Social and community connections**
- 2. Health and wellbeing**
- 3. Education, training, industry and employment**
- 4. Built and natural environment**

Underpinning each of our four focus areas is leadership and planning.

Objectives

Each of the four key focus areas have been supported by at least one objective.

These are as follows:

- 1. An inclusive, welcoming and connected community**
- 2. A healthy and active community**
- 3. Innovative industry, education and training opportunities that meet the needs of our community**
- 4. A sustainable built and natural environment**

Our Agreed Projects

Many potential projects were identified by the community throughout the engagement period. The list of potential projects was assessed by the Colbinabbin Place Based Plan Governance Committee (made up of a broad cross representative group of community members). A detailed community engagement report accompanies this plan. Below is a summary of each of the proposed 15 projects agreed upon by the Governance Committee:

Quick Win Projects (3 - 12 Months)

1	Shop local Encourage people to shop locally by promoting local businesses and consider development of tourist information at the store.
2	Streetscapes (A) Improve the streetscapes of Colbinabbin to include township entry signage, directional signage, branding and landscaping (some of these actions may take place over several years)
3	Memorial Hall Refurbish and renew the hall by closing off the external public toilets, remodelling the internal toilets, upgrading the Maternal and Child Health consulting space, painting the facility, installing air conditioning and undertaking basic maintenance. At the same time, seek additional user groups and uses for the hall, e.g. tourist information, museum, storage of cemetery and / or historical records / archiving documents, health and wellbeing classes, youth / children's activities, library and display of art works.
4	Public toilets Develop new stand-alone accessible, unisex toilets with baby change facilities in Colbinabbin (accessible to the silos and the main road) to replace the existing toilets at the Memorial Hall once they are closed off.
5	Recreation Reserve Implement the recreation reserve master plan by undertaking detailed design work for a new multi-purpose community hub to include improved social, community and change facilities at the recreation reserve in the short term and the construction of this facility in the medium term. Undertake other identified actions over the next 10 years in accordance with the schedule in the master plan.
6	Walking / cycling paths Connect and further develop safe walking / cycling paths around Colbinabbin that link to key locations such as the school, Recreation Reserve, silos, wineries and town centre, including a crossing over the channel. The first priorities are to create a safe link from the town to the primary school through the erection of a barrier next to the main road; footpaths leading into the recreation reserve and a flashing 40km per hour signs in the school zone during pick up and drop off times. Other actions such as additional connections in the township, extending the Rushworth Rail Trail to Colbinabbin and reinstatement of the Golden Ironbark Trail may take place over several years.

Short Term Projects (1 - 4 Years)

1	Children's services Undertake a study to determine the feasibility of developing an integrated early years hub in Colbinabbin incorporating services such as kindergarten, childcare and Maternal and Child Health and visiting allied health professionals. The feasibility study will explore the possibility of relocating the Colbinabbin Primary School to the Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve or the possibility of relocating the early years facility to the primary school site.
2	Playground Upgrade the existing play space in the centre of Colbinabbin and provide a barrier or fence to prevent children from running onto the main road.
3	Streetscapes (B) Improve the town's storm water drainage system, in particular follow up work on the drain along Boldiston Lane, to limit the impact of future flooding events.

Long Term Projects (5 - 10 Years)

1	Residential development Expand housing estates in town to support increased population growth and sustainability and complete works in current housing estates, e.g. kerbs, gutters and roadways.
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Ongoing Projects

1	Swimming Pool Retain the Colbinabbin Swimming Pool and increase programming / activation.
2	Events Develop and enhance events (e.g. food, wine, music) to attract more visitors to Colbinabbin.

Advocacy and Support Projects

1	Communications Advocate for improve NBN and mobile phone service reception, as well as free Wi-Fi from the public telephone booth.
2	Employment Advocate for the promotion of employment opportunities available in Colbinabbin and employment opportunities available by people working from home
3	Enhanced outreach services Advocate for the provision of enhanced outreach services for health and wellbeing, including Maternal and Child Health service and home care.

Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve Master Plan

It is important to note that the Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve Master Plan was scheduled to commence after the completion of the Colbinabbin Place Based Plan. Its completion date was brought forward somewhat so that due consideration could be given to the township plan and the recreation reserve plan at the same time as there are many co-dependencies between the two, and the most significant projects within Colbinabbin are likely to occur at the Recreation Reserve (refer to Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve Master Plan for more details). Of particular importance are:

- New multi-purpose community hub - the development of a new multi-purpose community hub at the recreation reserve will provide gender neutral change facilities for players (footballers, cricketers, netballers, tennis players and lawn bowlers) and umpires, first aid / trainer’s room, a gym, a social / meeting space, kitchen, kiosk, bar, accessible toilets with baby change facilities, office and storage space. It may also provide space for the Maternal and Child Health Service, a telehealth station, visiting professionals such as rural finance or allied health specialists, older adults activities, community cooking classes, community meetings, community celebrations, training courses, hot desks, etc.
- New walking / cycling paths - improved and safer physical walking / cycling path connectivity between the school, the silos / town centre, wineries and the recreation reserve.
- Co-location of the primary school and an early years facility – potential relocation of the primary school to the recreation reserve (pending support from all levels of Government) and an early years facility constructed next to the primary school.
- Various other works as detailed in the master plan.

1. Install football goal post nets
2. Install new coaches boxes
3. Upgrade cricket nets
4. Install PA system
5. Replace oval lights

6. Install new larger scoreboard
7. Design multi-purpose facility
8. Construct multi-purpose facility
9. Demolish football pavilion and install amenities facilities

10. Install electronic netball scoreboard
11. Expand tennis courts for netball and basketball
12. Install shade structure on tennis court
13. Renovate north east corner of bowling green
14. Install new shade structure on bowling green
15. Demolish bowls / netball / tennis pavilion
16. Purchase pool blanket and explore solar heating
17. Develop early years facility and possibly relocate school
18. Formalise car parking
19. Develop pedestrian safe zone
20. Construct shared walking / cycling paths
21. Redevelop reserve entrance, new ticket box and widen entry road
22. Upgrade play space
23. Plant trees
24. Install more seats around site
25. Install directional signage on main road
26. Install BBQ / picnic area
27. Install interpretive signage
28. Install outdoor fitness equipment
29. Explore income generating activities



Refer to numbers in the action plan for more details of proposed works.



HOTEL
MOTEL

COLBINABBIN
HOTEL
BAR

COLBINABBIN
HOTEL
LOUNGE

COUNTER
MEALS
MONDAY
TO
SATURDAY

MOBILE
COOL ROOM
AVAILABLE

ICE
HERE

2. Introduction



Introduction

The Colbinabbin Place Based Plan aims to strengthen and build the adaptive capacity and resilience of the community. It will achieve this through the establishment of a vision which reflects the Colbinabbin community's future ambitions. It also incorporates clear objectives and actions to guide decision making to support implementation of the vision.

The plan clearly identifies the direction the Colbinabbin community wishes to further develop and enhance in relation to:

- Social and community connections
- Health and wellbeing
- Education, training, industry and employment
- Built and natural environment.

Underpinning these four areas are strong community leadership and quality planning. Effective leadership and planning at the local level are critical factors in the realisation of identified projects.

The Place Based Plan will also be used to:

- Identify partnerships
- Stimulate economic growth and investment
- Provide an evidence base of need
- Attract funding
- Advocate for specific resources and initiatives
- Guide the provision and management of programs, services and facilities for the community.

To maintain momentum and to ensure continued engagement by the community, the plan has identified some quick wins, as well as some medium and longer-term actions. There are also some advocacy projects incorporated into the plan.

Extensive community engagement occurred in order to develop the plan. This engagement included:

- Community survey – 142 participants (representing 50% of the community)
- Drop-in session – 22 interviews
- Drawings from school children – 28
- Drawings from pre-school children – 9 drawings
- Written submission – 1 email received.

In addition to community engagement, a broad range of relevant documents including Campaspe Shire Council's Plan were reviewed and a demographic analysis undertaken.

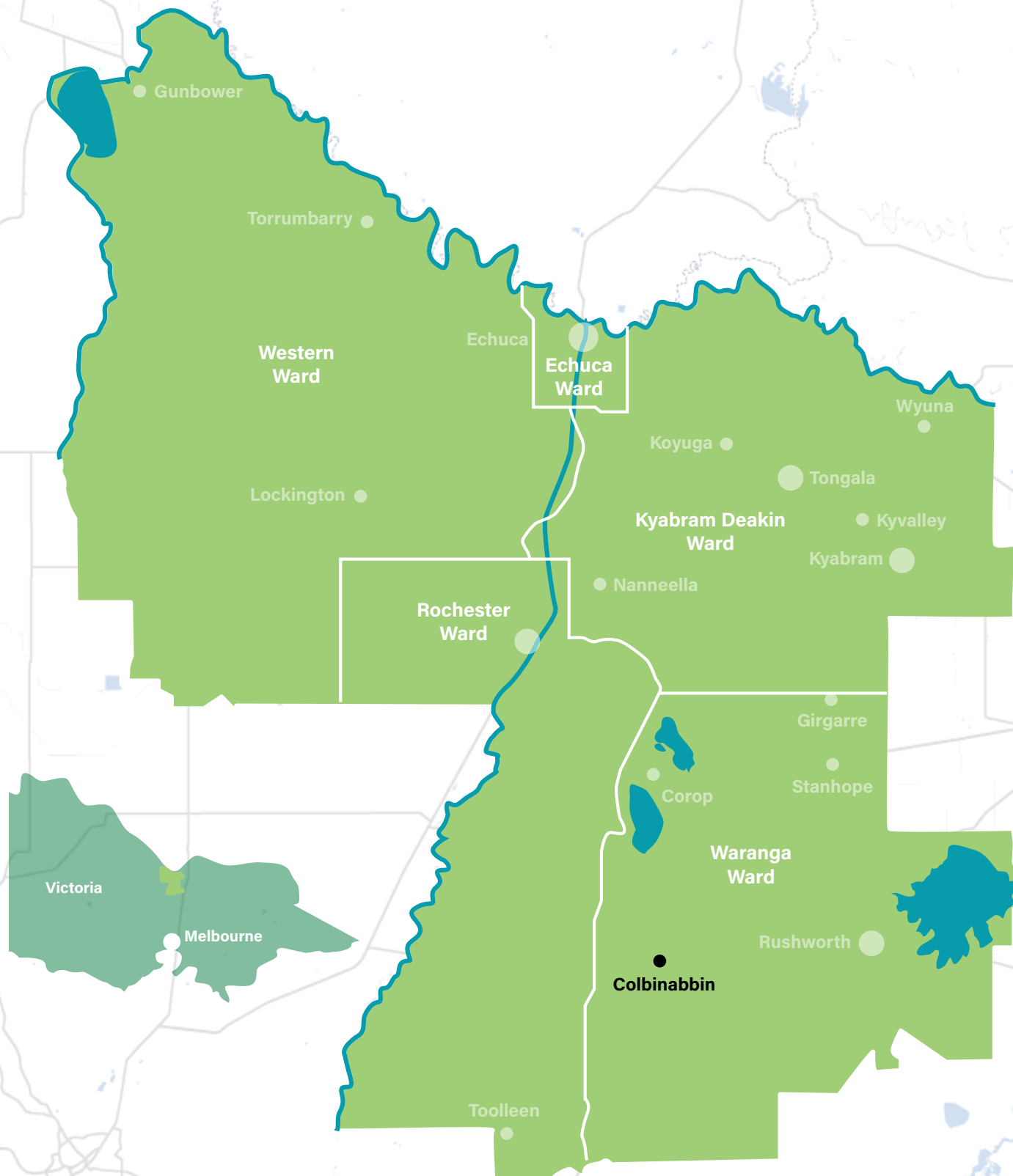


3. Our Town



Overview

Colbinabbin is situated in the southern part of the Shire of Campaspe 20km to the west of Rushworth and 160km north of Melbourne. It is renowned for its friendly, welcoming atmosphere and strong community spirit. It is also valued for its rich agricultural soils and its world class wines set amongst rolling hills and its stunning painted grain silos.



Our History and Industry

Colbinabbin got its name from the Aboriginal term for "the meeting of the black and red soils". For more than 40,000 years, the Taungurung, Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung people have cared for the land in the district and retained their strong attachment to country. The Colbinabbin community acknowledges the care of the land provided by our First Nations people and welcomes the opportunity to work hand in hand with them to continue to protect and care for the land and its waterways into the future.

Europeans settled Colbinabbin in the 1850's and established farms on the rich Cambrian soil. A township was established 20 years later, and the post office opened two years later in 1872. The construction of the Waranga Mallee channel in the 1930's enabled a much greater variety of farming enterprises to occur due to irrigation, e.g. cereal cropping, livestock production, tomato farms and more recently, vineyards. Viticulture is currently the largest industry employer locally. Farming enterprises continue to evolve through the enhanced use of technology, resulting in higher production levels.

Facilities, Services and Businesses

In addition to various farming enterprises in the district, Colbinabbin also incorporates a range of facilities, services and businesses within the township. These include:

- Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve featuring an oval, tennis courts, netball courts, bowling green, 2 pavilions, swimming pool and playground (as well as the kindergarten)
- Colbinabbin Anglican Church
- Colbinabbin Cemetery
- Colbinabbin Country Hotel
- Colbinabbin Depot
- Colbinabbin Fire Station
- Colbinabbin General Store Co-op
- Colbinabbin Kindergarten
- Colbinabbin Motors
- Colbinabbin Pipeline
- Colbinabbin Memorial Hall – incorporating Maternal and Child Health Service, Historical Society materials, public toilets, playground, gazebo with history boards
- Colbinabbin Primary School
- Colbinabbin Silos
- Colbinabbin Uniting Church
- Browns Stock Feeds
- Morgan's Fuel Self-Serve Fuel Station
- Morgan's Logistics & Spray Contracting
- Resource Recovery Centre
- West Farm Supplies
- Wheelhouse AGnVET

Within 10km of the town limits, there are a range of other businesses and facilities including:

- Bed and Breakfast Accommodation
- Brown Brothers Wines
- Catholic Church
- Carls Compost
- Chinaman's Bend Vineyard
- Colbinabbin Estate
- Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve (Hill)
- Cornella Brewery
- Ellis Vineyard
- Hennings Vineyard
- Humis Vineyard
- Kennedy Wines
- Mt Burrumboot Estate.
- P V Green Energy Pty Ltd
- Reid Stockfeeds
- Shiraz Republic Winery
- Stuart Co Vineyard
- Sundown Foods
- Treasury Wines
- Whistling Eagle Vineyard
- Whitebox Winery

Factors Impacting our Community

Some of the factors impacting the community of Colbinabbin in recent years, which inform the many of the actions within this Place Based Plan include:

Locally Specific Factors

- Ageing community infrastructure and insufficient funds to renew or upgrade this infrastructure
- Growth in the number of kindergarten and school aged children in the community
- Lack of childcare
- Lack of services for more vulnerable people in the community
- Limited housing stock, vacant land and rentals in Colbinabbin
- Decreasing volunteer rates (and a need for more volunteer support)
- Lack of accommodation for visitors and seasonal workers
- Changes to the workforce, e.g. more women working, but they tend to travel to places such as Echuca, Bendigo or Shepparton for work
- Influx of managers and highly skilled people in the district
- Growth in people working from home (which can make Colbinabbin even more attractive to people looking to relocate)
- Greater focus on sustainability, e.g. water and electricity
- Lack of connectivity in the town and lack of safe pathways
- The effects of large-scale business developments in the district such as solar farms
- Limited options for electric car charging
- Lack of access to face-to-face health services and GPs locally, but increasing access to telehealth for GPs, allied health services and mental health support
- Potential to co-locate services, e.g. Colbinabbin Fire Station at the Recreation Reserve

Broader Environmental Factors

- Climate change impacts – resulting in a higher risk of floods, grass fires, drought and heat related incidents
- Potential environmental impacts of large businesses
- COVID-19 impacts such as illness, a sense of social isolation, fear of being in crowded spaces, delays to medical treatments and more people working from home
- Increased price of housing – making home ownership unaffordable for some
- High interest rates – resulting in mortgage stress and potentially higher rents for some
- Increased cost of living, including utility costs and fuel costs

Our People

The following table provides an overview of the Colbinabbin community, based on the 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census ¹



Our People

(Continued)



Top 5 occupations

1. Managers
2. Labourers
3. Community & personal service workers
4. Professionals
5. Clerical & administrative workers



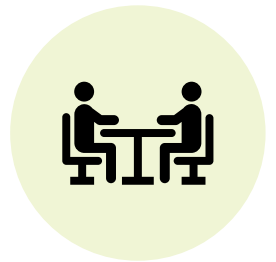
Full time employment rate
63.5% (compared with 56.2% for Victoria)



Part time employment rate
32.8% (compared with 32.3% for Victoria)



Average number of motor vehicles per dwelling
2.6 (compared with 1.8% for Victoria)



Unemployment rate
0.0% (compared with 5.0% for Victoria)



Currently attending TAFE, university or tertiary institution
8.4% (compared with 24.5% of Victorians)



Those with a Bachelor degree or above
14.0% (compared with 29.2% of Victorians)



Voluntary work in the last 12 months
41.7% (compared with 13.3% for Victoria)



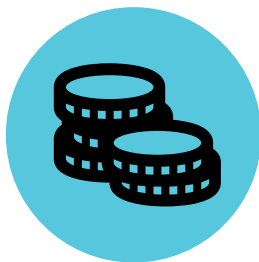
People with long term health conditions
47.7% (compared with 38.9% for Victoria)



Homes owned outright or with a mortgage
75.3% (compared with 68.3% for Victoria)



Homes rented
(compared with 28.5% for Victoria)



Earn less than \$650 per week
19.6% (compared with 16.4% for Victoria)



Earn more than \$3000 per week
9.3% (compared with 24.2% for Victoria)

What Our Demographics Tell Us

Our Strengths

Employment

The demographics also tell us that Colbinabbin is very much a farming community, and that those who live in the town or district are more likely to be in full time work compared with Victorians overall. The unemployment rate is listed as 0.0%.

Housing

The demographic analysis tells us that in 2022 there is a higher level of home ownership and lower level of rental in Colbinabbin compared with other towns and cities in Victoria, potentially creating a higher level of housing security than in some other towns and cities.

Young people

The high percentage of children and teenagers are likely to continue to make services such as the kinder, school and sporting activities sustainable into the future.

Volunteers

Compared with Victoria, the population of Colbinabbin has a high level of volunteerism. Many of these volunteers are likely to be associated with groups such as the Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve Committee of Management, sporting clubs, etc.

Our Challenges

Young adults

There is a significantly lower percentage of people between 20-44 years of age living in Colbinabbin compared with Victoria. Presumably a high percentage of this group moved away for study or employment purposes. The gap in this age group may result in fewer local people being able to fill sporting team positions, thereby requiring sports people to be brought into town from places like Bendigo or Shepparton. Other occupations that traditionally rely on younger people, such as hospitality or harvesting, may also see labour shortages.

Wages

Wages in Colbinabbin are somewhat lower than for Victoria overall. This may impact the ability of some members of the community to afford goods and services.

Education

The percentage of people currently studying at TAFE / tertiary level, or whose highest educational achievement is a Bachelor degree or above is much less than for Victoria overall. This could potentially limit job opportunities for Colbinabbin residents where tertiary level education is a requirement.

Volunteers

Although Colbinabbin has traditionally had a high level of volunteerism, anecdotally we know that following COVID-19 restrictions, volunteer engagement is lower than in previous years. This potentially impacts the delivery of services and the maintenance of community facilities in Colbinabbin.

Health

Almost half of the population has long term health conditions. This may impact the types of support local residents need and may ultimately result in some people moving to other locations, particularly as they age, to receive the level of support required. It may also limit the types of programs people may become involved in.

Growth

Whilst the growth rate for Campaspe Shire is estimated to be 10.67% between 2022 and 2036, much of this growth will occur in larger centres with land available for housing development, e.g. Echuca West and Kyabram. The area in which Colbinabbin is situated, i.e. Rushworth and District, is only expected to have a growth rate of 0.3% (or the addition of 7 more people in this 14 year period).²

4. Our Vision, Key Focus Areas, Objectives And Actions



Our vision describes what we want Colbinabbin to be like in the future.

This is our vision:

Our strong spirit and innovative thinking creates a vibrant and welcoming place for our community to thrive.

Our focus areas and objectives tell everyone what we want to achieve and relate directly to our vision.

4.1 Social and Community Connections

Objective:

An Inclusive, Welcoming and Connected Community

Events: Our existing events and activities are well promoted and attract both local residents and visitors to the area. New events that we instigate highlight our unique attributes and location, e.g. food and wine.

Play: Our children have safe and enjoyable places to play with their family and friends within the town centre, at the recreation reserve, at the primary school, at the kindergarten, at their homes and at other key locations around town. Each of these play spaces offers a different type of play experience to enhance the physical, social, cognitive and imaginative needs of children and their families.

Memorial Hall: We reimagined and reinvigorated the Memorial Hall and it now provides for additional programs and services for the community and visitors. It is well utilised.

Recreation Reserve: Our Recreation Reserve more effectively meets the needs of our participants, administrators, volunteers, spectators and the broader community. A new multi-purpose community hub incorporating a range of community spaces, social spaces, meeting spaces, spaces for outreach / health services and gender-neutral change facilities is used extensively and is an integral part of our community. Other upgrades are undertaken at the Reserve to improve the experience of all user groups. Co-location of community facilities, programs and services at the Recreation Reserve is considered.

Swimming pool: The public swimming pool in Colbinabbin is regularly used by local residents and visitors to the area for swimming, water play and community gatherings.

How we aim to achieve this

1. We will develop and enhance **events** (e.g. food, wine, music) to attract more visitors to Colbinabbin. We will develop a **calendar of events** to promote existing events and activities in the town. This calendar will be promoted through our promotional channels.
2. We will develop a safe place for children to **play** in the township.
3. We will refurbish and renew the **Memorial Hall** by closing off the external public toilets, remodelling the internal toilets, upgrading the Maternal and Child Health consulting space, painting the facility, installing air conditioning and undertaking basic maintenance. At the same time, we will seek additional user groups and uses for the hall, e.g. tourist information, museum, storage of cemetery and / or historical records / archiving documents, health and wellbeing classes, youth / children's activities, library and display of art works.
4. We will implement the **Recreation Reserve** master plan by undertaking detailed design work for a new multi-purpose community hub to include improved social, community and change facilities at the recreation reserve in the short term, and the construction of this facility in the medium term. We will undertake other actions that have been identified in the master plan.
5. We will retain the Colbinabbin **Swimming Pool** and increase programming / activation.



4.2 Health and Wellbeing

Objective: A Healthy and Active Community

Health and wellbeing services: Colbinabbin is a caring town where health and wellbeing services are inclusive, accessible and readily available to all through face-to-face provision, telehealth or outreach. These services enable older adults and people with disabilities to remain living at home as long as possible and ensure that children who require additional support to thrive are connected to appropriate services when needed.

Lifestyle: Our people understand the importance of health and have embraced healthy and active lifestyles.

Belonging: People in Colbinabbin have a strong sense of belonging and look out for one another. They know their neighbours and feel safe and supported at all times. Our people never hesitate to lend a hand to those in need.

Participation: We provide opportunities for the community to participate in a range of different activities to improve their health and wellbeing, enjoy our beautiful natural environment, have fun, develop their skills and make new social connections. Our volunteers are well supported.

Trails: Our network of walking and cycling trails not only provide opportunities for people to be physically active, but also create a safe connection to school and other key destinations.

How we aim to achieve this

1. We will connect and further develop safe **walking / cycling paths** around Colbinabbin that link to key locations such as the school, Recreation Reserve, silos, wineries and town centre. Our first priorities are to create a safe link from the town to the primary school through the erection of a barrier next to the main road; footpaths leading into the recreation reserve; and a flashing 40km per hour signs in the school zone during pick up and drop off times. We will undertake other actions such as additional connections in the township, extending the Rushworth Rail Trail to Colbinabbin and reinstatement of the Golden Ironbark Trail in the medium to long term.
2. We will advocate for the provision of enhanced **outreach services** for health and wellbeing, aged care, people with disabilities and children. Some of these services could potentially be delivered from the proposed new multi-purpose community hub at Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve.



4.3 Education, Training, Industry and Employment

Objective:

Innovative Industry, Education and Training Opportunities that meet the needs of our Community

Businesses: Our existing shops and businesses are well supported by local residents and visitors passing through or staying in Colbinabbin and district. People are able to purchase basic goods and services, as well as unique local products within Colbinabbin and district, thereby retaining money locally and creating local employment opportunities.

Information: Visitors are able to easily find out about local tourist attractions and businesses such as our painted silos and wineries before arriving in Colbinabbin or whilst they are in Colbinabbin. This information will be available online and in brochure / map format.

Technology: Our local residents have access to secure and reliable NBN and mobile phone reception, enabling them to easily access the internet for work, study, connection and play. Locals and visitors will also be able to access free Wi-Fi from a location in the main street.

Business development: People are supported to establish businesses in Colbinabbin (either in the town, in the district or at their home) and employment opportunities in Colbinabbin are promoted by relevant organisations such as Council.

Early years: Our children have access to a range of quality early years services in a suitable location in Colbinabbin.

How we aim to achieve this

1. We will introduce a **'shop local' campaign** to enable local businesses to survive and thrive. By encouraging local people to shop locally, it will reduce the need (particularly for those with no transport or limited transport options) to travel to Shepparton or Echuca if they can buy goods locally. It will also help to create more local employment opportunities, increase the diversity of products available locally and retain money in the local community.
2. We will work in partnership with Colbinabbin General Store Co-operative to establish **tourist information stand** within the Store, e.g. maps, brochures, displays, etc. As part of this, we will also explore:
 - a. working in partnership with Echuca Moama Tourism and Campaspe Shire Council to ensure that information about Colbinabbin attractions, e.g. the silos and wineries and events, is available at Visitor Information Centres, and included in promotional materials such as maps, brochures signs, banners and in online promotions / video content.
 - b. establishing a community website to promote the liveability and unique attributes and attractions of Colbinabbin to local residents and to residents of other towns in the region and across Victoria.
3. We will work in partnership with Campaspe Shire to advocate for improved **NBN and mobile phone** reception in Colbinabbin and district, as well as free Wi-Fi a location in the main street.
4. We will work in partnership with Campaspe Shire to promote Colbinabbin as an ideal place to establish a **new business** and to **promote employment opportunities** that are available in Colbinabbin.
5. We will undertake a study to determine the feasibility of developing an integrated **early years hub** in Colbinabbin incorporating services such as kindergarden, childcare and Maternal and Child Health and visiting allied health professionals. We would ideally like an early years' facility to be co-located with the Colbinabbin Primary School. As part of the feasibility study, we will explore the possibility or relocating the primary school to the recreation reserve or the possibility of relocating the early years facility to the primary school site.



4.4 Built and Natural Environment

Objective:

A Sustainable Built and Natural Environment

Streetscapes and open space: Our parks, gardens and streetscapes are attractive and well maintained, predominantly featuring a variety of different native and indigenous plantings that are drought tolerant and easy to maintain. These spaces provide accessible paths, seats and shade, and depending on their size and purpose, may also feature toilets, BBQs, play equipment and picnic facilities. Local residents and visitors use these spaces for activities and events year-round. Our storm water drains are efficient and limit the impact of future flooding events.

Roads and footpaths: Our roads and footpaths are safe and well maintained and connect people to key locations in the town such as the school, the recreation reserve, the shops and the silos. People are able to find their way around town and to key locations through well thought out wayfinding signage that is branded to reflect the character of Colbinabbin.

Residential land: New residents, including those with young families, are attracted to the town as additional residential land is opened up.

Housing estates: Existing housing estates are made more attractive and more functional by completing construction of kerbs, gutters and roadways.

Sustainability: Our community embraces initiatives that will help it to become more sustainable.

How we aim to achieve this

1. We will develop new accessible, unisex **toilets** with baby change facilities in Colbinabbin to replace the existing toilets at the Memorial Hall (which we proposed to be closed down as part of the hall refurbishment). These toilets will be centrally located near the main street so that they are accessible for locals, people passing through the town or people visiting and attending events at the silos.
2. We will improve the **streetscapes** of Colbinabbin to include improved township entry signage, directional signage, branding and landscaping. We will also improve the town's storm water drainage system, in particular follow up work on the drain along Boldiston lane, to limit the impact of future flooding events.
3. We will advocate to Campaspe Shire to expand **housing estates** in Colbinabbin township to support increased population growth and sustainability and will seek help to advocate to developers to complete works in current housing estates, e.g. kerbs, gutters and roadways.



5. Our Monitoring And Evaluation

A Governance Committee comprising of community representatives will take on the role of implementing the plan, supported by the community planning resources of Campaspe Shire Council. The committee will consist of approximately eight local residents. Two committee members will be assigned to each of the four portfolio areas to drive the projects. They will be supported by Campaspe Shire Council and are able to establish their own sub-committees to assist with project implementation.

An implementation plan will be produced by the Governance Committee to progress projects. It will incorporate the following information for each project:

- Project description
- Why this project is important to Colbinabbin
- How we are going to make this happen
- Who is going to help us with the project
- How this project is supported by Council
- The resources required to implement the project
- How we will know if this project has been a success.

The style of this implementation plan will assist with grant applications.

The Colbinabbin Place Based Plan should be reviewed annually. There may also be a requirement to establish baseline data for some projects so that the impact of specific actions or initiatives can be measured.



6. Acknowledgements

The following members of the Colbinabbin Place Based Plan Governance Committee were instrumental in guiding the development of this plan and will play a pivotal role in its implementation going forward:

- Dean Wallace (Chair)
- Jo Brown
- Tait Hamilton
- Shannon Hill
- Anne McEvoy
- Hannah Price
- Shell Rathjen
- Brian Spencer
- Sadie Vale

Lachlan Cozens and Sam Campi from Campaspe Shire provided invaluable support and guidance throughout the project.



Action Plan

There are 15 key actions identified by the community that will help achieve the vision for Colbinabbin. These actions will be subject to attracting sufficient funds.

Quick win projects (1-12 months):	Category	Leaders
Shop local – encourage people to shop locally by promoting local businesses and consider development of tourist information at the store.	Education, training, industry and employment	Shannon Hill Hannah Price Brian Spencer
Streetscapes (A) – improve the streetscapes of Colbinabbin to include township entry signage, directional signage, branding and landscaping (some of these actions may take place over several years).	Built and natural environment	Dean Wallace Sadie Vale
Memorial Hall – refurbish and renew the hall by closing off the external public toilets, remodelling the internal toilets, upgrading the Maternal and Child Health consulting space, painting the facility, installing air conditioning and undertaking basic maintenance. At the same time, seek additional user groups and uses for the hall, e.g. tourist information, museum, storage of cemetery and / or historical records / archiving documents, health and wellbeing classes, youth / children’s activities, library and display of art works.	Social and community connections	Ann McEvoy Jo Brown
Public toilets – develop new stand-alone accessible, unisex toilets with baby change facilities in Colbinabbin (accessible to the silos and the main road) to replace the existing toilets at the Memorial Hall once they are closed off.	Built and natural environment	Dean Wallace Sadie Vale
Recreation Reserve – implement the recreation reserve master plan by undertaking detailed design work for a new multi-purpose community hub to include improved social, community and change facilities at the recreation reserve in the short term and the construction of this facility in the medium term. Undertake other actions identified over the next 10 years in accordance with the schedule in the master plan.	Social and community connections	Ann McEvoy Jo Brown
Walking / cycling paths – connect and further develop safe walking / cycling paths around Colbinabbin that link to key locations such as the school, Recreation Reserve, silos, wineries and town centre. The first priorities are to create a safe link from the town to the primary school through the erection of a barrier next to the main road; footpaths leading into the recreation reserve; and a flashing 40km per hour signs in the school zone during pick up and drop off times. Other actions such as additional connections in the township, extending the Rushworth Rail Trail to Colbinabbin and reinstatement of the Golden Ironbark Trail may take place over several years.	Health and wellbeing	Shell Rathjen

7. Action Plan

Short-term projects (1-4 years):	Category	Leaders
Children's services - undertake a study to determine the feasibility of developing an integrated early years hub in Colbinabbin incorporating services such as kindergarten, childcare and Maternal and Child Health and visiting allied health professionals. The feasibility study will explore the possibility of relocating the Colbinabbin Primary School to the Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve or the possibility of relocating the early years facility to the primary school site.	Education, training, industry and employment	Shannon Hill Hannah Price Brian Spencer
Playground - upgrade the existing play space in the centre of Colbinabbin and provide a barrier or fence to prevent children from running onto the main road.	Social and community connections	Ann McEvoy Jo Brown
Streetscapes (B) - Improve the town's storm water drainage system, in particular follow up work on the drain along Boldiston lane, to limit the impact of future flooding events.	Built and natural environment	Dean Wallace Sadie Vale
Long-term projects (5-10 years):	Category	Leaders
Residential development - expand housing estates in town to support increased population growth and sustainability and complete works in current housing estates, e.g. kerbs, gutters and roadways.	Built and natural environment	Dean Wallace Sadie Vale
Ongoing projects	Category	Leaders
Swimming Pool - retain the Colbinabbin Swimming Pool and increase programming / activation.	Social and community connections	Ann McEvoy Jo Brown
Events - develop and enhance events (e.g. food, wine, music) to attract more visitors to Colbinabbin.	Social and community connections	Sadie Vale
Advocacy projects	Category	Leaders
Communications - advocate for improve NBN and mobile phone service reception, as well as free Wi-Fi from a location in the main street.	Education, training, industry and employment	Shannon Hill Hannah Price Brian Spencer
Employment - advocate for the promotion of employment opportunities available in Colbinabbin and employment opportunities available by people working from home.	Education, training, industry and employment	Shannon Hill Hannah Price Brian Spencer
Enhanced outreach services - advocate for the provision of enhanced outreach services for health and wellbeing, including Maternal and Child Health service and home care.	Health and wellbeing	Shell Rathjen

¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2021 Census QuickStats - Colbinabbin (State Suburb): <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/SAL20611>

² Forecast.id: <https://forecast.id.com.au/campaspe>