

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the
Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held at
Blackwood Hall, Martin Street, Blackwood on
Wednesday 16 November 2016,
commencing at 5:00 p.m.

Members:

Cr. David Edwards (Mayor)	East Moorabool Ward
Cr. Tonia Dudzik (Deputy Mayor)	East Moorabool Ward
Cr. Paul Tatchell	Central Moorabool Ward
Cr. Jarrod Bingham	East Moorabool Ward
Cr. John Keogh	East Moorabool Ward
Cr. Tom Sullivan	West Moorabool Ward
Cr. Pat Toohey	Woodlands Ward

Officers:

Mr. Rob Croxford	Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Phil Jeffrey	General Manager Infrastructure
Mr. Satwinder Sandhu	General Manager Growth and Development
Mr. Danny Colgan	General Manager Social and Organisational Development

Rob Croxford
Chief Executive Officer

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1. OPENING OF MEETING AND PRAYER

Almighty God be with us as we work for the people of the Shire of Moorabool.

Grant us wisdom that we may care for the Shire as true stewards of your creation.

May we be aware of the great responsibilities placed upon us.

Help us to be just in all our dealings and may our work prosper for the good of all.

Amen

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, their spirits and ancestors.

3. PRESENT

4. APOLOGIES

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – Wednesday 5 October 2016

Recommendation:

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday 5 October 2016.

5.2 Special Meeting of Council – Monday 7 November 2016

Recommendation:

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council, Statutory and Annual Appointments Meeting held on Monday 7 November 2016.

6. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under the Local Government Act (1989), the classification of the type of interest giving rise to a conflict is; a direct interest; or an indirect interest (section 77A and 77B). The type of indirect interest specified under Section 78, 78A, 78B, 78C or 78D of the Local Government Act 1989 set out the requirements of a Councillor or member of a Special Committee to disclose any conflicts of interest that the Councillor or member of a Special Committee may have in a matter being or likely to be considered at a meeting of the Council or Committee.

Definitions of the class of the interest are:

- a direct interest
 - (section 77A, 77B)
- an indirect interest (see below)
 - indirect interest by close association (section 78)
 - indirect financial interest (section 78A)
 - indirect interest because of conflicting duty (section 78B)
 - indirect interest because of receipt of gift(s) (section 78C)
 - indirect interest through civil proceedings (section 78D)
 - indirect interest because of impact on residential amenity (section 78E)

Time for Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

In addition to the Council protocol relating to disclosure at the beginning of the meeting, section 79 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) requires a Councillor to disclose the details, classification and the nature of the conflict of interest immediately at the beginning of the meeting and/or before consideration or discussion of the Item.

Section 79(6) of the Act states:

While the matter is being considered or any vote is taken in relation to the matter, the Councillor or member of a special committee must:

- (a) leave the room and notify the Mayor or the Chairperson of the special committee that he or she is doing so; and
- (b) remain outside the room and any gallery or other area in view of hearing of the room.

The Councillor is to be notified by the Mayor or Chairperson of the special committee that he or she may return to the room after consideration of the matter and all votes on the matter.

There are important reasons for requiring this disclosure immediately before the relevant matter is considered.

- Firstly, members of the public might only be in attendance for part of a meeting and should be able to see that all matters are considered in an appropriately transparent manner.
- Secondly, if conflicts of interest are not disclosed immediately before an item there is a risk that a Councillor who arrives late to a meeting may fail to disclose their conflict of interest and be in breach of the Act.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The aim of Public Question Time is to provide an opportunity for the public to ask general questions at Council Meetings requiring routine responses. Public Question Time is conducted in accordance with Section 6.9 of the Council's *Meeting Procedure Local Law No. 9*.

Questions must be in writing on the form provided by the Council and submitted by 5.00pm on the day before the meeting. Members of the public can contact a Councillor and raise a question which the Councillor will submit on their behalf.

A question will only be read to the meeting if the Chairperson or other person authorised for this purpose by the Chairperson has determined that:

- i) the person directing the question is present in the gallery;
- ii) the question does not relate to a matter of the type described in section 89(2) of the Act (for confidential matters);
- iii) the question does not relate to a matter in respect of which Council has no power to act;
- iv) the question is not defamatory, indecent, abusive or objectionable in language or substance;
- v) the question is not a repetition of a question already asked or answered (whether at the same or an earlier meeting); and
- vi) the question is not asked to embarrass a Councillor, member of Council staff or member of the public.

A Councillor or Council officer may:

- i) immediately answer the question asked; or
- ii) elect to have the question taken on notice until the next Ordinary meeting of Council; at which time the question must be answered and incorporated in the Agenda of the meeting under Public Question Time; or
- iii) elect to submit a written answer to the person asking the question within 10 working days.

Responses to public questions answered at the meeting, will be general in nature, provided in good faith and should not exceed two minutes. These responses will be summarised in the minutes of the meeting.

Public Question Time does not substitute for other forms of communication with or other formal business procedures of the Council.

8. PETITIONS

No petitions have been made to Council for consideration as part of this Agenda.

9. PRESENTATIONS / DEPUTATIONS

The Council has made provision in the business of the Ordinary Meetings of the Council for the making of presentations or deputations to Council in relation to matters presented on the agenda for Council consideration.

Presentations or deputations are required to be conducted in accordance with the requirements contained within the **Presentation/Deputations Protocols and Procedural Guidelines**.

Persons wishing to make a presentation or deputation to Council on a matter included in the agenda shall inform Council prior to the meeting by contacting the Chief Executive Officer’s office and registering their name and agenda item being spoken to.

At the meeting the Mayor will invite the persons wishing to make a presentation or delegation to address the Council on the agenda item.

The person making the presentation or deputation is to stand and address Council on the item. No debate on the item is permitted between the person making the presentation or delegation and the Council.

A maximum of three minutes per presentation or delegation will be allocated. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the Mayor.

Councillors, through the Mayor, may ask the person making the presentation or delegation for clarification of matters presented.

The Mayor may direct that a member of the gallery ceases speaking if the above procedure is not followed.

List of Persons making Presentations/Deputations other than in relation to a planning item listed on the agenda:

Item No	Description	Name	Position
-	-	-	-

List of Persons making Presentations/Deputations to a planning item listed on the agenda:

Individuals seeking to make a presentation to the Council on a planning item listed on the agenda for consideration at the meeting will be heard by the Council immediately preceding consideration of the Council Officer’s report on the planning item.

Item No	Description	Name	Applicant/ Objector
-	-	-	-

10. OFFICER'S REPORTS**10.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER****10.1.1 Australia Day Award Recipient Selection Panel****Introduction**

File No: 02/04/003
Author: Dianne Elshaug
Chief Executive Officer: Rob Croxford

Background

Moorabool Shire Council Australia Day 2017 Celebrations are scheduled to be held on Thursday 26 January, 2017 in the Supper Room and Public Hall, Bacchus Marsh and will include a community breakfast and award presentations.

Advertisements have been placed in the local papers, on Council's website and via Social Media calling for nominations for Moorabool Shire Council's Australia Day Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year. Nominations close on 18 November, 2016.

Proposal

A selection panel for the Awards made up of three Councillors and the 2016 Australia Day Citizen/s of the Year (if available) will be required to meet in late November to determine the award recipients for 2017.

Policy Implications

The 2013–2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area Community Wellbeing

Objective Community Self Reliance

Strategy Support community and cultural events.

The proposal to have a selection panel made up of Councillors and the 2016 Australia Day Citizen/s of the Year to determine 2017 award recipients is consistent with the 2013-2017 Council Plan.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

Nil.

Communications and Consultation Strategy

Advertising and media releases will be prepared leading up to Australia Day celebrations, including utilising social media as a promotional tool.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Manager – Rob Croxford

In providing this advice to Council as the CEO, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Dianne Elshaug

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Conclusion

That a selection panel for the Awards be made up of three Councillors and the 2016 Australia Day Citizen/s of the Year (if available) and will meet in late November to determine the award recipients for 2017.


Recommendation:

That Council:

1. **Establish an Australia Day Selection Panel to determine award recipients for 2017.**
2. **Appoints the following Councillors as members of the Australia Day Selection Panel:**
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)

Report Authorisation

Authorised by:

Name: Rob Croxford 
Title: Chief Executive Officer
Date: Wednesday, 19 October 2016.

10.2 GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

10.2.1 Planning Permit Application PA2012-158 – 40 Corbetts Road, Gordon; Staged Eight (8) Lot Subdivision

Application Summary:	
Permit No:	PA2012-158
Lodgement Date:	30 July 2012
Planning Officer:	Tom Tonkin
Address of the land:	Lot 4 on PS 612676C, 40 Corbetts Road, Gordon 3345
Proposal:	Staged Eight (8) Lot Subdivision
Lot size:	6624sq m
Why is a permit required	Clause 32.09-2 – Neighbourhood Residential Zone – subdivision Clause 42.01-2 – Environmental Significance Overlay – subdivision Clause 43.02-3 – Design and Development Overlay – subdivision
Restrictions registered on title	Section 173 Agreement AM598401R
Public Consultation:	
Was the application advertised?	The application was advertised due to the proposal's potential to cause material detriment.
Notices on site:	Two (2)
Notice in Moorabool Newspaper:	None
Number of Objections:	Nine (9)
Consultation meeting:	Yes, held 29 August 2016 and attended by the applicant and all objectors. There were no subsequent changes made to the application.

Policy Implications:	
Key Result Area	Enhanced Natural and Built Environment.
Objective	Effective and efficient land use planning and building control.
Strategy	Implement high quality, responsive, and efficient processing systems for planning and building applications Ensure that development is sustainable, resilient to change and respects the existing character.
Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006	
In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.	
Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests	
Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest. <i>Manager – Robert Fillisch</i> In providing this advice to Council as the Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report. <i>Author – Tom Tonkin</i> In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.	
Executive Summary:	
Application Referred?	Referred to external authorities and within Council.
Any issues raised in referral responses?	No
Preliminary Concerns?	Yes. See discussion on the amendment to Section 173 Agreement in 'Background' below.
Any discussions with applicant regarding concerns	Yes. See 'Background' below.

Any changes made to the application since being lodged?	Yes, the application was amended in process on 17 June 2016 to amend the description of the proposal from a seven lot subdivision to an eight lot subdivision, essentially to correct an error on the original application form. Also see 'Background' below.
VCAT history?	None
Previous applications for the site?	None
General summary	<p>The application is for a staged eight lot subdivision of the site. The subdivision would be completed in two stages, and lot sizes would range from 801sq m to 950sq m. Each lot would front an existing road reserve and frontage widths would be 18.0-26.83m.</p> <p>Objections to the proposal generally relate to neighbourhood character, the number of lots, pollution, traffic and infrastructure, and inconsistency with the Gordon Structure Plan. The proposal meets some of the relevant objectives of State and local planning policy and most ResCode requirements, subject to conditions. However, the proposal does not adequately respond to the site features and neighbourhood character of the area and is inconsistent with the purpose of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone and Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 5.</p> <p>Overall, the proposal is not site responsive, is an overdevelopment of the site and would detract from the amenity of the area.</p>
Summary Recommendation:	
That, having considered all relevant matters as required by the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Council issue a Refusal to Grant a Permit for this application in accordance with Section 61 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> , on the grounds detailed at the end of this report.	

Background

Amendment to Section 173 Agreement

When the permit application was originally lodged in 2012, Section 173 Agreement AG386986S was registered on title. The Agreement, between Council and the landowner, was made pursuant to planning permit PA2005-091 which created the subject site as part of a four lot subdivision, and imposed building and effluent envelopes on each lot. Since that subdivision was created the Gordon Sewerage Scheme has been implemented, providing for the subject site to connect to reticulated sewer. The existence of the Agreement prevented Council from being able to assess the permit application given the Agreement and associated restriction remains valid until removed. In accordance with Council's advice the applicant applied in October 2014 to amend the Agreement to remove the effluent and building

envelope restriction and enable connection to the Gordon Sewerage Scheme. The application was referred to Central Highlands Water, who consented, and to Barwon Water who consented subject to conditions including that the proposed lots be connected to reticulated sewer. The application was advertised and six objections received, but they all related to the planning permit application which at that stage had not been advertised. In March 2016 the Section 173 Agreement was formally amended to create Agreement AM598401R, removing the building and effluent envelopes from the subject site and imposing Barwon Water's conditions for connection to sewer and stormwater drainage requirements.

Following this, the assessment of the permit application was able to continue, including public notice of the application.

Changes made by Planning Scheme Amendment C53

Since the original permit application was lodged, Amendment C53 to the Moorabool Planning Scheme was gazetted on 26 February 2015. C53 implemented the Gordon Local Structure Plan by changes to the Municipal Strategic Statement to reflect the plan, rezoning areas of the township from Township Zone and Rural Living Zone to Neighbourhood Residential Zone, and applying a Design and Development Overlay (DDO5) and Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO2) over the township area and surrounds. This included the requirement for subdivisions to have minimum 800sq m lot sizes.

The plan submitted with the original permit application was for an eight lot subdivision creating lots of 609sq m – 1350sq m in size. After the amendment of the Section 173 Agreement was approved, Council wrote to the applicant to advise that changes to the plan were required, specifically 800sq m minimum lot sizes. Additionally, the applicant was advised that the axe handle access to Lots 7 and 8 was not supported and that the design should be amended. A plan addressing these requirements was submitted, being the advertised plan.

Public Notice

Notice of the application was given to adjoining and nearby landowners by mail on 23 June 2016 and signs erected on site facing Corbetts Road and Faheys Road from 26 July until 23 August 2016. Nine (9) objections were received.

Summary of Objections

The objections received are detailed below with officer's accompanying comments:

Objection	Any relevant requirements
The proposed subdivision is not in keeping with the surrounding development pattern of much larger lots.	Clauses 21.09-1, 32.09, 43.02 and 56.03-5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	
The proposal is contrary to the Gordon Structure Plan and goes against what the community wants.	Clauses 21.09-1, 32.09, Schedule 1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - Parts of the Gordon Structure Plan have been translated into the Moorabool Planning Scheme through Amendment C53, including the introduction of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone, Schedule 1, and Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 5. An assessment of the proposal against these provisions is provided below.	
Increased air pollution created by up to eight new wood heaters given there is no gas supply.	Clause 65.01
Officer's response - The responsible authority must assess the application's effect on the amenity of the area, however there is no specific requirement for consideration of air quality. Issues regarding smoke from wood heaters would be dealt with by Council's Environmental Health officer as they arise under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.	
Increased traffic and associated noise and road damage	Clause 65.01
Officer's response - Approval of the application would include conditions requiring upgrades to the roads adjoining the site by the developer. The surrounding road network is considered capable of absorbing traffic associated with future dwellings facilitated by the proposal, and Council's Infrastructure unit consent to the application subject to conditions. Traffic noise associated with the proposal would not be considered unreasonable.	
Increased stormwater runoff would exacerbate drainage problems.	
Officer's response - All relevant referral authorities, including Council's Infrastructure unit, consent to the application, subject to conditions including management of stormwater runoff to mitigate existing issues.	
Impact of more domestic pets on native wildlife, and barking dogs.	N/A
Officer's response - Reports of roaming pets and barking dogs would be dealt with by Council's Community Safety officer acting under the relevant legislation.	

Removal of trees in the road reserve for access to Lots 1 and 2.	Clause 52.17-7
Officer's response - Removal of native vegetation in the road reserve to enable vehicle access to a property may be exempt from needing a planning permit. This exemption does not apply where there is a practical opportunity to site the accessway to avoid vegetation removal. In this instance there appears to be acceptable opportunity to avoid or minimize native vegetation removal.	
Negative impact on visual amenity, exacerbated by the elevated location.	Clause 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	
Negative impact on the village and rural character	Clauses 21.09-1, 32.09 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	
Lot sizes of 1300-2000sq m would be in keeping with the surrounding area.	Clauses 32.09, Schedule 1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See below for discussion of proposed lot sizes.	
Loss of property values	N/A
Officer's response - Property values are impacted by a range of factors and thus not considered to be a valid objection to a planning application.	
There are examples of similar lots in Main and Urquhart Streets in Gordon not in keeping with the rural character, which would be even more the case in Corbetts Road.	Clauses 21.09-1, 32.09, Schedule 1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See below for discussion of proposed lot sizes.	
The proposed subdivision, when built on, will be like a suburban development in completely the wrong place.	Clauses 21.09-1, 32.09, Schedule 1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See below for discussion of proposed lot sizes.	
A maximum of four lots would be appropriate	Clauses 32.09, Schedule 1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See below for discussion of proposed lot sizes.	
The proposal contravenes the intent of the overlay	Clause 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	
The proposal does not accord with the purpose of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Clause 32.09
Officer's response - See discussion below.	

The proposal does not accord with the subdivision objectives of the Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 5.	Clause 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	
The proposal does not accord with surrounding landscape or environmental values.	Clauses 21.09-1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	
Inappropriate subdivision density for Gordon township.	Clauses 32.09, Schedule 1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	
The minimum lot size in Gordon is a minimum not an objective.	Clauses 32.09, Schedule 1 and 43.02, Schedule 5
Officer's response - See discussion below.	

Proposal

It is proposed to develop the site for a staged eight (8) lot subdivision. Lot sizes would range from 801sq m to 950sq m, with each lot being roughly rectangular in shape. The subdivision design would provide a road frontage for each lot. Lots 1 and 2 would both have 18.0m frontages to Faheys Road. Lots 3-6 would have frontages to Corbetts Road of between 18.14m and 23.18m. Lots 7 and 8 would both have 26.83m frontages to Gladstone Street which is currently an unmade road.

The subdivision would be developed in two (2) stages: Stage 1 would comprise Lots 3-6, and Stage 2 lots 1, 2, 7 and 8.

Approval of the subdivision would require the unmade portion of Gladstone Street abutting the site to be developed to Council's requirements.

The proposed plan of subdivision and a level and feature survey plan is provided in Attachment 10.2.1.

Site Description

The site is identified as Lot 4 on PS 612676C and known as 40 Corbetts Road, Gordon. The site is on north side of Corbetts Road and adjoins Faheys Road to the west and an unmade section of Gladstone Street to the east. The site is 6624sq m in size and roughly square in shape, and part of a four (4) lot subdivision created in 2008. The site is currently vacant apart from a small shed near the southwest corner of the site. Vehicle access is available via an existing crossover to Corbetts Road. The site contains no notable vegetation, however there is a stand of established native trees in the Faheys Road reserve directly abutting the site. The site falls from the northeast to the southwest by approximately 10 metres.

The site is encumbered by a triangular shaped powerline easement across its southeast corner.

Corbetts Road is a constructed bitumen road with swale drains. Faheys Road is a constructed gravel road also with swale drains.

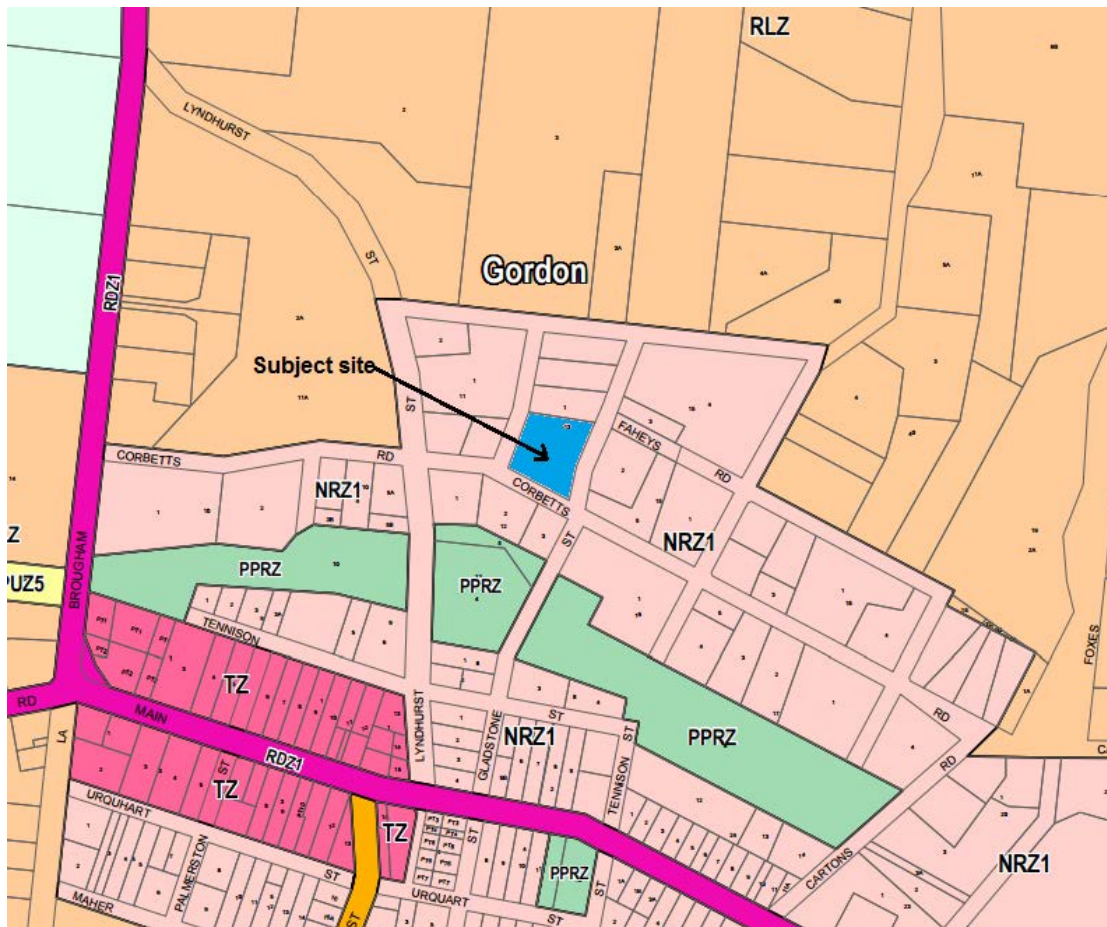
The site and surrounding neighbourhood is towards the northern periphery of Gordon township in the Neighbourhood Residential Zone. Lot sizes and shapes in the area vary significantly, reflecting varied zoning, old irregular subdivisions and more recent residential subdivisions. Recent nearby subdivisions have created lots greater than 1200sq m, although in and around Main Street there have been recent subdivisions creating smaller lots. Whilst many lots in this part of Gordon are developed with dwellings, the typically generous lot sizes, established trees, undulating and hilly topography and low scale of development contribute to a distinctly semi-rural character. This is further enhanced by nearby patches of forested land and cleared grazing and horticultural land.

To the north of the site, fronting Faheys Road, is a dwelling and ancillary outbuildings on a lot of 3002sq m. To the west, across Faheys Road, are lots of 2020sq m and 10,600sq m developed with single dwellings. To the south, across Corbetts Road, are lots of 1291sq m, 2392sq m and 2210sq m, each developed with a single dwelling. To the east, across Gladstone Street, is vacant land mostly cleared of vegetation, which has current approval for a six lot subdivision to create lots of between 2002sq m and 2226sq m with at least four lots to be accessed from Gladstone Street.



Locality Map

The map below indicates the location of the subject site and the zoning of the surrounding area.



Planning Scheme Provisions

Council is required to consider the Victoria Planning Provisions and give particular attention to the State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF), the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) and the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS).

The relevant clauses are:

- 11.05-1 Melbourne’s hinterland areas
- 11.06 Central Highlands regional growth
- 12.04-2 Landscapes
- 14.02 Water
- 15.01-3 Neighbourhood and subdivision design
- 15.01-5 Cultural identity and Neighbourhood character
- 16.01-1 Integrated housing
- 16.01-2 Location of residential development
- 21.02-.3 Water and Catchment Management
- 21.03-2 Urban Growth Management
- 21.03-3 Residential Development
- 21.03-4 Landscape and Neighbourhood Character

- 21.09-1 Gordon
- 22.02 Special Water Supply Catchments.

The proposal does not properly satisfy all relevant sections of the SPPF and LPPF, particularly regarding neighbourhood character and the protection of landscape values.

Zone

The subject site is in the Neighbourhood Residential Zone, Schedule 1.

The purpose of the Zone is:

- To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- To recognise areas of predominantly single and double storey residential development.
- To limit opportunities for increased residential development.
- To manage and ensure that development respects the identified neighbourhood character, heritage, environmental or landscape characteristics.
- To implement neighbourhood character policy and adopted neighbourhood character guidelines.
- To allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.

Under Clause 32.09-2 a permit is required to subdivide land. An application to subdivide land must meet the relevant requirements of Clause 56 for residential subdivision.

Overall, the proposed subdivision is inconsistent with the Neighbourhood Residential Zone provisions.

Overlays

The site is affected by Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 1 (ESO1), Design and Development Overlay, Schedules 2 and 5 (DDO2 & 5) and Significant Landscape Overlay, Schedule 2 (SLO2).

The ESO1 applies to land in a Special Water Supply Catchment. Under Clause 42.01-2 a permit is required to subdivide land. Reticulated sewer is available, and subject to conditions the proposal would meet the requirements of this overlay.

The DDO5 applies to the Gordon township and rural surrounds. Under Clause 43.02-3 a permit is required to subdivide land. Overall, the proposal is inconsistent with the DDO5 provisions.

The DDO2 applies to development using reflective exterior cladding and is not relevant to this proposal.

Under the SLO2 there is no permit requirement for subdivision.

Particular Provisions

Clause 52.01 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision

Under Clause 52.01 the proponent must pay a contribution to Council for public open space, being a percentage of the site value. If a permit were to be granted it is recommended that a condition require payment of a 5% contribution.

Clause 56 Residential Subdivision

Subject to conditions, the proposal generally complies with the relevant ResCode (Clause 56) provisions, with the exception of neighbourhood character.

Discussion

The Central Highlands Regional Growth Plan (Victorian Government 2014) identifies Gordon as a small town in the Ballarat hinterland. The proposal would facilitate consolidated growth within the existing township and take advantage of existing infrastructure, in particular reticulated sewer. The proposed lot sizes would contribute to lot diversity and housing choice in Gordon. However, growth must be balanced with the need for new development to respect the existing neighbourhood character and integrate with the surrounding environment.

The subject site and surrounding land is in the Neighbourhood Residential Zone, Schedule 1 (NRZ1). The purpose of the NRZ includes the following:

- To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- To recognise areas of predominantly single and double storey residential development.
- To limit opportunities for increased residential development.
- To manage and ensure that development respects the identified neighbourhood character, heritage, environmental or landscape characteristics.

The purpose of the NRZ indicates that a balance must be achieved in responding to the range of applicable policies, but importantly growth must be site responsive.

Gordon is in a Special Water Supply Catchment, and under the Environmental Significance Overlay a permit is required to subdivide land. Reticulated sewer is available and a condition of any approval would require all lots to be connected to sewer. The application was referred to the relevant water authorities who consent to the proposal, and it is considered that subject to conditions the proposal does not present an unreasonable threat to drinking water quality.

Subject to conditions, the proposal complies with the relevant requirements of Clause 56 for residential subdivision, with the exception of neighbourhood character, as discussed below. All relevant referral authorities consent, subject to conditions.

Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 5 (DDO5) applies to the wider Gordon township, and provides design objectives for development and subdivision, including the following which are relevant to this application:

- To protect the village character of the township.
- To protect the spacious character of the township by maintaining larger lot sizes.

Pursuant to Clause 3.0 of DDO5 a permit is required to subdivide land, with a requirement for a minimum lot size of 800sq m to retain the spacious nature of the township. Clause 3.0 also states that:

- Subdivision design should respond to existing site features and vegetation.
- Subdivision design is to respond to the pattern of development and the character of the township.

Proposed lot sizes of 801sq m – 950sq m comply with the minimum lot size. However, the proposal is not considered to be sufficiently site responsive given the surrounding lot sizes and pattern of development, and landscape features including topography and vegetation, which all strongly contribute to the character of the area.

Pursuant to Clause 43.02-5 and 5.0 of DDO5 the following decision guidelines are relevant to this application, noting that references to development are also applicable to subdivision:

- Whether subdivision will result in development which is not in keeping with the character and appearance of adjacent buildings, the streetscape or the area.
- Whether the development responds to the design objectives of the overlay.
- The contribution that the development makes to the preferred character of the area.
- The impact of the development on visual amenity both from adjoining properties and from within the township of Gordon.
- The impact of the landscaping and scale of new development, particularly in open areas and locations on exposed hill tops and slopes.

As previously described, this part of Gordon has a distinctly semi-rural character, with a sense of spaciousness created by the lot sizes and spacing of dwellings, vegetation cover and hilly topography which allows for views across parts of Gordon including to and from the subject site. The proposed subdivision of the site to create eight lots represents a relatively intensive scale of development. The future development of each lot for a single dwelling would in no way be in keeping with the character and appearance of adjacent or nearby dwellings, the streetscape or the area more generally. Surrounding lots typically have not only comparatively wide frontages but also larger areas allowing for spacious boundary setbacks and space for tree plantings and outbuildings. The proposed subdivision would provide limited scope for future development to positively contribute to the character of the area as described above.

Rather, the proposal would introduce a distinctly urban character at odds with the village character of Gordon, and in particular the semi-rural character of this neighbourhood. Furthermore, the size of the site and its exposed hillside location is readily visible in some places from up to 400 metres away. This would exacerbate the appearance of future development and detract from the visual amenity of adjoining properties and other parts of the township.

The proposed eight lot staged subdivision does not satisfy the relevant provisions of the Moorabool Planning Scheme.

General Provisions

Clause 65 – Decision Guidelines have been considered by officers in evaluating this application.

Clause 66 - stipulates all the relevant referral authorities to which the application must be referred.

Referrals

The following referrals were made pursuant to s.55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and Council departments were provided with an opportunity to make comment on the proposed development plan.

Authority	Response
Barwon Water	Consent with conditions
Central Highlands Water	Consent with conditions
Powercor	Consent with conditions
Downer	Consent with conditions
Infrastructure	Consent with conditions
Environmental Health	Consent with conditions

Financial Implications

The recommendation of refusal of this application would not represent any financial implications for Council.

Risk and Occupational Health and Safety Issues

The recommendation of refusal of this application does not implicate any risk or OH & S issues to Council

Communications Strategy

Notice was undertaken for the application, in accordance with s.52 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, and further correspondence is required to all interested parties to the application as a result of a decision in this matter. All submitters and the applicant were invited to attend this meeting and invited to address Council if desired.

Options

An alternative recommendation would be to approve the application subject to conditions.

Approving the application may result in any of the objectors lodging an application for review of Council's decision with VCAT.

Conclusion

The proposal does not adequately satisfy the relevant provisions of the Moorabool Planning Scheme, particularly regarding State and local planning policy for neighbourhood character, and the relevant zone and overlay provisions for the development of land in Gordon.

The proposed eight lot staged subdivision is not considered to be adequately site responsive, with regard to the character and appearance of the area, and does not integrate appropriately with the surrounding area or enhance the amenity of the area.

Whilst subdivision of the site is considered to be suitable, the current application does not respond appropriately to the features of the site and surrounds and is an overdevelopment of the site.

Recommendation:

That, having considered all matters as prescribed by the Planning and Environment Act, Council issues a Refusal to Grant a Permit for PA2012-158 for a Staged Eight (8) Lot Subdivision at Lot 4 on PS 612676C, 40 Corbetts Road, Gordon, on the following grounds:


- 1. The subdivision does not meet the purpose of Clause 32.09 (Neighbourhood Residential Zone) of the Moorabool Planning Scheme.**
- 2. The subdivision does not meet the relevant design objectives, requirements and decision guidelines under Clause 43.02 (Design and Development Overlay, including Schedule 5) of the Moorabool Planning Scheme.**

3. **The subdivision does not satisfy the relevant State Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Policy Framework policies in the Moorabool Planning Scheme for neighbourhood character and landscape values.**
4. **The subdivision does not meet the objective or standard of Clause 56.03-5 of the Moorabool Planning Scheme.**

Report Authorisation

Authorised by:

Name:


Satwinder Sandhu

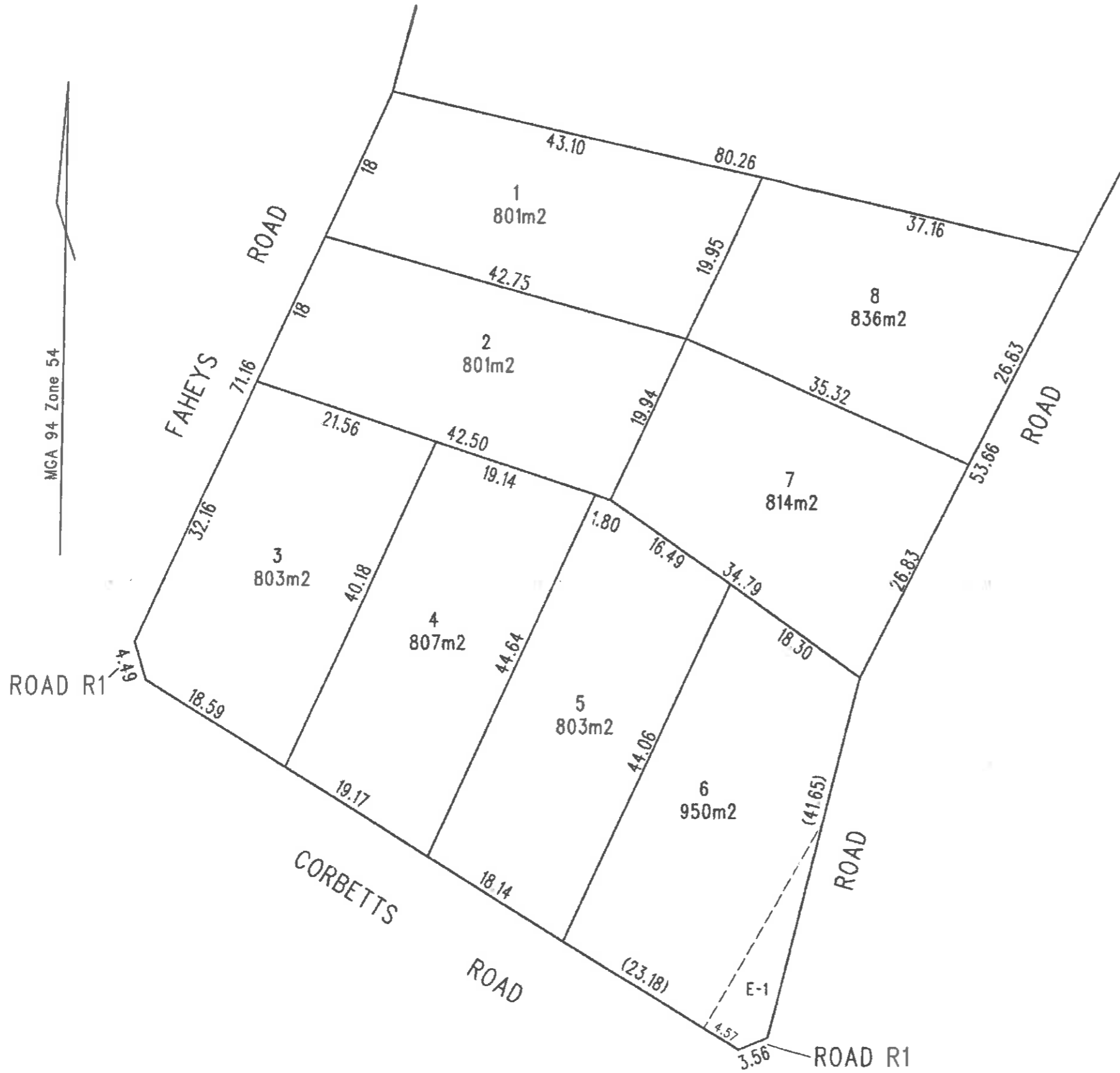
Title:

General Manager Growth and Development

Date:

Tuesday, 25 October 2016

Attachment - Item 10.2.1



MGA 94 Zone 54

OFFICE USE ONLY

NOTATIONS

All dimensions are subject to final survey.
E-1 Electricity Supply Vide PS 612676C

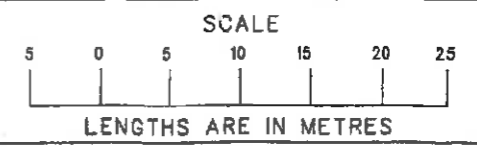
STAGES

STAGE 1 LOTS 3-6 (INCLUSIVE)
STAGE 2 LOTS 1, 2, 7 & 8.

PLAN OF PROPOSED STAGED SUBDIVISION

PARISH KERRIT BAREET
TOWNSHIP OF GORDON
SECTION 13
CROWN ALLOTMENT 1 (PART)
LOT 4 ON PS 612676C

NUMBER OF SHEETS IN PLAN: 1
NUMBER OF THIS SHEET: 1



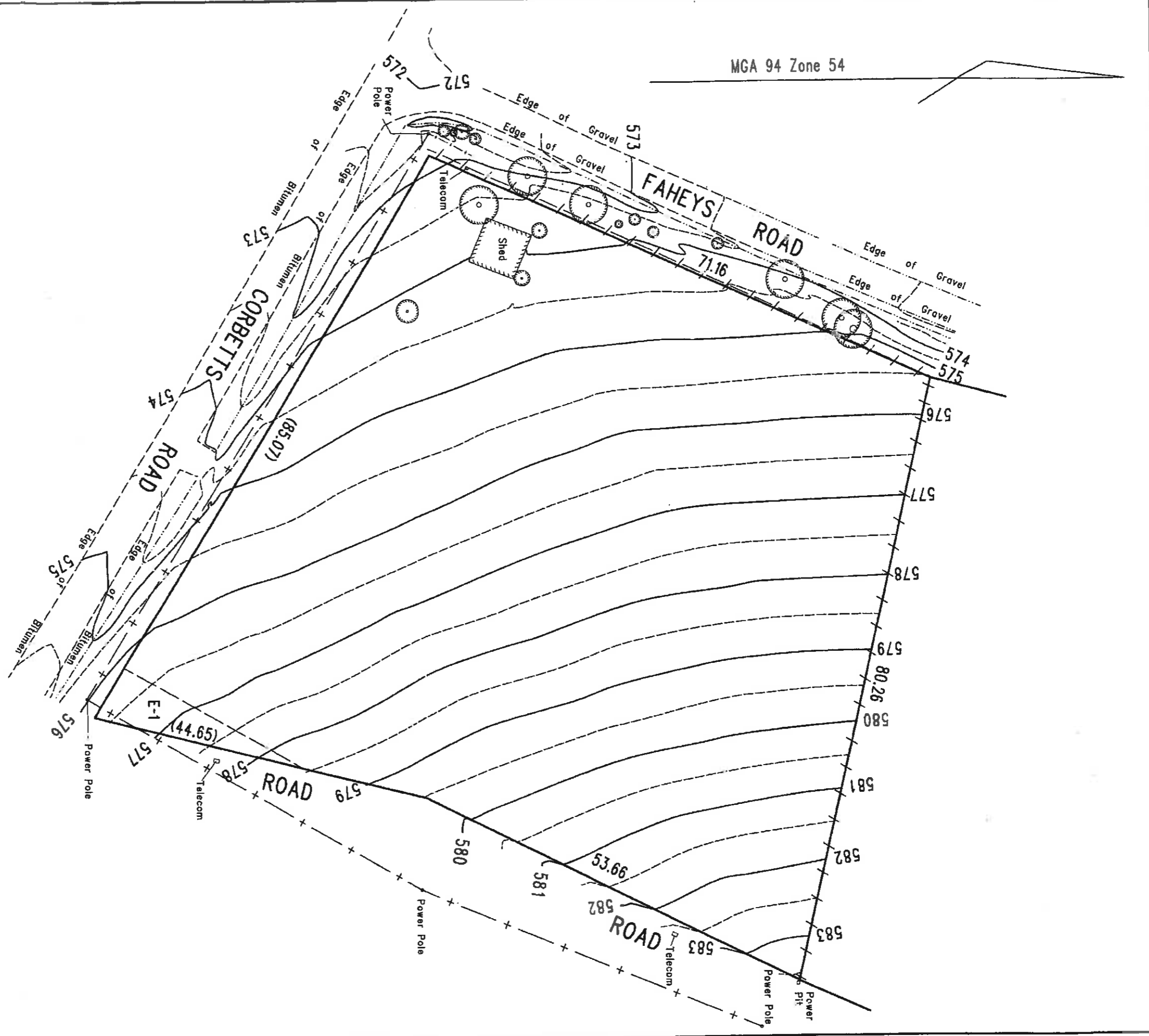
ORIGINAL SCALE SHEET SIZE
1:500 A3

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T.G.SULLIVAN & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD
ACN 120 363 073
ABN 45 120 363 073
PO BOX 1394, BAKERY HILL 3354
PH 5368 9362

SURVEYORS REF.
1234
(March 2016)



PM 43
574.586

NOTATIONS

Contours are in metres and to Australian Height Datum.
Level Datum PM 43 RL 574.586

⊙ — Denotes existing Tree.
E-1 Electricity Supply Vide PS 612676C

--- Denotes existing Fence.

T.G.SULLIVAN & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD
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ABN 45 120 363 073
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SURVEYORS REF.
1234
(JULY 2012)

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SCALE 1 : 500
A3

PLAN OF LEVEL AND FEATURE SURVEY
PARISH KERRIT BAREET
TOWNSHIP OF GORDON
SECTION 13
CROWN ALLOTMENT 1 (PART)

10.2.2 On Road Cycle Racing Policy

Author: *Satwinder Sandhu*
General Manager: *Satwinder Sandhu*

Introduction

At the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 2 March, 2016 Council resolved the following:

Resolution:

Crs. Sullivan/Tatchell.

That Council develop a policy with respect to cycle racing on Council roads within the shire.

This report offers a specific policy for on-road cycling races (Attachment 10.2.2). The subject policy was presented to the S86 Place Making Committee on 17 August 2016 and has been endorsed by the committee for presentation to the Council. However, due to the Caretaker and Election period, there has been a delay in presenting this report to council.

Background

Cycle races are held regularly on the road network of Moorabool Shire. These events have a variety of impacts depending on their size, duration and location. By adopting a policy, Council has a consistent guide by which to assess the merits of supporting or rejecting requests from event organisers to stage on-road cycling events within Moorabool Shire.

Council provides advice, assessment and permissions relating to the staging of the event and assists with communication and promotion in some cases.

Council does not have a policy for specifically for on-road cycling events. Since 2007, Victorian LGA's and on-road cycling race organisers have based cycling event and traffic management plans and approvals according the VicRoads guide "On-Road Cycling Events – a guide to obtaining approval."

In 2014, Council's Economic Development Unit, with the assistance of a cross-organisational events reference group, developed comprehensive processes and procedures to improve the regulation of events in the Shire.

This policy provides strategic reinforcement of current process and practice.

Consideration

The policy protocol relating to the consideration of items which affect beyond the current year is applied for consideration of matters whose impact or influence will extend to directly affect the activities and/or financial planning of Council for a period beyond the term of the Current Council Budget, and whether relating to Council policy pronouncements or specific projects.

Proposal

To implement a council policy specifically for on-road cycling racing.

Policy Implications

The 2013 – 2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

- Key Result Area** Community Wellbeing
- Objective** A strong and diverse local economy
- Strategy** Encourage tourism initiatives through local and regional groups

The proposal to implement this policy is consistent with the 2013 – 2017 Council Plan.

Financial Implications

There are no significant financial considerations.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

Risk Identifier	Detail of Risk	Risk Rating	Control/s
OHS – Manual handling	Injury from set up, removal of event	Medium	Policy Event Risk Management Plans Dedicated production manage State Guidelines Council Event reference group
Emergency	Fire or traffic accidents	Medium	Policy Event Emergency Management Plans St Johns Ambulance CFA State Guidelines Council Event reference group
Public liability	Death or injury at event – claims for compensation	Medium	Policy Physical barriers Signage TMP PLI State Guidelines Council Event reference group

Communications and Consultation Strategy

If adopted, Council to include the policy with the Event Notification form for on-road cycling event requests. Policy will be uploaded to Council's website.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Satwinder Sandhu

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Conclusion

A cycle racing policy for large-scale competitive on-road cycling races within the shire was considered by the S86 Place Making Advisory Committee 17 August 2016 and endorsed for Council's consideration.

Recommendation:

That, in accordance with Moorabool Shire Council Policy Protocol, 'Consideration of items which Affect beyond the Current Year', the On Road Cycle Racing Policy as attached, now lay on the table for further consideration at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Report Authorisation:

Authorised by:

Name: Satwinder Sandhu
Title: General Manager Growth and Development
Date: Tuesday, 25 October 2016



Attachment - Item 10.2.2



Policy No.:	GD028	<i>On-road Cycle Racing Policy</i>
Review Date:	1 June, 2018	
Revision No.:		
Adopted by:		

1. Purpose and Scope of the Policy

- Regulate larger organised on-road cycling events held within Moorabool Shire.
- Stimulate community benefits associated with hosting on-road cycling events.
- Limit the temporary impacts of on-road cycling events on the environment, local residents and business.
- Assist event organisers to run events in accordance to current safety standards.
- Ensure an event management plan is provided to council event organisers that demonstrates the safety of spectators, participants and other road users, impact on traffic flow, and access for residents, has been considered. .
- An on-road cycling event is a cycling activity wholly or partly conducted on public roads involving more than 30 participants. An on-road cycling event can be either competition (racing) or recreational (commercial tours, community rides and fund raising or similar).
- Only applies to human-powered on-road cycling events.

2. Policy

- To ensure stakeholder needs are considered and addressed, all on-road cycling events held within the Shire are required to make application to council for assessment.
- Applications will be assessed according to the State guidelines, laws and regulations and Council's Event Notification Process.
- The onus is on the event organiser to demonstrate that all requirements of council have been addressed when applicable.
- The event organiser is responsible for communicating with stakeholders.

Large-scale on-road cycling events

Event organisers of large-scale on-road cycling events must also do the following.

- Provide drafts of all resident communications for approval via Council's Marketing and Communications unit prior to distribution.
- Ensure the event has council approval, prior to promoting event.
- Ensure that signage within the shire has council or VicRoads approval.
- Invite relevant Council staff to Operational Group Meetings involving shire related activity.
- Organise a specific meeting with relevant Council staff if requested or warranted.
- Notify local residents in advance via advertising, direct mail and invite local stakeholders to attend any relevant scheduled information sessions.
- Understand that costs associated with requests to conduct works on roads and roadsides specifically for their event is recoverable from the event organisers, if the works take place.

3. Process

- 3.1 Event organisers must submit event notification forms for each event via info@moorabool.vic.gov.au attention to the events officer.
- 3.2 Events officer circulates the completed Moorabool Shire Event Notification Form to Council's Event Reference Group.
- 3.3 Event Reference Group review the notification form to ensure the event complies with all relevant Council and legislative requirements and aligns with the Vic Roads On-Road Cycling Events – a guide to obtaining approval document.
- 3.4 Event Reference Group representatives review and organise required council approvals/permits/permissions regarding aspects of the application
- 3.5 Event Reference Group representatives provide required approval/permits/permissions and list any conditions on correspondence to event organisers specifying council expectations on how the event is conducted.

4. Precedence

None.

5. Related Legislation/policies/Guidelines

VicRoads guide "*On-Road Cycling Events – a guide to obtaining approval*".

6. Council Plan Reference – Key Performance Area

Community Wellbeing

7. Review

This policy will be reviewed on or before 1 June, 2018

10.2.3 Sustainable Environment Strategy

Introduction

Author: Justin Horne
General Manager: Satwinder Sandhu

Background

A draft Moorabool Sustainable Environment Strategy and Implementation Plan has been developed to assist Moorabool Shire Council in relation to meeting current Federal, State and Council legislative, strategic and policy statements in the areas of natural environment, pest plants and animals and sustainability.

The Strategy has been developed to comprise of two components:

- Strategic Direction 2016 - 2026
- Implementation Plan 2016 - 2021

The purpose of the Strategic Direction component of the Strategy is to demonstrate how Council will work to protect and enhance the environment over the next ten years. It will also consider the interaction between community well-being and the natural environment, with a focus on the sustainability of the built environment and community resilience in a changing climate.

The Implementation Plan aims to identify key priority actions in the management of Council assets to improve our local environment and to reduce water and energy consumption within Council and the local community.

The Strategy also aims to identify current initiatives being implemented by Council to reduce water and energy consumption, and to provide policy and operational directions that are measureable, realistic and relevant to Moorabool Shire Council and local communities.

The development of the Strategy and Implementation Plan is in keeping with the adopted practice of local government and community expectations. The Strategy aims to provide recommendations that are cost benefit or are cost neutral to Council, either through process improvement or direct action (e.g. energy efficient street lighting).

The Strategy will be the key document for guiding Council planning, decision-making and activities that impact on the natural environment and sustainability in Moorabool Shire.

Progress to date

Workshops have been held with internal and external stakeholders providing input as to the efficacy of actions Council have previously undertaken in relation to sustainability and environmental management. A vision and targets for the new Strategy have also been developed based on what Council could reasonably expect to deliver.

Stakeholders providing input to the draft strategy included:

Internal	External
Assets	Department of Environment, Water, Land & Planning (DELWP)
Capital Works	
Finance	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (DEDJTR)
Recreation Development	
Strategic Planning	Moorabool Landcare Network
Statutory Planning	Melbourne Water
Environment	Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority
Parks & Gardens	
Moorabool Landcare Advisory Committee (MLAC)	Sustainability Victoria Grow West

The Strategy considers the natural values and assets of the Shire as well as the threats to these values. Actions Council can take to protect and enhance the natural environment both directly and by working with others are also identified. The Strategy sets directions and priorities to ensure community wellbeing and resilience through making the built environment more liveable and protect the natural environment.

Additional work was also undertaken as part of the Strategy to identify Council’s current energy and water consumption and to identify cost saving actions that Council could undertake. The report also included a benchmarking exercise reflecting on the performance of Baw Shire Council and Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

At the 7 September 2016 the Ordinary Meeting of Council, Council moved a motion to:

1. Provide in principle endorsement for the Draft Moorabool Sustainable Environment Strategy and
2. Present the Draft Strategy to the incoming Council to commence the public consultation process.

Proposed Strategy Vision, Strategy Directions and Priority Areas

During the consultation process, a Strategy Vision, four Strategy Directions and twelve Priority Areas (Figure 2) were developed.

The proposed vision for the Strategy is:

Moorabool Shire will work to ensure the Shire has healthy ecosystems, productive landscapes, sustainable communities and the capacity to adapt to future environmental challenges.

This vision forms the direction of the strategic directions, priority areas and the actions listed in the implementation plan.

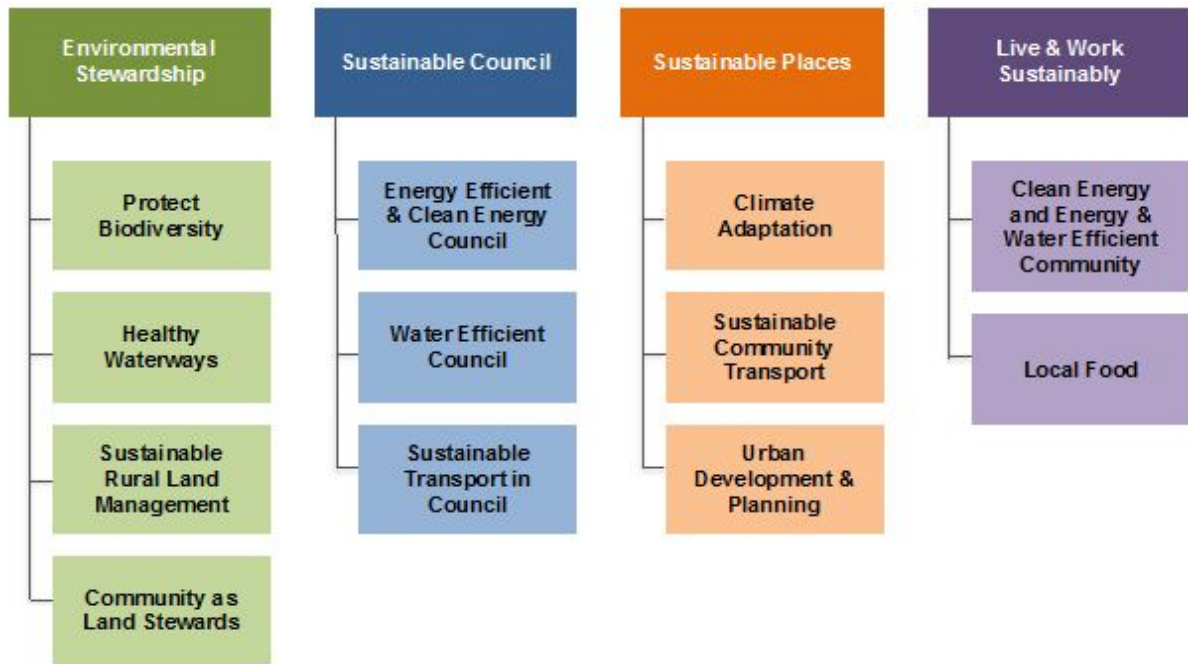


Figure 2: Proposed strategic directions and priority areas for the Moorabool Sustainability and Environment Strategy

Implementation Plan 2016 - 2021

As stated previously, the intention of the Strategy is to also provide an implementation plan to assist Council departments with the delivery of programs to ensure that the vision is achieved.

The implementation plan will have a five year lifespan, and aims to assist Council with operational actions to be delivered by 2021. These will be reviewed against the objectives of the Strategy and a new implementation plan will be developed for the period 2022-2026.

During the consultation phase, the need to ensure that the implementation actions were specific, measureable and achievable. The intent is that the implementation plan is feasible to accomplish.

Proposal

To ensure that the Moorabool Sustainable Environment Strategy is in alignment with the expectations of the community, it's proposed that the MSES is made available to the community for comment for a period of four weeks.

A copy of the draft Strategy is attached to this report for information.

Policy Implications

The 2013 - 2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area	Enhanced Infrastructure and Natural and Built Environment
-----------------	---

Objective	Enhance and protect the long term integrity and biodiversity of the natural environment
Strategy	Pursue initiatives to reduce greenhouse gases, energy and water consumption Work with Landcare networks, government and community to implement and support environmental and sustainability initiatives

The proposal is consistent with the 2013 - 2017 Council Plan.

Financial Implications

There are no immediate financial implications, however where specific recommendations requires a budget allocation from Council, these will be presented and considered as part of the overall annual budget process. The inclusion of these projects within the Strategy is likely to improve the opportunities for gaining co-contributions from external funding sources.

It is expected that some actions will be delivered through changes in operational and purchasing procedures. However, some larger initiatives have not been costed and would require consideration from Council as part of future capital improvement programs or through external funding (e.g. state or federal government grants).

The Strategy will guide decision making in relation to environment and sustainability over the long term (25 plus years).

Actions identified in the Strategy fall into three broad categories:

1. Policy and procedural consideration for energy and water efficient products and design at the point of purchase or construction for all new buildings and assets.
2. Upgrades to existing assets. For example, changeover of street lights to LED.
3. Behaviour change initiatives such as reducing paper consumption, teleconferencing and turning off lights.

These actions all have the potential to provide long-term cost savings to Council, as well as improved environmental outcomes.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

There are no direct Risk or Occupational Health and Safety issues associated with the recommendation within this report.

Communications Strategy

It is intended that the following methods be utilised to achieve a high level of response to the survey:

- Newspaper advertising
- Social Media Links (Facebook and Twitter)
- Council website
- Have Your Say website
- Media release

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raises any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Satwinder Sandhu

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Justin Horne

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Conclusion

The draft Moorabool Sustainable Environment Strategy provides Council with policy direction and an implementation plan relating to its role in managing the local environmental assets and promoting sustainability through a variety of actions.

The actions identified in the Strategy, have been developed and reviewed internally by operational departments to ensure that they are achievable and provide a direct financial benefit to Council and ratepayers.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Draft Moorabool Sustainable Environment Strategy for the purpose of community exhibition for a period of four weeks.**
- 2. Receives a further report at the conclusion of the community exhibition period considering feedback on the Moorabool Sustainable Environment Strategy.**

Report Authorisation:

Authorised by:

Name: Satwinder Sandhu

Title: General Manager Growth and Development

Date: Tuesday, 25 October 2016



Attachment - Item 10.2.3(a)



Moorabool Shire Sustainable Environment Strategy 2016 - 26
Draft Strategy

Moorabool Shire Council

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Executive Summary

Moorabool Shire contains some of Victoria's best environmental assets including the Long Forest Nature Conservation Reserve, Brisbane Ranges National Park and the Lerderderg State Park. In addition to these large reserves, within the municipality there are smaller areas of significant remnant vegetation and species, streetscapes and roadsides, forested mountains, rural valleys and waterways.

Council has a role in maintaining these significant and valued areas for the community and encouraging the community to experience these places. This occurs through Council directly managing its own land, influencing private land management through its planning responsibilities and partnering with other public land managers.

Much of the work undertaken by Council, Landcare and other land owners focuses on the threats to our local environmental and agricultural assets. These include: weed invasion; declining water quality; urban development; urban stormwater; climate change; and bushfire.

By understanding what the threats are and what the community values, Council is able to make better decisions that strengthen our environment. A healthy environment provides an enormous range of benefits to the community. Some of these benefits are economic and are linked to our productive agricultural sector. There are also social and cultural benefits that encourage physical activity; allow for social interaction; and create a stronger community identity.

The Moorabool Sustainable Environment Strategy (MSES) aims to provide a framework for environmental program planning and decision making for the next ten years. To achieve this the MSES is organised into the following four strategic directions, which arose through the Strategy consultation process:

1. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
2. SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL
3. SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
4. LIVE AND WORK SUSTAINABLY

This draft Environment Strategy aligns with Council's other high level strategies and sets the direction for Council's diverse range of activities and services.

1 INTRODUCTION

Protecting the natural environment and reducing our environmental impacts can only be achieved through partnership. The Strategy's success depends on the combined efforts of the region's many local conservation and sustainability groups, households, businesses, industry and other government and non-government organisations. The intent of the Strategy is to support, complement and promote these efforts.

The Moorabool Shire Sustainable Environment Strategy sets the framework for Council to work towards improving the natural environment and community resilience through to 2041. It is the guiding document for Council planning, decision-making and activities that impact on the Moorabool Shire environment.

The natural environment in Moorabool Shire provides the foundation for diverse social, cultural and economic values. Council recognises the intrinsic value of the natural environment in Moorabool Shire and thus the importance of taking a considered management approach. This is particularly important in the context of climate change, population growth and land use changes.

Moorabool Shire Council has a history of environmental planning and management, developing its first Environment Policy in 2004. This Strategy is the next iteration and builds on existing work by Council, State Government agencies and the community. It is the result of an extensive process of research and consultation to develop a shared vision that will guide Council's work. Research included an examination of Council's previous efforts and a review of the trends and issues influencing Moorabool Shire's future.

This Strategy sets directions to work with other agencies and stakeholders to ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment. Council recognises that protecting the natural environment and making the built environment more liveable is important to enhancing community wellbeing and resilience.

The Strategy has been developed in consideration of the Council Plan 2013 - 17, states and will assist to achieve the overall vision of "vibrant and resilient communities". The Strategy is also supported by other Council documents such as the Integrated Planning Framework, Urban Growth Strategy, Rural Growth Strategy and Waste Strategy.

The Strategy is organised into the following four strategic directions, which arose through the Strategy consultation process:

5. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
6. SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL
7. SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
8. LIVE AND WORK SUSTAINABLY

Within each of these themes a number of priority areas are identified for Council action. The activities that Council will undertake within each of the priority areas are identified in the Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan should therefore be read in conjunction with this Strategy. The Implementation Plan will be reviewed after five years, and a new Implementation Plan developed for the period.

The Strategy acknowledges that Council can only have direct control over some issues, for example its own resource efficiency. It can indirectly influence other issues where its partners share or have greater responsibility and there are some issues it cannot influence and so can only take an advocacy role. As such, the actions in the Implementation Plan are identified as Control, Influence, or Advocacy actions.



Mt Egerton Photo: Allen Moore

1.1 Strategy Vision

Moorabool Shire Council will work in partnership to ensure healthy ecosystems, productive landscapes, sustainable communities and the capacity to adapt to future environmental challenges.

The Strategy assists in delivering a number of the strategic objectives identified within the Moorabool Shire Council Plan 2013-17 (Table 1).

Table 1. Strategic objectives identified for key result areas in the Moorabool Shire Council Plan 2013-17 that are relevant to the Sustainable Environment Strategy

Key Results Areas	Strategic objectives
Community Wellbeing	Community self-reliance and resilience.
Enhanced Infrastructure and Natural and Built Environment	Effective and integrated strategic planning in place to create sustainable communities. Ensure current and future infrastructure meets the needs of the community. Enhance and protect the long-term integrity and biodiversity of the natural environment. Promote and enhance places of heritage, landscape and environmental significance. Effective and efficient land use planning and building controls.

1.2 Purpose of the Strategy

The purpose of this Strategy is to demonstrate how Council will work over the next ten years to protect and enhance the environment for 2041. It also considers the interaction between community well-being and the natural environment, with a focus on the sustainability of the built environment and community resilience.

The Strategy is the key document for guiding Council planning, decision-making and activities that impact on the natural environment and sustainability in the Moorabool Shire.

1.3 Strategy development

1.3.1 Scope & implementation

The Strategy considers the natural values and assets of the Shire, the threats to these values and the actions Council can take to protect and enhance the natural environment (both directly and by working with others). The Strategy also sets directions and priorities to ensure community wellbeing and resilience through making the built environment more liveable and protecting the natural environment.

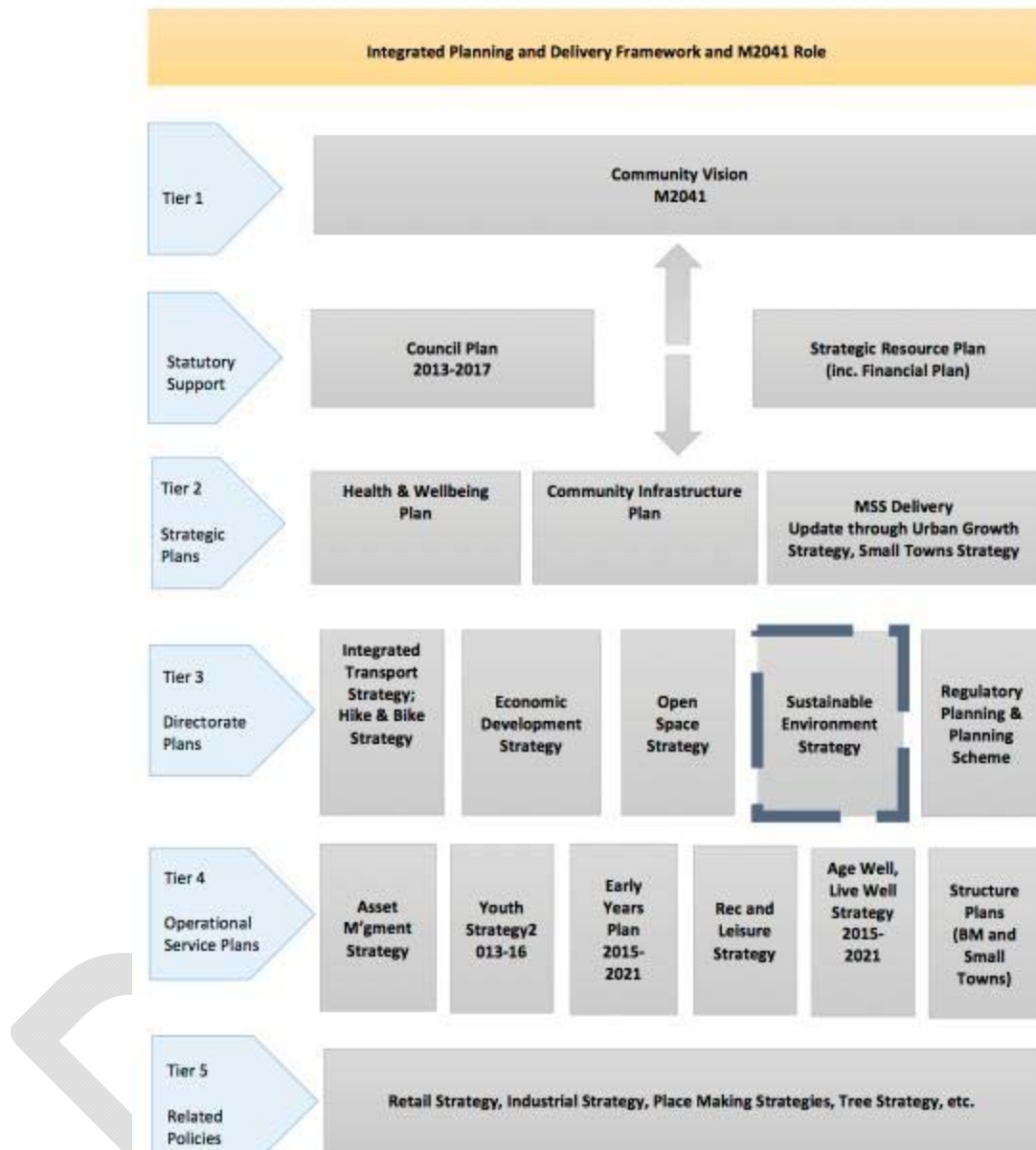
The Strategy will be one of the main guiding documents for other Council plans and strategies. Figure 1 shows where the Strategy fits with other council policies, plans and strategies. Waste is a key issue that Council manages for its community. Waste issues are not covered in this document as they have been recently addressed through the Moorabool Shire Waste Strategy.

The Environment Unit at Moorabool Shire will drive implementation of this Strategy as outlined in the Implementation Plan, however many of the actions will be the responsibility of other areas of Council. Indeed, the success of the Strategy will depend on the contribution of all areas of Council as part of a whole-of-Council approach to sustainability.

There will be a mid-term review of the Strategy after five years (2021) to determine progress against measurable targets and desired outcomes and to identify areas for improvement and adaptation. This review will coincide with a review of the first Implementation Plan 2016 - 21 and the development of a new Implementation Plan for the period 2021 - 26.

Review of the Strategy will be completed in 2021 and 2031 to ensure that it is still in alignment with Council and community expectations and State and Federal legislation.

Figure 1. The Sustainable Environment Strategy in the context of other Council plans and strategies



1.3.2 Methodology

The Strategy was developed over a series of steps, as described in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Stages of Strategy development



Consultation was undertaken with the community, agency stakeholders, and Council staff. This ensured that the strategy has been developed within a local context, and is relevant and practical.

Consultation activities included a stakeholder and Council staff workshop, stakeholder and staff interviews, a community workshop at Gordon, a *Moorabool 2041* listening post in Bacchus Marsh, two workshops with the Moorabool Landcare Advisory Committee at Ballan and a meeting of the Moorabool Environment Group committee.

1.3.3 Policy and legislative context

State and Federal government policies related to the natural environment, agriculture, economy, urban growth, transport and tourism are likely to have the most impact on the future of the local environment.

Victoria has more than 25 pieces of legislation and over 30 strategies that relate to environmental management. In addition, there are a large number of applicable federal laws (in particular the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*) and programs as well as international frameworks and conventions to consider. The main Victorian environmental legislative and planning instruments include:

- *Environment Protection Act 1970 and subordinate (State Environment Protection Policies)*
- *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*
- *Victorian Local Government Act 1989*
- *Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*
- *Victorian Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*
- *Climate Change and Environment Protection Amendment Act 2012 and Victorian Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2013*
- *Pollution of Waters by Oils and Noxious Substances Act 1986*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987 and Planning and Environment Amendment (General) Act 2013*
- *Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy 2014*
- *Invasive Plants and Animals Policy Framework*
- *Victorian Waterway Management Strategy 2013.*

A more detailed overview of relevant policy and legislation is provided in Appendix 1.

There are also local plans and strategies that have relevance to this Strategy and include:

- Regional Catchment Strategies (RCS) for the Corangamite and Port Phillip and Westernport CMA regions. These RCS were released in early 2013 and identify each region's key assets and threats and set priorities for environmental investment.
- Melbourne Water's Healthy Waterways Strategy. This Strategy outlines the role Melbourne Water will play in managing these waterways to improve waterway health over the next five years.
- Corangamite Waterway Strategy 2014-2022, which provides a new plan for managing the region's waterways for the next eight years.
- Grow West Implementation Plan 2013, which outlines the process of revegetating land in the Bacchus Marsh to Ballan area to create biolinks between the Brisbane Ranges National Park, Lerderderg State Park and Werribee Gorge State Park.

- Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) (2012), *Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2013-2020*, which assesses the risks to the region west of Melbourne (including Moorabool) of climate change impacts and proposes strategies to prepare for and adapt to them.
- Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) (2014), *Low Carbon West: A Strategy for a Transition to a Low Carbon Economy in the WAGA Region*, which assesses the greenhouse emissions of the region west of Melbourne (including Moorabool) and provides a strategy to reduce emissions by 2020.

Environmental policy and associated funding opportunities are impacted by changes occurring at all levels of government. This Strategy will be flexible in responding and accommodating these changes.

1.3.4 Significant stakeholders

Effective implementation of the Strategy will require a partnership between Council and other natural resource management organisations and groups, as well as the broader community. Table 2 identifies the main stakeholders that Council will work with in delivering this Strategy.

Table 2. Main stakeholders Council will work with in delivering the Sustainable Environment Strategy

Stakeholder group	Stakeholder name
1 Catchment Management Authorities	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (PPWCMA) North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA)
2 Government departments and agencies	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) ¹ Parks Victoria Environment Protection Agency VicRoads VicRail VicTrack Sustainability Victoria
3 Water authorities	Melbourne Water Central Highlands Water Barwon Water Goulburn Murray Water Southern Rural Water Western Water
4 Indigenous community	Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council
5 Community-based groups and organisations	Moorabool Landcare Advisory Committee Moorabool Environment Group Moorabool Landcare Catchment Network Landcare Groups

¹ Formerly the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI)

Stakeholder group	Stakeholder name
	Community and Friends Of Groups Victorian Farmers Federation Country Fire Authority Community Garden Groups
6 Community & Business	Residents Small to large businesses

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2 COUNCIL'S ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



Mt Egerton, Photo: Allen Moore

2.1 Sphere of influence

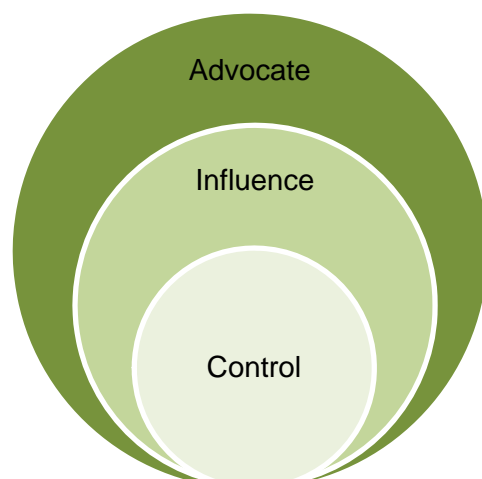
Council's ability to directly control or influence environmental and sustainability outcomes varies. In some cases Council has direct accountability, or control over an issue. In other cases Council may have limited ability to directly control or positively change a situation. This varying ability to control, influence or advocate for a situation or issue is referred to as Council's "sphere of influence" and is demonstrated in Figure 3.

In developing the Environment Strategy, actions have been identified that reflect where Council can control, influence or advocate for positive action for the natural environment within the Shire.

Control

Council has direct responsibility for (or control over) a range of activities relating to the management of the natural environment. Activities within Council's sphere of control include developing and implementing planning policy (in alignment with State Planning Policy) ensuring sustainable development in the Shire, managing Council reserves in a way that protects and enhances biodiversity values, undertaking community education and delivering support to specific environmental programs that will protect and enhance environmental assets.

Figure 3: Council's sphere of influence



Influence

In many cases, direct responsibility for the use and management of the natural environment sits with State and Federal agencies and organisations. Organisations such as the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), the Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs), Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and VicRoads have primary responsibility for administering environmental legislation, developing strategies and plans and managing large areas of land with high environmental significance within the Shire. In these cases, Council has an important role in influencing all relevant national, state, regional, local and non-government agencies to achieve the best environmental outcomes for Moorabool Shire.

Council can influence sustainable land management through developing and administering planning policy that seeks to protect the Shire's natural environment, such as managing development near waterways and vegetation management controls. Council can also influence land management practices of private land managers such as assisting landowners to develop and implement land and farm management plans.

Advocate

Council can also play the role of advocate. This includes sharing information about and promoting the programs of other government organisations and community groups, for example CMAs, Melbourne Water and Landcare to the general community. Collaboration and coordination with other stakeholders can increase the reach of these programs. Council can offer resource efficiencies and through combined effort can result in outcomes that contribute to the vision of this Strategy, and those of other organisations and groups and the needs of the community. Council can also advocate to State Government agencies for increased funding and on ground action that lead to improved outcomes for the local community.

2.1.1 Tools and resources available to achieve desired outcomes

Council has a range of tools and resources to achieve its desired outcomes in environmental management. These include:

- Moorabool Shire Council Plan 2013 – 2017 (Revised 2014)
- Various State, Regional and Council strategic plans, management plans and policies
- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- The Moorabool Planning Scheme
- The ability to source and provide resources and funds
- Skilled staff to prepare and implement suitable projects and programs
- Leading by example in its own management of the natural environment
- Support of local community and volunteer groups including Landcare, 'Friends Of' groups and other local community groups.

3 SETTING THE SCENE



Looking South over Bacchus Marsh towards the You Yangs, Photo: Allen Moore

3.1 Moorabool Shire

Moorabool Shire is a fast-growing, peri-urban municipality covering a geographical area of 2,112 sq. km. The Shire is centrally located with easy access to Melbourne, Ballarat and Geelong. There are 64 localities, hamlets and towns across the municipality, including the townships of Bacchus Marsh, Ballan, Gordon and Blackwood (Figure 4).

More than 74% of the Shire is protected within national and state parks and water supply catchments. Some of the major national and state parks in the Shire include:

- Brisbane Ranges National Park
- Lerderderg State Park
- Wombat State Forest
- Werribee Gorge State Park
- Long Forest Nature Conservation Reserve
- Lal Lal State Forest.

Three major rivers traverse the Shire: the Lerderderg River, Moorabool River (East and West Branches) and Werribee River. Providing tributaries such as Parwan Creek, Korkuperrimul Creek, Granite Creek, Tea Tree Creek, Lal Lal Creek and Williamsons Creek provide social, ecological and agricultural benefits.



Figure 4: Moorabool Shire

Outside the main townships and the protected natural areas, much of the rural area is used for agriculture, including horticulture, sheep and beef farming, cropping, timber production, and more recently, viticulture (ABS 2011). There is also some clay, mineral and coal mining undertaken in the Shire. Grazing and cropping dominate large areas and intensive horticulture occurs where there is access to irrigation water and fertile soils, such as the alluvial soils on the floodplain of the Lerderderg and Werribee Rivers at Bacchus Marsh. There are also potato growing areas in the western region of the Shire.

The rivers are also an important source of potable water. Subsequently significant areas of the shire are in Special Water Supply Catchments that supply water for the residents of Moorabool Shire as well as surrounding areas. Large reservoirs in the Shire include Lal Lal, Pykes, Moorabool, Bolwarrah and Merrimu.

Moorabool Shire is predominately located within two catchment management areas. The Port Phillip and Westernport catchment extends across the eastern half of the municipality, and the Corangamite catchment occupies the western half. A small area in the northeast of the shire is within the North Central catchment.

3.2 Challenges and drivers of change

Several 'drivers of change' will influence the natural environment in Moorabool Shire. A fast growing urban and semi-rural population, a changing demographic, rural land uses and an increasing demand for natural resources will all shape the natural environment, creating challenges, as well as opportunities.

There are also other drivers that have the potential to influence change to the natural environment in Moorabool. Some of these drivers are outside Council's direct control, such as changes in government priorities and legislation and larger influences like climate change.

The major drivers of change and the macro-context for Council's response include:

Climate Change

Climate impacts such as extreme heat waves, bushfires and drought are becoming more frequent and dangerous. Council needs to plan for this in the following ways:

- Understand the climate risks to council and its community and plan and mitigate for these
- Reduce Council's corporate greenhouse emissions to reduce its own climate impacts (and costs) and utilise renewable energy production at Council owned facilities to reduce emissions and ongoing costs
- Assist the community and business to cut their emissions and energy costs and access renewable energy
- Reduce its water consumption and improve efficiency and alternative sources of water to mitigate for future drought and low water supplies
- Ensure a more localised food supply including households growing some of their own food.

Peak Oil

Peak oil is where the cost of oil becomes more expensive as oil reserves diminish, resulting in the cost of oil-based fuels and products rising sharply. This has major implications for the cost of transport, which will drive change for people and businesses to shift to less fuel-intensive transport (such as public transport, walking, cycling) or to find more efficient ways to transport goods and people. For example, when petrol prices spiked above \$1.80 per litre in the mid 2000s, public transport patronage rapidly increased, leaving transport services struggling to respond². Inevitable fuel price rises need to be planned for. Currently for Moorabool residents, 90% of the daily work commute is by car either as a driver or passenger³.

Food costs and supplies would also be impacted, as the cost of fertilisers, which are derived from oil, would increase. Fuel costs for machinery and freight would also increase, which may then be passed on to consumers.

Population

Population is a major driver of environmental impacts, both positive and negative. At the local level this is mainly due to increased urban development for housing, services, recreation, transport and employment. Moorabool Shire's population has grown from 25,197 in 2003 to 30,926 in 2014⁴ and in 2041 it is estimated

² http://economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/word_doc/0017/1094120/Changes-in-travel-demand-in-Melbourne-Is-it-time-for-a-new-paradigm.doc

³ 2011 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile - Moorabool

⁴ <http://profile.id.com.au/moorabool/population-estimate>

that the total population of the Shire will grow to 54,418⁵ with Bacchus Marsh alone predicted to have a population of over 37,000.

To accommodate this population growth, development is likely to impact upon significant agricultural and environmental assets.

Lifestyles

Another main driver related to population growth is consumption of resources through the way we live. This is both a local and global issue. The impacts of resource extraction, production and trade in goods and services are the result of a complex array of local and global inputs (such as water, energy, minerals, land etc.). Our material consumption results in waste; a local issue managed by Council, who must supply landfill and recycling facilities. Waste generation can be seen as a proxy for how much we are consuming: over the past decade waste generation has increased more rapidly than population growth across Victoria⁶.

The standard measure of the impact of our lifestyles is the ecological footprint, that is, the measure of the amount of land required to provide for all the needs of a human life. The amount of land required by the average Victorian equates to one and a half times the land area available in Victoria. It is also four times more than that which would enable all humans to live sustainably on the planet.

Our energy consumption patterns are the biggest contributor to this footprint, largely due to our reliance on fossil fuel-intensive electricity generation.

Economic Model

The way we currently live and run our economy is turning natural resources into waste at a faster rate than nature can turn waste back into natural resources. This basic equation threatens the viability of our environment, and in turn undermines the sustainability of the economy and human well-being.

Our challenge is to better understand and value nature's services, consume in less impactful ways, and to 'de-couple' economic activity from environmental degradation. Business and jobs growth needs to be achieved while reducing our per capita fossil fuel and material consumption and waste.

Combined, these macro influences create a number of challenges, as well as some opportunities, for the natural environment.

3.3 Achievements to date

Moorabool Shire has achieved much over the past decade in the area of environment and sustainability. This includes working with the community and other stakeholders to achieve positive environmental management outcomes such as the Grow West and Moorabool River Recovery projects. Achievements have also been made in reducing Council's resource use in the areas of energy, water and transport. Table 3 includes some of the achievements made by Moorabool Shire over the past decade.

⁵ <http://forecast.id.com.au/moorabool>

⁶ <http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/~media/resources/documents/publications%20and%20research/publications/a%20-%20b/publications%20annual%20survey%202010-11%20report%20victorian%20local%20government.pdf>

Table 3: Achievements by Moorabool Shire in the area of environment and sustainability

Area	Achievements
Environmental Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grow West. Now in its eleventh year, Grow West is a multi-partner collaboration that aims to protect and enhance indigenous vegetation, control pest plants and animals and create biolinks. Moorabool Shire Council was a founding member and continues to have an active role in Grow West. ▪ The Moorabool River Recovery Project. This is a joint project between Moorabool Shire Council, Barwon Water and the Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group that is improving the health of the Moorabool River through on-ground action to reduce weed cover, rabbit populations and increase native vegetation cover. ▪ The ongoing contribution made by Landcare and environment groups to promote improved land management practices, protect key environmental assets on public and private land and provide opportunities for local communities to meet and work together. Currently there are 12 Landcare and 6 'Friends of' groups operating within the Shire, with total membership exceeding 300 members. ▪ An updated Environment Page on the Council website highlights local biodiversity, including what can be found in residential backyards, and encouraging residents and visitors to explore the Shire's natural environment.
Energy Saving & Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CBUS sensor lighting, delamping (e.g. removing lights) and use of energy efficient lights (e.g. T5 fluro lights) at Darley and Lerderderg Library has reduced energy use and costs. ▪ Ballan Council office 'informal' green team has encouraged energy saving through behavioural 'green' actions (e.g. turning computers off). ▪ Blackout blinds on west facing windows in the Darley Council office to reduce energy consumption. ▪ Bulk purchase of solar panels for the community in 2009 with good uptake. ▪ Cost benefit analysis undertaken on upgrading streetlights from Mercury vapour to more energy efficient options (T5, T8, LED) – installation still required. ▪ Major sporting clubs are now paying their power bills (previously paid by Council), encouraging energy and water saving measures. One football club saved over \$4000 in the first year. ▪ Council involvement in Victorian Government Ecolinc Building – green demonstration and education centre.
Reducing Council Potable Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 75% reduction in open space water consumption by using drought tolerant turf species, water tanks, automated irrigation and other efficiencies in open space areas. The use of ground water via bores has been reduced as a result and there are energy savings from the reduced pumping. ▪ Water and energy savings through efficient showerheads installed at recreation reserves. ▪ The current planning system includes water sensitive urban design (WSUD) and water reuse and harvesting; and there are controls to ensure efficiencies in new urban developments e.g. Darley stormwater retarding basin. ▪ Currently working with Melbourne Water to investigate WSUD options in existing urban areas of Ballan and Bacchus Marsh.
Sustainable Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reuse of road materials for maintenance works has reduced vehicle movements, fuel and operational costs. ▪ Council fleet policy encourages more efficient vehicles. ▪ Trial purchase of an electric car. ▪ Video conferencing between Darley & Ballan Council offices has reduced staff vehicle travel. ▪ The Hike & Bike Strategy was developed in 2014 to increase cycling and walking in the Shire through better infrastructure and education.

Food & Community
Engagement

- Development of community gardens has worked well to this point with Council supporting positive community action – three community gardens are in operation.
- Moorabool Matters Mag has spread information about Council actions.
- Community grants program has provided many grants for positive community action including some environment-related projects.

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4 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



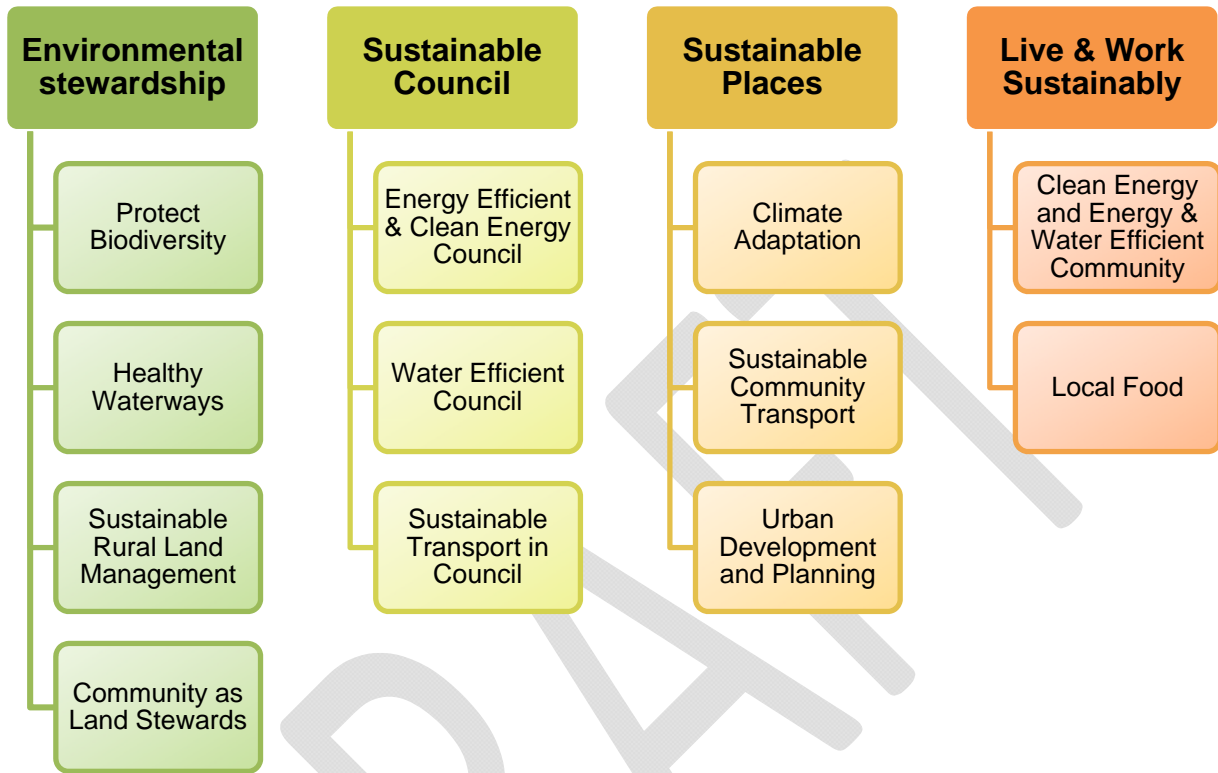
Greendale, Photo: Allen Moore

Four main strategic directions have been identified through the consultation process to guide Moorabool Shire's work in delivering a more sustainable environment over the next ten years. The four strategic directions are:

- ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
- SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL
- SUSTAINABLE PLACES
- LIVE AND WORK SUSTAINABLY.

A number of priority areas have been identified within each strategic direction. There are twelve priority areas in total (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Strategic directions and priority areas for the Moorabool Shire Sustainable Environment Strategy



The following sections present the priority areas in detail within each strategic direction.

4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



Lerderderg State Park, Photo: Allen Moore



Common Rice Flower (Pimelea humilis), Photo: Moorabool Shire

4.1.1 Protect Biodiversity

At a glance

- More than 74% of the Moorabool Shire comprises national parks, state forests, reserves and protected water catchment areas. Some of the important protected areas include the Long Forest Nature Conservation Reserve, Brisbane Ranges National Park, Lerderderg State Park, Werribee Gorge State Park and the Wombat State Forest.
- The Shire spans two bioregions: the Victorian Plains and the Central Victorian Uplands.
- There are 17 threatened fauna species listed under the Australia *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*.
- There are 15 threatened flora species. Two of these species are critically endangered: the Golden Sun Moth (*Synemon plana*) and the Plains Rice-flower (*Pimelea spinescens subsp. spinescens*).
- Five Ecological Vegetation Communities (EVCs) are listed as either critically endangered or endangered under the *EPBC Act 1999*. These are Grassy Eucalyptus Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain, Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain, Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains, White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland and the Grey Box Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia.
- There are 25 Council managed environmental and bushland reserves, including Lal Lal Falls, Bald Hill, Hopetoun Park Conservation Reserves, Ballan Mineral Reserve, Spargo Creek Mineral Reserve and Werribee River at Bacchus Marsh and Ballan.

Source: DoE 2014, Moorabool Shire Council 2004

Grey Box (*Eucalyptus macrocarpa*) Woodland Photo, Moorabool Shire

Protect Biodiversity vision

There is a measurable improvement in the condition of the natural environment in Moorabool Shire over the next ten years

Context

Moorabool Shire is characterised by ranges, plains and rugged river gorges providing a diverse and spectacular landscape. The municipality spans two bioregions: the Victorian Plains Bioregion occurs predominately in the south where there is highly productive agricultural land, which also contains highly valuable grasslands and grassy woodlands. The Central Victorian Uplands Bioregion extends across the north of the Shire and includes grassy woodlands and forests. Appendix 2 provides more detail on the bioregions and ecological communities found in Moorabool Shire.

The large areas of protected native vegetation provide highly significant natural resources and nationally important flora and fauna habitat values. They are also important assets for tourism and recreation. Roadside vegetation also comprises high biodiversity values, providing flora and fauna movement corridors between State and National Parks or Forests (DTPLI 2011). In particular, Council roadsides support excellent stands of Victorian Volcanic Plains vegetation (Moorabool Shire Council 2004).

Outside the protected areas and roadsides, much of the remnant vegetation occurs on private land. Much of this has been greatly modified from their pre-European condition through agricultural and urban development and expansion. This is particularly true for grassland communities, the majority of which occur on private agricultural land and in areas of urban development. Council has an important role to play in ensuring that land use planning decisions protect natural resources and areas of high conservation significance.

There are a number of factors which continue to threaten biodiversity values in the Shire, including:

- Pest plants and animals
- Climate change
- Bushfire
- Urban growth
- Other development pressure
- Inappropriate land use and/or land management practices
- Modification and fragmentation of habitat
- Vegetation clearing
- Unsustainable resource use e.g. timber, quarrying, water
- Edge effects around the perimeter of protected areas.

A considerable challenge exists for Council to manage land and biodiversity values and the associated threats in order to sustain healthy, connected ecosystems.

Strategic objectives for protecting biodiversity

1. Increased landscape scale connectivity of remnant and other native vegetation.
2. An increased knowledge of natural assets including understanding and monitoring changes in condition on Council managed reserves and roadsides.
3. Strengthened local planning policy that recognises and protects existing natural values.
4. Increased monitoring and control of the impacts of pest plants and animals on native vegetation.

4.1.2 Healthy Waterways

At a glance

- The Shire is located within two main Catchment Management Authority (CMA) jurisdictions: the Corangamite CMA in the west and the Port Phillip and Westernport CMA in the east. A small area within the north east of the Shire is within the North Central CMA.
- Large areas of the Shire are in Special Water Supply Catchments providing potable water for local and regional communities.
- Three major rivers flow through the Shire: the Lerderderg, Moorabool and Werribee Rivers.
- The headwaters of the Lerderderg and Werribee rivers, and their associated gorges, are recognised as sites of international and state geomorphological significance.
- There are a number of threatened species listed under the *EPBC Act 1999* that are associated with waterways in the Shire. These include:
 - Macquarie Perch (*Macquaria australiasica*)
 - Eastern Dwarf Galaxias (*Galaxiella pusilla*)
 - Australian Greyling (*Prototroctes maraena*)
 - Growling Grass Frog (*Litoria raniformis*).
- Waterways in the Shire provide important ecosystem services including potable water for local and regional communities, water for agriculture and recreation.

Source: DoE (2014)

Lerderderg River Photo, Allen Moore

Healthy Waterways vision

There is a measurable improvement in the condition of waterways and the quality of water across Moorabool Shire over the next ten years.

Context

The three major rivers, Moorabool, Lerderderg and Werribee, which intersect the Shire and their tributaries are recognised for their important ecological values, supporting an array of aquatic flora and fauna, many of which are endangered.

The rugged and steep landscapes around the headwaters of the Lerderderg and Werribee Rivers provide breeding habitat for Peregrine Falcons and Wedge-tailed Eagles and house significant species like the Powerful Owl, Common Bentwing Bat and Brush-tailed Phascogale (Melbourne Water 2015). The Moorabool River is recognised for its important habitat values for native fish including river blackfish, Australian smelt, common galaxias and southern pigmy perch (CCMA 2015), as well as other aquatic flora and fauna.

The waterways also provide important cultural Indigenous heritage sites, recreational opportunities, amenity value and economic values for the local community. Agriculture across the Shire is underpinned by access to freshwater and the fertile floodplains at the confluence of the Lerderderg and Werribee Rivers at Bacchus Marsh support productive horticultural enterprises. Large areas of the Shire are in Special Water Supply Catchments providing potable water for local and regional populations. Much of the Special Water Supply Catchment areas contain towns, communities and productive farms (DTPLI 2011). Large reservoirs in the shire include the Lal Lal, Pykes Creek and Merrimu Reservoirs.

The condition of the rivers varies across the Shire. The general trend is that the upper reaches of the river basins are in good condition due to their occurrence in relatively undisturbed environments such as protected water catchments and forested parks and reserves. However the lower reaches show deterioration as they are exposed to more intensive land uses such as agriculture, horticulture and urban development (Moorabool Shire 2004). According to the Corangamite CMA (2009) the Moorabool River is one of the most flow stressed rivers in the State and the lower Moorabool River is in very poor ecological health. Waterways, especially those in the lower reaches, are subject to a number of threats including, but not limited to:

- Altered natural flow regimes
- Barriers to fish migration
- Poor quality streamside vegetation
- Weeds and pest animals
- Litter and rubbish dumping
- Stream bank erosion.
- Soil and nutrient runoff
- Salinity
- Increased stormwater inflows from urban development
- Stock access
- Altered flood and flow paths

Steps are being taken to improve the condition of waterways in the lower reaches. Council has played a supporting role to organisations such as CMAs and Landcare who work with private landholders on riparian protection and rehabilitation works. The Corangamite CMA is also delivering an environmental watering plan on the Moorabool River to restore some of the river's original ecological function (CCMA 2015). Even though Council has limited ability to take direct action on water related issues, it does have an important function in:

- Stormwater and wastewater management within townships,
- Managing Council reserves with waterways,
- Demonstrating leadership and action on conserving water use in all areas of Council operations,
- Advocating to State Government and local water authorities on behalf of the community on water related issues,
- Partnering with relevant organisations, such as water authorities and CMAs to promote best practice in Council and the community.

Strategic objectives for healthy waterways

1. Better protected and healthier riparian vegetation within the shire.
2. Increased connectivity of riparian vegetation across the shire.
3. Improved quality of stormwater runoff.

4.1.3 Sustainable Rural Land Management



At a glance

- The natural resources and rural areas of Moorabool Shire support approximately \$80 million worth of agricultural production annually.
- The highest quality agricultural land is associated with the floodplain areas at the confluence of the Werribee and Lerderderg Rivers. There are also rich soils in the west of the Shire used for potato production.
- The main primary production enterprises are horticulture, sheep and beef, cropping and timber production.

Orchard in Bacchus Marsh, Photo: Allen Moore

Sustainable Rural Land Management vision

We will develop agricultural land for agricultural production and preserve rural landscape values and amenity.

Context

Even though there has been a 65% decline in the total workforce employed in agriculture from 2006 to 2011, agriculture remains one of the Shire's biggest industries, employing approximately 10% of the total working population (ABS 2011). In 2011, agriculture in Moorabool was valued at an estimated \$80.4 million (Phillips Agribusiness 2014) and the value of production per hectare is around \$760 (Neil Clark & Associates 2010). The rural base of the Shire is also central to attracting people to live and work in the municipality, supporting tourism and maintaining the lifestyle appeal of the area (DTPLI 2009).

Urban and rural lifestyle development poses a number of threats to agriculture and horticulture in the Shire. This includes the loss and fragmentation of land for primary production and an increase in land prices for primary production, driven by urban growth and the demand for residential development.

Residential development within proximity to rural zones can create conflict at the urban / rural interface raising issues such as odour and noise associated with agricultural and horticultural activities. The increase in 'rural lifestyle' and hobby farmers occupying small rural blocks also has the potential to create tensions at the interface with primary production land. This occurs where new residents have limited rural experience.

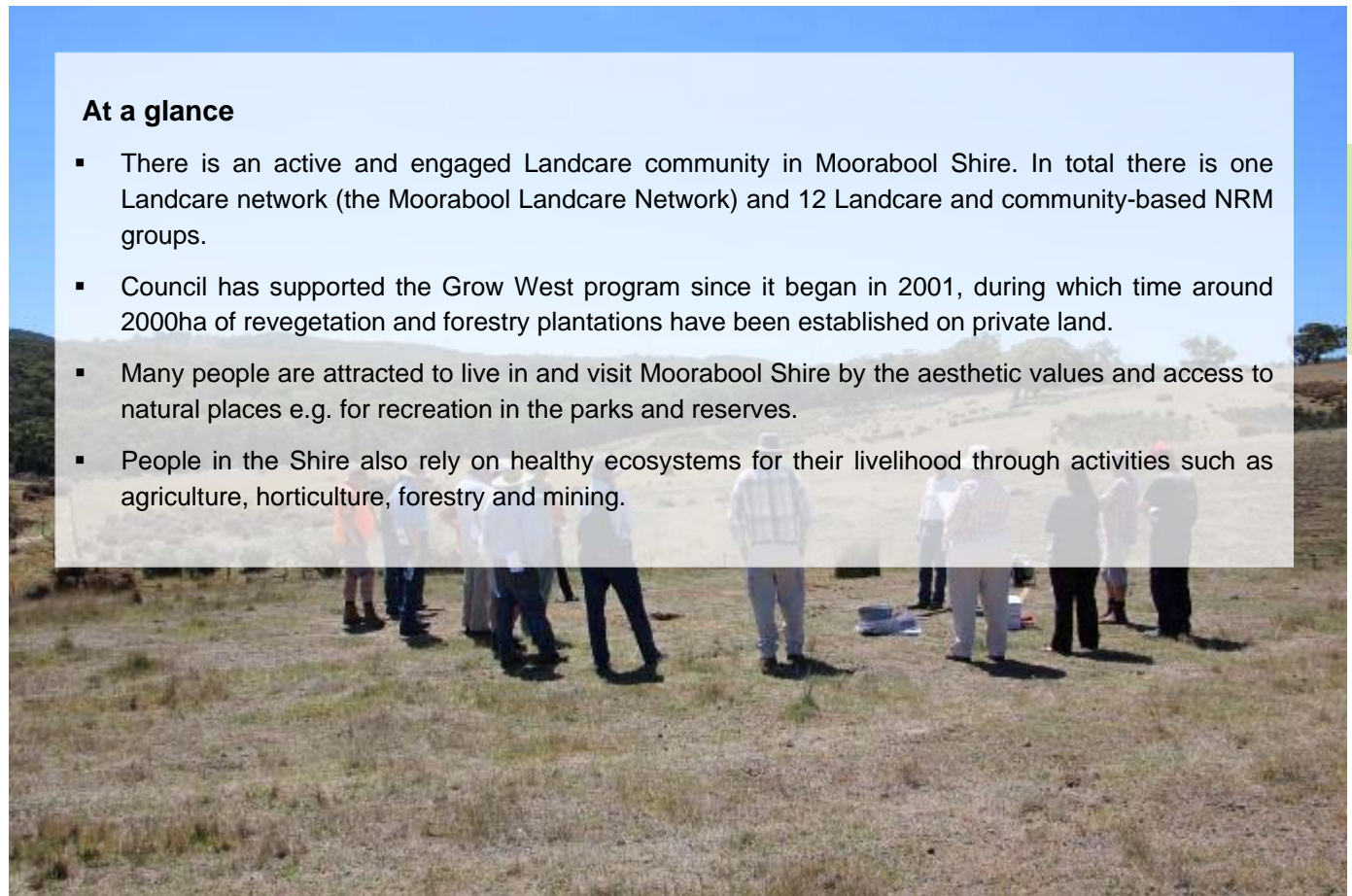
Over time, the intensification of agriculture and horticulture has contributed to the decline in the quality and quantity of native vegetation, land and waterway conditions across the Shire (Moorabool Shire 2004). Specific issues include the loss and fragmentation of native vegetation habitat, species loss, decreasing water quantity and quality, soil erosion, salinity and pest plants and animals. There are projects such as Grow West and various river health and biodiversity programs administered by CMAs and Melbourne Water that aim to improve land management and protect high value natural assets on private property in the Shire. There is also an active and engaged Landcare community that is working on improving land management on private land across the Shire.

Council has an important role to play in ensuring planning solutions are implemented that effectively integrate rural living and farming activities, enabling farm businesses to operate as agricultural enterprises. It is also important that Council supports urban and rural development where it does not compromise the long-term productive use of rural land for agriculture and horticulture, or the Shire's natural resources (DTPLI 2009).

Strategic objectives for sustainable rural land management

1. Adopt planning policies that support increased agricultural development of productive farmland.
2. Plan for land use that is respectful of rural landscape values and amenity.

4.1.4 Community as Land Stewards



At a glance

- There is an active and engaged Landcare community in Moorabool Shire. In total there is one Landcare network (the Moorabool Landcare Network) and 12 Landcare and community-based NRM groups.
- Council has supported the Grow West program since it began in 2001, during which time around 2000ha of revegetation and forestry plantations have been established on private land.
- Many people are attracted to live in and visit Moorabool Shire by the aesthetic values and access to natural places e.g. for recreation in the parks and reserves.
- People in the Shire also rely on healthy ecosystems for their livelihood through activities such as agriculture, horticulture, forestry and mining.

Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group Rabbit Fumigation Day, Photo: Moorabool Shire

Community as Land Stewards vision

There is a measurable increase in community awareness of the natural environment and participation in NRM based activities in the Shire.

Context

The Shire has an active and engaged Landcare community, demonstrated through the recent and continued growth of the Moorabool Landcare Network. Even though there is a robust network of community based NRM groups. The increase in urban growth has seen a rise in young families who are likely to be 'time poor' and have priorities other than connecting with nature. Nearly 19% of the working population commute more than two hours per day (Department of Health 2013) and therefore are unlikely to have time to engage with the environment in which they live.

Local councils are the layer of government that are most closely connected to local communities. Moorabool Shire Council is well positioned to broaden and strengthen community connection to the local natural environment through building on the existing network of community-based NRM groups and other community organisations. There is also an opportunity for Council to increase partnerships with other agencies such as the CMAs and water authorities that deliver community education programs and incentives for land management.

Council can also promote incentives, such as Landcare grant programs, for the implementation of best practice land management activities. According to a recent study by the Corangamite (CMA 2013b), Moorabool Shire has the highest proportion of rural landholders who cite cost as the main barrier to doing more to protect and enhance the natural environment. The implementation of financial incentives may increase the uptake of private land conservation activities.

The study also found that pest plants and animals is the environmental issues of most concern for rural landholders in Moorabool (CCMA 2013b).

Strengthening community connection to the natural environment is also important in developing resilient communities that are prepared for adaptable to climate related impacts. Climate change presents complex challenges for communities. With the potential to generate impacts to livelihoods that are dependent on natural resources such as agriculture, horticulture, forestry and tourism, as well as impacts to health and well-being.

Strategic objectives for community as land stewards

1. Increased community awareness of the local natural values in Moorabool Shire.
2. Participation in community based NRM groups and activities is encouraged and supported by Council.
3. Increased engagement with new rural and semi-rural landholders on best practice NRM activities.

4.2 SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL



Lerderberg Library, Photo: Moorabool Shire Council

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4.2.1 Energy Efficient & Clean Energy Council



At a glance

- In 2013/14 Council's greenhouse emissions from its operations including buildings, open space and fleet were 4,271 tonnes and Council energy costs were just over \$1 million. This is up from 3389 tonnes in 2003/04. These figures are from two different sources and methodologies and so it's not possible to compare them directly, however they do suggest significant growth in emissions consistent with Council having taken only minimal action to curb its greenhouse emissions in that time.
- The break down into sectors of greenhouse emissions is: Fleet 38%. Street lighting 37%, Buildings 25%.
- The share of total energy costs of each sector was: Fleet 57%, Buildings 27%, Street lighting 16%.
- Climate change represents one of the biggest threats to the economic viability, social structure, human health and environmental health of the Shire over the next 50 years.

River Red Gums (Eucalyptus camaldelensis), Photo: RMCG

Energy Efficient and Clean Energy Council vision

There is a measureable improvement in energy efficiency of Council operations and an increase in clean energy use in order to achieve a carbon neutral council by 2031.

Context

In 2012, the Victorian Government published its first biennial report on climate change and greenhouse gases, *Report on Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Victoria*. The report noted that “the overall warming of the climate in Victoria over the past century has been linked to GHG-related climate change. The recent decline in autumn rainfall and the southward shift in some rain-bearing weather systems may also be partially caused by greenhouse-gas related climate change. Continued global GHG emissions, depending on their level, are likely to lead to warmer conditions in Victoria, reduced rainfall in some seasons, and sea level rise.”

The relationship between GHG emissions and climate change was further reinforced in 2013 when the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its latest global assessment of climate change science, *Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis). AR5 stated that warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and many of the changes observed since the 1950s are unprecedented over decades to millennia.

Source: Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action *Low Carbon West, A Strategy for a Transition to a Low Carbon Economy in the WAGA Region*, p.3.

There is clearly a need for action to reduce greenhouse emissions at all levels of government. Moorabool Shire has the opportunity to contribute to reducing Victoria’s and global greenhouse emissions whilst reducing its cost overheads from the carbon-intensive aspects of council operations including buildings, open space, street lighting, fleet and waste. It can also support local businesses and the community to reduce their greenhouse emissions.

The Shire has previously done some work to reduce its and the community’s greenhouse emissions through its *Greenhouse Local Action Plan 2007* which aims to reduce the Shire’s emissions by 20% and the community’s emissions by 10% on 2003/04 levels. A clear assessment of that program has not yet been undertaken.

As part of the Sustainable Environment Strategy project, Ironbark Sustainability has undertaken an Energy and Water assessment of Council’s operations (Ironbark Sustainability 2015). The inventory enables Council to benchmark its current use and expenditure of electricity, gas, transport fuel and water. It also shows the greenhouse emissions associated with Council energy use.

The inventory shows that in 2013/14 Council’s greenhouse emissions from its operations including buildings, open space and fleet were 4,271 tonnes and council energy costs were just over \$1 million. This is up from 3,389 tonnes in 2003/04, as calculated for the *Greenhouse Local Action Plan 2007* (part of the ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection Program). As these figures are derived from two different sources and methodologies it’s not possible to compare them directly, however they do suggest significant growth in emissions consistent with Council having taken only minimal action to curb its greenhouse emissions in that time.

In addition, in 2014 Council engaged Ironbark Sustainability to undertake an assessment of costs and greenhouse emissions of street lighting in the Shire, including a business case for switching to low emission globes (Ironbark Sustainability 2014a). This report presents a compelling case for the financial and environmental savings that can be achieved by investing to low energy street lighting. In total, the projects considered in the analysis are expected to cost between \$0.66 million and \$1.13 million. Net lifetime cost savings (after project costs are removed) are projected to be between \$3.86 million and \$5.05 million, depending on technology type and increase in electricity and maintenance costs. Project costs include materials (eg. globes) labour (installation) project management, potential expertise and/or consultants, Written Down Value (WDV) and net Avoided Cost (AC) and does not include community education or

Council staffing costs. The project becomes cash flow positive in 5 to 7 years depending on which technology and implementation timeframe is adopted.

The Energy & Water inventory includes a street lighting summary (figure 6) as well as the energy and water used in Council buildings, open space and Council fleet for the financial year 2013/14. (Please note that not all utility bills were available and some smaller facilities were not included, therefore these figures are likely to be under-estimated.)

For the 2013/14 financial year, the inventory showed the breakdown of the Shire's greenhouse emissions by sector in 2013/14 was: Fleet 38%, Street lighting 37%, Buildings 25%. The share of total energy costs of each sector was: Fleet 57%, Buildings 27%, Street lighting 16% (

Figure 7). This shows that Fleet was the largest proportion of Shire energy costs and reductions in fleet energy use will bring substantial cost savings.

Figure 6. Energy consumption costs (2013/14)

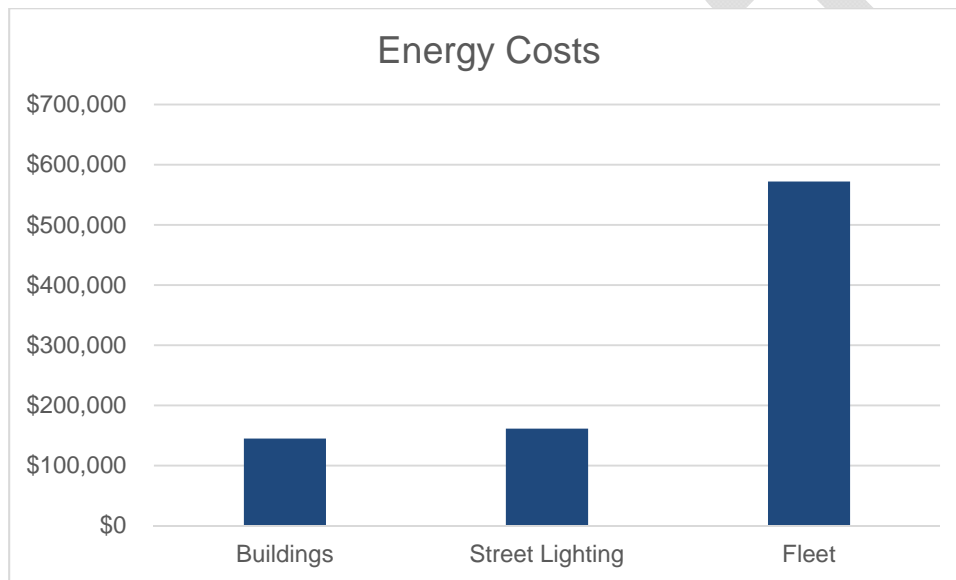
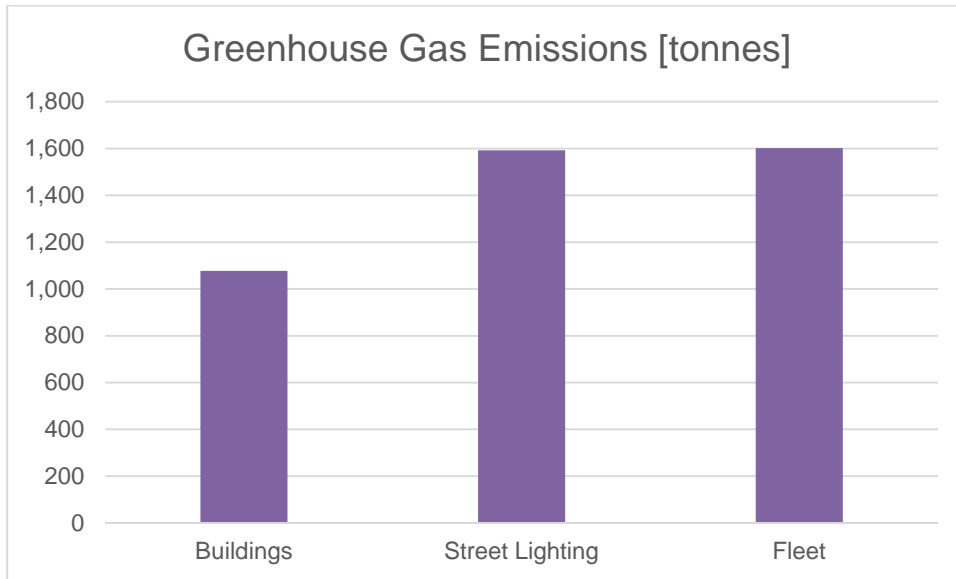
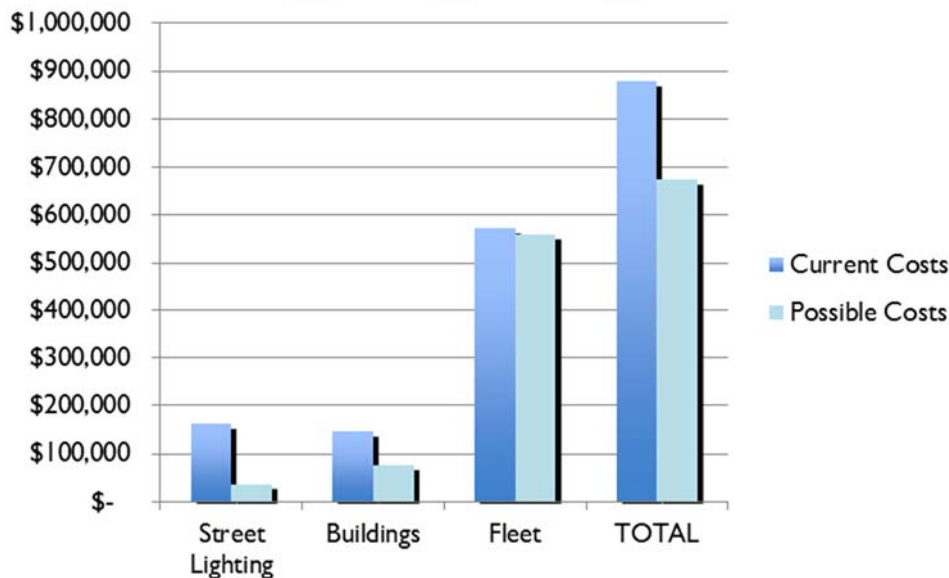


Figure 7. Greenhouse gas emissions (2013/14)



The inventory shows that significant financial and greenhouse savings could be achieved if Council were to undertake a range of retrofit actions to buildings and open space and made changes to the Council fleet. If the Shire were to undertake all actions listed to bring its standard to that of a “best practice” Council, the financial savings would be around **\$204,098 per annum** in combined energy and water savings after costs (most of this relates to energy saving rather than water). The majority of cost savings would be from building improvements, followed by energy efficient street lighting and fleet adjustments (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Current vs. Possible Costs if Moorabool Shire achieved Best Practice in Energy & Water



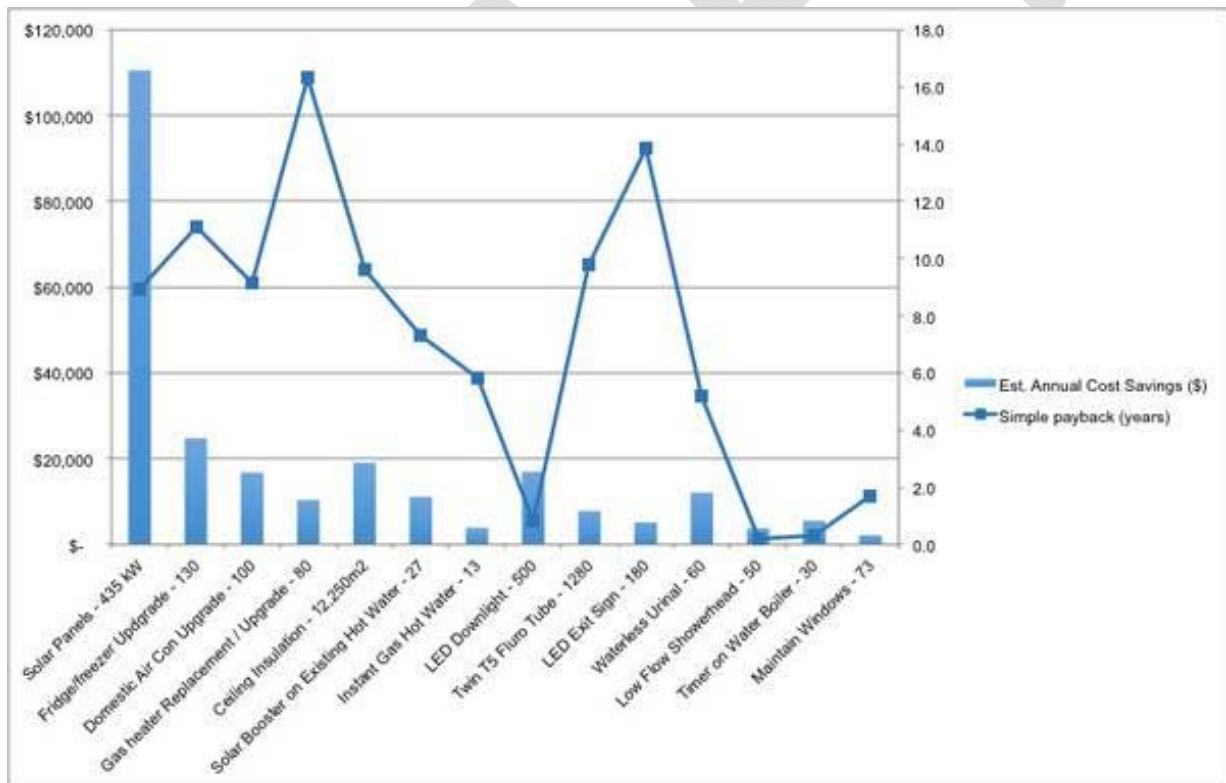
If the Shire were to implement all of the identified actions to bring it to current “best practice”, the greenhouse savings would be significant – a total reduction of approximately 1,800 tonnes of greenhouse emissions per year, which is a 42% reduction on 2013-14 emissions. If existing streetlight globes were replaced with energy efficient LEDs it is projected that the greenhouse emissions from street lighting could be cut by up to 77%. If efficiency measures for buildings were introduced, the greenhouse emissions savings for building

energy use could be up to 47%. For fleet changes, the greenhouse emissions savings for running Council's fleet could be up to 2%.

When comparing Moorabool Shire to current best practice, the majority of energy saving actions are yet to be implemented at Moorabool. This presents an enormous opportunity to the Shire to upgrade its building stock, open space, street lighting and fleet to achieve both major cost savings as well as benefiting the environment by cutting its greenhouse emissions.

In terms of prioritising which actions to take in retrofitting buildings and open space, Ironbark has calculated the greatest cost savings and payback periods – see Figure 9 below. It shows that solar photovoltaic panels would provide the largest annual savings with the investment being returned within 9 years. Smaller, lower cost actions such as LED light globes and low flow showerheads have shorter payback periods but over the long term would not achieve as large total savings. There are clearly numerous building efficiency upgrades to save energy and/or water that would save the Shire significant costs with a payback period of less than 15 years.

Figure 9. Average annual per site cost savings compared to simple payback for a selection of actions (Ironbark Sustainability 2014b)



The Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA), of which Moorabool Shire is a member council, launched its strategy Low Carbon West: A Strategy for a Transition to a Low Carbon Economy in the WAGA Region in 2014. This strategy provides a range of pathways and actions for member councils to deliver in partnership with all sectors including residential and non-residential buildings, freight, residential transport, waste, and agriculture to improve energy efficiency and cut greenhouse emissions. The actions identified

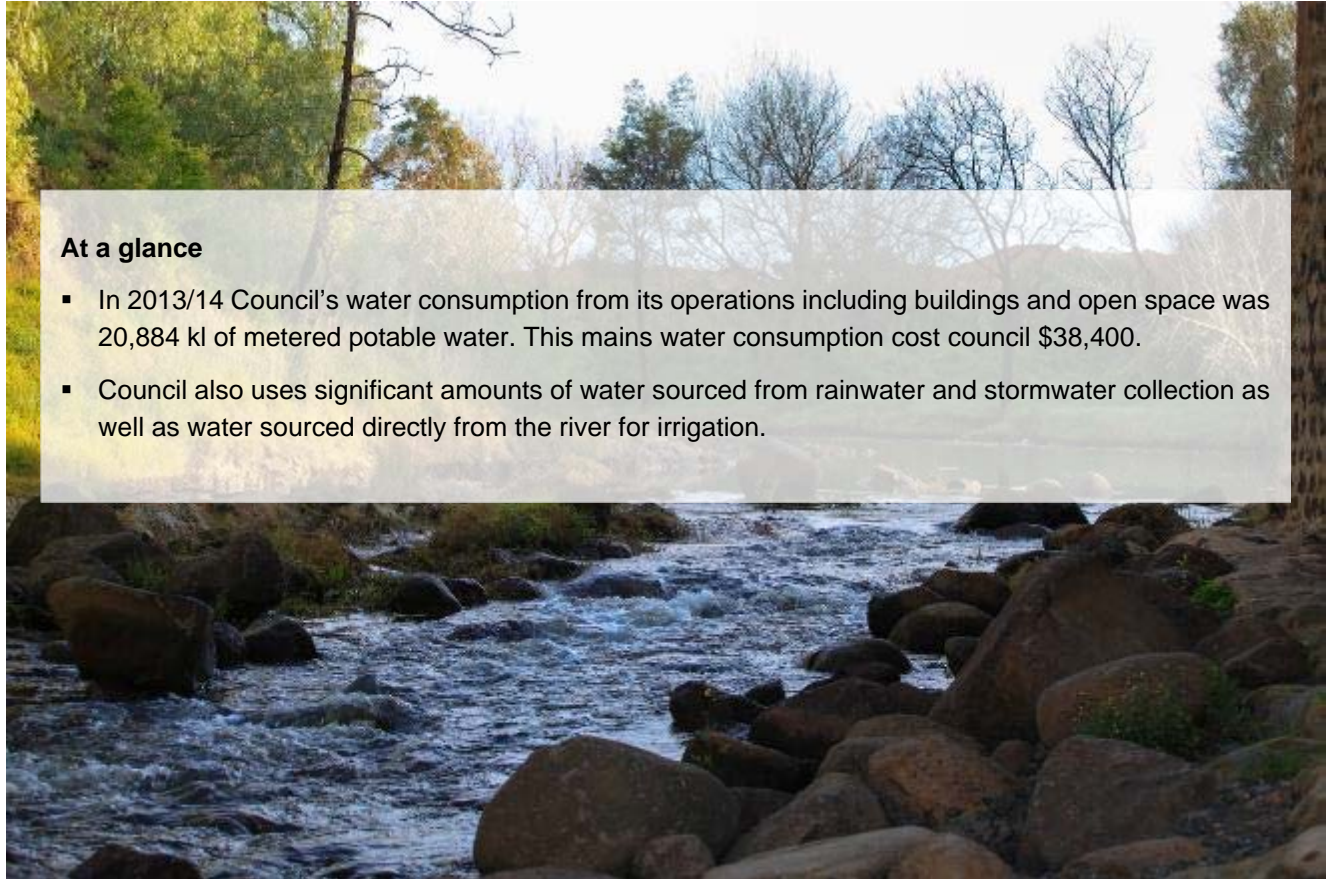
would reduce greenhouse emissions from the region by 14% compared to business as usual. It presents numerous opportunities for Moorabool to partner with larger councils to benefit from initiatives to reduce Moorabool greenhouse emissions, for example bulk purchasing of solar photovoltaic panels to offer to its community.

Strategic objectives for Energy Efficiency & Clean Energy

1. To reduce the amount of electricity and gas used, and the associated greenhouse emissions, for Council operations per dollar spent by Council.
2. To increase the proportion of renewable energy used in Council's operations.
3. To shift Council's procurement towards low emissions products and services.

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4.2.2 Water Efficient Council



At a glance

- In 2013/14 Council's water consumption from its operations including buildings and open space was 20,884 kl of metered potable water. This mains water consumption cost council \$38,400.
- Council also uses significant amounts of water sourced from rainwater and stormwater collection as well as water sourced directly from the river for irrigation.

Werribee River, Photo: Allen Moore

Water Efficient Council vision

There is less water used in the operations of Council with a transition away from potable mains water use to rainwater, stormwater and recycled water.

Context

Mains water supply in Moorabool can be quite variable due to regular droughts experienced in the region – the most intense recent drought being the Millennium drought from 1995 to 2009 which was associated with a hot and dry El Nino weather pattern. The impacts of that drought were felt for many years, with government drought assistance continuing until 2012.

During drought periods water supply reservoirs dip to extremely low levels and all sections of the community are placed on water restrictions to ration consumption in order to maintain supply. Ground water is also depleted due to increased usage of bore water in the face of water restrictions.

However future projections for rainfall for the region are that temperature rises associated with human-induced climate change are almost certain to result in decreased rainfall in Victoria and so future droughts and water shortages are very likely. Therefore Council needs to prepare for the inevitable future droughts by delivering its operations much more efficiently in terms of water use.

Council has already taken steps over the years to reduce its water consumption and to find more sustainable sources. Open space irrigation has been reduced by using more drought tolerant (low-water) turf and landscaping. Alternative sources such as storm water retention and rainwater tanks have also been used, with many buildings in the Shire now having rainwater tanks.

As part of the Sustainable Environment Strategy project, Ironbark Sustainability has undertaken an Energy and Water assessment of Council's operations (Ironbark Sustainability 2015). The inventory enables Council to benchmark its current use of mains potable water as captured by water bills for Council buildings and open space.

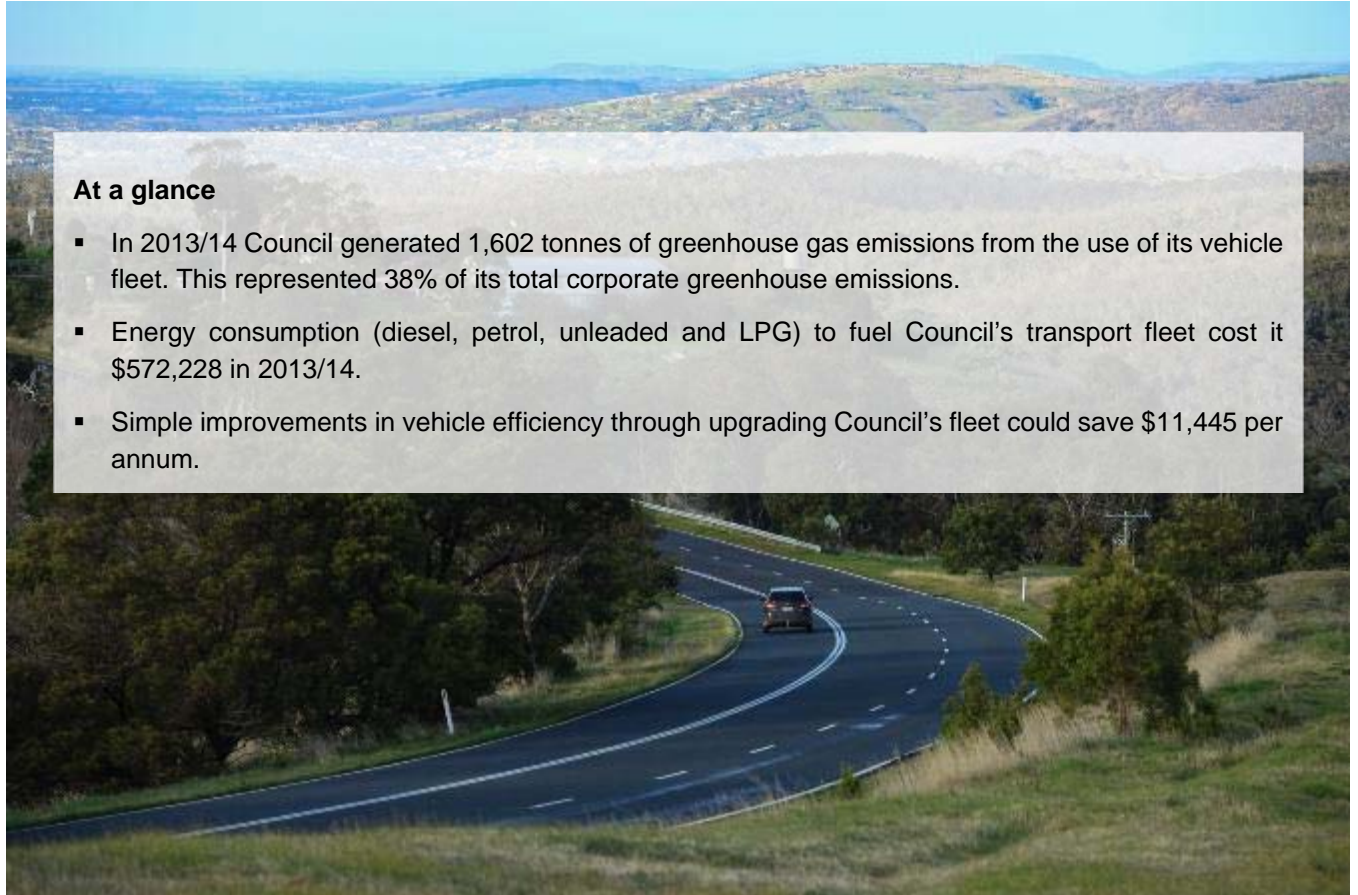
The Water inventory for financial year 2013/14 shows that Council used 20,884 kl of mains water for buildings and open space from available water bills (some small facilities did not have bills available). This represented a total water bill cost of \$38,400. This does not include any water sourced from rainwater tanks or stormwater retention or pumped from the river for irrigation, of which an unknown but sizeable proportion is sourced for open space irrigation and facilities.

Significant water savings could be achieved if Council were to undertake a range of retrofit actions to buildings and open space to reduce water consumption and use of mains potable water. However exact cost and water saving estimates through such actions are difficult to provide until a detailed building and open space water assessment and plan is developed.

Strategic objectives for a Water Efficient Council

1. Improve water efficiency of Council buildings and operations.
2. Transition from using potable water to using recycled water or stormwater for Council operations and facilities.

4.2.3 Sustainable Transport in Council



At a glance

- In 2013/14 Council generated 1,602 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from the use of its vehicle fleet. This represented 38% of its total corporate greenhouse emissions.
- Energy consumption (diesel, petrol, unleaded and LPG) to fuel Council's transport fleet cost it \$572,228 in 2013/14.
- Simple improvements in vehicle efficiency through upgrading Council's fleet could save \$11,445 per annum.

Bacchus Marsh (from Coimadaí), Photo: Allen Moore

Sustainable Transport Council vision

We will reduce the greenhouse emissions from the transport used for Council operations.

Context

The direct greenhouse emissions and fuel costs associated with Councils transport are predominantly from:

- Heavy equipment for Council works, particularly the backhoe, large trucks and tippers.
- Staff use of fleet passenger cars to travel to work meetings.

Greenhouse emissions from fleet is the largest sector of Council's emissions profile, according to Ironbark's inventory, being 38% of emissions from energy in 2013/14 – greater than buildings, open space or street lighting (see Figure 7 and 8 in Energy Efficient Council). Fleet is also a larger total cost than these other energy use sectors, representing 57% of Council's energy costs. Therefore any action that Council can take to reduce its fuel consumption for fleet will save it significant operating costs and greenhouse emissions.

Ironbark has estimated that actions to improve the efficiency of vehicles, largely by using more fuel-efficient vehicles, could save 2% of these costs and emissions (based on best practice comparisons). However if more behaviour change was achieved to reduce and avoid staff usage of fleet vehicles or to drive more efficiently, greater gains could be achieved.

Council's Fleet Policy was updated in 2015 with the aim of progress towards a more fuel efficient fleet by 2021. In addition, options to improve the existing fleet booking system are being considered.

Another related transport impact is staff travel to work. Although the greenhouse emissions associated with this are not considered the direct ownership of Council, this is an area that Council can have an influence. As an employer, it is also the responsibility of Council to assist its staff to travel in the most cost effective, healthy and sustainable method possible.

Strategic objectives for sustainable transport in Council

1. Reduce greenhouse emissions from vehicle usage for Council operations.
2. Reduce greenhouse emissions from staff travel to and from work through supporting a reduction in car trips.

4.3 SUSTAINABLE PLACES



Residential development, Photo: Suzie Brown

4.3.1 Climate Adaptation



At a glance

- Climate change projections show the most serious impacts in Moorabool Shire are very likely to occur from as early as 2030 including: extreme bushfire and extreme heat, with associated drying of the land, and reduction in rainfall and increased risk of drought.
- The risks of climatic change on the operations of Council and the community are very serious and include numerous issues such as: financial costs of replacing damaged assets and maintaining stressed assets, inadequate building standards to cope with extreme weather, poor planning for the impacts of climate change and the slowing of the regional economy.

Photo: Sustainability.com

Climate Adaptation vision

We will support and deliver activities to reduce the impact of and vulnerability to future climate change on the Moorabool Shire community.

Context

As part of current operations, significant work has been undertaken to ensure that Council is ready to respond to natural events, such as flood and fire, through the Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA) process.

With the forecast increase in average temperatures and fire and flood events resulting from climate change over the next 40 years, it is important that Council considers actions to manage for this eventuality.

The Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) developed the *Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2013-2020* and *Action Plan 2013-30* which set out the key risks and a plan of action for its member councils to respond to the priority climate change risks for the region (as described in the *WAGA Climate Change Risk Assessment 2011*).

These documents show that the greatest risks to Moorabool Shire from climate change are extreme bushfire and extreme heat risks, with associated drying of the land and reduction in rainfall and increased risk of drought.

A summary of the climate impacts and risks for Melbourne's west as outlined in the WAGA reports is as follows:

1. Higher average temperatures and solar radiation

- Increasing average temperatures over time with a high degree of certainty.
- By 2030, average daily maximum temperatures are likely to rise by 0.5 to 1.5°C over most of Victoria; by 2070, they are likely to rise by 0.7 to 5.0°C compared to 1990. There will be more hot days and fewer cold days. Widespread decreases in atmospheric moisture are likely.

2. Reduced rainfall, but heavier rainfall during rain events

- Although average annual and seasonal total rainfall is expected to decline, the intensity of heavy daily rainfall is likely to rise in most seasons. However, fewer rain days are anticipated, along with more droughts. These heavy rains could contribute to soil erosion and movement.
- Reductions in the total average annual rainfall of around four per cent are expected, with the greatest percentage reductions occurring in spring (7%) compared with 1990 figures. In Melbourne, the average long-term stream flow into water supply catchments could be reduced by up to 11 per cent by 2020, and as much as 35 per cent by 2050. Projections suggest that annual runoff to the Maribyrnong and Werribee Rivers could reduce by five to 30 per cent by 2030.

3. Increasing intensity and frequency of extreme weather events

- Without global action to reduce emissions, by 2070 Melbourne's average number of days above 35°C are likely to increase from 9 to 26. An increase in the frequency, intensity and duration of heat waves may also amplify the risk of heat-related health problems, particularly in urban areas. Higher temperatures may also shift energy use from winter heating to summer cooling.
- "Extreme" fire danger days are expected to increase by 12 to 38 per cent by 2020, and by 20 to 135 per cent by 2050. Between 2000 and 2007, Victoria experienced a 62 per cent increase in fire weather warnings. By 2020, they may occur twice as often, and by 2050 four to five times as often. This means the Melbourne region would experience catastrophic fire days once every 2.4 years on average, instead of the current average of once every 33 years.

The WAGA climate adaptation work also involved identifying major risks or threats to the region that each council needs to plan for and mitigate the impact of. It is important to note that WAGA only included risks that were applicable to entire WAGA region or multiple councils. There are likely to be other risks unique to

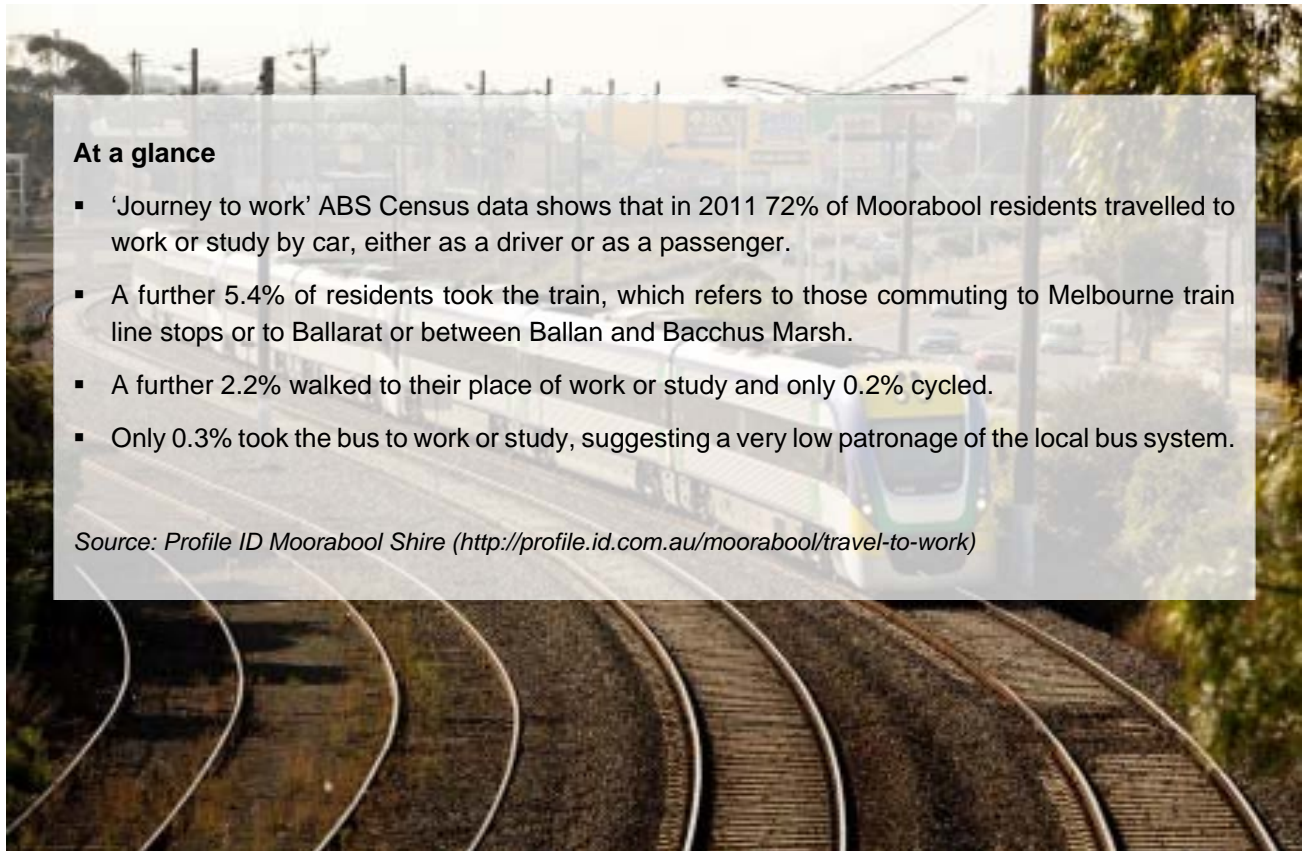
Moorabool and not shared by other councils in the WAGA region. Therefore Council needs to consider additional possible risks when doing its climate adaptation planning.

Strategic objectives for climate adaptation

1. To ensure that Moorabool Shire has understood the risks of climate change on Council operations and takes actions to prepare for and mitigate these risks.
2. To ensure that Council has understood the risks of climate change to the community and is working with the community to help prepare for and mitigate the risks.

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4.3.2 Sustainable Community Transport



At a glance

- 'Journey to work' ABS Census data shows that in 2011 72% of Moorabool residents travelled to work or study by car, either as a driver or as a passenger.
- A further 5.4% of residents took the train, which refers to those commuting to Melbourne train line stops or to Ballarat or between Ballan and Bacchus Marsh.
- A further 2.2% walked to their place of work or study and only 0.2% cycled.
- Only 0.3% took the bus to work or study, suggesting a very low patronage of the local bus system.

Source: Profile ID Moorabool Shire (<http://profile.id.com.au/moorabool/travel-to-work>)

Photo: G21

Sustainable Transport Infrastructure & Engagement vision

There is a reduction in vehicle trips in the Shire as a result of Council's provision, promotion and advocacy for community transport infrastructure and programs to support cycling, walking and public transport.

Context

Transport behaviour in Moorabool Shire is heavily car dependent, which is not unusual for a peri-urban shire. ABS Census data on residents' mode of traveling to work (Journey to Work data) shows that in 2011 72% of Moorabool residents travelled to work or study by car, either as a driver or a passenger. A further 5.4% took the train, which refers to those commuting to Melbourne train line stops or to Ballarat or between Ballan and Bacchus Marsh. A further 2.2% walked to their place of work or study and only 0.2% cycled. Only 0.3% took the bus to work or study, suggesting a very low patronage of the local bus system⁷.

In Moorabool Shire there are affordable and direct connections by train from Ballan and Bacchus Marsh to Melbourne and Ballarat, however community feedback suggests more frequent services would be desired. The bus network is quite limited with services mainly in Bacchus Marsh. Community feedback also suggests better coordination between bus and train services would assist increased uptake of public transport use.

Cycling and walking are well-utilised within townships and Council continues to work to improve cycling and walking access particularly in Bacchus Marsh.

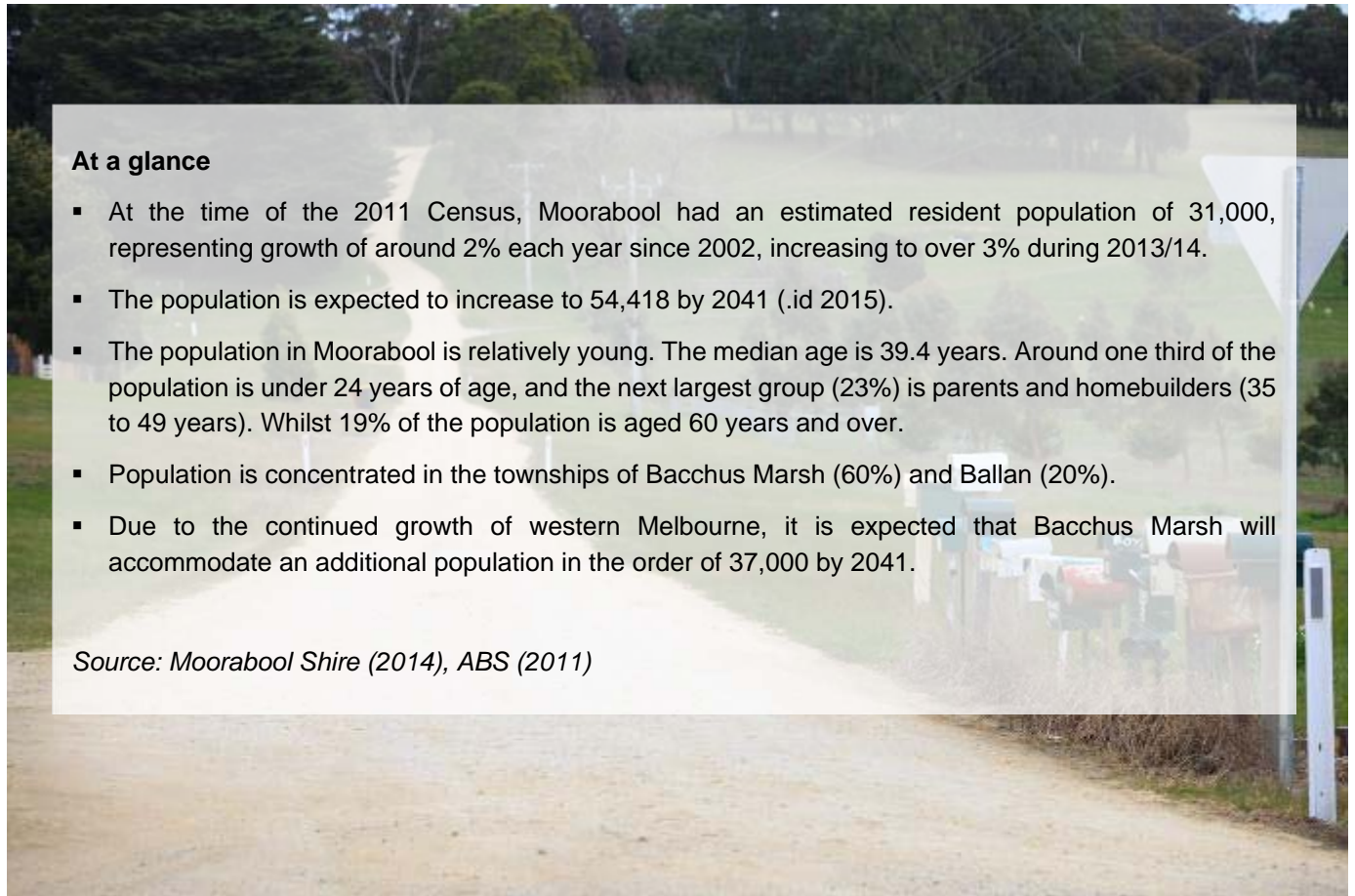
In 2014 and 2015 Council completed the Moorabool Hike & Bike Strategy and Bacchus Marsh Integrated Transport Strategies which aim to improve the connectivity of existing road networks and promote greater cycling and walking, by constructing interconnected cycling and walking paths to link key destinations.

Strategic objectives for Sustainable Transport infrastructure and engagement

1. Ensure transport infrastructure in Bacchus Marsh and Ballan is integrated to support greater linked use between modes and better planning for active transport modes.
2. Provide cycling and walking infrastructure to support increased use of these modes instead of driving.
3. Support the increased use of public transport in the Shire in place of car travel.

⁷ Source: Profile ID Moorabool Shire <http://profile.id.com.au/moorabool/travel-to-work>

4.3.3 Urban development and planning



At a glance

- At the time of the 2011 Census, Moorabool had an estimated resident population of 31,000, representing growth of around 2% each year since 2002, increasing to over 3% during 2013/14.
- The population is expected to increase to 54,418 by 2041 (.id 2015).
- The population in Moorabool is relatively young. The median age is 39.4 years. Around one third of the population is under 24 years of age, and the next largest group (23%) is parents and homebuilders (35 to 49 years). Whilst 19% of the population is aged 60 years and over.
- Population is concentrated in the townships of Bacchus Marsh (60%) and Ballan (20%).
- Due to the continued growth of western Melbourne, it is expected that Bacchus Marsh will accommodate an additional population in the order of 37,000 by 2041.

Source: Moorabool Shire (2014), ABS (2011)

Mt Egerton, Photo: Allen Moore

Urban development and planning vision

We will support development that respects and conserves Moorabool Shire's natural environment and reduces future environmental impacts from increased population growth and new development.

Context

Moorabool Shire is centrally located between Melbourne and Ballarat with easy access to Geelong and Bendigo via highways and transport, making it an attractive destination for those seeking affordable housing, a rural lifestyle and access to employment and services in major cities.

Population growth since 2002 has been at about the state average and is projected to be considerably higher than average to 2022 (Department of Health 2013). This is reflected in the most recent population data, showing that during the 2013/14 year the growth rate was 3.3% (a 36% increase on the average annual growth rate of 2.1%). The population is expected to grow from the current population of 31,000 to approximately 49,000 by 2036 however given the recent increased rate of growth this projected figure may be reached sooner (Moorabool Shire 2014).

Moorabool is a young community with approximately one third of the population aged 24 years or younger. The next highest group are those in the 'parent and homebuilder' demographic, aged 35 – 49 years (accounting for approximately 23% of the total population). Approximately 19% of the population is aged 60 years and over (ABS 2011).

Most of the growth in the Shire is concentrated in the east, around Bacchus Marsh. Currently, more than half the Shire's population lives in Bacchus Marsh and surrounds (approximately 19,032), followed by Ballan (6,534). The remaining population is distributed across a number of small towns, hamlets and farming areas within the Shire. Council has identified Bacchus Marsh and Ballan as the main locations for future growth, as they already have established infrastructure to accommodate new growth (Moorabool Shire 2014).

Moorabool Shire is currently developing an Urban Growth Strategy and a Rural Growth Strategy in response to population growth pressures and other land use issues such as the preservation of significant natural environments and agricultural land. Central to these strategies is the *Moorabool 2041 Strategy*, which will guide planning and future decision making in the Shire over the coming decades to 2041. Moorabool Shire is also a member of the Peri-Urban Group of Rural Councils, which aims to promote a comprehensive vision for the peri-urban region of the Melbourne metropolitan fringe.

The increasing population means that now more than ever, it is imperative that a balance is struck between accommodating this present growth and protecting the natural environmental values and the needs of future generations. Council is well placed to demonstrate leadership in environmentally sensitive and sustainable development. This can be achieved through land use planning decisions that protect natural resources, productive agricultural land and landscape aesthetics. Council can also influence new residential and commercial development to ensure higher environmental standards for new buildings as well as water, renewable energy and biodiversity-sensitive urban streetscapes.

There will be challenges for Council in achieving sustainable development. These include, but are not limited to:

- Managing and restricting development pressure in areas of high biodiversity and landscape values (particularly in areas that have high conservation significance, but are not well understood by the community such as grasslands).
- Early identification of biolink and connectivity opportunities and protecting these areas from development.
- Protecting productive agricultural land from development.
- Advocating for and engaging the community in more sustainable, environmentally sensitive urban developments and settlements.

Strategic objectives for urban development and planning

1. To ensure that attention to natural values are embedded within structure planning processes to allow for protection of natural assets.
2. Access and collate the most up-to-date data sets to support strengthened environmental policies within Moorabool's planning scheme aimed at protecting natural assets.
3. Improve access to and connectivity between residents and open space and natural reserve areas.
4. Use the planning process to improve the standard of new residential or commercial buildings or renovations in the Shire.
5. New residential or mixed use precincts are designed with sustainability at the core of their structure plan including support for cycling/walking/public transport, abundant recreation space, greenspaces and biodiversity, shops or services within walking distance, water sensitive urban design, stormwater reuse and design for passive solar or solar panels.

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4.4 LIVE & WORK SUSTAINABLY

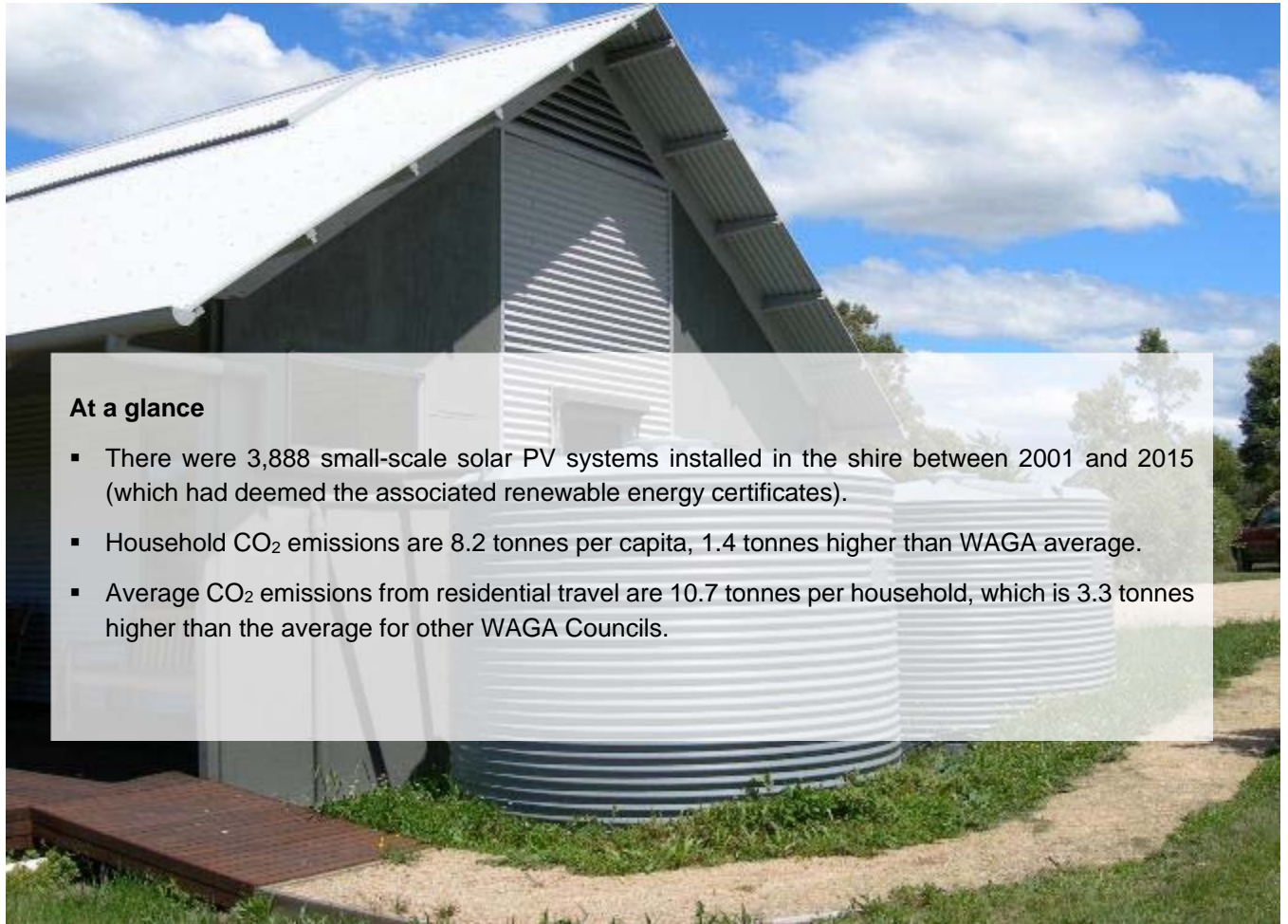


Blackwood, Photo: Allen Moore



Bacchus Marsh, Photo: Moorabool Visitor Information

4.4.1 Clean Energy and Energy & Water Efficient Community



At a glance

- There were 3,888 small-scale solar PV systems installed in the shire between 2001 and 2015 (which had deemed the associated renewable energy certificates).
- Household CO₂ emissions are 8.2 tonnes per capita, 1.4 tonnes higher than WAGA average.
- Average CO₂ emissions from residential travel are 10.7 tonnes per household, which is 3.3 tonnes higher than the average for other WAGA Councils.

Green home, Photo: Suzie Brown

Clean Energy & Energy & Water Efficient Community vision

There is a measurable decrease in greenhouse emissions and potable water use in the Moorabool business and residential community.

Context

As outlined in the Climate Adaptation section, the impacts of climate change are likely to be severe, and have already been felt in the last two decades in the form of heatwaves, drought and extreme bushfire. It is crucial that the whole community be informed about climate change and be engaged to play their role in reducing its impacts. One of the main actions households and businesses can take is to reduce their greenhouse emissions from their home energy, transport or business energy needs.

In 2006 a SGS Economic and Planning report found that, when compared to the 7 Councils in the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) CO₂ emissions per capita from Moorabool residents were 1.4 tonnes above the average for all WAGA Councils. The report found that this was largely as a result of higher than average emissions resulting from residential travel.⁸

In addition, to handle the increased incidence of heatwaves it benefits residents' health and safety if their homes are retrofitted to keep them cooler in summer (and warmer in winter) – vulnerable groups such as the elderly and families with infants need priority for this assistance.

These actions often also cut household energy bills, and many energy efficiency actions have a very short payback period (see Figure 1 in the Energy Efficient Council section). In addition solar PV has become a very good investment as panel prices have come down whilst energy bills have risen. Therefore the payback period is now quite short for installing panels.

Due to limited resources, Council currently does very little work in the energy efficiency and clean energy engagement area, other than provide information on its website. In 2009 Council ran a well-received bulk buy program of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, which allowed residents to buy a discounted rooftop solar system which was pre-arranged with a reputable supplier.

Between 2001 and May 2015 there were 3,888 small-scale solar systems installed in the Shire⁹ – these were the systems for which the renewable energy certificates were deemed via the Federal Clean Energy Regulator, so it is possible there were more systems than this, as well as the systems that were installed prior to 2001.

Currently there are very few Victorian Government programs for the community on energy efficiency or renewable energy as a result of the recent change of government. Previous government programs have mostly ceased and were very few anyway. The new government has stated that climate action is a priority therefore it is likely that funding and programs for councils and communities will arise in the 2015-19 period. Council needs to maintain close communications with Sustainability Victoria and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to seek out opportunities to offer its community.

As outlined in the sections on Water Efficient Council and Climate Adaptation, Victoria experienced regular droughts and these are becoming more severe as a result of climate change. The 1995-2009 drought was probably Australia's worst ever drought and resulted in water supply reservoirs reaching dangerously low levels and some drying up completely. The community were put on high-level water restrictions to reduce consumption, whilst water saving measures such as rainwater tanks and efficient showerheads and toilets were well implemented.

⁸ Source: <https://www.acfonline.org.au/sites/default/files/resources/Werribee-Plains-ACF-WAGA-Energy-Research-Study.pdf>

⁹ Source: <http://ret.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/REC-Registry/Data-reports#Latest-data>

As the likelihood of future drought is high, continued action to increase household water efficiency and increase the use of rainwater collection is needed to 'future-proof' our water supplies. This is more difficult during the current period of higher water levels and few water restrictions, but Council and water authorities can continue to play a key role in supporting action.

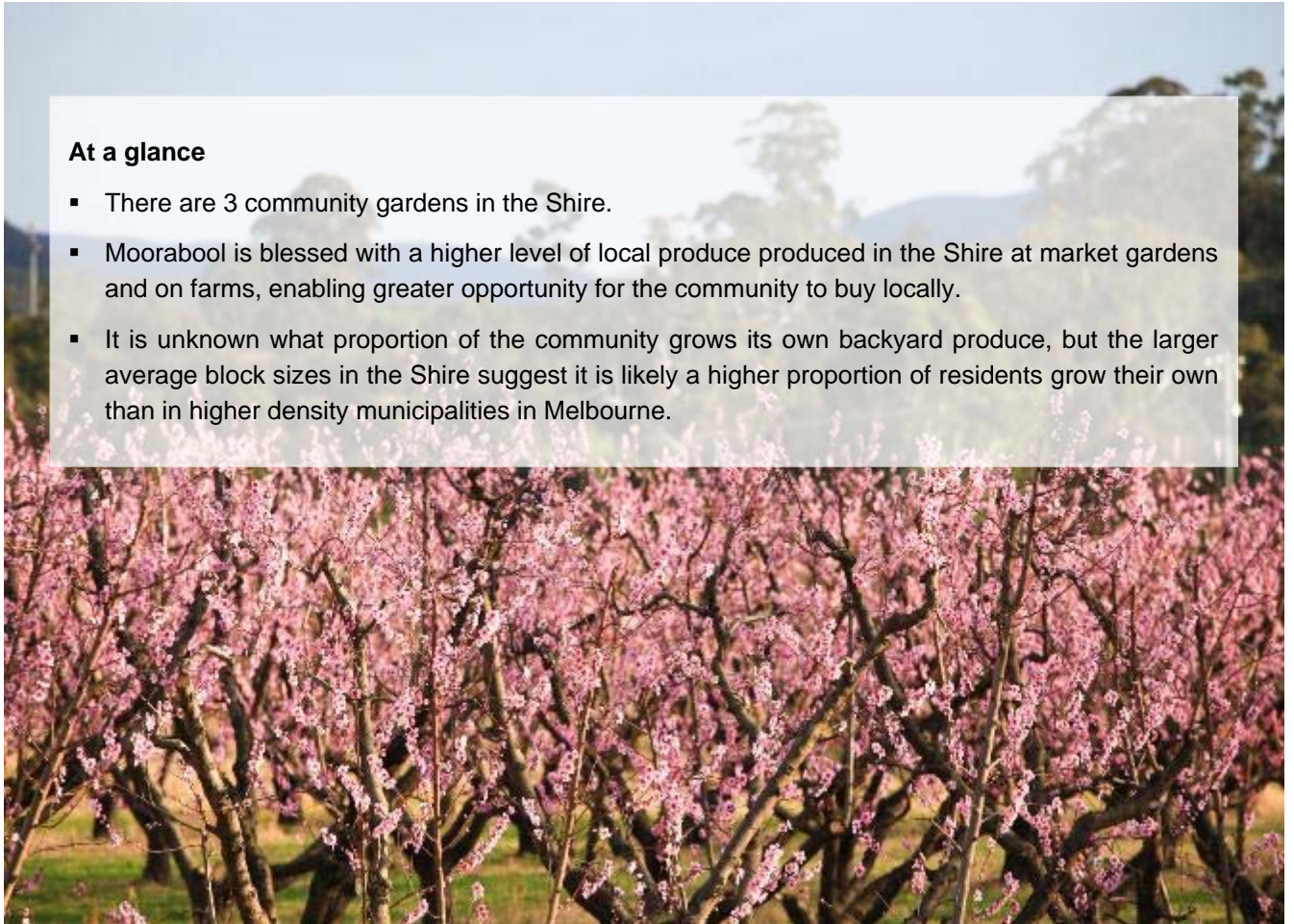
Strategic objectives for Clean Energy and Water & Energy Efficient Community

1. Council to advocate to other levels of government to reduce the cost burden on residents of energy through funded energy and water efficiency and renewable energy programs.
2. Council to work with water authorities and energy retailers to gather data about community water and energy usage and opportunities for greater efficiency.
3. Council to develop a Water & Energy Efficient Communities engagement strategy to promote existing State Government programs that assist the community to:
 - a) Reduce greenhouse emissions from electricity and gas use.
 - b) Increase the proportion of energy coming from renewable energy sources for community power needs.
 - c) Improve water efficiency of businesses and residences in Moorabool.
 - d) Increase the use of greywater, rainwater tanks and stormwater harvesting methods to replace the use of potable mains water in businesses and residences.

4.4.2 Local Food

At a glance

- There are 3 community gardens in the Shire.
- Moorabool is blessed with a higher level of local produce produced in the Shire at market gardens and on farms, enabling greater opportunity for the community to buy locally.
- It is unknown what proportion of the community grows its own backyard produce, but the larger average block sizes in the Shire suggest it is likely a higher proportion of residents grow their own than in higher density municipalities in Melbourne.



Orchard in blossom Photo: Allen Moore

Local Food vision

There is a measurable increase in the community growing their own food and buying more of their food from local food producers.

Context

As the impacts of climate change are felt, there are a number of climate impacts which threaten our food supply including:

- Water shortages due to drought reducing rainfall and water storages
- Heatwaves causing the loss or drop in quality of produce
- Bushfire causing the loss of crops, livestock and grazing land
- Unpredictable impacts of pests such as insects damaging food production.

Peak oil (where the cost of oil becomes more and more expensive as extraction becomes more difficult) could result in the cost of food increasing dramatically since many inputs to large-scale food production rely on oil (transport, fertilizer, machinery etc.).

Moorabool Shire has a large supply of local food, with the presence of market gardens as well as small to large-scale agricultural production on farms. Supporting this local food production, connecting it to local residents, and also supporting local residents to grow some of their own food are all important actions.

Council has put some energy into supporting the development of community gardens in the Shire in recent times and there are now at least three community gardens: Darley Community Art Garden, Hospital Garden Ballan, Friendship Garden at Ballan.

Moorabool Environment Group does a range of activities to support people growing their own food, buying locally and growing in the community gardens. The Bacchus Marsh Produce Swap is one example, where residents are invited once a month to meet to exchange or offer excess produce.

Strategic objectives for Local Food

Moorabool Shire to promote activities that:

1. Increase local production of food by residents and businesses in Moorabool Shire.
2. Increase local sales and consumption of locally produced food in Moorabool Shire.
3. Increase participation in community food production activities including community gardens, food swaps and local farmers markets.

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Appendix 1: Strategic and legislative framework

National

Legislation	Policy Strategy and Agreements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Act 1984 ▪ Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975 (Register of the National Estate) ▪ Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 ▪ Native Title Act 1993 ▪ Water Act 2007 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia (EA 2001) ▪ Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010–2030 ▪ Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007 ▪ National Framework for the Management and Monitoring of Australia's Native Vegetation (2001) ▪ National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap) ▪ National Water Quality Management Strategy (1992) ▪ Strategy for Australia's National Reserve System 2009–2030 ▪ The Australian Weeds Strategy (revised 2007) ▪ Wetlands Policy of the Commonwealth Government of Australia 1997

State

Legislation	Policy Strategy and Agreements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 ▪ Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 ▪ Climate Change Act 2010 ▪ Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 ▪ Cooperative Management Agreement 2004 ▪ Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 ▪ Environment Protection Act 1970 ▪ Fisheries Act 1995 ▪ Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 ▪ Forests Act 1958 ▪ Heritage Rivers Act 1992 ▪ Land Act 1958 ▪ National Parks Act 1975 ▪ Parks Victoria Act 1998 ▪ Planning and Environment Act ▪ Reference Areas Act 1978 ▪ State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria) 2003 ▪ Sustainable Forests (Timber) Act 2004 ▪ Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 ▪ Assessment Council Act 2001 ▪ Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972 ▪ Water Act 1989 ▪ Wildlife Act 1975 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria 2009 ▪ Indigenous Partnership Framework 2007-10 (reviewed 2010) ▪ Invasive Plants and Animal Policy Framework 2010 ▪ Our Water Our Future (DSE 2004) ▪ Native Vegetation Management – A Framework for Action (Revised 2005) ▪ Policy for Sustainable Recreation and Tourism on Victoria's Public Land 2002 ▪ State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria 1988) ▪ State Environment Protection Policy (Groundwaters of Victoria) 1997 ▪ Sustainability Charter for Victoria's State Forests 2006 ▪ 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission ▪ Victorian Bushfire Strategy 2008 ▪ Victorian Landcare Program Strategic Plan 2012 ▪ Victorian Flood Management Strategy 1998 ▪ Victorian Planning Provisions 1998-1999 ▪ Victorian Waterway Management Strategy 2013 ▪ Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy 2016 ▪ Victoria's Nature based Tourism Strategy 2008–2012 ▪ Victoria's Salinity Management Framework 2000 ▪ Water for Victoria (discussion paper) 2016

Regional

Legislation	Policy Strategy and Agreements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Highlands Regional Growth Plan 2014 ▪ South West Landscape Assessment Study 2012 ▪ Grow West Implementation Plan 2013 ▪ Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy 2013 ▪ Corangamite Waterway Strategy 2014 – 2022 ▪ Corangamite Landcare Support Plan 2013 ▪ Corangamite Invasive Plant and Animal Management Strategy ▪ Corangamite Soil Health Strategy 2006 – 2012 ▪ Corangamite Native Vegetation Plan 2003 – 2008 ▪ Corangamite Salinity Action Plan 2005 – 2008 ▪ Corangamite Wetland Strategy 2006 - 2011 ▪ Port Phillip and Westernport Regional Catchment Strategy ▪ Port Phillip and Westernport Healthy Waterways Strategy 2013 ▪ Port Phillip and Westernport Native Vegetation Plan 2006 ▪ Port Phillip and Westernport Rabbit Action Plan 2003 ▪ Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan 2003 ▪ Melbourne Water Port Phillip and Westernport Region Flood Management and Drainage Strategy 2007 ▪ Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) (2012), <i>Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2013-2020 Full Report</i> ▪ Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) (2012) <i>Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2013-30</i> ▪ Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) (2011) <i>Climate Change Risk Assessment</i> ▪ Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) (2014) <i>Low Carbon West: A Strategy for a Transition to a Low Carbon Economy in the WAGA Region</i>

Appendix 2: Bioregions and ecological communities of Moorabool Shire

Bioregions of the Moorabool Shire

Bioregions are a landscape-scale approach to classifying the environment using a range of attributes such as climate, geomorphology, geology, soils and vegetation. Bioregions capture the patterns and ecological characteristics in the landscape. There are 28 bioregions identified across Victoria (DEPI 2014).

Within Moorabool Shire there are two bioregions that characterise the landscape. An overview of these bioregions is provided in Table 4.

Table 4. Bioregions of Moorabool Shire

Bioregion	Characteristic
Central Victorian Uplands	<p>Dominated by Lower Palaeozoic deposits giving rise to dissected uplands at higher elevations, amongst granite and sedimentary terrain metamorphic and old volcanic rocks, which have formed steeply sloped peaks and ridges. Supports grassy woodlands and forests (DEPI 2014).</p> <p>Extends across the north of the Shire.</p>
Victorian Volcanic Plains	<p>Vast open areas of grasslands and small patches of open woodland. Dominated by Cainozoic volcanic deposits that formed extensive flat to undulating basaltic plain with stony rises, old lava flows, numerous volcanic cones and old eruptions points and is dotted with shallow lakes both salt and freshwater. Numerous volcanic cones (scoria and basalt) dot the landscape (DEPI 2014).</p> <p>South of the Shire.</p> <p>Supports productive agricultural land.</p>

Ecological communities

The large areas of protected reserves within Moorabool Shire provide good examples of intact remnants of original ecosystems. These areas are important habitat and refuge for threatened flora and fauna that are known to occur in the Shire. Council reserves and many of the roadsides across the Shire also provide important habitat values for threatened flora and fauna.

The natural environment of Moorabool Shire also provides important ecosystem services for humanity like clean water, fresh air, food, fuel and energy. Subsequently, the use of natural resources to provide these services has resulted in significant change to the natural, or ecological, function of the landscape in Moorabool Shire.

Steps are being taken to restore the ecological function of the landscape, with landholders, Landcare, programs such as Grow West and Council undertaking activities to rehabilitate the natural environment and restore some of its former ecological function. These activities and proposed actions such as increasing the connectivity between reserves and patches of remnant habitat, will contribute to the protection and restoration of ecological communities within the Shire.

There are five ecological communities in the Shire that are listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*. These are identified in Table 5.

Table 5. Endangered ecological communities in Moorabool Shire (DoE 2014)

Ecological community	Status
Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain	Critically endangered
Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain	Critically endangered
Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains	Critically endangered
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland	Critically endangered
Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia	Endangered

In addition, there are 32 threatened species (17 fauna species and 15 flora species) that are listed under the *EPBC Act*, as well as 11 migratory species. Two of these species are critically endangered:

- Golden Sun Moth (*Synemon plana*)
- Plains Rice-flower (*Pimelea spinescens subsp. spinescens*) (DoE 2014).

Attachment - Item 10.2.3(b)



Moorabool Shire Sustainable Environment Strategy
Implementation Plan 2016 - 2021

Moorabool Shire Council

Contents

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1 About the Implementation Plan

This Implementation Plan outlines the activities over the next 5 years that Moorabool Shire Council will undertake to help achieve the objectives and visions, identified in the Moorabool Shire Sustainable Environment Strategy, that aim to see improvements to the natural environment by 2041.

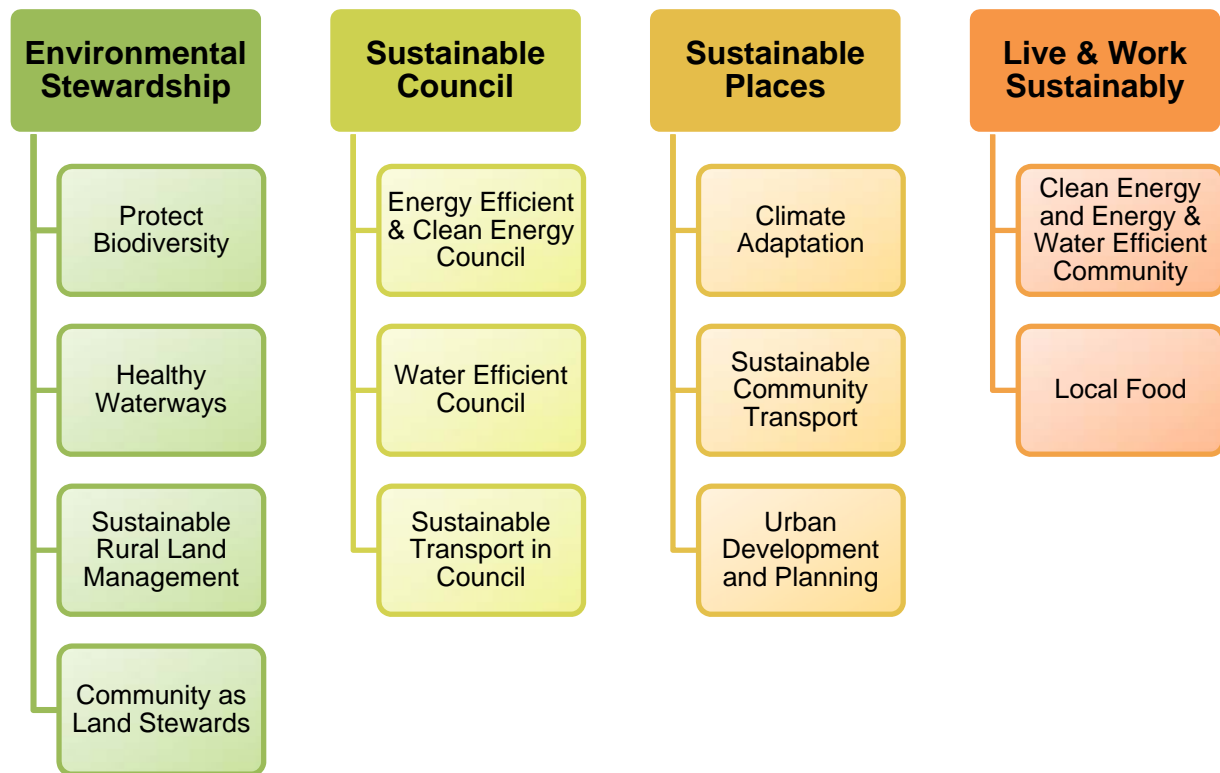
The Implementation Plan should be read in conjunction with the Sustainable Environment Strategy.

Four strategic directions are identified in the Sustainable Environment Strategy. These include:

- ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
- SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL
- SUSTAINABLE PLACES
- LIVE AND WORK SUSTAINABLY

A number of priority areas have been identified within each strategic direction. There are twelve priority areas in total.

Figure 1. Strategic directions and priority areas for the Moorabool Shire Sustainable Environment Strategy



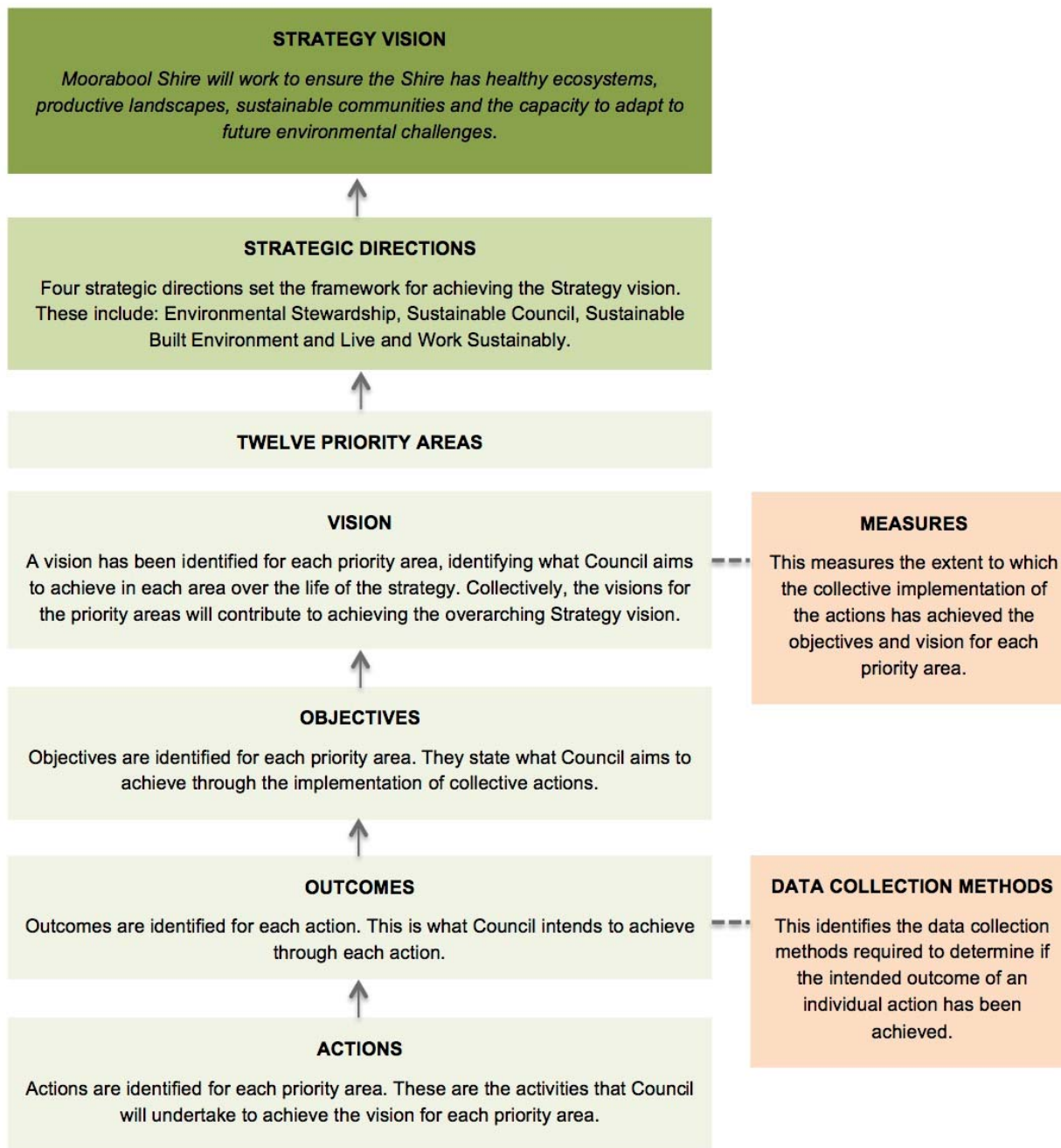
Within this Implementation Plan, actions have been assigned to each priority area.

The Sustainable Environment Strategy is a ten-year document. The actions identified in this Implementation Plan are for the next five years to 2021. A mid-term review of the Strategy and the actions that have been implemented will be conducted after five years, after which a revised Implementation Plan will be developed for the period 2021-26. The Implementation Plan will guide the development of annual action plans that will outline designated tasks, responsibilities, timeframes, resources and budgets. Action plans will be prepared, reported on and reviewed each financial year.

The Strategy acknowledges that Council can only have direct control over some issues, for example its own resource efficiency. It can indirectly influence other issues where its partners share or have greater responsibility and there are some issues it cannot influence and so can only take an advocacy role. As such, the actions in this document are identified as Control, Influence, or Advocacy actions. The Environment Unit at Moorabool Shire will oversee implementation of this Strategy (refer to the Implementation Plan 2016-26) but many of the actions will be the responsibility of other areas of Council. This includes responsibility for the delivery of the actions identified within this Strategy, as well as monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Strategy over its lifespan. Indeed, the success of the Strategy will depend on the contribution of all areas of Council as part of a whole-Council approach to sustainability.

2 Reading the Implementation Plan

Figure 2. Outline to interpreting the Implementation Plan



3 Implementation Plan 2016 - 2021

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1: Environmental Stewardship

Priority Area: PROTECT BIODIVERSITY										
<i>There is a measurable improvement in the condition of the natural environment in the Shire over the next ten years</i>										
MEASURES										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an increase in the connectivity of remnant vegetation across the Shire by 2021. There is an increase in the condition of native vegetation on Council managed reserves and roadsides by 2021. There is a decrease in priority weed species on Council managed reserves and roadsides by 2021 (measured by decrease in density). <p>There is a decrease in rabbit activity on Council managed reserves and roadsides by 2021 (measured by number of mapped warren entrances).</p>										
ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	ADDITIONAL FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION	
OBJECTIVE 1: To increase landscape scale connectivity of remnant and other native vegetation.										
1.1	Review and consolidate existing Biolinks and Open Space Plans for Moorabool Shire, to help guide future land use planning.	Existing Biolinks Plans are reviewed and consolidated and are referred to for future land use planning.	Review Biolinks Plans. Update native vegetation and corridors mapping	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Parks and Gardens, Strategic Planning, DELWP, CMAs, Grow West, Moorabool Landcare Network, Melbourne Water, MLAC, community	Control & Influence	2016/17	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool - 100%
1.2	Implement the Biolinks Plan for Moorabool Shire.	At least one landscape scale biolink project is implemented with stakeholders and the community.	Review Council environmental works projects.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Strategic Planning, Parks and Gardens, DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water, Moorabool Landcare Network community	Control & Influence	2017–2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	TBD
OBJECTIVE 2: Increased knowledge of natural assets including understanding and monitoring of changes in condition on Council managed reserves and roadsides.										
1.3	Work in partnership with the relevant stakeholders to collate existing biodiversity records and expand databases with new data, utilising citizen science	All significant biodiversity assets are identified and mapped.	Review native vegetation mapping, and existing databases including non-government (e.g. Nature Share, Eremaea Birdlines)	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water, Grow West, Community Groups	Control & Influence	2016-2021	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 75% Community – 25%
1.4	Undertake ecological assessments of the condition and extent of remnant native vegetation on Council managed reserves and roadsides.	Ecological condition assessments completed on 20 Council managed reserves and 70 roadsides. Baseline data collected and annual monitoring undertaken against baseline data.	Ecological condition assessment of Council reserves and roadsides.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Community groups	Control	2016/18: collect baseline data 2019–2021: Annual monitoring	High	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%

OBJECTIVE 3: Strengthen local planning policy to recognise and protect existing natural values.										
1.5	Review and update appropriate mechanisms to protect high value biodiversity areas.	Appropriate mechanisms protect all identified high value biodiversity areas within the Shire.	Spatial review of planning zones, overlays and conservation covenants.	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Environment PARTNER: DELWP	Control	Ongoing	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
OBJECTIVE 4: Increased monitoring and control of the impacts of pest plants and animals on native vegetation										
1.6	Undertake ecological assessments on Council managed reserves and roadsides to determine current extent of weed and pest infestation, and monitor change over time.	Ecological assessments are complete. A monitoring framework is developed and implemented annually.	Ecological condition assessment of Council reserves and roadsides.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Melbourne Water, CMAs, DELWP and DEDJTR	Control	2016/18: collect baseline data 2018–2021: Annual monitoring	High	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
1.7	Develop a Pest Plant and Animal Strategy for the Shire.	A Pest Plant and Animal Strategy is developed in conjunction with stakeholders and the community.	Review of Council environmental plans.	LEAD: Environment, Landcare PARTNER: DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water, community, DEDJTR	Control & Influence	2017/18	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
1.8	Complete the draft Operational Plan for Council conservation reserves and roadsides and implement pest plant and animal control works as identified in the Plan.	Operational Plan is completed. Weed and pest control works are implemented on Council managed reserves and roadsides, as identified in the Plan.	Review of Council Operational Plan for conservation reserves and roadsides.	LEAD: Environment	Control	Ongoing	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
1.9	Prepare 'Landscape Guidelines' that include consideration of: - Waterways - Open space - Streetscapes	Landscape Guidelines are developed.	Review of local planning provisions.	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Environment PARTNER: CMAs & Melbourne Water	Control	2016/17	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%

Priority Area: HEALTHY WATERWAYS

There is a measurable improvement in the condition of waterways and the quality of water across Moorabool Shire over the next ten years.

MEASURES

- There is an increase in the connectivity of riparian vegetation across the Shire by 2021.
- There is an increase in the condition of remnant and native riparian vegetation on Council managed reserves by 2021.

The quality of urban stormwater is maintained (or improved) by 2021.

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION	
OBJECTIVE 1: Better protected and healthier riparian vegetation within the Shire.										
2.1	Review and update appropriate mechanisms to protect high value riparian vegetation	All identified high value riparian vegetation is protected by appropriate mechanisms.	Review of planning zones, overlays and conservation covenants.	LEAD: Environment, Strategic Planning PARTNER: Statutory Planning, DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water	Control & Influence	Ongoing	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
2.2	Undertake ecological assessments of the condition and extent of remnant and native riparian vegetation on Council managed land.	Ecological condition assessments completed on 20 Council managed riparian reserves. Baseline data collected and annual monitoring undertaken against baseline data.	Ecological condition assessment of riparian vegetation on Council managed reserves.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Community Groups	Control	2016/18: collect baseline data 2018–2021: Annual monitoring	High	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
OBJECTIVE 2: Increased connectivity of riparian vegetation across the shire.										
2.3	Identify and map remnant riparian vegetation across the Shire.	Remnant riparian vegetation is identified and mapped.	Review riparian vegetation mapping.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: DELWP, CMAs & Melbourne Water	Control	2016-2019	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool - 25% CMAs/MW – 50% Community – 25%
2.4	Identify opportunities for the connectivity of riparian vegetation within the Biolinks Plan for Moorabool Shire (refer to Action 1.1).	At least one riparian biolink project is implemented with stakeholders and the community by 2021.	Review Council environmental works projects.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water, community	Control & Influence	2017–2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	TBD
OBJECTIVE 3: Improved quality of stormwater runoff.										
2.5	Explore opportunities for small scale, localised Water Sensitive Urban Design projects.	Small scale Water Sensitive Urban Design projects are identified and implemented.	Review infrastructure projects.	LEAD: Planning, Environment, Infrastructure PARTNER: Melbourne Water, Parks & Gardens, Corangamite CMA	Control	Ongoing	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	TBD
OBJECTIVE 4: Potable water supply catchments are protected.										
2.7	Support the delivery of actions by the relevant water authorities to improve waterway health.	Actions by the water authorities to improve waterway health are supported by Council.	Review waterway activities.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Melbourne Water, CMAs, Community	Advocate	2016-2021	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 10% CMAs – 90%

Priority Area: SUSTAINABLE RURAL LAND MANAGEMENT

We will develop agricultural land for agricultural production and preserve rural landscape values and amenity.

MEASURES

- Development of a Small Town Strategy by 2017.
- There is an increase in the gross value of agricultural production within the shire by 2018.

All areas of landscape significance and high amenity are identified and recognised in the planning scheme by 2018.

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION
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OBJECTIVE 1: Adopt planning policies that support increased agricultural development of productive farmland

3.1	Review of existing productive agricultural land and agricultural uses.	Most important agricultural areas are mapped and integrated into the planning scheme.	Review of land capability, planning zones and overlays.	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Environment PARTNER: DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water	Control	Ongoing	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
3.2	Develop land use polices that support agriculture and integrate these into planning scheme.	Agricultural output is maximised in areas of highest land quality and protected from residential encroachment.	Interpretation of land capability assessments and revise planning zones and overlays.	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Environment	Control & Influence	2018/19	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
3.3	Promote the region as a “food bowl” for Melbourne and encourage residents to source local produce.	Increased agricultural development and local food production and consumption (especially in urban/rural interface areas).	ABS Agricultural Census & community survey data.	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Economic Development PARTNER: DELWP, RDV, DEDJTR	Influence and Advocate	2017 - 2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool – 75% DELWP/RDV/ DEDJTR – 25%

OBJECTIVE 2: Plan for land use that is respectful of rural landscape values and amenity

3.4	Develop policies that preserve landscape significance and integrate these into planning scheme, that align with the South West Landscape Assessment Study.	Areas of landscape significance and high amenity are identified and recognised in planning scheme.	Review of local planning provisions.	LEAD: Planning, Environment PARTNER: DELWP	Control & Influence	2017/18	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
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Priority Area: COMMUNITY AS LAND STEWARDS

There is a measurable increase in community awareness of the natural environment and participation in Natural Resource Management based activities in the Shire.

MEASURES

- There is an increase in the level of community awareness of local natural values by 2021.
- Participation in community based NRM activities has increased by 2021.

There is an increase in engagement activities with new rural and semi-rural landholders on best practice Natural Resource Management (NRM) activities by 2021.

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION	
OBJECTIVE 1: Increased community awareness of the local natural values in Moorabool Shire										
4.1	Update the Council website to provide current information on the local environment e.g. access to bushwalks, existing community groups, private land management practices and ecological information.	The Council website is maintained with up-to-date information.	Review of the Council website.	LEAD: Environment, PARTNER: Marketing and Communications	Influence & Advocate	Ongoing	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
4.2	Provide new residents with information packs about the natural local environment and how to access to NRM groups and organisations.	Information packs are developed and distributed to all new residents in the Shire.	Audit of the number of information packs distributed.	LEAD: Environment,	Influence & Advocate	2016/17 - 2021	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
4.3	Conduct a community survey to identify and monitor community awareness of the local natural environment and involvement with on ground activities.	Initial resident survey completed and baseline data collected. Second survey completed by 2020 to monitor change in awareness. Three surveys to be completed between 2016 and 2025.	Community survey.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Customer Service, Marketing and Communications	Influence & Advocate	2018/2019: collect baseline data 2020/21: monitor against baseline data	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%

OBJECTIVE 2: Participation in community-based NRM groups and activities is encouraged and supported by Council										
4.4	Support existing Landcare and other community-based environment groups e.g. through the provision of resources, information and funding.	Council provides more equitable support (in the form of resources, information and/or funding) to at least 5 Landcare and or community-based NRM groups by 2021.	Review of the number of community groups Council has supported and the scale of support provided (resource, information, funding).	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Landcare and other community based groups	Advocate	Ongoing	High	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
4.5	Promote, support and encourage existing NRM activities and programs delivered by other agencies e.g. CMAs & Melbourne Water.	Council has promoted and supported 10 programs delivered by other agencies.	Review of the number of programs that Council has supported.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: CMAs, Melbourne Water, DELWP	Advocate	Ongoing	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
OBJECTIVE 3: Increased engagement with new rural and semi-rural landholders on best practice NRM activities										
4.6	Provide and / or support activities for rural and semi-rural landholders e.g. walking tours & workshops.	Council has delivered and / or supported at least 40 community environment activities or events for rural and semi-rural landholders by 2021.	Review of the number of activities Council has conducted.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Landcare, DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water	Influence & Advocate	2016-2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	TBD (dependant on who is delivering)
4.7	Work with Landcare to deliver incentives and training to rural and semi-rural landholders to undertake best practice NRM activities.	Council has supported the application of 10 grant programs for residents. Council has partnered with Landcare to deliver 20 training programs.	Review of the incentives delivered by Council and Landcare and the rate of uptake from landholders.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Landcare	Influence & Advocate	2016-2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Landcare – 75% Moorabool – 25%

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2: Sustainable Council

Priority area: ENERGY EFFICIENT & CLEAN ENERGY COUNCIL										
There is a measurable improvement in energy efficiency of Council operations and an increase in clean energy use in order to achieve a carbon neutral council by 2025.										
MEASURES										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a 15% decrease in the amount of energy (electricity and gas) used for Council operations per dollar spent by 2021. There is an 10% increase in the total renewable energy used for Council operations by 2021. <p>There is a 30% decrease in the greenhouse emissions generated by Council operations by 2021.</p>										
ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION	
OVERARCHING ENERGY ACTIONS										
5.1	Re-institute the Shire staff Green Team consisting of staff from across Council who are engaged and empowered to run behaviour change and educational initiatives for staff in order to reduce the environmental impacts of Council operations. NB: the Green Team would look at reducing council energy, water and resource consumption and reducing waste.	Moorabool Shire staff are engaged by the Green Team and are actively reducing their impacts at work including reducing energy, water & resource consumption (e.g. paper), transport emissions, and waste.	Green Team to track each of their initiatives and report back to Council Executive about project outcomes quarterly.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Corporate Services	Control	Ongoing	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
5.2	Endorse the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) <i>Low Carbon Strategy 2014</i> .	Public support for this united approach to reducing greenhouse emissions in the region. Support for Council greenhouse action through partnering with the WAGA alliance.	Endorsement by Council.	LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Executive	Control	2016/17	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%

OBJECTIVE 1: To reduce the amount of electricity and gas used, and the associated greenhouse emissions, for Council operations per dollar spent by Council.

5.3	<p>Review and evaluate <i>Greenhouse Local Action Plan 2007</i> actions and targets.</p> <p>Determine whether a new Greenhouse Action Plan is the next step or whether an alternative plan would be the most suitable e.g. a Buildings and Open Space Energy & Water Action Plan.</p>	<p>Clarity is achieved on Council's best internal process or mechanism for acting on the recommended actions to cut greenhouse emissions.</p>	<p>Review of Greenhouse Local Action Plan 2007 complete. Decision on forward pathway for greenhouse action.</p>	<p>LEAD: Environment PARTNER: Executive</p>	<p>Control</p>	<p>2016/17</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Existing departmental budget</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>Moorabool – 100%</p>
5.4	<p>Energy use of Council managed buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit Shire's owned and managed, facilities¹ in terms of energy use (e.g. Darley Civic Hub & Bacchus Marsh Library) in order to prioritise energy saving actions. Consider combining this with water audits and creating a Building Energy & Water Plan. Implement the actions prioritised by energy and cost savings and payback periods. Investigate most cost effective way to fund the retrofits – e.g. investigate leasing of installed equipment. <p>NB: see Ironbark Sustainability report for list of actions²</p>	<p>Major Council buildings are retrofitted to reduce energy consumption.</p> <p>Policy developed requiring that new Council buildings meet Environmental Sustainable Design (ESD) principles.</p>	<p>Electricity and gas bills of the major facilities are tracked for savings (compared to 2014 benchmark in Ironbark report).</p>	<p>LEAD: Assets, Environment PARTNER: Finance, Recreation and Community Development</p>	<p>Control</p>	<p>2016-2021</p>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	<p>State/Federal Government Grants</p>	<p>Moorabool – 100%</p>

¹ Going Solar audited Bachhus Marsh and Ballan service centres in 2011.

² Ironbark Sustainability Energy & Water Inventory of Moorabool Shire Environment Strategy, January 2015.

5.5	<p>Open Space Energy Retrofits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit the Shire's major open space areas for energy use in order to prioritise energy saving actions. Implement the actions prioritised by energy and cost savings and payback periods. Investigate most cost effective way to fund the retrofits – e.g. investigate leasing of installed equipment. <p>NB see Ironbark Sustainability report for list of actions³</p>	Major open space areas are retrofitted to reduce energy consumption.	Electricity and gas bills of the open space areas are tracked for savings (compared to 2014 benchmark in Ironbark report).	<p>LEAD: Assets</p> <p>PARTNER: Finance, Parks & Gardens, Recreation and Community Development</p>	Control	2016-2021	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool – 100%
5.6	<p>Implement the recommendations of the Street lighting business case⁴ to switch over streetlights to low energy LED globes.</p>	Streetlights in the Shire are progressively all switched to low energy globes saving an estimated \$124,000 ⁵ off Council energy bills (after changeover costs).	<p>Street lighting managers to keep data on globe switching and report to Council.</p> <p>Electricity bills for street lighting to be tracked by Finance over time (against 2014 benchmark in Ironbark Business case).</p>	<p>LEAD: Assets</p> <p>PARTNER: Finance</p>	Control	2017-2019	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Capital Improvement Program External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool – 100%

³ Ironbark Sustainability *Energy & Water Inventory of Moorabool Shire Environment Strategy*, January 2015.

⁴ Ironbark Sustainability *Streetlighting Business Case for Moorabool Shire*, 2014.

⁵ Ironbark Sustainability *Streetlighting Business Case for Moorabool Shire*, 2014.

OBJECTIVE 2: To increase the proportion of renewable energy used in Council's operations.

5.7	<p>Solar Photo Voltaic (PV) on Council buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a business case from a reputable solar retailer for installing solar PV panels on a number of Council facilities. Identify the best locations and installations in terms of payback period. Identify the best financial model, secure funding and install. 	<p>Solar PV panels are installed on a number of Council buildings to reduce long term energy costs and reduce greenhouse emissions from Shire operations.</p>	<p>Electricity bills of the facilities with solar panels installed are tracked for energy & cost savings (compared to 2014 benchmark in Ironbark report).</p>	<p>LEAD: Assets PARTNER: Finance, Recreation and Community Development</p>	Control	2018-2021	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Capital Improvement Program External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool – 100%
5.8	<p>Support for renewable energy in the Shire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify opportunities for alternative energy production projects in the Shire Investigate the Shire partnering with other WAGA Councils to purchase a long term (e.g. 20 years) supply of renewable energy from local renewable energy projects to provide some investment security. Look to purchase 10-20 years of Council's electricity supply from the alternative energy sources to enable Council operations to be carbon neutral. 	<p>Potential alternative energy production opportunities are identified and promoted for economic development and job creation. Council's energy is provided by clean energy, enabling the Shire to be carbon neutral. Rates income is brought to the Shire from alternative energy production projects.</p>	<p>Report on investment options for the wind projects.</p>	<p>LEAD: Environment, Finance and Economic Development PARTNER: WAGA and DEDJTR</p>	Control & Influence	2017-18	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	DEDJTR – 50% Moorabool -25% WAGA – 25%

5.9	<p>Investigate and purchase Greenpower or carbon offsets in the form of renewable energy to offset Council's remaining carbon emissions after energy efficiency projects have been delivered and local solar and wind has been sourced, as above. Partner with WAGA Councils to seek bulk purchase of Greenpower to reduce cost.</p> <p>Create a plan and work towards Council being certified as a carbon neutral council under the National Carbon Offset Standard by 2026.</p>	Council's total carbon emissions have been offset to make Moorabool a carbon neutral council.	Council's carbon emissions, renewable energy generation and carbon offsets tracked.	<p>LEAD: Finance</p> <p>PARTNER: Environment, Assets, Recreation and Community Development</p>	Control	2021	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool -100%
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OBJECTIVE 3: To shift Council's procurement towards low emissions products and services.

5.10	<p>Revise Council's Procurement Policy to embed sustainability requirements into all purchasing decisions.</p> <p>Investigate re-joining ECOBuy program to support implementation.</p> <p>Specify action areas where low embodied energy, energy efficient, water efficient, recycled and low waste products and services are sought including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads and maintenance (e.g. low emissions concrete, recycled fill, low energy globes or fittings etc.) Council buildings (e.g. energy and water efficient fittings and products as standard) Stationery and supplies (e.g. recycled, recyclable, non-toxic products) Food and catering (e.g. local, organic, fair trade food) Fleet and machinery (i.e. most fuel efficient available) <p>Green Team to support education of staff to ensure the policy is enacted.</p>	Council's environmental impacts (greenhouse emissions, water use, and waste generation) will be reduced by sustainable procurement. Energy, fuel and water bills will be reduced through use of more efficient equipment.	Participation in ECOBuy program provides a tracking system for procurement.	<p>LEAD: Finance, Environment</p> <p>PARTNER: Infrastructure, Recreation and Community Services Green Team</p>	Control	2018 - ongoing	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool -100%
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Priority area: WATER EFFICIENT COUNCIL
There is less water used in the operations of Council with a transition away from potable mains water use to rainwater, stormwater and recycled water.

- MEASURES**
- There is a 10% decrease in the amount of water (potable and non-potable) used for Council operations and facilities by 2021.
 - There is a 20% increase in the amount of recycled water used in Council operations and facilities by 2021.
 - There is a 10% increase in the proportion of water coming from non-potable sources used for Council operations and facilities by 2021.

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION
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OBJECTIVE 1: Improve water efficiency of Council buildings and operations.

6.1	<p>Audit all Council facilities for opportunities to improve water efficiency and install water efficient fittings (tap aerators, toilet regulators, and efficient showerheads).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install simple fittings during the audit Fix leaks during the audits Audit to identify larger retrofit actions for later installation (including rainwater tanks – see Action 6.3 below) Identify any important education or behavioural changes that could save water in high use facilities (e.g. signage, staff policies etc.). Develop Water Asset Strategy. 	<p>Council buildings and facilities are retrofitted for greater water efficiency into the long term. Leaks are repaired. Water consumption in these buildings is reduced. Council water bills are reduced.</p>	<p>Auditors to provide data on retrofitted items, leaks repaired etc. Water bills tracked by finance to show changes in consumption and costs (against 2014 benchmark in Ironbark report).</p>	<p>LEAD: Assets PARTNER: Finance, Private auditor such as Green Plumber</p>	Control	2017-2018	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool -100%
6.2	<p>Investigate other uses of water in the Shire, such as irrigation, road maintenance etc., for opportunities to reduce water consumption and switch to non-potable water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify main users of water in Council and set up a working group of these users to develop and implement opportunities. 	<p>Water use (potable & non potable) by the Shire is reduced thereby reducing pressure on local water supplies and reducing Shire water bills.</p>	<p>Working group to report on actions. Water bills tracked by finance to show changes in consumption and costs (against 2014 benchmark in Ironbark report).</p>	<p>LEAD: Infrastructure, Recreation and Community Development PARTNER: Environment, Finance</p>	Control	2018–2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool -100%

OBJECTIVE 2: Transition from using potable water to using recycled water or stormwater for Council operations and facilities.										
6.3	<p>Install rainwater tanks in all small and large Council facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit all Council managed facilities for rainwater tank opportunities (as part of water efficiency audit above). Investigate funding opportunities to implement a program of installing rainwater tanks in any facilities that do not have them, for connection to toilets, laundries, garden taps etc. 	Rainwater tanks are installed in all Council facilities that have the capacity to replace potable mains water with rainwater for some or all usage.	Facilities management to report on the audit of facilities and the numbers of rainwater tanks installed.	<p>LEAD: Assets</p> <p>PARTNER: Recreation and Community Development, Environment, Water Authorities, Finance</p>	Control	2017-2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Capital Improvement Program External Grants 	State/Federal Government Grants	Moorabool - 100%
6.4	Work with water authorities to investigate opportunities for recycled water provision from sewage treatment or other sources that could provide fit-for-use water to Council, businesses and industry in Moorabool.	Recycled water opportunities have been investigated and plans developed to provide available recycled water for fit-for-use industrial or Council activities.	Water authorities to report on opportunities and amounts of recycled water provided.	<p>LEAD: Infrastructure, Strategic Planning, Economic Development</p> <p>PARTNER: Water Authorities, MPA</p>	Influence & Advocate	2016-2021	Medium	Existing departmental budget	State/Federal Government Grants	Water Authorities – 75% Moorabool – 25%

Priority area: SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT IN COUNCIL

We will reduce the greenhouse emissions from the transport used for Council operations.

PROGRESS INDICATORS & TARGETS

- There is a 15% decrease in the greenhouse emissions from transport used in Council operations by 2021.
- There is a reduction in car usage for staff travelling to and from work.

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION
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OBJECTIVE 1: Reduce greenhouse emissions from vehicle usage for Council operations.

7.1	<p>Green Team or working group to identify and promote current opportunities, and set a clear pathway to reduce fleet usage and emissions, and improve sustainable transport options to work, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vehicle fleet to continue shift to more greenhouse efficient vehicles using the Australian Government's Green Vehicle Guide. ▪ Promote alternative transport support for staff including staff bike facilities and public transport options, and use of electronic meeting technology such as video conferencing and Skype. <p>Implement agreed actions.</p>	<p>Council fleet reduced in number and improved in efficiency. Greenhouse emissions from staff travel to/from and for work are reduced.</p>	<p>Fleet managers to track fleet numbers, fuel efficiency and total usage in greenhouse emissions.</p>	<p>LEAD: Fleet management PARTNER: Green Team/Staff working group</p>	<p>Control</p>	<p>2017-2021 - Implementation</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Existing departmental budget</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>Moorabool – 100%</p>
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OBJECTIVE 2: Reduce greenhouse emissions from staff travel to and from work through supporting a reduction in car trips.

7.2	<p>Work with Staff Green Team and/or other staff committee to identify actions that will support Council staff to reduce car trips involved in travel to and from work. Actions would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring cycling is supported by workplace showers, bike and gear storage space. • Facilitating carpooling between staff. • Provide incentives for public transport, cycling or walking use instead of car use to travel to/from work. 	<p>There are fewer car trips for staff to travel to and from work. Staff have gained health benefits from switching to active transport modes.</p>	<p>Survey of staff about travel modes to/from work.</p>	<p>LEAD:, Environment, Green Team</p>	<p>Control & Influence</p>	<p>2017-2021</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Existing departmental budget</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>Moorabool – 100%</p>
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STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3: Sustainable Places

Priority area: CLIMATE ADAPTATION										
<i>We will support and deliver activities to reduce the impact of and vulnerability to future climate change on the Moorabool Shire community.</i>										
MEASURES										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change Adaptation Action Plan for Moorabool is developed by 2017 and actions are implemented fully by 2026. Number of trees planted in urban areas in the Shire is increased year on year to 2021.										
ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION	
OBJECTIVE 1: To ensure that Moorabool Shire has understood the risks of climate change on Council operations and taken actions to prepare for and mitigate these risks.										
8.1	Formally endorse the Western Greenhouse Alliance (WAGA) Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan.	WAGA Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action plan is endorsed and helps to create opportunities for climate resilience activities in the Shire.	Endorsement of WAGA Climate Adaptation Strategy passed at a Council meeting.	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Environment	Control	2016/17	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
8.2	Understand the climate change risks to Moorabool Shire and develop an Action Plan to mitigate these risks (informed by the WAGA Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action plan). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek funding through government programs to fund the implementation. Implement the Shire Action Plan. 	A climate adaptation action plan is developed specific to Moorabool and the actions are implemented.	Development of Action Plan. Delivery of the actions is monitored and reviewed.	LEAD: Infrastructure, Strategic Planning, Risk PARTNER: Environment, Assets	Control & Influence	2016/17 Develop Action Plan 2017-2021 Implement actions	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%

OBJECTIVE 2: To ensure that council has understood the risks of climate change to the community and is working with the community to help them prepare for and mitigate the risks.

8.3	<p>Educate the community about the risks of climate change related extreme weather and other climate impacts to assist people to prepare and manage future impacts, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heatwave response education • Helping vulnerable groups improve their homes to deal with extreme heat • Drought preparation • Bushfire management and emergency response • Rainfall intensity and storm water 	<p>Information and engagement is delivered to the community including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on Council web site • Public meetings and workshops • Specific outreach on key issues to vulnerable groups • Emergency Management Plans are prepared by council for extreme events including bushfires or storms. 	<p>Assessment of information and engagement needs as outlined in Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan.</p>	<p>LEAD: Emergency Management PARTNER: CFA, Communications, Dept. of Health & Human Services, Community Services, DELWP</p>	<p>Control & influence</p>	<p>2016/17 Ongoing</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing departmental budget • External Grants 	<p>State/Federal Government Grants</p>	<p>DELWP – 50% DHHS – 25% Moorabool – 25%</p>
8.4	<p>Develop a Tree Strategy that identifies actions to increase tree canopy coverage in urban areas, with a focus on new urban areas that are lacking in tree coverage.</p>	<p>An increase in tree planting in urban areas is achieved year on year.</p>	<p>Tree planting program is tracked by Council to report on numbers of trees planted.</p>	<p>LEAD: Strategic and Statutory Planning, Infrastructure PARTNER: Developers (for new developments)</p>	<p>Control</p>	<p>2016-2021</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Existing departmental budget</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>Moorabool – 100%</p>

Priority area: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
There is a reduction in vehicle trips in the Shire as a result of Council's provision of community transport infrastructure and programs to support cycling, walking and public transport.

- MEASURES**
- There is a 5% increase in the number of residents travelling to work by non-car-based modes by 2021 (as measured by the ABS Census).
 - Public transport patronage has increased to 7.5% of total trips within and connecting to the Shire by 2021 (reported by public transport operators).
- A 5% increase in cycle trips in the Shire by 2021 (as measured by Bicycle Victoria Super Tuesday)

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION
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OBJECTIVE 1: Ensure transport infrastructure in Bacchus Marsh and Ballan is integrated to support greater linked use between modes and better planning for active transport modes.

9.1	Support actions that assist in the delivery of the Bacchus Marsh Integrated Transport Study for Bacchus Marsh that provide improvements in walking and cycling paths, public transport routes and connections and the supporting facilities alongside planned road improvements.	Integrated Transport Study has identified best ways to improve transport infrastructure and services in Bacchus Marsh.	Delivery of Integrated Transport Study.	LEAD: Recreation Services, Engineering Services PARTNER: VicRoads, PTV, Strategic Planning	Control, Influence & Advocate	ongoing	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget Council Capital Improvement Program External Grants 	State/Federal Grants	Moorabool – 60% VicRoads- 30% PTV – 10%
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OBJECTIVE 2: Provide cycling and walking infrastructure to support increased use of these modes instead of driving.

9.2	Continue to deliver the Moorabool Hike & Bike Strategy (2014) to construct interconnected cycling and walking paths to link key destinations. In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide secure bike parking at train stations, shops, services areas. Ensure safe lighting and security around train stations and on walking paths at night. Sheltered rest stops. 	Safe, accessible and enjoyable cycling and walking routes are provided for more residents to cycle or walk.	Pre and post-construction counts of walkers and cyclists along key routes. Bicycle Victoria Super Tuesday bike count.	LEAD: Infrastructure PARTNER: Strategic Planning, Recreation Services, V/Line/ Vic Track, Moorabool Environment Group, Schools, Traders etc.	Control & Influence	2016/17 - 2021	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget Council Capital Improvement Program External Grants 	State/Federal Grants	Moorabool – 80% VicRoads- 20%
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9.3	Deliver a behaviour change and community awareness campaign to promote cycling and walking in the Shire as part of promoting the new cycle/walk paths as part of Hike & Bike Strategy.	More residents are aware of the new safe and accessible cycling and walking paths and the connection to train stations and shops etc. Residents are incentivised to switch from driving to walking or cycling to these destinations.	Mode of travel to work survey (ABS Census). Cycle and walk counts along key routes (pre and post construction).	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Environment PARTNER: GIS, Bicycle Victoria, Communications, Infrastructure, Recreation and Community Development, Public Transport Victoria, Moorabool Environment Group, Schools, Traders etc.	Influence & Advocate	2016/17: collect baseline travel data 2020/21: monitor against baseline data after paths have been constructed	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget External Grants 	State/Federal Grants	Moorabool – 100%
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OBJECTIVE 3: Support the increased use of public transport in the Shire in place of car travel.

9.4	<p>Work with bus companies and V/Line to ensure bus and train timetables are optimally connecting to allow more residents to take the bus to/from the station for onward travel.</p> <p>Advocate to V/Line and state government to increase train services on the Ballarat line stopping at Bacchus March and Ballan.</p> <p>Promote existing public transport options</p>	<p>More residents are taking the bus to the stations and fewer cars are being parked at the stations.</p>	<p>Bus company patronage data. Parking counts at stations.</p>	<p>LEAD: Infrastructure PARTNER: Strategic Development, Marketing & Communications, Bus companies, V/Line, PTV, Allied Health Professional, MPA</p>	<p>Influence & Advocate</p>	<p>2017/18</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Existing departmental budget</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>Moorabool 100% –</p>
9.5	<p>Work with PTV and bus companies to better understand the community's travel needs in order to provide more useful bus services bringing people to destinations at the times they need to travel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support community travel surveys to be undertaken • A working group of bus companies, State government Transport department, Moorabool Environment Group and Council to devise a more extensive and effective bus routes and timetables. • A joint promotions campaign to be delivered to promote the use of buses (and trains) in the Shire. 	<p>Bus services are better meeting the travel needs of residents and patronage of buses has increased with a corresponding decrease in car trips.</p>	<p>Bus patronage data.</p>	<p>LEAD: Infrastructure PARTNER: Recreation and Community Development, Bus companies, Public Transport Victoria, Allied Health, Merrimu Services,</p>	<p>Advocate</p>	<p>2017/18</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Existing departmental budget</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>Moorabool 100% –</p>

Priority Area: URBAN DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

We will support development that respects and conserves Moorabool Shire's natural environment and reduces potential adverse impacts from increased population growth.

MEASURES

- Council's environmental data sets are up-to-date by 2018.
- There is a 15% increase in the average star rating of new buildings in the Shire by 2021.

All new residential or mixed use developments are designed and built with sustainable design including support for cycling/walking/public transport, abundant recreation space, greenspaces and biodiversity, shops or services within walking distance, water sensitive urban design, stormwater reuse and design for passive solar or solar panels.

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION	
OBJECTIVE 1: Continue to ensure attention to natural values are embedded within planning decision making processes to allow for protection of natural assets.										
10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) amplifies State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) and apply appropriate tools. • Ensure decision makers are aware of State Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Policy Framework environmental information and tools 	Natural environmental assets are considered where appropriate in planning decisions	Planning Scheme review table Planning permit report audit	LEAD: Strategic Planning, Environment PARTNER: Statutory Planning, DELWP, MPA	Control	2017/18	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
OBJECTIVE 2: Access and collate the most up-to-date data sets to support strengthened environmental issues within Council decision making processes.										
10.2	Partner with agencies with data on natural assets to integrate information into Council data sets	User-friendly Council environmental data sets are up-to-date and are reflected in planning scheme (as appropriate) to assist planning decision making process and Council operations (e.g. best practice)	Review of data sources within partner agencies Ecological assessments	LEAD: Environment, Assets PARTNER: DELWP, CMAs, Melbourne Water, Strategic Planning	Control and Influence	2019/20	Medium	Existing departmental budget	Not required	DELWP – 50% CMAs/MW – 25% Moorabool – 25%
OBJECTIVE 3: Improve access to and connectivity between residents and open space and natural reserve areas.										
10.3	Investigate opportunities to expand the Ballan Nectar Project and other similar projects e.g. Knox Garden for Wildlife program	The Ballan Nectar Project, or other similar projects, are implemented	Review environmental activities	LEAD: Environment, Landcare PARTNER: Grow West	Control and Influence	Ongoing	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing departmental budget • External Grants 	State/Federal Grants	Moorabool – 50% Landcare – 50%

OBJECTIVE 4: New residential or mixed use precincts are designed with sustainability at the core of their structure plan including support for cycling/walking/public transport, abundant recreation space, greenspaces and biodiversity, shops or services within walking distance, water sensitive urban design, stormwater reuse and design for passive solar or solar panels.

10.4	Work with MAV to advocate for improved Ecological Sustainable Design principles in the Victorian Planning Provisions	<p>Strengthen environmental controls in clauses 54 and 56 of the Victorian Planning Provisions to improve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity to public transport, walking and cycling (active transport) infrastructure • Walking/cycling distance to services and recreation space • Abundant green spaces and protected biodiversity • Water sensitive urban design • Water efficiency including use of recycled water, rainwater and stormwater where possible <p>Solar access to all buildings for passive solar and solar PV</p>	Gazetted change to Victorian Planning Provisions as a result of advocacy	LEAD: Strategic planning PARTNER: Statutory planning, Environment, Infrastructure, MAV	Advocate	Ongoing	Low	Existing departmental budget	Not required	Moorabool – 100%
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STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4: Live and Work Sustainably

Priority area: ENERGY EFFICIENT & CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY
There is a measurable decrease in greenhouse emissions and potable water use in the Moorabool business and residential community.

MEASURES

1. Council to advocate to other levels of government to improve energy and water efficiency and renewable energy programs while reducing the cost burden of residents.
2. Council to work with water authorities and energy retailers to gather data about community water and energy usage and opportunities for greater efficiency.
3. Council to develop a Water & Energy Efficient Communities Engagement Strategy to assist the community to:
 - a. Reduce greenhouse emissions from electricity and gas use.
 - b. Increase the proportion of energy coming from renewable energy sources for community power needs.
 - c. Improve water efficiency of businesses and residences in Moorabool.

Increase the use of greywater, rainwater tanks and stormwater harvesting methods to replace the use of potable mains water in businesses and residences.

ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION
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OBJECTIVE 1: Council to advocate to other levels of government to reduce the cost burden on residents of energy through funded energy and water efficiency and renewable energy programs.

11.1	<p>Council to work with the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) to advocate to state and federal governments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand roll out of energy and water efficiency programs to houses and small businesses • Improve policy to support households and businesses to take up renewable energy, for example a stronger feed-in tariff • Provide small grants to support water and energy efficiency, especially for low income households <p>Work with Sustainability Victoria to roll out community resource efficiency programs to the Moorabool Shire.</p>	State and Federal Government add influences and support to expand energy and water efficiency programs.	Council and WAGA to monitor progress of government programs.	LEAD: Environment, WAGA PARTNER: Sustainability Victoria, DHHS	Advocate	2017-19	Low	Existing departmental budgets	Not required	WAGA – 80% Moorabool – 20%
11.2	<p>Improve the content and functionality of Council's web site to promote greater community uptake of sustainable living, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, water saving, local food growing and waste reduction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include links and programs for taking action. • Include case studies of council achievements to reduce energy, water & waste to show leadership. 	The community is provided with better information to take action to reduce their environmental impacts.	Web site manager to track and report on traffic to the environment pages of the web site. Environment unit to monitor web site to ensure most up to date information is there.	LEAD: Environment, PARTNER: Marketing and Communications	Control	Ongoing	Low	Existing departmental budgets	Not required	Moorabool – 100%

OBJECTIVE 2: Council to work with water authorities and energy retailers to gather data about community water and energy usage and opportunities for greater efficiency.										
11.3	WAGA and Council staff to work with water and energy retailers to collate data on Shire residential and business water and energy consumption and renewable energy take up, with a view to developing an efficiency program in partnership.	WAGA and Council and retailers have gathered data on water and energy consumption in the Shire to guide outreach activities.	Water & energy retailers to use bill information to collate data.	LEAD: WAGA, Environment PARTNER: Energy and water retailers	Influence	2019-20	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budgets External Grants 	Not required	WAGA – 75% Moorabool – 25% Energy and water retailers – 25%
<p>OBJECTIVE 3: Council to develop a Water & Energy Efficient Communities Engagement Strategy to assist the community to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce greenhouse emissions from electricity and gas use. Increase the proportion of energy coming from renewable energy sources for community power needs. Improve water efficiency of businesses and residences in Moorabool. <p>Increase the use of greywater, rainwater tanks and stormwater harvesting methods to replace the use of potable mains water in businesses and residences.</p>										
11.4	<p>Council to develop and implement a strategy to assist and engage residents and businesses to improve their water and energy efficiency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use data gathered in 11.3 to guide plans. Work with water and energy retailers. 	A strategy has been developed.	Data collected with retailers above to guide the strategy.	LEAD: Environment SUPPORT: Community development, Moorabool Environment Group, WAGA	Influence	2020-2021	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budgets External Grants 	State/Federal Grants	Moorabool –100%

Priority area: LOCAL FOOD										
There is a measurable increase in the community growing their own food and buying more of their food from local food producers.										
MEASURES										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a 10% increase in the number of residents or businesses producing some of their own food by 2021. Increase in participation in community food production activities including community gardens, food swaps and local farmers markets. 										
ACTIONS	OUTCOMES	DATA COLLECTION METHODS	RESPONSIBILITY	SPHERE of INFLUENCE	TIMING	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	FUNDING	CONTRIBUTION	
OBJECTIVE 1: Increased local production of food by residents and businesses in Moorabool Shire										
12.1	Support residents and businesses to commence producing their own food in their gardens. Run food gardening workshops	More residents are producing and consuming more food in their own gardens.	Community survey	LEAD: Community Services PARTNERS: Environment, Moorabool Environment Group, Landcare	Influence	2018-2020	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budgets External Grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget State/Federal Grants 	Moorabool –75% Community groups – 25%
OBJECTIVE 2: Increased local sales and consumption of locally produced food in Moorabool Shire										
12.2	Support increased market opportunities for local food producers to sell to local buyers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring local food producers and local retailers or food buyers (eg cafes, caterers, fruit shops) Support increased use of local farmers markets Promote Cultivate local food producers website to connect producers to suppliers/caterers etc. 	More of the food produced in Moorabool is being consumed in the Shire.	Survey of local food producers and retailers	LEAD: Economic Development, Cultivate PARTNERS: Environment, Moorabool Environment Group, Farmers markets, Moorabool Landcare Network	Influence	2017-2020	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budgets External Grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget State/Federal Grants 	Moorabool –75% Community– 25%
12.3	Council to review its catering and food purchasing and seek to increase the use of local suppliers or use of caterers sourcing local food.	Council is sourcing a greater proportion of its food from local producers.	Assessment of Council food purchasing.	LEAD: Finance PARTNERS: Environment unit, Economic Development	Control	2017-2018	Low	Existing departmental budgets	Not required	Moorabool –100%
OBJECTIVE 3: Participation in community food production activities including community gardens, food swaps and local farmers markets.										
12.4	Support the development of community gardens or other local food growing projects in the Shire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide community grants Provide land 	2 community gardens or food growing projects have been set up and are used by local residents to grow their own food.	Number of community gardens. Number of residents using these gardens (committees to report).	LEAD: Community Development, Environment PARTNER: Community groups, Moorabool Environment Group	Control/Influence	2017-2020	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budgets External Grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing departmental budget State/Federal Grants 	Moorabool –50% Community – 50%
12.5	Promote community food activities and local food businesses to residents and businesses through Moorabool Shire newsletters, web site, events, noticeboards etc.	Local food activities and businesses are well promoted and supported by the Moorabool community.	Number of food-related initiatives promoted by Council.	LEAD: Marketing & communications and Tourism PARTNER: Community food projects and groups	Advocate	Ongoing	Low	Existing departmental budgets	Not required	Moorabool –100%

10.2.4 First Quarter (July – September) Report – 2016/17 Council Plan Actions

Introduction

File No.: 02/02/002
Author: John Whitfield
General Manager: Satwinder Sandhu

Background

The 2013-2017 Council Plan was revised and adopted by Council in June 2016. As part of the development of the framework of the Council Plan, Council determines appropriate actions which will support the framework, delivering agreed outcomes for the Community.

The Council Plan outlines three key result areas (KRA) or main themes that guide new initiatives and continuing services these being:

- Representation and leadership of our community;
- Community Wellbeing; and
- Enhanced infrastructure and Natural and Built Environment.

Each KRA has a set of strategic objectives or desired outcomes with sets of strategies to be undertaken over the planned 4 years to achieve the objectives.

All Council actions aligned with the strategies are linked back to the Council Plan. The Council Plan is reviewed annually

Discussion

The attached 2016/17 Council Plan Actions First Quarter Progress Report indicates each of the actions and their progress comments for the 2016/17 Financial Year. Overall there are 32 actions with 24 actions having reached 90% or greater of their target for the July-September period, with one action having achieved between 60 and 90% of target. Seven actions remain at less than 60% of their target as the majority of work for these actions is scheduled to be completed in later quarters.

The following table summarises the status of the 2016/17 Council Plan Actions for this quarter:

Key Result Area	Not Started	In Progress	Completed this Quarter	Completed YTD (incl this Qtr)	Total
1 Representation and Leadership of our Community	3	5	1	1	9
2 Community Wellbeing	0	2	2	2	4
3 Enhanced Infrastructure and Natural Built Environment	1	17	1	1	19
Totals	4	23	5	5	32

Proposal

This report is to inform Council and the community on the progress of key Council Plan actions for the 2016/17 Financial Year.

Policy Implications

The 2013–2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area	Representation and Leadership of our community
Objective	Effective strategic and business planning for a growing community
Strategy	Develop service plans consistent with Business Excellence principals that reflect systems thinking and value for the community.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications from this report.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

There are no Risk or Occupational Health and Safety issues in relation to this report.

Communications and Consultation Strategy

Specific projects may have their own communications strategy nevertheless this report will be displayed on Council's website and the annual progress will be reported in Council's Annual Report.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Satwinder Sandhu

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – John Whitfield

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Conclusion


Council is making good progress in all areas of the Council Plan for this first quarter. Overall there are 32 actions with 24 actions having reached 90% of their action target for the July – September period, with one action having achieved between 60 and 90% of target. The seven remaining actions are sitting below 60% of target as the majority of work to be undertaken on these actions will be performed in later quarters.

Recommendation:

That Council receives the First Quarter (July – September) 2016/17 Council Plan Actions Progress Report.

Report Authorisation

Authorised by:

Name: Satwinder Sandhu 
Title: General Manager Growth and Development
Date: Wednesday, 19 October 2016

Attachment - Item 10.2.4



Moorabool Shire Council

PREMIUM Action and Task Progress Report

July 2016 - September 2016

Report Filters:

Date From :01-07-2016

Date To :30-09-2016

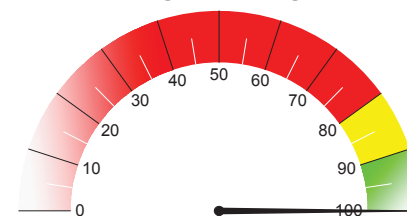
Display Task : No

Action Filter :Council Plan



2016/17 Council Plan Actions First Quarter
(July - September) Progress Report

Action Progress Against Targets




- 32 Actions reported on
- 24 At least 90% of action target achieved
- 1 Between 60 and 90% of action target achieved
- 7 Less than 60% of action target achieved
- 0 Actions with no target set

Key Result Area: 1 Representation and Leadership of our Community

Objective: 1.1 Good governance through open and transparent processes and strong accountability to the community.

STRATEGY: 1.1.1 Ensure policies and good governance are in accordance with legislative requirements and best practice.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.1.1.52 Finalise General Local Laws	Robert Fillisch - Manager Statutory Planning & Community Safety	In Progress	1/07/2014	30/06/2017	40%	73%	 RED

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Local Laws Compliance	Recurrent				

Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments

Due to staff vacancies and other strategic work this project will be finalised by the end of the 2016/17 financial year.

This item is progressing as per our timeline.

Last Updated - 03/10/2016

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.1.1.73 Develop and implement a candidate information program in preparation for the October 2016 election.	Natalie Abbott - Manager Customer & Business Services	Completed	1/07/2016	30/10/2016	100%	75%	 GREEN




Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Corporate Services Governance	Recurrent				

Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments


Candidate information session arranged through the MAV and held on 12 July 2016. VEC candidate information session held 13 September 2016.

Last Updated - 03/10/2016

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.1.1.74 Develop and implement an induction program for the council elected in October 2016.	Natalie Abbott - Manager Customer & Business Services	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/11/2016	90%	60%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Corporate Services Governance	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments Councillor induction program developed over the period April - September 2016. Program presented to an AoC on 7 September 2016. Last Updated - 18/10/2016							
Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.1.1.75 Continue to provide assistance to the people affected by the Scotsburn fire, including the provision of personal support, case management and all aspects of recovery for the community, individuals, stock and land management.	Cherie Graham - Municipal Emergency Manager	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Municipal Emergency Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments Case Management continues for approximately 21 affected residents in the Scotsburn fire area. Second round outreach is scheduled to commence using VCC and Red Cross working with Council staff on 13 and 14 October. Last Updated - 03/10/2016							
Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.1.1.76 Review & implement the after hours response system as approved by Council.	Danny Colgan - GM Social and Organisational Development	Not Started	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	0%	0%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Personnel Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments Review to commence in early 2017 Last Updated - 05/10/2016							

Objective: 1.3 Advocate for services and infrastructure that meet the Shire's existing and future needs.

STRATEGY: 1.3.1 Advocate on behalf of the community to improve services and infrastructure within the Shire.




Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.3.1.1 Investigate ways to increase TV and Radio availability in the shire to cover local issues.	Leann Brown - Economic Development Officer	Not Started	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	0%	0%	 GREEN

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Sustainability	Recurrent				


Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments
 Work on this action is scheduled to commence in February 2017
 Last Updated - 12/10/2016


Objective: 1.7 Effective strategic and business planning for a growing community.**STRATEGY: 1.7.4 Critically review the services provided by Council**

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.7.4.1 Implement the Council endorsed level of service review for 2016/17 year - Aged & Disability Services.	Robyn Salt - Manager Active Ageing and Community Access	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Assessment and Care Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Active Ageing & Community Access has commenced the Service Review looking at every service, Last Updated - 05/10/2016							
Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.7.4.2 Implement the Council endorsed level of service review for 2016/17 year - Parks & Gardens.	Glenn Townsend - Manager Operations	Not Started	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	0%	0%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Parks and Gardens	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
A level of service review is currently being undertaken in relation to the management and maintenance of Council 's parks and gardens. A draft management plan will be presented to Council for endorsement in early 2017. Following that, the implementation of the new service levels will occur. Last Updated - 11/10/2016							
Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
1.7.4.3 Implement the Council endorsed level of service review for 2016/17 year - School Crossings.	Robert Fillisch - Manager Statutory Planning & Community Safety	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	10%	25%	 RED
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Community Safety	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Manager is currently part of the technical group with MAV investigating funding options with VicRoads . The majority of this work and its recommendation is expected by early 2017. Council can then determine the scope of any service review. Last Updated - 03/10/2016							


Key Result Area: 2 Community Wellbeing**Objective: 2.2 Inclusive, responsive and accessible community services****STRATEGY:** 2.2.3 Advocate, support and provide aged and disability services.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
2.2.3.2 Implement a council adopted response to the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).	Robyn Salt - Manager Active Ageing and Community Access	Completed	1/07/2016	31/12/2016	100%	50%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Assessment and Care Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Council response 17th August 2016 That the Council:							
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to provide aged care services to people over 65 through the Commonwealth Home Support Program; 2. Continue to provide services to people under 65 through the Victorian HACC Younger People; 3. Continue to strengthen its role in making Moorabool a more inclusive and accessible community and advocating for the needs of people with disabilities; 4. Not register as a provider under the National Disability Insurance Scheme and; 5. Work with Latrobe Community Health Services as the Local Area Coordination Service in the Central Highlands Region to support clients to transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme and mainstream support services. 							
Last Updated - 05/10/2016							

STRATEGY: 2.2.4 Ensure Council's services and facilities are accessible.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
2.2.4.1 Finalise the Digital Strategy and implement key actions including the corporate website and information management officer to improve communications and customer service outcomes.	Natalie Abbott - Manager Customer & Business Services	Completed	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	100%	25%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Corporate Services Governance	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
The Digital Strategy has been finalised, and the corporate website went live on 13 September 2016. An information management officer has been appointed. The website will be further developed over the coming months.							
Last Updated - 03/10/2016							

Objective: 2.3 Increase and encourage participation in a range of sport, recreation and leisure activities**STRATEGY:** 2.3.1 Promote community health and well-being through the provision of recreation facilities, open space, programs and activities.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
2.3.1.3 Implement the Reserve Management Framework and associated policies being the : draft Community Facilities Funding Policy; draft Recreation Reserve User Fees & Charges Policy; draft Recreation Reserve Leases & Licences Occupancy Policy; Draft Recreation Reservices Capital Works Contribution Policy and Revised draft Appointments and Delegations Policy	Troy Scoble - Manager Recreation & Youth Development	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Recreation Development	Recurrent				


Linked action filters: Council Plan**Action Progress Comments**

The reserve Management Framework and associated policies are currently being printed and distributed amongst the Reserve Management and user group network across the Moorabool Shire. Training sessions and direct meetings with key stakeholders are currently being planned and booked to commence prior to December 2017.


Last Updated - 03/10/2016

Objective: 2.4 A safe community


STRATEGY: 2.4.1 Support the community in emergency management planning, response, recovery and in the prevention and mitigation of all hazards and works towards community resilience.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
2.4.1.5 Undertake Community Emergency Management Planning (CEMP) Pilots in Moorabool	Cherie Graham - Municipal Emergency Manager	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Municipal Emergency Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Planning continues with the Blackwood CEMP Committee with the first draft plan being communicated to agency staff for input . Planning with EMV for a scenario exercise for the community to run is being planned with the first meeting with agency staff scheduled for the first week in October .							
Last Updated - 03/10/2016							

Key Result Area: 3 Enhanced Infrastructure and Natural Built Environment**Objective: 3.1 Effective and integrated strategic planning in place to create sustainable communities.****STRATEGY: 3.1.2 Development of Urban and Rural Growth Strategies in conjunction with other related plans.**

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.1.2.4 Undertake Bacchus Marsh Urban Zone review based on the Housing and Retail Strategies	Andrew Goodsell - Mgr Strategic & Sustainable Development	Completed	1/07/2015	31/08/2016	100%	100%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Strategic Land Use Planning	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Retail Strategy - Adopted.							
Housing Strategy Adopted.							
Last Updated - 04/10/2016							

STRATEGY: 3.1.3 Advocate and lobby government for increased infrastructure funding and ensure state land use plans are in line with the Moorabool community needs.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.1.3.1 Continue to advocate for funding of Stage 3 - Bacchus Marsh Traffic Improvements Package (Package of Works)	Rob Croxford - Chief Executive Officer	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Corporate Projects	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
East facing freeway ramps at Halletts Way at a cost of \$125M is currently out to tender by VicRoads. It is expected that works will commence in February 2017.							
Ongoing discussions continue with VicRoads and VPA re designation of a route for the eastern bypass of Bacchus Marsh . This is a long term project requiring ongoing advocacy.							
It is clear that the balance of funds for the package of works previously announced by the State Government are no longer available to the Bacchus Marsh community.							
VicRoads and Council Officers continue to work on road capacity improvements , particularly for Gisborne Road and Grant Street. Designs will be progressed and advocacy to government will continue consistent with the Bacchus Marsh Integrated Transport Strategy .							
Last Updated - 10/10/2016							

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.1.3.2 Continue to advocate for the servicing of small towns across the shire.	Rob Croxford - Chief Executive Officer	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
CEO's Office	Recurrent				

Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments

Following the adoption of the Small Towns Strategy by Council in September 2016, approaches have now been made to CHW to include the Bungaree and Wallace sewerage project in its next Water Plan.

The multitude of projects listed and key strategic directions for each of the small towns in the Shire will now be progressed through future budgets and advocacy to government.

Last Updated - 10/10/2016

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.1.3.3 Advocate strongly for a solution for the rebuilding of Fiskville training facilities in the Ballan area.	Rob Croxford - Chief Executive Officer	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
CEO's Office	Recurrent				

Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments

Awaiting advice from the Minister for Emergency Services on the success of securing a parcel of land in close proximity to the Ballan township .

The potential enhancement of the Ballan Industrial Estate project following a grant of \$450,000 from the State Government is on hold pending the outcome of the land purchase process.

Last Updated - 18/10/2016

STRATEGY: 3.1.4 Undertake integrated infrastructure and land use planning to guide future growth and development of our towns and settlements.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.1.4.6 Participate in the Ballarat Rail-line Action Committee (BRAC) to advocate for improved rail services for our communities.	Rob Croxford - Chief Executive Officer	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
CEO's Office	Recurrent				


Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments

Following the announcement of the \$513M investment into the electrification of Melton, the Committee has not been reconvened. Following the caretaker period, meetings will recommence hosted by Melton to progress outcomes for all commuters along the Ballarat line.

The outcome of the Infrastructure Victoria report on rail opportunities will also be an important hold point .

Last Updated - 10/10/2016

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.1.4.7 Prepare and adopt 5 year Action Plan for Moorabool growth planning and development, which include following but not limited to: - Bacchus Marsh Future Framework plan, - Small Town Strategy, - Bacchus Marsh Civic square and Darley plaza Hub Urban Design Framework, - Bulky goods Precinct Planning, - Ballan Structure Plan incorporation into Planning Scheme.	Andrew Goodsell - Mgr Strategic & Sustainable Development	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	25%	25%	 GREEN

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Strategic Land Use Planning	Recurrent				

Linked action filters: Council Plan


Action Progress Comments

The 5 year plan is in the initial draft stage and will be finalised in next 3 months. Most of the tasks within these stages are underway.


Last Updated - 10/10/2016

Objective: 3.2 Enhance and protect the long term integrity and biodiversity of the natural environment.

STRATEGY: 3.2.1 Pursue initiatives to reduce greenhouse gases, energy and water consumption.



Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.2.1.1 Prepare a Water Asset Strategy including allocations for sports grounds and irrigation.	Phil Jeffrey - General Manager Infrastructure	In Progress	1/07/2015	30/06/2017	10%	62%	 RED
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
A brief has been prepared and forwarded to suitably qualified consultants to obtain fee proposals . This project is anticipated to commence in November 2016 and be completed in March 2017.							
Last Updated - 04/10/2016							

STRATEGY: 3.2.4 Implement the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan in accordance with new ministerial guidelines.




Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.2.4.2 Investigate frameworks for cost recovery in terms of ongoing monitoring of Domestic Wastewater Management Plan	Robert Fillisch - Manager Statutory Planning & Community Safety	In Progress	1/07/2015	30/06/2017	30%	62%	 RED
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Environmental Health Investigation, Inspection & Education	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Options have been investigated in reference to cost recovery, however in order to implement any changes this work has been undertaken in conjunction with the finalising of 'General Local Laws' which will be undertaken in 2016/2017.							
As above no further progress at this stage October 2016.							
Last Updated - 03/10/2016							


Objective: 3.3 Ensure current and future infrastructure meets the needs of the community.

STRATEGY: 3.3.1 Develop long term social and physical infrastructure plans and funding modelling as part of the Moorabool 2041 Framework including opportunities for development contributions.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.3.1.1 Complete a Moorabool 2041 framework based on Council adopted work program	Andrew Goodsell - Mgr Strategic & Sustainable Development	In Progress	1/07/2015	30/06/2017	50%	63%	 YELLOW
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Strategic Land Use Planning	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Council has made significant progress with the M2041 framework. This includes adoption of the Bacchus Marsh Housing Strategy and the Small Towns Strategy. Urban Growth Framework is in preparation and will be tabled with Council in mid 2017. A range of Amendments to implement these strategies are currently being prepared. A project for 2017/18 will be to start developing a funding contribution model to enable delivery of infrastructure priorities identified in the Community Infrastructure Framework.							
Last Updated - 04/10/2016							
Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.3.1.2 Complete the Community Infrastructure Plan	Andrew Goodsell - Mgr Strategic & Sustainable Development	In Progress	1/07/2015	30/06/2017	75%	64%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Strategic Land Use Planning	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
The Community Infrastructure Plan will be published in two parts. Part A (methodology) presented to AOC in July. Presentation of Part B (planning standards and findings) was due at AOC in September 2016 but was postponed until after new council elected. Presentation of final Parts A and B to OMC anticipated February 2017. Online shared version of the community infrastructure data model now live and in use by Victorian Planning Authority, Monash, Kingston and Greater Dandenong councils.							
Last Updated - 18/10/2016							

STRATEGY: 3.3.3 Construct physical infrastructure to appropriate standards.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.3.3.20 Finalise key infrastructure projects: - Halletts Way	Phil Jeffrey - General Manager Infrastructure	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/04/2017	40%	30%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
The Halletts/O'Leary Way southern extension project is progressing with bulk earthworks occurring on site . Bridge piling works have been completed and the stormwater drainage, widening of Werribee Vale Road, and installation of the Maddingley pump station are all in progress. The project is anticipated to be completed by April 2017.							
Last Updated - 04/10/2016							
Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.3.3.21 Finalise key infrastructure projects: - Early Years Hub	Sam Romaszko - Manager Engineering Services	In Progress	1/07/2016	31/12/2016	50%	50%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Project Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
The scope of this project includes the construction of Darley Early Years Hub at the Darley Civic and Community Hub . The integrated facility includes kindergarten, occasional care, multipurpose space, toy library, maternal and child health and staff offices. Work has commenced on site, with anticipated completion in December 2016.							
Last Updated - 05/10/2016							
Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.3.3.22 Finalise key infrastructure projects: - Sports pavilion development	Sam Romaszko - Manager Engineering Services	In Progress	1/07/2016	31/12/2016	50%	50%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Project Management	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
The scope of this project includes the construction of a Multi purpose facility at the Darley Civic and Community Hub. The facility will support sporting and community activities on the site and include change space, amenities, social room and kitchenette. Work has commenced on site, with anticipated completion in November 2016.							
Last Updated - 05/10/2016							

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.3.3.23 Commence Stage 1 of the Moorabool Regional Community Sports Hub (formerly referred to as Racecourse Reserve Upgrade (Bacchus Marsh) - subject to successful grant applications. Measure: Stage 1 scope approved by Council. Design completed.	Sam Romaszko - Manager Engineering Services	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	5%	25%	 RED

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Project Management	Recurrent				

Linked action filters: Performance Objective, Council Plan


Action Progress Comments
 This project is currently on hold pending an outcome of the recent National Stronger Regions Fund grant application. Following notification of the grant outcome, the project will recommence.

Last Updated - 05/10/2016

Objective: 3.5 Promote and enhance places of heritage, landscape and environmental significance.


STRATEGY: 3.5.1 Develop future planning policy to ensure it:

- Preserves the unique character and sense of place
- Maintains the rural setting of the Shire
- Provides a sense of connection with the town's origins and familiarity with the country town feel
- Ensures environmentally sensitive areas such as Lerderberg State Park and remnant vegetation are protected in accordance with appropriate legislation.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.5.1.7 Progress the West Moorabool Heritage Study in 2016/17	Andrew Goodsell - Mgr Strategic & Sustainable Development	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	90%	25%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Strategic Land Use Planning	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Exhibition has now been completed, submissions have now been received. A final version will be tabled at OMC December 2016.							
Last Updated - 04/10/2016							

Objective: 3.6 Management of assets and infrastructure.

STRATEGY: 3.6.1 Develop Asset Management Plans for all assets classes.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.6.1.9 Develop a State of the Assets Report and revision of Assets Policy.	John Miller - Manager Asset Management	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	30%	25%	 GREEN

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Asset Management	Recurrent				


Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments


A draft State of the Assets report is currently being developed and Council's Asset Management Policy is being reviewed for presentation to the Audit Committee and Council . It is anticipated that the draft documents will be finalised in early 2017.


Last Updated - 11/10/2016

Objective: 3.7 Effective and efficient land use planning and building controls.**STRATEGY:** 3.7.1 Implement high quality, responsive, and efficient processing systems for planning and building applications.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.7.1.15 Complete an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) framework and systems review to produce Strategy and Service plans that will provide for services, systems and information management towards 2021.	Chris Parkinson - Manager Information Technology Services	Not Started	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	0%	0%	 GREEN
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Growth & Development Governance	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Work on this action is scheduled to commence in October 2016							
Last Updated - 12/10/2016							

STRATEGY: 3.7.3 Ensure that development is sustainable, resilient to change and respects the existing character.

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.7.3.1 Prepare and implement Investment Attraction Plan for Parwan Employment Precinct, including incentives, agencies commitments and private funding models.	Leann Brown - Economic Development Officer	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	10%	25%	 RED
Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance		
Marketing and Communications	Recurrent						
Linked action filters: Council Plan							
Action Progress Comments							
Council has formed the Parwan Employment Precinct Project Control Group in partnership with Regional Development Victoria to active the priority projects for the precinct . An Investment Priority Strategy has been identified as part of the work program, initially, to determine investment approach required to support critical infrastructure plans. This project is scheduled to commence in November 2016.							
Last Updated - 10/10/2016							

Action	Responsibility	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	% Comp.	Target	% OnTarget
3.7.3.2 Work with Central Highlands Water to implement the Blackwood Localised Septic Program.	Robert Fillisch - Manager Statutory Planning & Community Safety	In Progress	1/07/2016	30/06/2017	10%	25%	 RED

Activity	Budget Type	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
Septic Tank Assessment & Management	Recurrent				

Linked action filters: Council Plan

Action Progress Comments

The Blackwood Localised Septic Program is currently on track to achieve the identified timeframes within the Project Plan. The Program has been split into two separate parts including Part 1 – Septic Tank Upgrade Project and Part 2 – Planning Assistance Project.

Part 1

- The Project Manager has been visiting properties within Blackwood and Barry's Reef and meeting with homeowners with identified failing septic tank systems . Design options have been identified for a pilot sample of residential properties including 8 dwellings.
- A public Tender has been advertised for the appointment of a contractor to undertake the septic tank upgrade works at the 8 identified properties. This tender closes 14 October 2016.
- Upon appointment of a contractor, works will begin on the initial 8 properties with an estimated completion timeframe of February 2017.
- Stage 2 will commence in February-March 2017 and will include approximately 30 properties.

Part 2

- Two separate public tenders have been advertised for the appointment of a panel of consultants to provide Town Planning Advice and a separate panel to provide domestic wastewater advice for interested owners of vacant land within Blackwood and Barry's Reef . This tender closes 14 October 2016.
- Upon appointment of the preferred panels, landowners will have the opportunity to work with the appointed consultants and the Project Manager to determine the feasibility of developing their vacant land.

Community Education

- A series of information booklets and educational fact sheets are currently at the graphic design stage and will be finalised by the end of October . Following completion, this information will be shared broadly with community members.

Last Updated - 10/10/2016

10.3 SOCIAL AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

No reports for this meeting.

10.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

10.4.1 Quarterly Financial Report September 2016

Introduction

File No.: 07/01/004
Author: Steve Ivelja
General Manager: Phil Jeffrey

This Quarterly Financial Report covers the period of 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016. The report outlines the year to date financial position of Council and forecast projections for the full year results.

The forecast result at the end of the financial year is an increase in the surplus by \$0.764m. Please refer to the attached report for a detailed review of the financials.

Background

Under section 138 – Quarterly Statements, of the Local Government Act (1989), Council is to receive a quarterly report on progress against the adopted budget.

Proposal

That Council receives the Quarterly Financial Report – September 2016.

Policy Implications

The adoption of the Quarterly Report – September 2016 meets Council's statutory obligations under section 138 – Quarterly Statements of the Local Government Act (1989).

The 2013-2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area	Representation and Leadership of our Community
Objective	Sound, long term financial management
Strategy	Develop and maintain a long term financial planning, management and reporting system, which ensures resources to deliver services and manage Council's assets.

Amended Budget

Generally, at the end of the financial year it is not uncommon for projects (both Capital projects and Operating projects) to be incomplete. This can happen for a number of reasons, such as delays in construction due to weather or other events, deferral of projects due to operational matters, late receipt of government funding for one off projects, lack of internal resources to complete one off new initiatives due to staff turnover etc.

Throughout this report Council will be reporting on the Amended Budget rather than the Adopted Budget. The Amended Budget contains carry forwards from the 2015/16 financial year. These include grant funded one off projects, Council approved New Initiatives from prior years that are not yet complete, and incomplete/deferred capital projects. The following schedule provides an overview at a high level of the items that have been added to the Adopted Budget to arrive at the Amended Budget.

Impact on Cash on hand

Based on the aggregate of both the Operating Budget and Capital Budget carry forward, plus other adjustments, a sum of \$5.826m in cash will be required to fully fund the requirements of the Amended Budget. These are made up of the following:

Net Operating Budget Carry forwards	\$1.135m
Net 2015/16 CIP Carry Forwards	\$5.588m
Sale of Council Land	(\$0.940m)
Other	<u>\$0.042m</u>
Total cash required	\$5.826m

As at the 30 June 2016, Council held \$12.452m in cash and cash equivalents. Cash holdings were high in part due to the impact of these uncompleted projects.

Operating Budget

The net effect on the Operating Budget is a favourable variance of \$2.842m.

Net Operating Surplus in the Adopted 2016/17 Budget	\$8.494m
Net New Initiatives / Grant Funded Projects	(\$1.135m)
2015/16 Carry Forward Capital Grants	\$4.090m
Net Result of Sale of Council Land	(\$0.051m)
New Grants Identified Since Adoption of Budget	\$0.016m
Other Minor Adjustments	<u>(\$0.078m)</u>
Amended Operating Budget Surplus	\$11.336m

Capital Budget

The effect on the capital budget is an increase in expenditure of \$9.657m.

2016/17 Adopted Budget for Capital Expenditure	\$17.414m
Add:	
2015/16 Carry Forward Capital Projects	\$9.677m
New Grants Identified Since Adoption of Budget	\$0.016m
Other Minor Adjustments	<u>(\$0.037m)</u>
Amended Capital Budget	\$27.071m

The attached Quarterly Financial Report, Attachment 10.4.1, provides an explanation of the Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and Capital Works Statement with the year-to-date actuals compared to the year-to-date amended budget, and the amended annual budgets compared to the annual forecasts.

Income Statement

The main changes within the Income Statement are as follows:

- Increase in "Statutory Fees and Charges" (\$0.105m) primarily due to significant increases in Statutory Planning Fees. Legislated fees have been increased and at this stage the estimate is for an increase of \$130,000 in Planning fees overall;
- Increase in "Grants - Operating" (\$0.264m) mainly due to new grants received since the adoption of the budget. These include: Rural Access Initiative, Roadside Weeds and Pest Management, and Ice Education Program;
- Increase in "Grants - Capital" (\$0.317m) due to new funding received for Clarendon Community Hub and Wallace Recreation Reserve Lighting Project;
- Favourable in "Other Income" (\$0.311m) primarily due to reimbursements for the second claim for Scotsburn Fires;
- Favourable in "Employee Costs" (\$0.216m) mainly due to a saving in the Council's WorkCover Premium. There are also some other savings relating to vacancies in various departments;
- Increase in "Materials and Services" (\$0.578m). The bulk of the overspend directly relates to new grant funding received or costs associated with the Scotsburn Fires recovery project. In both cases the additional expenditure will be offset by increased revenue.

The net effect of these changes and other minor variances causes the total surplus for the year to increase by \$0.764m to \$12.100m.

Whilst the September Quarter forecast indicates that the Operating Budget is likely to finish with an overall surplus, the ongoing financial impact of the Scotsburn Fires recovery project is likely to have an additional impact on the Budget. Officers are currently working closely with the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance on the Scotsburn claim. In addition to this, the impact of the recent storm events are also likely to result in a significant new claim under the disaster recovery arrangements, which at this stage is likely to be in excess of \$1.5M. As a result of the ongoing nature of these claims, there is a greater level of financial risk attached to the 2016/17 forecast result.

Cash

The forecast cash balance at 30 June 2017 has increased by \$0.397m to \$7.094m in comparison to the amended budget.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

The total cash expenditure forecast for the CIP at this stage has increased by \$0.368m to \$27.439m. This is due to new funding received for Clarendon Community Hub and Wallace Recreation Reserve Lighting Project.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

There are no identified risks associated with this process.

Communications Strategy

To Council, through the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 16 November 2016, and to the Audit Committee meeting on 23 November 2016.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Phil Jeffrey

In providing this advice to Council as the Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Steve Ivelja

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

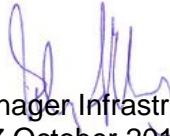
Conclusion

The Quarterly Report – September 2016 has been prepared in accordance with Section 138 – Quarterly Statements of the Local Government Act (1989) for review and receiving by Council.

Recommendation:**That Council:**

1. receives the Quarterly Financial Report – September 2016.
2. notes the carried forward amounts into the 2016/17 year for the purpose of budget reporting as the Amended Budget.

Report Authorisation**Authorised by:**

Name: Phil Jeffrey 
Title: General Manager Infrastructure
Date: Thursday 27 October 2016

Attachment - Item 10.2.4

MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL

*Out in the Country...
Close to the World*



2016/17 Quarterly Financial Report - September 2016

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1 Amended Budget

Generally, at the end of the financial year it is not uncommon for projects (both Capital projects and Operating projects) to be incomplete. This can happen for a number of reasons, such as delays in construction due to weather or other events, deferral of projects due to operational matters, late receipt of government funding for one off projects, lack of internal resources to complete one off new initiatives due to staff turnover etc.

Throughout this report Council will be reporting on the Amended Budget rather than the Adopted Budget. The Amended Budget contains carry forwards from the 2015/16 financial year. These include grant funded one off projects, Council approved New Initiatives from prior years that are not yet complete, and incomplete/deferred capital projects. The following schedule provides an overview at a high level of the items that have been added to the Adopted Budget to arrive at the Amended Budget.

1.1 Impact on Cash on hand

Based on the aggregate of both the Operating Budget and Capital Budget carry forward, plus other adjustments, a sum of \$5.826m in cash will be required to fully fund the requirements of the Amended Budget. These are made up of the following:

Net Operating Budget Carry Forwards	\$1.135m
Net CIP Carry Forwards	\$5.588m
Sale of Council Land	(\$0.940m)
Other Minor Adjustments	\$0.042m
Total Cash Required to Complete Carry Forwards	\$5.826m

As at the 30 June 2016, Council held \$12.452m in cash and cash equivalents. Cash holdings were high in part due to the impact of these uncompleted projects.

1.2 Operating Budget

The net effect on the Operating Budget is a favourable variance of \$2.842m.

Net Operating Surplus in the Adopted 2016/17 Budget	\$8.494m
Net New Initiatives / Grant Funded Projects	(\$1.135m)
2015/16 Carry Forward Capital Grants	\$4.090m
Net Result of Sale of Council Land	(\$0.051m)
New Grants Identified Since Adoption of Budget	\$0.016m
Other Minor Adjustments	(\$0.078m)
Amended Operating Budget Surplus	\$11.336m

1.3 Capital Budget

The effect on the capital budget is an increase in expenditure of \$9.657m.

2016/17 Adopted Budget for Capital Expenditure	\$17.414m
2015/16 Carry Forward Capital Projects	\$9.677m
New Grants Identified Since Adoption of Budget	\$0.016m
Other Minor Adjustments	(\$0.037m)
Amended Capital Budget	\$27.071m

2 Operating Performance

Year to Date Operating Performance 30 September 2016

2.1 Overall:

For the three months to 30 September, the Net Result was a Surplus of \$25.128m with a favourable variance of \$0.528m compared to the year to date amended budget.

2.2 Operating Income [\$0.018m favourable]:

Rates and charges – Favourable by \$57,000 overall mainly due to increases in Garbage Charge (\$38,000), Waste Management Charge (\$13,500), and State Landfill Levy (\$8,500). The increase as at September relates to a higher amount of growth in property numbers than what was initially expected in the Budget. Forecast adjustments have been made to account for the projected increase in revenue.

Statutory fees and fines – Unfavourable by \$33,000 as at September mainly due to a potential decrease in fees relating to Animal Control (\$12,500), Parking Infringements (\$4,900), and Litter Abatement (\$3,000).

Statutory Planning fees are also unfavourable year to date by \$10,600. This is just a timing issue at this stage as income from planning fees is expected to increase significantly. Fees set by Government legislation have been raised substantially in 2016/17.

User fees – Unfavourable by \$51,000 mainly due to fees for Subdivisions (\$29,000), Bacchus Marsh Transfer Station (\$11,000), Septic Tanks (\$9,000), and Ballan Transfer Station (\$8,000). Minor adjustments have been made to the year end forecast and these variances will be monitored over the next quarter. Seasonal factors with resident use of the Transfer Stations need to be taken into account and Council will know more about a potential decline in fees over the next few months.

Grants - operating – Favourable by \$44,000 primarily due to new funding received since the adoption of the budget for Rural Access Initiative (\$34,000). This program will provide community awareness and capacity building to ensure greater inclusivity and accessibility for people with a disability. Council will receive \$135,000 for this program in the 2016/17 financial year and the forecast has been adjusted to reflect this.

2.3 Operating Expenses [\$0.510m favourable]:

Materials and services – Favourable variance of \$418,000 which mainly relates to the timing of various contracts, projects and operational costs. Some of the larger variances include the following:

- Recreation Reserves and Community Halls Operational Grants - \$89,000
- Building and Property Maintenance - \$66,000
- Gravel Roads Maintenance - \$62,500
- Tourism Events Grants - \$35,000
- Garbage Disposal - \$32,000

There are also many other minor variances mainly relating to Council services, one off projects, and grant funded new initiatives.

Other expenses – Favourable by \$84,000 as at September mainly due to the timing of payments for Audit Fees (\$26,500), Server Leases (\$18,000), Computer Upgrades (\$14,000), Planning Scheme Amendments (\$7,500), and Councillor Allowances (\$6,500). At this stage there are no significant forecast adjustments required for any of these items mentioned above.

Forecast Results for Year Ending 30 June 2017

As at 30 September, the Forecast Surplus for the year has increased by \$0.764m. The Forecast is now expected to be a surplus of \$12.100m. Major variances are the following:

2.4 Operating Revenues [**\$1.069m favourable**]:

Statutory fees and charges – Favourable by \$105,000 primarily due to significant increases in Statutory Planning Fees. Legislated fees have been increased and at this stage the estimate is for an increase of \$130,000 in Planning fees overall. Offsetting this increase are expected declines in fees for Pound and Livestock Control (\$17,000), Litter Abatement (\$6,000) and Asset Protection (\$5,000).

Grants – operating – Forecast to be higher than budget by \$264,000 predominantly due to new funding received since adoption of the budget. These include:

- Rural Access Initiative - \$135,000
- Roadside Weeds and Pest Management - \$35,000
- Ice Education Program - \$10,000

The new funding listed above will all have matching expenditure in 'Employee Costs' and/or 'Materials and services'.

Other increases relate to Maternal and Child Health (\$36,000) and Personal Care (\$30,000).

Grants – capital – Forecast to be higher than budget by \$317,000 mainly due to new funding received for Clarendon Community Hub (\$300,000). There will also be new external funding received for Wallace Recreation Reserve Lighting Project (\$17,000).

Other income – Expected to be \$311,000 favourable mainly due to reimbursements for the second claim for Scotsburn Fires (\$280k - this is offset by increases in 'Materials and Services'). There is also another reimbursement for work done on Moorabool 2041 MPA Commitments (\$18,000) and sales of Domestic Bins (\$13,000).

2.5 Operating Expenses [**\$0.305m unfavourable**]:

Employee costs – Forecast to be favourable by \$216,000 mainly due to a saving in the Workcover Premium (\$160,500). This saving in Workcover is due to some large older claims no longer being taken into account in the calculation of Council's premium. Council's performance rating is now 28% better than the industry average.

There are also some other savings relating to vacancies in various departments. Some of these savings have been used to fund other project based work such as the implementation of a new OHS System.

Materials and services – Materials and Services are forecast to be \$578,000 over budget at year end. The bulk of the overspend directly relates to additional expenditure that will be required as a result of receiving new Operating Grants since the adoption of the budget. Council will also expend an additional \$280k due to the continued cost of the Scotsburn Fires (these costs are expected to be fully reimbursed to Council). In addition to this, the forecast also anticipates that Council will also incur additional costs in Materials and Services on meeting OHS requirements, Planning Scheme Amendments, Bacchus Marsh Urban Growth

Strategy, LAL LAL Wind Farm, Postage and Illegal Rubbish dumping. The financial impact of these items will be known with greater certainty at the mid-year review.

Finance costs – Favourable variance of \$61,000 which relates to the expected take up of new borrowings for 2016/17 being later in the year than originally budgeted.

Note re: Scotsburn Fires / Natural Disaster recovery

Whilst the September Quarter forecast indicates that the Operating Budget is likely to finish with an overall surplus, the ongoing financial impact of the Scotsburn Fires recovery project is likely to have an additional impact on the Budget. Officers are currently working closely with the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance on the Scotsburn claim. In addition to this, the impact of the recent flood events are also likely to result in a significant new claim under the disaster recovery arrangements, which at this stage is likely to be well in excess of \$1.0M. As a result of the ongoing nature of these claims, there is a greater level of financial risk attached to the 2016/17 forecast result.

3 Balance Sheet

Forecast as at 30 June 2017

The Balance Sheet shows the movements from the Budget to the Forecast, as well as the current year to date balance (at 30 September 2016) compared to the same time last year (30 September 2015).

3.1 Assets

Cash assets – the year to date cash balance is \$848,000 less than the same time last year, mainly as a result of the timing of the completion of major capital works projects. The first half of 2016/17 will see the completion of Darley Early Years Hub.

The forecast cash balance is expected to be \$397,000 higher than the amended budget. This is predominantly due increases in operational grants and statutory planning fees, as well as savings from Council's Workcover premium.

Current receivables – the balance is \$1.694m more than at the same time last year which mainly relates to a higher rates base than the previous 12 months. In addition to this, systems issues resulted in some rate notices being delayed which will have also caused the closing balance of receivables to be higher.

Other assets – the balance is \$1.023m more than September last year due to the accrual of a large reimbursement for costs incurred by Council for the Scotsburn Fires.

Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment – the balance is \$27.935m more than last year primarily due to the revaluation of Infrastructure Assets in the 2015/16 financial year.

3.2 Liabilities

Payables – the increase of \$331,000 relates to the timing of the final supplier payment run in September 2016.

Provisions – the net balance is higher than this time last year by \$233,000 overall (current and non-current) primarily due to an increase in the provision for Long Service Leave.

Interest-bearing liabilities – the net balance is greater by \$3.020m overall (current and non-current) compared to the same time last year. This relates to the net impact of debt redemption and new loans of \$4.476m being taken up in 2015/16.

3.3 Equity

Accumulated surplus – the increase of \$9.094m since September last year reflects Council's operating result during the 2015/16 financial year and the first three months of 2016/17.

Asset revaluation reserve – the increase of \$15.707m relates to the revaluation of infrastructure assets during the 2015/16 financial year.

Statutory and other reserves – the increase of \$1.401m relates to the net movement of transfers to and from Reserves at the end of the 2015/16 financial year.

4 Forecast Cash Flows

4.1 Overall

The overall cash forecast for 30 June 2017 is \$7.094m and \$0.397m more than the amended budget.

This forecast is a result of movements in each of the three types of cash flows as follows:

4.2 Operating Cash Flows

Operating grants – Favourable by \$264,000 mainly due to new funding received since the adoption of the budget. These projects and any other adjustments are highlighted earlier in section 2.4.

Capital grants and contributions – Favourable by \$317,000 mainly due to new funding received for Clarendon Community Hub (\$300,000).

Statutory fees and charges – Favourable by \$104,000 primarily due to significant increases in Statutory Planning Fees. Further detail and any other adjustments are highlighted earlier in section 2.4.

Other revenue – Favourable by \$312,000 primarily due to reimbursements for the second claim for Scotsburn Fires (\$280,000).

Employee costs – Favourable by \$216,000 mainly due to a saving on Council's Workcover premium (\$160,500). Other adjustments are highlighted earlier in section 2.5.

Materials and consumables – Unfavourable by \$579,000 mainly due to costs associated with the Scotsburn Fires (\$280,000). Other changes and increases relating to increased grant funding are highlighted earlier in section 2.5.

4.3 Investing Cash Flows

Payments for property, plant and equipment, infrastructure – Increased by \$368,000 due to new funding received for Clarendon Community Hub (\$333,000) and Wallace Recreation Reserve Lighting Project (\$35,000).

4.4 Financing Cash Flows

Borrowing costs – Forecast to be favourable by \$61,000 due to the borrowings for 2016/17 expected to be taken up later in the year than originally budgeted.

5 Investment Activity Report

In line with Council's Investment Policy (adopted February 2010), a quarterly report on investment activity will be presented to Council as part of the quarterly financial report.

Investment Activity Report

For the quarter ending: September 2016

On call balances:

Month ending	Amount	Rate	Interest Paid
July 2016	\$4,262,374	1.40%	Quarterly
August 2016	\$1,282,531	1.40%	Quarterly
September 2016	\$3,121,894	1.40%	Quarterly

Interest paid in the quarter: \$22,263

Term deposits:

Institution	Amount	Rate	Maturity Date
IMB	\$2,000,000	2.25%	29/07/2016
BOQ	\$1,000,000	2.05%	17/08/2016
IMB	\$1,000,000	2.65%	5/09/2016
Suncorp	\$1,000,000	2.90%	5/09/2016
BOQ	\$1,000,000	1.85%	16/09/2016
Suncorp	\$1,000,000	2.25%	16/09/2016
BOQ	\$1,000,000	1.85%	17/10/2016
IMB	\$1,000,000	2.25%	4/11/2016
Suncorp	\$1,000,000	2.40%	4/11/2016

Interest paid in the quarter: \$32,765

6 Rating & Debtors Information

6.1 General Rating Information

The Total Rates and Charges raised for the 2016/17 year, as at 30 September, is \$30.880m, compared to the year to date Amended Budget of \$31.043m.

The Amended Budget amount includes an estimated \$160,000 for the new Kerbside Greenwaste collection which is not expected to start until January 2017.

6.2 Rates & Sundry Debtors Outstanding

For the year to date, 17.1% of the 2016/17 Rates & Charges raised have been collected. In addition, the level of Sundry and Other Debtors has reduced from \$2.385m (1 July 2016) to \$0.932m (30 September 2016).

Current Receivables as at 30 September 2016, as shown in the Balance Sheet, consist of:

• Rates & Charges	\$	28.218m
• Sundry Debtors	\$	0.679m
• GST Receivable	\$	0.253m
	\$	29.150m

The outstanding Rates & Charges consist of:

• Current Year Rates and Charges	\$	24.950m
• Arrears (prior to 2016/17)	\$	2.729m
• Pensioner Rebate Claim (DHS)	\$	0.539m
	\$	28.218m

6.3 Property Rate Debt Management Policy

Council first adopted this policy on 5 September 2007, with the requirement for Quarterly reporting on all applications made under this policy. The policy has since been updated and adopted on 6 April 2011. For the quarter to 30 September 2016, the table on the following page displays the applications that have been received.

Please note that this table also includes the following information:

- Rates outstanding by differential rate category
- Sundry debtors outstanding
- Infringement status

Property Rate Debt Management as at 30 September 2016

			at 30 Sept	Year to Date				
Type/Function	Authority Limit	Delegation	Number	Number Applications	Application Value	Approved Value	Denied Value	Comments
Special Payment Arrangements	All Arrangements	Revenue Service Unit	854	777				
Escalation of Accounts to Debt Collection	All outstanding accounts	Revenue Services Co-ordinator	147	123				
Value of Penalty Interest Calculated Year to Date	All calculations	Revenue Services Co-ordinator	\$0.00					
Waiver of Interest and Costs	Up to \$500	Revenue Services Co-ordinator		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Waiver of Interest and Costs	>\$500 and <\$1,000	Finance Manager		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Waiver of Interest and Costs	>\$1,000	General Manager - Infrastructure Services		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Waiver of Rates and Charges	All applications	Council via resolution (Closed Session)		0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Application for Financial Hardship	Reviewed	Council via resolution (Closed Session)		0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Application for Financial Hardship	Being reviewed by CAFS	Council via resolution (Closed Session)		0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Appeal of Decision	All appeals	Council via resolution (Closed Session)		NIL				
Sale of Property for Unpaid Rates	All sales	Council via resolution (Closed Session)		8		\$153,401.80		Progressing
Sale of Property for Unpaid Rates	All sales	Council via resolution (Closed Session)		9		\$56,372.22		Sold and settled
Applications for partial Waiver - Cultural and Recreational Land	50% General Rate	Revenue Service Co-ordinator/Finance Manager		0		\$0.00		
Other General Revenue Statistics			Summary of Outstanding Rates					
Function	Year To Date	Rate Category	Current	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	Over 3 Years	Total
Percentage of Rates Collected	17.10%	General	18,633,726.47	1,083,997.48	491,175.47	250,983.76	343,313.26	20,803,196.44
Land Information Certificates	319	Residential Retirement	139,053.86	812.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	139,866.46
Value of Supplementary Rates Levied	\$212,795	Commercial/Industrial	2,184,362.90	46,879.95	14,066.53	10,870.02	11,250.47	2,267,429.87
		Vacant Land Commercial/Industrial	128,529.84	9,614.05	667.60	0.00	0.00	138,811.49
Objections Lodged (Closing Date 04 November 2016)								
Under Review	32	Extractive Industry	184,692.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	184,692.05
Recommendation Notices		Farm	3,335,321.74	58,753.53	20,636.57	13,172.00	30,276.46	3,458,160.30
Disallowance Notices								
Total Objections	32	Vacant Land General	834,746.89	64,522.63	25,618.36	12,577.62	49,608.85	987,074.35
		Vacant Land FZ or RCZ	803,165.58	46,270.92	14,083.17	8,342.50	57,253.07	929,115.24
		Vacant Land GRZ	1,270,170.40	45,967.49	21,397.48	12,433.24	13,063.93	1,363,032.54
Pension Rebates								
Total Pensioners as at end of last quarter	2,512							
Changes	-48	Non Rateable FSPL Levable and Garbage Only	91,231.07	3,720.21	1,323.80	447.50	0.00	96,722.58
Closing Balance	2,464							
		Grand Total Rates Outstanding	27,605,000.80	1,360,538.86	588,968.98	308,826.64	504,766.04	30,368,101.32
Sundry Debtor Overview			Penalty Infringement Overview					
Sundry Debtors	Balance	% Outstanding	Infringement Status @ June Audit	# Infringements	\$ Infringements			
Current	69,348.29	15.8%	Too old to escalate					
30 Days	88,961.23	20.3%	Infringement Court	856	196,344.73			
60 Days	114,231.25	26.0%	Infringement Court - Expired - Write Off					
90 Days	64,414.75	14.7%	MSC Hold	6	961.10			
120+ Days	102,315.22	23.3%	Infringements Requiring Write Off					
			MSC Arrangements	10	1,793.30			
Total Outstanding	439,270.74	100.0%	MSC Arrangement Not Maintained - To escalate	5	345.60			
			MSC Objection	1	1,541.50			
			Within payment timeframes	93	12,169.80			
			Referred to Magistrates Court	36	22,678			
			Grand Total of Infringement Trial Balance	1,007	235,834.43			

7 Financial Statements as at 30 September 2016

Income Statement

	Last Year \$'000	Amended \$'000	Year to Date			Annual			
			Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	%	Amended \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Variance \$'000	%
Income									
Rates and charges	29,331	30,823	30,880	57	0%	31,043	31,104	61	0%
Statutory fees and fines	552	125	92	(33)	-26%	642	747	105	16%
User fees	1,814	423	372	(51)	-12%	1,951	1,949	(2)	0%
Grants - operating	6,518	2,560	2,604	44	2%	9,417	9,681	264	3%
Grants - capital	4,699	816	832	16	2%	9,075	9,392	317	3%
Contributions - monetary	1,254	25	26	1	4%	100	100	0	0%
Contributions - non-monetary assets	5,481	0	0	0	0%	4,635	4,635	0	0%
Other income	2,181	403	386	(17)	-4%	1,465	1,776	311	21%
Interest received	431	47	46	(1)	-2%	374	386	12	3%
Total Income	52,261	35,221	35,239	18	0%	58,702	59,771	1,069	2%
Expenses									
Employee costs	17,729	4,280	4,239	41	1%	18,540	18,324	216	1%
Materials and services	15,854	3,656	3,238	418	11%	15,802	16,380	(578)	-4%
Depreciation	7,398	2,490	2,490	0	0%	9,961	9,961	0	0%
Finance costs	724	111	110	1	1%	906	845	61	7%
Other expenses	1,049	176	92	84	48%	770	773	(3)	0%
Net gain (loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,682	(91)	(58)	(33)	36%	1,387	1,387	0	0%
Total Expenses	44,436	10,621	10,111	510	5%	47,366	47,671	(305)	-1%
Surplus (deficit) for the year	7,825	24,600	25,128	528	2%	11,336	12,100	764	7%

Balance Sheet

	Last Year \$'000	Last Year \$'000	Year to Date			Annual			
			Current \$'000	Change \$'000	%	Amended \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Variance \$'000	%
Assets									
Current Assets									
Cash assets	12,452	10,071	9,223	(848)	-8%	6,697	7,094	397	6%
Receivables	4,978	27,456	29,150	1,694	6%	5,035	5,035	0	0%
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	991	991	991	0	0%	991	991	0	0%
Other assets	1,433	11	1,034	1,023	9659%	1,433	1,301	(132)	-9%
Total current assets	19,854	38,528	40,397	1,869	5%	14,156	14,421	265	2%
Non-current assets									
Receivables	126	126	126	0	0%	126	117	(9)	-7%
Other non-current assets	0	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	463,135	436,828	464,763	27,935	6%	482,139	482,507	368	0%
Total non-current assets	463,261	436,954	464,890	27,936	6%	482,265	482,624	359	0%
Total Assets	483,115	475,482	505,286	29,804	6%	496,422	497,045	623	0%
Liabilities									
Current liabilities									
Payables	3,795	1,034	1,365	331	32%	4,083	3,967	(116)	-3%
Trust funds	781	722	740	18	2%	534	534	0	0%
Provisions	4,164	3,853	4,162	309	8%	4,164	4,078	(86)	-2%
Interest-bearing liabilities	1,431	1,109	1,085	(24)	-2%	1,364	1,364	0	0%
Total current liabilities	10,171	6,718	7,353	635	9%	10,145	9,943	(202)	-2%
Non-current liabilities									
Provisions	909	847	771	(76)	-9%	1,480	1,541	61	4%
Interest-bearing liabilities	13,611	10,567	13,611	3,044	29%	15,037	15,037	0	0%
Total non-current liabilities	14,520	11,414	14,382	2,968	26%	16,517	16,578	61	0%
Total Liabilities	24,692	18,133	21,735	3,602	20%	26,662	26,521	(141)	-1%
Net Assets	458,423	457,349	483,551	26,202	6%	469,759	470,523	764	0%
Represented by:									
Accumulated surplus	138,035	154,069	163,163	9,094	6%	149,371	150,135	764	1%
Asset revaluation reserve	314,680	298,973	314,680	15,707	5%	314,680	314,680	0	0%
Statutory and other reserves	5,708	4,307	5,708	1,401	33%	5,708	5,708	0	0%
Total Equity	458,423	457,349	483,551	26,202	6%	469,759	470,523	764	0%

Cash Flow Statement

	Last Year \$'000	Year to Date				Annual			
		Amended \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	%	Amended \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Variance \$'000	%
Cash flows from operating activities									
Receipts									
Rates and charges	29,209	5,548	5,477	(71)	-1%	31,207	31,268	61	0%
Operating grants	6,518	2,560	4,058	1,498	59%	9,417	9,681	264	3%
Capital grants and contributions	4,699	816	832	16	2%	9,075	9,392	317	3%
User fees and charges	1,546	423	372	(51)	-12%	1,951	1,949	(2)	0%
Statutory fees and charges	448	125	92	(33)	-26%	642	746	104	16%
Other revenue	4,173	428	412	(16)	-4%	1,565	1,877	312	20%
Interest received	431	47	269	222	469%	374	386	12	3%
Net GST refund/payment	2,555	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
	49,579	9,946	11,512	1,566	16%	54,231	55,300	1,069	2%
Payments									
Employee costs	(17,394)	(4,870)	(4,379)	491	-10%	(17,969)	(17,753)	216	-1%
Materials and consumables	(19,774)	(5,145)	(4,528)	617	-12%	(15,982)	(16,561)	(579)	4%
Other expenses	(1,177)	(176)	(92)	84	-48%	(770)	(773)	(3)	0%
	(38,346)	(10,192)	(8,999)	1,193	-12%	(34,721)	(35,087)	(366)	1%
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	11,233	(246)	2,513	2,759	-1124%	19,510	20,213	703	4%
Cash flows from investing activities									
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment, infrastructure	364	91	58	(33)	-36%	1,354	1,354	0	0%
Payments for property, plant and equipment, infrastructure	(13,606)	(5,727)	(5,344)	383	-7%	(27,071)	(27,439)	(368)	1%
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(13,242)	(5,636)	(5,286)	350	-6%	(25,717)	(26,085)	(368)	1%
Cash flows from financing activities									
Borrowing costs	(724)	(111)	(110)	1	-1%	(906)	(845)	61	-7%
Proceeds from interest bearing liabilities	4,476	0	0	0	0%	2,790	2,790	0	0%
Repayment of interest bearing liabilities	(1,464)	(346)	(346)	0	0%	(1,431)	(1,431)	0	0%
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	2,287	(457)	(456)	1	0%	452	514	62	14%
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	279	(6,338)	(3,229)	3,109	-49%	(5,755)	(5,358)	397	-7%
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	12,173	12,452	12,452	0	0%	12,452	12,452	0	0%
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	12,452	6,114	9,223	3,109	51%	6,697	7,094	397	6%

Capital Works Statement

	Last Year \$'000	Year to Date				Annual			
		Amended \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	%	Amended \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Variance \$'000	%
Property									
Land	50	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
Buildings	2,084	1,457	1,624	(167)	-11%	4,153	4,486	(333)	-8%
Total Property	2,134	1,457	1,624	(167)	-11%	4,153	4,486	(333)	-8%
Plant and equipment									
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,382	125	122	3	2%	1,688	1,688	0	0%
Computers and telecommunications	12	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
Library books	100	0	0	0	0%	99	99	0	0%
Total plant and equipment	1,494	125	122	3	2%	1,787	1,787	0	0%
Infrastructure									
Roads	7,674	2,571	2,258	313	12%	17,024	17,024	0	0%
Bridges	809	25	48	(23)	-92%	884	884	0	0%
Footpaths and cycleways	826	0	36	(36)	0%	623	623	0	0%
Drainage	144	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	280	248	12	236	95%	2,268	2,303	(35)	-2%
Parks, open space and streetscapes	4	0	13	(13)	0%	165	165	0	0%
Other infrastructure	242	0	7	(7)	0%	167	167	0	0%
Total infrastructure	9,978	2,844	2,373	471	17%	21,131	21,165	(34)	0%
Total capital works expenditure	13,606	4,426	4,119	307	7%	27,071	27,439	(368)	-1%
Represented by:									
New	2,271	1,242	1,272	(30)	-2%	11,542	11,542	0	0%
Renewal	8,781	1,497	1,243	254	17%	11,215	11,215	0	0%
Expansion	0	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
Upgrade	2,554	1,686	1,604	82	5%	4,315	4,682	(367)	-9%
Total Capital Works	13,606	4,426	4,119	307	7%	27,071	27,439	(368)	-1%

10.4.2 Capital Improvement Program Quarterly Report – September 2016

Introduction

Author: Sam Romaszko
General Manager: Phil Jeffrey

Background

The delivery of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is an important function of Council's operations and represents a significant portion of Council's overall expenditure. Accordingly, the status of the overall program is reported to Council every quarter.

Proposal

This quarterly report provides Council with an overview of the progress of Council's 2016/2017 Capital Improvement Program to 30 September 2016.

Implementation of the 2016/2017 Capital Improvement Program

The 2016/2017 Capital Improvement Program currently consists of 69 projects, of which there are 10 projects which will be delivered by others and 4 of are inactive and cannot commence. Therefore the table below reports on the 55 active projects in terms of percentage. This number will be adjusted throughout the year as other projects become active.

This list incorporates projects from various sources including but not limited to the following:

- Projects carried forward from 2015/2016 program
- 2016/2017 Council budgeted projects
- Grant funded projects

Also for simplicity sake the reseal, final seal, gravel road resheet and shoulder resheet programs have been listed as 4 projects in total rather than listing each individual road under each respective program.

The Engineering Services Unit nominates 6 key stages of the project delivery process and will report with reference to these stages in regard to the overall program status. The table below summarises the overall program status as at 30 September 2016:

CIP Program Delivery Stage	Actual as of 30 September 2016	
	No. of Projects	%
Not Commenced (inactive)	4	-
Projects delivered by others	10	-
Not Commenced	9	16.4
Documentation/Design Preparation	9	16.4
Tender/Quote Stage	8	14.5
Project Awarded – Waiting Commencement	12	21.8
In Progress/Under Construction	13	23.6
Complete	4	7.3
TOTAL	55	100.00

The attached report details the proposed timeframe and progress of each individual project. In addition the report also provides specific comments in relation to each project and its status.

Program Status

At this stage of the financial year the program is generally tracking well. Although only 7% of the program is complete there are several projects awarded and waiting for commencement along with a number of projects under construction and almost complete.

Project to be delivered by others

There are 10 projects that have been funded through the Capital Improvement Program that will be delivered by Committees of Management. These projects will be closely monitored by council officers and updates provided in each quarterly Capital Improvement Program report to Council, however will not form part of the Capital Improvement Program's reporting figures.

Inactive Projects

Of the 69 projects identified in this year's program there are 4 inactive projects which are listed below;

- Navigators Tennis Courts, Fencing Improvements
- Mason Lane Recreation Reserve, Lighting Upgrade
- Ballan Recreation Reserve, Netball/Tennis Court Reconstruction
- Bacchus Marsh BMX Club, New Track Construction

These projects are subject to external funding and cannot commence until successful matching grants are obtained.

Policy Implications

The 2013-2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area	Enhanced Natural and Built Environment
Objective	Ensure current and future infrastructure meets the needs of the community.
Strategy	Construct physical infrastructure to appropriate standards.

The Capital Improvement Program reporting is consistent with the 2013-2017 Council Plan.

Financial Implications

Reporting of the Capital Improvement Program has been resourced as part of Council's budget; accordingly there are no additional financial implications. At this point in time, the program is within budget parameters.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

There are no irregular Risk and Occupational Health and Safety issues identified in this report. Specific risk elements are analysed and dealt with as part of the delivery of each individual project.

Communications Strategy

Progress on the Capital Improvement Program will be reported in the following formats:

- Infrastructure update on active projects Weekly
- Update on major projects Monthly
- Moorabool Matters Quarterly
- Moorabool News As required
- Report to Council Quarterly

Specific projects are communicated to the community and affected residents as required through a range of methods including but not limited to advertisements, mail outs and letter drops.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Phil Jeffrey

In providing this advice to Council as General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Sam Romaszko

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Conclusion

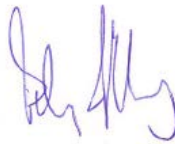
This report provides a summary of the progress of the Capital Improvement Program for the first quarter of the 2016/2017 period for the information of Councillors.

Recommendation:

That Council receives the Capital Improvement Program quarterly report to 30 September 2016.

Report Authorisation

Authorised by:



Name: Phil Jeffrey
Title: General Manager Infrastructure
Date: Thursday 27 October 2016

Attachment - Item 10.4.2

SEALED ROADS PROGRAM

Halletts Way/O'Leary Way, Darley - Construction

From Stonehill Estate to existing Halletts Way

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Construction of Southern Extension	11/04/2016	22/03/2017	40	\$9,129,428	

Project has been awarded to Winslow Constructors Pty Ltd. Construction is currently underway and is scheduled for completion in March 2017.

Egerton-Ballark Road, Bungal – Road Rehabilitation

Ch 6.07 – 7.90km
South of Magnus Lane

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation	16/01/2017	10/03/2017	0	\$450,000	

Project will be carried out by the Operations Department and is scheduled to commence in January 2017.

Ballan-Meredith Road, Mount Wallace – Road Rehabilitation

Ch 21.4 – 23.24km
From Egerton-Bungeeltap Road to
Bungeeltap South Road

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation	01/11/2016	16/12/2016	0	\$515,000	

Project has been awarded to Bitu-Mill Pty Ltd, with commencement anticipated for November 2016.

Dunnstown-Yendon Road, Dunnstown – Road Rehabilitation

Ch 0.12 – 1.304km
South of Dunnstown Yendon Road /
Old Melbourne Road Roundabout

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation	02/11/2016	23/12/2016	0	\$380,000	

Project has been awarded to Bitu-Mill Pty Ltd, with commencement anticipated for November 2016.

Navigators Road, Navigators – Road Rehabilitation

Ch 1.72 – 2.55km
North of Mullan Road

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation	02/11/2016	23/12/2016	0	\$265,000	

Project has been awarded to Bitu-Mill Pty Ltd, with commencement anticipated for November 2016.

Bacchus Marsh-Balliang Road, Balliang - Road Rehabilitation

Ch 18.81 – 20.84km
From Davis Lane to Footes Lane

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation	30/01/2017	24/03/2017	0	\$649,600	

Tender evaluation is currently underway with commencement anticipated for January 2017.

Butter Factory Road, Wallace - Road Rehabilitation

Ch 0.21 – 1.22km
West of Moorabool River West Branch

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation	16/01/2017	13/04/2017	0	\$230,000	

Tender evaluation is currently underway with commencement anticipated for January 2017.

Lesters Road, Bungaree - Road Widening

Ch 1.13 – 2.43km
South of Railway Line to Old Melbourne Road

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Widening	07/11/2016	25/11/2016	0	\$180,200	

Project will be carried out by the Operations Department and is scheduled to commence in November 2016.

Berry Street/Spencer Street, Ballan – Road Widening

Berry Street – Blackwood Street to Spencer Road
Spencer Road – Berry Street to Densley Street

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
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Road Widening – Construction	03/02/2017	17/03/2017	0	\$395,400	
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Preplanning is currently in progress, with completion anticipated for October 2016. Procurement of the project will then occur, with construction is scheduled to commence in February 2017.

Cairns Drive, Darley - Road Rehabilitation

Ch 0.0 - 0.94km
From Robertsons Road to Albert Street

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation	16/01/2017	03/02/2017	0	\$605,000	

Tender evaluation is currently underway with commencement anticipated for January 2017.

Maddison Circuit, Darley – Road Rehabilitation

Ch 0.54 – 0.58km
North of Grey Street

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Rehabilitation Works	30/05/2016	01/08/2016	100	\$150,000	

Project was awarded to Enoch Civil Pty Ltd and works were completed in August 2016. There were a number of variations as a result of latent conditions that largely related to unsuitable material and the adopted treatment to reconstruct the road pavement. This resulted in an over expenditure of approximately \$65,000 from the original estimated cost. This over expenditure was absorbed in the 2015/16 CIP.

Old Melbourne Road, Millbrook – Preplanning

Ch 15.55 – 19.00km
From Boundary Road to McGuigans Road

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation – Preplanning Allocation	05/09/2016	27/01/2017	5	\$40,000	

Project has been awarded to Techrds Design Pty Ltd. Design works are currently in progress with completion anticipated for January 2017.

Dunnstown-Yendon Road, Dunnstown - Preplanning

Ch 1.56 – 3.42km
South of the Walsh's Quarry Entrance

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation – Preplanning Allocation	05/09/2016	27/01/2017	5	\$33,000	

Project has been awarded to Techrds Design Pty Ltd. Design works are currently in progress with completion anticipated for January 2017.

Carween Lane, Ballan – Preplanning

Ch 0.00 – 0.64km
West of Ballanee Road

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Rehabilitation – Preplanning Allocation	05/09/2016	16/12/2016	15	\$33,000	

Project has been awarded to Driscoll Engineering Services Pty Ltd. Design works are currently in progress with completion anticipated for December 2016.

Halletts Way, Darley – Preplanning

Western Freeway Overpass

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Preplanning of council infrastructure to compliment new ramps at the Western Freeway overpass	01/07/2016	31/12/2016	0	\$33,000	

This project will be delivered alongside the VicRoads preplanning project.

Sutherland Street, Bacchus Marsh – Asphalt Overlay

Ch 0.00 – 0.12km
From Gisborne Road to End

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Asphalt overlay	21/11/2016	25/11/2016	0	\$18,000	

Project has been combined with the Cairns Drive, Darley Road Rehabilitation Contract. Tender evaluation is currently underway with commencement anticipated for November 2016.

Bacchus Marsh Balliang Road / Glenmore Road Roundabout Construction, Rowsley – Blackspot

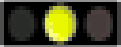
Intersection of Glenmore Road and Bacchus Marsh-Balliang Road

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
New Roundabout Construction	23/05/2016	02/09/2016	100	\$1,234,080	

Project has been awarded to Bitu-Mill Pty Ltd with construction completed in September 2016.

Station Street, Bacchus Marsh – Road Widening

From Grant Street to Bond Street

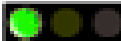
Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Road Widening – Construction	09/01/2017	24/02/2017	0	\$462,500	

Tender evaluation is currently underway with commencement anticipated for January 2017.

RESEAL PROGRAM

Reseal Contract

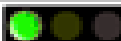
Various Locations

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Reseal works on various roads	07/11/2016	25/11/2016	0	\$559,048	

Project has been awarded to Primal Surfacing Pty Ltd, with commencement anticipated for November 2016.

Final Seals

Various Locations

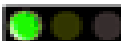
Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Final Sealing of various roads	07/11/2016	25/11/2016	0	\$139,762	

Project has been awarded to Primal Surfacing Pty Ltd, with commencement anticipated for November 2016.

SHOULDER RESHEETING PROGRAM

Shoulder Resheeting Program

Various Locations

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Resheeting of road shoulders throughout the Shire	14/11/2016	14/04/2017	0	\$142,000	

Project will be carried out by the Operations Department and is scheduled to commence in November 2016. The program consists of 5 roads covering 7.1km of the sealed road network.

- Ballanee Road, Ballan Not commenced
- Glenmore Road, Mount Wallace Not commenced
- Mount Blackwood Road, Myrniong Not commenced
- Mount Wallace-Ballark Road, Mount Wallace Not commenced
- Spargo Creek Road, Bolwarrah Not commenced

UNSEALED ROADS PROGRAM

Gravel Road Resheeting Program

Various Locations

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Resheeting of gravel roads through the Shire	05/09/2016	14/04/2017	15	\$1,004,750	

Project will be carried out by the Operations Department and commenced in September 2016. The program consists of 23 roads covering 21.3km of the unsealed road network.

▪ Reids Road, Balliang	Complete
▪ Beremboke Road, Beremboke	Not commenced
▪ Bates Road, Blackwood	Not commenced
▪ Handley Street, Blackwood	Not commenced
▪ Hills Road, Blackwood	Not commenced
▪ Matheson Lane, Blackwood	Not commenced
▪ Skinners Road, Blackwood	Not commenced
▪ Ratcliffe Lane, Buninyong	Not commenced
▪ Scarffs Road North, Buninyong	Not commenced
▪ Brougham Street, Gordon	Not commenced
▪ Ingliston-Settlement Road, Ingliston	Not commenced
▪ Back Settlement Road, Korweinguboora	Not commenced
▪ Horgan Track, Korweinguboora	Not commenced
▪ Slaters Road, Mollongghip	Not commenced
▪ Elaine-Egerton Road, Morrisons	Not commenced
▪ Church Street, Mount Egerton	Not commenced
▪ Trounces Lane, Mount Egerton	Not commenced
▪ McCarthys Road, Navigators	Not commenced
▪ Whelans Lane, Parwan	Complete
▪ Whelans Road, Parwan	Complete
▪ Bowmans Lane, Pentland Hills	Not commenced
▪ Pope Street, Yendon	Not commenced
▪ Triggs Road, Yendon	Not commenced

BRIDGES AND CULVERTS PROGRAM

Bridge Deck Overlays – Preplanning

Various Locations

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Design of deck overlays and structural elements on five of Council's bridges	03/10/2016	16/12/2017	0	\$100,000	

Project has been awarded to TGM Group Pty Ltd. Design works are currently in progress with completion anticipated for December 2016.

- Ballan-Egerton Road, Mount Egerton
- Ballan-Meredith Road, Morrisons
- Egerton-Ballark Road, Bungal
- Glenmore Road, Glenmore
- Old Melbourne Road, Ballan

Butter Factory Road, Wallace – Bridge Replacement

Over Moorabool River West Branch

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Replacement of 100 year old bridge	16/01/2017	28/04/2017	0	\$476,362	

Tender evaluation is currently underway with commencement anticipated for January 2017. This project will be delivered with the road widening contract.

Beremboke Road, Beremboke – Bridge Replacement

North of Leveretts Lane

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Replacement of existing structure	06/02/2017	24/03/2017	0	\$307,650	

Project will be carried out by the Operations Department and is scheduled to commence in February 2017.

PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Inglis Street, Ballan – Streetscape Improvements

Stead Street to Fiskin Street

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Streetscape improvements	20/03/2017	14/04/2017	0	\$420,000	

The development of a masterplan is currently underway, with procurement of stage 1 works anticipated for December 2016. Construction is scheduled to commence in March 2017.

Gell Street, Bacchus Marsh – Streetscape Improvements

Main Street to Car Park entrance (West side only)

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Streetscape improvements	09/01/2017	27/01/2017	0	\$45,000	

Project has been awarded to Rustel Pty Ltd with commencement anticipated for January 2017. These streetscape works are projected to go over budget due to unforeseen service alteration costs.

Martin Street, Blackwood – Asphalt Overlay to Footpath

Adjacent to the Blackwood Hotel

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Overlay of existing asphalt footpath	10/10/2016	18/11/2016	50	\$12,500	

Project is being carried out by the Operations Department. Bollards have been installed, with asphaltting works scheduled for completion in November 2016.

DDA Upgrade Program

Various locations

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Upgrade pedestrian crossings and footpaths to ensure DDA compliance	27/03/2017	24/04/2017	0	\$21,115	

Document preparation is currently underway with project commencement scheduled for March 2017.

Jonathan Drive to Holts Lane, Darley – Shared path construction

Jonathan Drive to Holts Lane


Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Shared path construction from Jonathon Drive to Holts Lane, Darley	03/04/2017	28/04/2017	0	\$70,000	

Document preparation is currently underway with commencement scheduled for April 2017.

KERB AND CHANNEL PROGRAM

Sutherland Street, Bacchus Marsh – Kerb and Channel Replacement


Gisborne Road to End

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Kerb and Channel replacement	19/09/2016	21/10/2016	100	\$140,000	

Project was carried out by the Operations Department with the kerb and channel replacement complete. An asphalt overlay is scheduled for completion in November 2016.

Inglis Street, Ballan – Kerb and Channel Replacement


Stead Street to Duncan Street

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Kerb and Channel replacement including formalisation of school crossing and angle parking	09/01/2017	17/02/2017	0	\$324,000	

This project is currently in the design phase. This project will be tendered for construction, with works anticipated to commence on site in January 2017.


COMMUNITY LAND PROGRAM

Maddingley Park - lighting of pathway

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Lighting improvements to Maddingley Park, Maddingley	25/01/2017	07/04/2017	0	\$138,000	


Documentation preparation is currently underway, with project commencement scheduled for January 2017.

Masons Lane Recreation Reserve, Shade Sail Installation

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
New shade sails for Athletics	28/09/2016	28/10/2016	100	\$32,620	


Project was awarded to Shades That Sail Pty Ltd and completed in October 2016.

Parkside Avenue, Maddingley – Construction of New Playground

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Installation of new playground in Essence Estate	22/09/2016	07/10/2016	100	\$20,000	


Project was awarded to A Space Pty Ltd and completed in October 2016.

Avenue of Honour, Bacchus Marsh – Walking Trail Feasibility

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Avenue of honour feasibility study for footpath works	21/11/2016	24/02/2017	0	\$35,000	


Documentation preparation is currently underway with project completion scheduled for February 2017.

Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve, Active Sports Precinct Design

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
BMRRR - Active sports precinct	01/02/2017	31/03/2017	0	\$1,293,087	


Document preparation is currently underway, with design works anticipated to commence in February 2017.

Masons Lane Recreation Reserve, pathway construction

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Construction of Granitic Sand Pathway	05/03/2017	17/03/2017	0	\$19,034	

Documentation preparation is currently underway with project commencement scheduled for March 2017.

Dunnstown Recreation Reserve, Dunnstown

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Lighting upgrade to netball/tennis courts	03/11/2016	28/11/2016	0	\$77,478	

Project has been awarded to Ben Clark Electrical Pty Ltd, with project commencement anticipated for November 2016.

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS PROGRAM

Dunnstown Standpipe, Replacement of Tank Stand

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Replacement of steel tank stand	28/11/2016	16/12/2016	0	\$30,000	

Project has been awarded to WBW Metal Fabrication Pty Ltd with installation anticipated for November 2016.

Bacchus Marsh Swimming Pool, Plant Upgrade

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Plant and machinery testing/replacement	01/03/2017	31/03/2017	0	\$94,920	

Documentation preparation is currently underway with the project scheduled to commence in March following the completion of the pool season.

Ballan Swimming Pool, Plant Upgrade

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Plant and machinery testing/replacement & replacement of main pool pump	01/03/2017	31/03/2017	0	\$96,120	

Documentation preparation is currently underway with the project scheduled to commence in March following the completion of the pool season.

Wallace Recreation Reserve, Accessible Toilet

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Conversion of umpires room into accessible toilet	30/01/2017	24/02/2017	0	\$52,650	

Documentation preparation is currently underway with project commencement scheduled for January 2017.

Darley Hub Precinct, Sporting Pavilion Construction

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Construction of Sporting Pavilion	16/05/2016	02/12/2016	85	\$908,500	

Project has been awarded to Macneil Group Pty Ltd. Works commenced on site in May and are scheduled for completion in December 2016.

Darley Hub Precinct, Early Years Hub Construction

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Construction of Early Years Hub	01/02/2016	02/12/2016	90	\$2,307,288	

Project has been awarded to Macneil Group Pty Ltd. Works commenced on site in February and are scheduled for completion in December 2016.


Masons Lane Recreation Reserve, Western Pavilion design

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Detailed design of Western Pavilion	21/11/2016	31/03/2017	0	\$75,000	

Quotations are currently being obtained for design services, with works scheduled to commence in November 2016.


CORPORATE BUILDINGS PROGRAM

Ballan Depot, Preplanning for New Facility

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Ballan Depot preplanning	13/10/2016	17/02/2017	0	\$214,081	


Document preparation is currently underway with completion scheduled for February 2017.

Darley Hub Precinct, Lift Improvements

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Design and construction of Lift	25/04/2016	25/11/2016	80	\$237,000	

Project has been awarded to Macneil Group Pty Ltd. Works commenced on site in April and are scheduled for completion in November 2016. This project has been delayed to due unforeseen structural issues associated with the existing building.

Lerderderg Library Acoustics

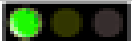
Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Improvements to acoustics within the library	05/09/2016	30/09/2016	100	\$47,500	

Project has been awarded to Sound Fix Acoustics Pty Ltd and were completed in September 2016.

BUS SHELTER PROGRAM

Bus Shelter/Bus Route Development Program


Various Locations

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Improve Bus Shelter locations within the Shire	03/04/2017	30/06/2017	0	\$8,000	

Installation of bus shelters are based on requests from residents and constructed as required throughout the year.


NON COUNCIL LAND/BUILDINGS PROGRAM

Ballan Mechanics Institute, Hall Improvements

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Improvements to heating and cooling, painting of hall	13/01/2017	24/03/2017	0	\$56,500	


Document preparation is currently underway with project commencement scheduled for January 2017.

Mount Wallace Hall & Recreation Reserve, Toilet Refurbishment

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Refurbishment of toilet amenities including restumping.	12/12/2016	17/03/2017	0	\$50,000	


Document preparation is currently underway with project commencement scheduled for December 2016.

Lal Lal ANZAC Memorial, Lal Lal

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
New ANZAC Centenary Memorial	14/11/2016	09/12/2016	0	\$27,000	

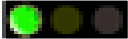
Project will be carried out by the Operations Department and is scheduled to commence in November 2016.

Clarendon Recreation Reserve, Community Hub

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Construction of a new Community Hub			0	\$330,000	

Preliminary discussions are currently occurring with the Committee of Management in relation to the scope and delivery of this project.

Korweinguboora Recreation Reserve, Shade Sail and Seating

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Recreation Reserve Improvements	16/01/2017	31/01/2017	0	\$16,366	

Document preparation is currently underway with project commencement scheduled for January 2017.

PROJECTS TO BE DELIVERED BY OTHERS

Maddingley Park, Change Room Refurbishment

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Refurbishment of change rooms to make provision for female participants	09/12/2016	28/02/2017	0	\$30,000	

This project will be delivered by the Maddingley Park Committee of Management. Quotations are currently being obtained, with works scheduled to commence in December 2016.

Maddingley Park Pavilion, Extension

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Refurbishment of social rooms	09/12/2016	30/06/2017	0	\$170,000	

This project will be delivered by the Maddingley Park Committee of Management. The design is currently being finalised, with procurement of works scheduled to occur in December 2016.

Ballan Recreation Reserve, Kitchen Upgrade

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Kitchen upgrade			0	\$22,969	

This project will be delivered by the Ballan Recreation Reserve Committee of Management. Timing of works is yet to be finalised.

Balliang Public Hall, Outdoor Space

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
BBQ and seating improvements			0	\$28,000	

This project will be delivered by the Balliang Public Hall Committee of Management. Timing of works is yet to be finalised.

Coimadai Fire Brigade, Community Facility

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Redevelopment of the former fire station into a community facility			0	\$25,000	

This project will be delivered others. Timing of works is yet to be finalised.

Darley Park, Ball Protection Fencing

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Construction of ball protection fencing	24/10/2016	28/10/2016	0	\$30,000	

This project will be delivered by the Darley Football & Netball Club, with works scheduled to commence in October 2016.

Ballan Golf Club, Water Consolidation

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Water consolidation program			0	\$30,000	

This project will be delivered others. Timing of works is yet to be finalised.

Avenue Bowling Club, Resurfacing of Green

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Resurfacing of Lorna Lucas Green			0	\$151,800	


This project will be delivered others. Timing of works is yet to be finalised.

Gordon Recreation Reserve, Kitchen Upgrade

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Kitchen Upgrade	12/12/2016	17/02/2017	0	\$25,000	

This project will be delivered by the Gordon Recreation Reserve Committee of Management. Further documentation is currently being sourced by the committee with commencement anticipated for December 2016.

Wallace Recreation Reserve, Netball / Tennis Court Lighting Improvements

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Lighting upgrade to netball/tennis courts	23/01/2016	24/02/2016	0	\$34,705	

This project will be delivered by the Wallace Recreation Reserve Committee of Management. Permits are currently being sourced by the committee with commencement anticipated for January 2017.

INACTIVE / ON HOLD PROJECTS

Navigators Tennis Club, Fencing Improvements

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Fencing upgrade				\$20,665	

This project has been funded through the 2015/16 CIP and is currently on hold pending an external funding contribution.

Masons Lane Recreation Reserve, Lighting Upgrade

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Lighting Upgrade to Oval 1				\$25,000	

This project has been funded through the 2015/16 CIP and is currently on hold pending an external funding contribution through SRV. A funding application has been submitted, with an outcome known in November 2016.

Ballan Recreation Reserve, Netball/Tennis Court Reconstruction

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
Reconstruction of Netball/Tennis courts and drainage improvements				\$165,000	

This project has been funded through the 2015/16 CIP and is currently on hold pending an external funding contribution.

Bacchus Marsh BMX Club, New Track Construction

Task	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Budget	Budget Status
BMX Racetrack Development				\$25,000	

This project has been funded through the 2015/16 Community Development Fund and is currently on hold pending an external funding contribution through SRV. A funding application has been submitted, with an outcome known in November 2016

10.4.3 Joint Procurement; Bituminous Road Resealing Program

Introduction

Author: Sam Romaszko
General Manager: Phil Jeffrey

Background

A joint procurement opportunity currently exists for the Bituminous Road Resealing Program from 2017/18.

The first aggregated road sealing procurement project was undertaken in 2012 with five Councils participating. This was supported by Local Government Victoria's (LGV) Local Government Reform Fund Project.

Recent discussions have been held with representatives of the Central Highlands Regional Procurement Network in relation to the aggregated procurement by the participating Councils for bituminous road resealing, includes the items and information as outlined in the VicRoads specifications (and already being used by participating councils including Moorabool Shire Council).

Proposal

It is proposed that Moorabool participate in the aggregated procurement process for bituminous road resealing along with Ararat Rural City Council, Golden Plains Shire Council, Pyrenees Shire Council, Ballarat City Council and Hepburn Shire Council, for a minimum 3 year period, with the option to extend a further 2+1 years. The aim of the project is to deliver a successful aggregated procurement process that will provide cost savings and ongoing benefits for all participating Councils.

It is estimated that the value of aggregated procurement road sealing will be in excess of \$18 million over this initial three year period that will potentially see cost savings due to the significant economies of scale. It is envisaged that this could result in more works on the ground.

The contract would be publically tendered thus satisfying procurement requirements and given the significant value, sign off of the contract must be approved by each individual Council.

At this time, City of Ballarat has been nominated by all participants to act as the lead Council for tendering purposes. Following tender, each individual Council will award contracts and undertake contract administration, supervision and surveillance separately.

Policy Implications

The 2013 - 2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area Enhanced Infrastructure and Natural and Built Environment

Objective Ensure current and future infrastructure meets the needs of the community

Strategy Construct physical infrastructure to appropriate standards

The proposal is consistent with the 2013-2017 Council Plan.

Financial Implications

Council's bituminous resealing program budget this financial year is in the order of \$600,000. Based on an analysis of the previous joint procurement contract and Council's own tender rates, it is unknown if wholesale savings will be made. However, it is considered that the project worth participating in anyway given the potential for savings.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

Risk Identifier	Detail of Risk	Risk Rating	Control/s
Contractual	Council does not meet its obligations under the agreement	Low	Allocation of officer to liaise with City of Ballarat as Lead Council.
Financial	Potential savings not realised.	Low	Part of a much larger contract.

Communications Strategy

There is no formal communications strategy required as a result of the recommendation within this report.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Phil Jeffrey

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Sam Romaszko

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Conclusion

This report outlines the opportunity for Moorabool to participate in the aggregated procurement process for bituminous road resealing along with Ararat Rural City Council, Golden Plains Shire Council, Pyrenees Shire Council, Ballarat City Council and Hepburn Shire Council.

It is considered that a joint approach may result in some savings and efficiencies in scheduling of works. As such, it is recommended Council enter into an aggregated procurement process for bituminous road resealing services for a period of three years, with an opportunity to extend a further 2+1 years. A further report will be presented to Council to formally award a tender at the conclusion of the process.

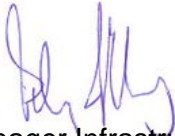
Recommendation:

That Council:

1. **endorses Moorabool Shire participate in an aggregated procurement process for Contract CH002 - Bituminous Road Resealing Program.**
2. **authorises the General Manager Infrastructure to progress the matter on Council's behalf.**

Report Authorisation

Authorised by:

Name: Phil Jeffrey 
Title: General Manager Infrastructure
Date: Thursday 27 October 2016

10.4.4 Review of Council's Procurement Policy

Introduction

File No.: 03/01/007
Author: Jacinta Erdody
General Manager: Phil Jeffrey

Background

In accordance with section 186A(7) of the Local Government Act:

“at least once in a financial year, a Council must review the current procurement policy and may, in accordance with this section, amend the procurement policy.”

Council's existing Procurement Policy was first adopted 18 November 2009 and in accordance with legislative requirements has continued to be reviewed on an annual basis. The last formal review and adoption of the policy was 3 June 2015.

A review of the existing policy has been undertaken by the internal Procurement Steering Group (an internal committee has been established to oversee all procurement related matters).

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Wednesday 7 September 2016, the draft policy was presented and the following was resolved:

That the revised Procurement Policy (IS014 / Version 007) lay on the table until the appropriate meeting of the new Council.

Proposal

As a result of the review, there are some adjustments proposed. These amendments do not affect the overall intent of the policy. The revised policy is presented as an attachment to this report.

The key changes being proposed to the policy are:

- The alteration of the procurement threshold requirements to enable Council Officers to more efficiently undertake their duties; and
- The recognition of compliance requirements to Council Fraud Management Plan.

The key change to the proposed procurement thresholds relate to purchases between \$2,501 and \$50,000. In the current procurement policy, it is a requirement for at least 2 written quotes for all purchases between \$2,501 and \$50,000. Under the proposed changes, it is recommended that for purchases between \$2,501 and \$15,000 a requirement that only 1 written quote be received. For purchases between \$15,001 and \$50,000, 2 written quotations will be required before a purchase is made.

The recommendation to alter procurement spend thresholds came about as a result of benchmarking with other Councils and a desire to improve efficiencies in day to day activities whilst maintaining accountable and responsible spending of ratepayer funds.

This policy will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis.

Policy Implications

The 2013–2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area	Representation and Leadership of our Community
Objective	Good governance through open and transparent processes and strong accountability to the community.
Strategy	Ensure policies and good governance are in accordance with legislative requirements and best practice.

Financial Implications

The adoption of the revised Procurement Policy has no additional known financial implications to Council. It is not anticipated that the changes proposed will have a material financial impact on Council.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

As the annual review of this policy is legislated, there is a risk of non-compliance with the Local Government Act if this policy is not reviewed annually.

Communications Strategy

Once Council has adopted the revised Procurement Policy, the updated document will be communicated to all staff and will be placed on Council's website.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager Infrastructure – Phil Jeffrey

In providing this advice to Council as the Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Jacinta Erdody

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

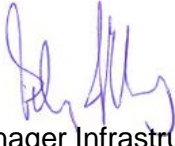
Conclusion

After considering the revised Procurement Policy, it is recommended that Council adopt the updated document.

Recommendation:

That Council adopts the revised Procurement Policy (IS014/Version 007).

Report Authorisation**Authorised by:**

Name: Phil Jeffrey 
Title: General Manager Infrastructure
Date: Thursday 27 October 2016

Attachment - Item 10.4.4

Policy No.:	IS014	IS014 – Procurement Policy
Review Date:	Annually	
Revision No.:	007	
Policy Manual Version No.:	006	
Adopted by:	Moorabool Shire Council	<i>3 June 2015</i>

1. PRINCIPLES

1.1 Background

Moorabool Shire Council:

- Recognises that:
 - Developing a procurement policy and adopting appropriate best practice contracting and procurement principles, policies, processes and procedures for all goods, services and works by Council, will enhance achievement of Council objectives such as sustainable and socially responsible procurement; bottom-line cost savings; supporting local economies; achieving innovation; and better services for communities.
 - The elements of best practice applicable to Local Government procurement incorporate:
 - Broad principles covering ethics, value for money responsibilities and accountabilities;
 - Guidelines giving effect to those principles;
 - A system of delegations;
 - Procurement processes, with appropriate procedures covering minor, simple procurement to high value, more complex procurement; and
 - A professional approach.
- Requires that Council's contracting, purchasing and contract management activities:
 - Support Council's corporate strategies, aims and objectives including, but not limited to those related to sustainability, protection of the environment, and corporate social responsibility;
 - Span the whole life cycle of an acquisition from initial concept to the end of the useful life of an asset, including its disposal, or the end of a service contract;
 - Provide a robust and transparent audit trail which ensures that procurement projects are delivered on time, within cost constraints and that the needs of end users are fully met;
 - Achieve value for money and quality in the acquisition of goods, services and works by Council;
 - Can demonstrate that public money has been well spent;
 - Are conducted, and are seen to be conducted, in an impartial, fair and ethical manner;
 - Seek continual improvement including the embrace of innovative and technological initiatives such as electronic tendering processes to reduce activity cost;
 - Generate and support business in the local community; and

- Comply with legislation, corporate policies or other requirements, ensuring that all staff responsible for procurement and contract management are aware of and adhere to the legislative requirements, Council standards and best practice.

1.2 Scope

This procurement Policy is made under Section 186a of the Local Government Act 1989.

This section of the Act requires Council to prepare, approve and comply with a Procurement policy encompassing the principles, processes and procedures applied to all purchases of goods, services and works by the Council.

This policy applies to all contracting and procurement activities at Council.

1.3 Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to:

- Provide policy and guidance to Council to allow consistency and control over Procurement activities;
- To develop sound and ethical procurement practices and systems;
- To manage risk associated with each stage of the procurement process;
- Demonstrate accountability to ratepayers; and
- Demonstrate the application of elements of best practice in procurement.

1.4 Treatment of GST

All monetary values stated in this policy include GST, except where specifically stated otherwise.

1.5 Definitions and Abbreviations

Term	Definition
Australian Business Number (ABN)	A unique 11 digit identifier for businesses. An enterprise must have an ABN to register for GST.
Act	<i>Local Government Act 1989.</i>
Commercial in Confidence	Information that, if released, may prejudice the business dealings of a party e.g., prices, discounts, rebates, profits, methodologies and process information, etc.
Contract Management	The process that ensures both parties to a contract that fully meet their respective obligations as efficiently and effectively as possible, in order to deliver the business and operational objectives required from the contract and in particular, to provide value for money.
Council Staff/Officer	Includes full-time and part-time Council officers, and temporary employees, contractors and consultants while engaged by Council.
Financial Delegation	The authority to purchase goods and services on behalf of Council.
Goods and Services Tax (GST)	A 10% consumption tax on most goods and services. An enterprise must have an ABN and be registered for GST before GST can be applied.

Local Content	Includes the purchases of works, goods and/or services and/or labour from a business that is based within the boundaries of MSC.
Local Supplier	A supplier whose business is within the boundaries of MSC. For large organisations, this definition of local supplier is limited to the section or unit of the organisation that is submitting the tender.
MSC	Moorabool Shire Council
Probity	The dictionary definition of probity refers to uprightness, honesty, proper and ethical conduct and propriety in dealings. Within government, the word "probity" is often used in a general sense to mean "good process." A Procurement process that conforms to the expected standards of probity is one in which clear procedures that are consistent with Council's policies and legislation are established, understood and followed from the outset. These procedures need to consider the legitimate interests of suppliers and ensure that all potential suppliers are treated equitably.
Standing Offer Arrangements (SOA)	A contract that sets out rates for goods and services which are available for the term of the agreement. However, no commitment is made under the agreement to purchase a specified value or quantity of goods or services.
Sustainability	Activities that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.
Procurement	Procurement is the whole process of acquisition of external goods, services and works. This process spans the whole life cycle from initial concept through to the end of the useful life of an asset (including disposal) or the end of a service contract.
Quotation	A written and/or verbal offer to Council to carry out works, provide services or supply goods at a stated price.
Tender Process	The process of inviting parties to submit a quotation by tender using public advertisement, followed by evaluation of submissions and selection of a successful bidder or tenderer.
Superintendent	The person appointed by Council to exercise powers and duties defined in a particular contract and to administer the contract.
Value for Money	Value for Money in Procurement is about selecting the supply of goods, services and works taking into account both cost and non-cost factors including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ contribution to the advancement of Council's priorities; ▪ non-cost factors such as fitness for purpose, quality, service and support; and ▪ cost-related factors including whole-of-life costs and transaction costs associated with acquiring, using, holding, maintaining and disposing of the goods, services or works.

2. EFFECTIVE LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMPLIANCE AND CONTROL

2.1 Ethics and Probity

2.1.1 Requirement

Council's procurement activities will be performed with integrity and in a manner able to withstand the closest possible audit scrutiny.

2.1.2 Conduct of Councillors and Council Staff

2.1.2.1 General

Councillors and Council staff shall at all times conduct themselves in ways that are, and are seen to be, ethical and of the highest integrity and will:

- treat potential and existing suppliers with equality and fairness;
- not seek or receive personal gain;
- maintain confidentiality of Commercial in Confidence information such as contract prices and other sensitive information;
- present the highest standards of professionalism and probity;
- deal with suppliers in an honest and impartial manner that does not allow conflicts of interest;
- provide all suppliers and tenderers with the same information and equal opportunity; and
- be able to account for all decisions and provide feedback on them.

Council staff who are responsible for managing or supervising contracts are prohibited from performing any works under the contract they are supervising.

2.1.2.2 Members of Professional Bodies

Councillors and Council staff belonging to professional organisations shall, in addition to the obligations detailed in this policy, ensure that they adhere to any code of ethics or professional standards required by that body.

2.1.3 Tender Processes

All tender processes shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of this policy and any associated procedures, relevant legislation, relevant Australian Standards and the Act.

2.1.4 Conflict of Interest

Councillors and Council staff shall at all times avoid situations in which private interests conflict, or might reasonably be thought to conflict, or have the potential to conflict, with their Council duties.

The Local Government Act defines and provides examples of conflicts of interest in sections 77A to 78E.

Councillors and Council staff shall not participate in any action or matter associated with the arrangement of a contract (i.e. evaluation, negotiation, recommendation, or

approval), where that person or any member of their immediate family has a significant interest, or holds a position of influence or power in a business undertaking tendering for the work.

The onus is on the Councillor and the Council officer involved being alert to and promptly declaring an actual or potential conflict of interest to Council.

2.1.5 Fair and Honest Dealing

All prospective contractors and suppliers must be afforded an equal opportunity to tender or quote.

Impartiality must be maintained throughout the procurement process so it can withstand public scrutiny.

The commercial interests of existing and potential suppliers must be protected.

Confidentiality of information provided by existing and prospective suppliers must be maintained at all times, particularly commercially sensitive material such as, but not limited to prices, discounts, rebates, profit, manufacturing and product information.

2.1.6 Accountability and Transparency

Accountability in procurement means being able to explain and provide evidence on the process followed. The test of accountability is that an independent third party must be able to see clearly that a process has been followed and that the process is fair and reasonable.

Therefore the processes by which all procurement activities are conducted will be in accordance with Council's procurement policies and procedures as set out in this policy and other related, relevant Council policies and procedures.

Additionally:

- all Council staff must be able to account for all procurement decisions made over the lifecycle of all goods, services and works purchased by Council and provide feedback on them; and
- all procurement activities are to provide for an audit trail for monitoring and reporting purposes.

2.1.7 Disclosure of Information

Commercial in Confidence information received by Council must not be disclosed and is to be stored in a secure location.

Councillors and Council officers are to protect, by refusing to release or discuss the following:

- Allocated Council budgets for proposed tenders;
- information disclosed by organisations in tenders, quotation or during tender negotiations;
- all information that is Commercial in Confidence information; and
- pre-contract information including but not limited to information provided in quotes and tenders or subsequently provided in pre-contract negotiations.

Councillors and Council officers are to avoid references to current or proposed contracts in discussion with acquaintances or outside interests.

Discussion with potential suppliers during tender evaluations should not go beyond the extent necessary to resolve doubt on what is being offered by that supplier.

At no stage should any discussion be entered into which could have potential contractual implications prior to the contract approval process being finalised other than authorised pre-contract negotiations.

2.2 Governance

2.2.1 Responsible Financial Management

The principle of responsible financial management shall be applied to all procurement activities.

Accordingly, to give effect to this principle, the availability of existing funds within an approved budget, or external source of funds, shall be established prior to the commencement of any procurement action for the supply of goods, services or works.

Council officers must not authorise the expenditure of funds in excess of their financial delegations.

Council funds must be used efficiently and effectively to procure goods, services and works and every attempt must be made to contain the costs of the procurement process without compromising any of the procurement principles set out in this Policy.

All Council Officers have a responsibility to ensure that this Procurement Policy and associated procedures are adhered to.

2.3 Achieving Value for Money

2.3.1 Requirement

Council's procurement activities will be carried out on the basis of obtaining Value for Money.

This means minimising the total cost of ownership over the lifetime of the requirement consistent with acceptable quality, reliability, accessibility and delivery considerations. Lowest price is not the sole determinate of value for money, and Council is not required to accept the lowest tender.

Achieving best value also requires challenging the need for the procurement and the way in which the service may be reconfigured to achieve improvements in service delivery, comparing service provision options against all those available, consulting with key stakeholders and ensuring competition in the open market.

Achieving best value for money must be the basis of all procurement decisions within Council.

2.3.2 Approach

This will be facilitated by:

- developing, implementing and managing procurement strategies that support the co-ordination and streamlining of activities throughout the lifecycle;
- effective use of competition;
- using aggregated contracts and SOAs where appropriate;
- identifying and rectifying inefficiencies in procurement processes;
- developing cost efficient tender processes including appropriate use of e-solutions;
- Council staff responsible for providing procurement services or assistance within Council providing competent advice in terms of available approaches and agreements; and
- working with suppliers to create relationships that are professional and productive, and are appropriate to the value and importance of the goods, services and works being acquired.

2.3.3 Support of Local Business

Council is committed to generating, supporting and buying:

- from local businesses;
- from businesses outside the boundaries of MSC, who purchase goods and/or services from local suppliers and/or who use local labour;
- has a preference for Australian made products and goods.

Support to Local Business and Australian made products and goods will be achieved through local price preferencing of 5% to obviate additional fees and charges (E.g.: cartage, transport, postage and handling). Every reasonable effort will be given to seek local quotations and to ensure that local suppliers are aware of current and upcoming tenders.

2.4 Internal Controls

Council have a framework of internal controls over procurement processes that ensure:

- more than one person is involved in and responsible for a transaction end to end;
- transparency in the procurement process;
- a clearly documented audit trail exists for procurement activities;
- appropriate authorisations are obtained and documented; and
- systems are in place for appropriate monitoring and performance measurement.

2.5 Procurement methods according to amount

Threshold Amount (Inc. GST)	Available Methods
1. \$0 - \$100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ **MSC Purchase Card ▪ Petty Cash (Employee Reimbursement Form) ▪ Purchase Order (electronic) ▪ Request for Payment
2. \$101 - \$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ **MSC Purchase Card ▪ Purchase Order (electronic) ▪ Request For Payment
3. \$2,501 - \$15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ **Purchase Order (electronic) (in conjunction with a request for a minimum of 1 Written Quotations) ▪ Request for Payment
4. \$15,001 - \$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ **Purchase Order (electronic) (in conjunction with a request for a minimum of 2 Written Quotations) ▪ Request for Payment
5. \$50,001 - \$150,000 (Goods and Services) or \$200,000 (Carrying out of works)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ **Purchase Order (electronic) (in conjunction with an approved project brief and a request for a minimum of 3 Written Quotations) ▪ Request for Payment ▪ Tender (electronic) (Optional)
6. \$150,000 + (for Goods and Services) or \$200,000 + (Carrying out of works)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ **Tender (electronic) (Compulsory – in accordance with LGA 1989 S186)

** Denotes Council's preferred method of procurement

Tenders can be one-stage, multi-stage, and/or one-part or multi-part.

An Expression of Interest (EOI) may be appropriate prior to issuing a tender.

2.5.1 Other Procurement Methods

Council may also use aggregated purchasing arrangements with:

- other Councils;
- Municipal Association Victoria Procurement (MAV);
- Procurement Australia (PA – formerly known as MAPS Group and Strategic Purchasing); or
- Victorian State Purchasing Board (whole of Government Contracts).

The Minister may, from time to time, grant Section 186 exemptions to Local Government for the provision of goods or services.

Section 186(5) provides for circumstances where Section 186(1) does not apply. For Example: In the event of an emergency Council can resolve that a contract must be entered into without first undertaking a public tender process.

2.5.2 Exceptions To Requirement To Obtain Quotations

It is recognised and understood that in some circumstances quotations will be impractical to seek and obtain. Some of these circumstances include:

- Emergency works and circumstances;
- Existing IT hardware and software;
- Exempt payments (insurance premiums, workcover etc); and
- Other extraordinary circumstances.

In such circumstances, the employee responsible must obtain approval from the relevant General Manager. This clause doesn't apply to the requirement to tender under the Local Government Act unless exempt.

2.6 Payment Terms

Council's standard payment terms are 28 days from the date of the invoice and 14 days for local suppliers. Alternative arrangements may be made within contract documents.

Council's preferred method of payment is Electronic Funds Transfer.

2.7 Delegation of Authority

2.7.1 Requirement

Delegations define the limitations within which Council Officers are permitted to work. Delegation of procurement authority allows specified Council Officers to approve certain purchases, and quotation, tender and contractual processes without prior referral to Council. This enables the Council to conduct procurement activities in an efficient and timely manner whilst maintaining transparency and integrity.

Procurement delegations ensure accountability and provide confidence to Council and the public that procurement activities are dealt with at the appropriate level.

As such, Council has delegated responsibilities as detailed below relating to the expenditure of funds for the purchase of goods, services and works, the acceptance of quotes and tenders and for Contract Management activities.

2.7.2 Delegations - Council Officers

Council shall maintain a documented scheme of procurement delegations, identifying Council Officers authorised to make such procurement commitments in respect of goods, services and works on behalf of Council and their respective delegations contained in Financial Delegations policies for:

- acceptance of tenders
- acceptance of quotes
- contract term extensions (within authorised delegation limit)
- contract amendment (non-financial)
- contract amendment (financial)
- appointment to register of pre-qualified suppliers
- credit card purchases
- procedural exceptions

2.7.3 Delegations - Reserved for Council

Commitments and processes which exceed the CEOs delegation and which must be approved by Council are:

- signing and sealing of contract documents (unless provided for in a Council resolution);
- tender recommendations and contract approval for all expenditure in excess of the CEOs Financial Delegation; and
- contract term extensions in excess of the CEOs Financial Delegation.

3 CODE OF CONDUCT

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the “Employee, Volunteer & Contractor Code of Conduct” and the “Councillors Code of Conduct”.

Any breach of this policy will be addressed in accordance with the “Counselling & Disciplinary Action Policy”.

4 RELATED LEGISLATION/POLICIES/GUIDELINES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)
A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999
Local Government Act 1989
MSC Councillors Code of Conduct
MSC Fraud Prevention Plan
MSC Counselling & Disciplinary Action Policy
MSC Employee, Volunteer & Contractor Code of Conduct
MSC Finance 1 Procedures
MSC OH&S Policy
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Model Procurement Policy (August 2011)
Trade Practices Act 1974

5 CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT/REVIEW

Council is committed to continuous improvement and will review the Procurement Policy to ensure that it continues to meet its wider strategic objectives as follows:

- on an annual basis in accordance with the LGA Section 186A(7), and
- when amendments that affect the scope and effect of this policy are made to the Legislative Power / Requirements.

6 COMPLAINTS

Any complaints in relation to procurement activities at Moorabool Shire Council are to be directed to the General Manager Infrastructure as follows:

Phone: (03) 5366 7100
Fax: (03) 5368 1757
Email: info@moorabool.vic.gov.au

7 POLICY OWNER AND CONTACT DETAILS

Moorabool Shire Council’s Finance Manager is the designated owner of this Policy. For further information on the Policy, please contact Council via email info@moorabool.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 5366 7100.

10.4.5 Request for Street Lighting; Smallmans Road and Haddon Drive, Ballan

Introduction

Author: John Miller
General Manager: Phil Jeffrey

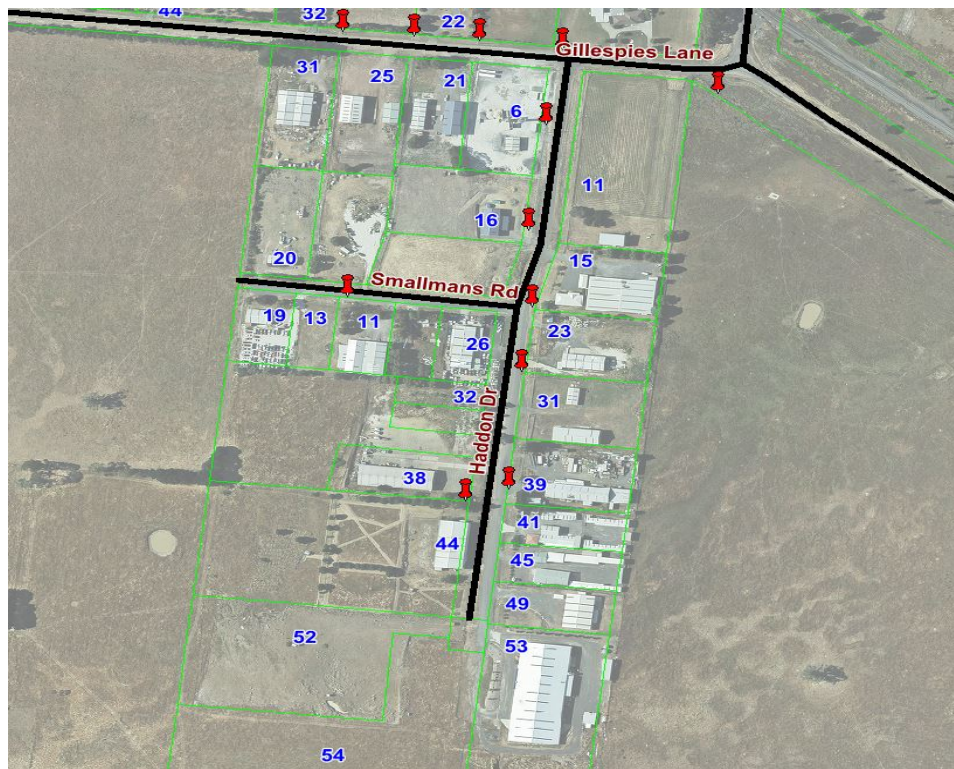
At the Ordinary Meeting on 7 September 2016, Council resolved to receive correspondence on behalf of a number of business owners requesting the installation of additional street lighting within the Ballan Industrial Estate. The letter specifically requested additional lighting along Smallmans Road and Haddon Drive.

As the letter contained seven signatures, it is not considered a formal petition under Moorabool Shire Council Meeting Procedure Local Law No.9, Clause 6.7, however officers have prepared this report in line with the standard petition process.

Background

Over recent years several businesses located on Smallmans Road and Haddon Drive within the Ballan Industrial Estate have stated that they suffered thefts and burglaries.

There are currently no public street lights installed within the estate, however there are a number of power poles located within the estate as shown in the image below:



Site Assessment

Smallmans Road and Haddon Drive are located within the Ballan Industrial Estate which was constructed in the early 90's and they are categorised as Access 1 sealed roads under Council's Road Management Plan. The area is within the Industrial 2 Zone (providing for manufacturing industry, the storage and distribution of goods and associated facilities) and is not constructed to an urban standard.

The estate does not include kerb and channel or footpaths which is representative of many streets in the residential areas of Ballan. Further to this, there are a significant number of roads in the urban and rural residential areas of the Shire that do not have footpath, kerb and channel, and public lighting provisions.

Officers have undertaken an assessment of the existing conditions, with the guidance of Council's Street and Public Place Lighting Policy.

There are two forms of lighting available for installation, Category V Lighting applicable to roads on which the visual requirements of motorists are dominant and Category P Lighting applicable to roads on which the visual requirements of pedestrians are dominant.

As Ballan Industrial Estate is not a retail commercial area, has little or no pedestrian movement at night time, the installation of public street lighting by Council is not considered a priority at this time.

However, based on first principles, if Council was to approve an industrial estate today, there would likely be a requirement for the developer to provide public lighting. As such, it could be argued that there are warrants for street lighting installation. New lighting would consist of P category lighting mounted to existing low voltage power poles.

As an alternative Council could consider a street lighting project through the Special Charge Scheme process. Under the scheme adjacent land owners contribute towards the cost of construction.

Policy Implications

The 2013 - 2017 Council Plan provides as follows:

Key Result Area	Enhanced Infrastructure and Natural and Built Environment
Objective	Ensure current and future infrastructure meets the needs of the community
Strategy	Provision of effective and safe transport networks

The proposal is consistent with the 2013-2017 Council Plan.

Financial Implications

Cost for installation of Category P LED lights, would require 8 lights to be installed on existing power poles with an estimated total cost of approximately \$15,000.

An option may be for the property owners to consider a private street scheme or for Council to refer this project to CIP.

Risk & Occupational Health & Safety Issues

There are no Risk or Occupational Health and Safety issues associated with the recommendation of this report.

Communications Strategy

The convener will be notified of Council's resolution in writing.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

The proposal within the report does not raise any human rights issues in accordance with Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

Officer's Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Under section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended), officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Phil Jeffrey

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – John Miller

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Conclusion

Correspondence has been received requesting the installation of additional street lighting within the Ballan Industrial Estate, specifically along Smallmans Road and Haddon Drive.

Lighting could be installed on a number of existing poles in the estate, however as there is currently no budget allocation, it would have to be referred to future Capital Improvement Program. As an alternative Council could consider this street lighting project through the Special Charge Scheme process. Under the scheme adjacent land owners contribute towards the cost of construction.


Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Refers the project to the Capital Improvement Program for future funding
2. Requests officers to send correspondence to all property owners within the estate to gauge their support for a Special Charge Scheme.

Report Authorisation

Authorised by:



Name: Phil Jeffrey
Title: General Manager Infrastructure
Date: Thursday 27 October 2016

Attachment - Item 10.4.5

MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL
CENTRAL RECORDS

- 8 SEP 2016

31st August 2016

File No. 553
318

Dear Cr Tatchell,

We are writing to council to request that street lights be erected in the Ballan Industrial Estate, along Smallmans Road and Haddon Drive, Ballan.

Lighting along these roads will ensure public safety and prevent and deter thefts and break ins.

Other the last several years multiple businesses have continuously had their properties broken into and numerous items worth huge amounts of value stolen.

Most recently Terry Hodge of Hodge Earthmoving of 18 Smallmans Road has been broken into twice over the last two weeks – with perpetrators doing extensive damage by cutting the security fencing in numerous sections to gain access to the property and remove multiple items ranging from \$5000 to \$100.

Tony Paarhammer of Paarhammer's of 53 Haddon Drive over several years has had a fork lift and various tools stolen.

Jamie Beechey from J & A Automotive of 19 Smallmans Road in the last 12 months has had damage done to the perimeter of his property with his fencing being cut for perpetrators to gain access to the property and stolen car parts and tyers..

The CFA Storage Shed – Andrew Day, PAD Supervisor reported in the last 6 months pad locks had been cut and damage done to the security door from attempts to jimmy open.

Barry Sims of Ballan Storage of 41 Haddon Drive in recent months has had storage units broken into and items stolen and damage to exterior fencing by being cut for perpetrators to gain access to the property.

Adrian Abela from Body Clinic Smash Repairs of 26 Haddon Drive reported car parts stolen multiple times.

Oz Eco Solutions of 11 Smallmans Road in the last 18 months has had a variety of tools and equipment stolen.

John from Inair Custom Trailers of 36 Haddon Drive reported in the last two days he has had is security fence cut, and approximately 3 months ago was broken into with welders, tools and other work shop items valued at between \$70,00 & \$80,000 stolen.

Lachlan Dear of Grand Design Windows of Gillespies Lane Ballan in recent weeks has had numerous car part and items stolen from his property

Approximately 2 weeks ago the remains of a stolen utility vehicle was dumped outside of 19 Smallmans Road, stripped of all valuable items.

Efforts such as installing cameras and lighting by business owners to deter the thefts have been unsuccessful.

All break in's and thefts have been reported to police.

The business & property owners from the Ballan Industrial Estate, signatures attached below, along with others who were not available to comment at the time, collaboratively believe the installation of Street Lighting will assist to eliminate or reduce the amount of break ins as well as further loss and damage to properties in the area.

Please feel free to contact me on my details below should you need.

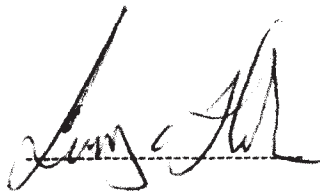
Regards,

Terry Hodge - On behalf of the Ballan Industrial Estate Business & Property Owners

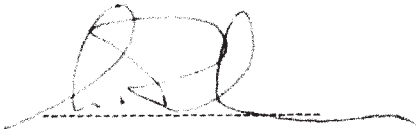
120 Inglis Street

BALLAN

0407528 692



Terry Hodge
Hodge Earthmoving
18 Smallmans Road



Tony Paarhammer
Paarhammer's
53 Haddon Drive

Barry Sims
Ballan Storage
41 Haddon Drive



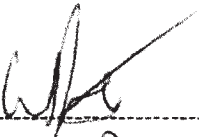
Andrew Day
CFA
Haddon Drive



Adrian Abela
Body Clinic Smash Repairs
26 Haddon Drive

John
Inair Custom Trailer
36 Haddon Drive

C/O BALLAN MOTOR
WRECKERS



Nathan Dear
~~Lechi Dear~~
Grand Design Windows
Gillespie Lane



Jamie Beechey
J & A Automotive
19 Smallmans Road



Oz Eco Solutions
11 Smallmans Lane

11. OTHER REPORTS

11.1 Assembly of Councillors

File No.: 02/01/002

Section 76(AA) of the Local Government Act 1989 defines the following to be Assemblies of Councillors; an advisory committee of the Council that includes at least one Councillor; a planned or scheduled meeting of at least half the Councillors and one member of council staff which considers matters that are intended or likely to be:

- the subject of a decision of the Council; or
- subject to the exercise of a Council function, power or duty by a person or committee acting under Council delegation.

It should be noted, an assembly of Councillors does not include an Ordinary Council meeting, a special committee of the Council, meetings of the Council's audit committee, a club, association, peak body or political party.

Council must ensure that the written record of an assembly of Councillors is, as soon as practicable –

- a) reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Council; and
- b) incorporated in the minutes of that council meeting. (s. 80A(2))

Council also records each Assembly of Councillors on its website at www.moorabool.vic.gov.au

A record of Assemblies of Councillors since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council is provided below for consideration:

Nil.

11.2 Section 86 - Delegated Committees of Council - Reports

Section 86 Delegated Committees are established to assist Council with executing specific functions or duties. By instrument of delegation, Council may delegate to the committees such functions and powers of the Council that it deems appropriate, utilising provisions of the Local Government Act 1989. The Council cannot delegate certain powers as specifically indicated in Section 86(4) of the Act.

Section 86 Delegated Committees are required to report to Council at intervals determined by the Council.

Councillors as representatives of the following Section 86 – Delegated Committees of Council present the reports of the Committee Meetings for Council consideration.

Committee	Meeting Date	Council Representative
Maddingley Park Committee of Management	30 August 2016	Cr. Edwards
Navigators Community Centre - 27 th Annual General Meeting	15 September 2016	Community Members
Navigators Community Centre – Committee Meeting	15 September 2016	
Development Assessment Committee <i>To download a copy of the minutes, go to the MSC website: www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/my-council/council-meetings/council-committees</i>	21 September 2016 12 October 2016	Cr. Comrie Cr. Dudzik Cr. Edwards Cr. Tatchell

Recommendation:

That Council receives the reports of the following Section 86 - Delegated Committees of Council:

- **Maddingley Park Committee of Management meeting of 30 August 2016**
- **Navigators Community Centre - 27th Annual General Meeting of 15 September 2016**
- **Navigators Community Centre – Committee Meeting of 15 September 2015**
- **Development Assessment Committee meeting of 21 September 2016 and 12 October 2016.**

Attachment - Item 11.2(a)

Maddingley Park
Committee of Management
MINUTES

Meeting date: Tuesday 30th August 2016
Meeting venue: Lerderberg Library
Chairperson: Russell Hendry

Present: Russ Hendry, Peter Sutherland, Heather Chambers, Michael Love, Peter Wakefield,

Apologies: Chris Kearney, Gary Coles, Pamela Pinney

1. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting – 26th July 2016 were approved on a motion by Peter Sutherland seconded by Peter Wakefield.

2. Business arising

- a. Pamela to follow up signs at Pearce St Gates & Labassa plaque.
- b. CCTV in park. Michael to follow up
- c. Railing in tennis club – Michael to see Council contractor for price
- d. Web site – Michael to detail and work with Marg on content.

3. Finance

Finance report to 27th August 2016 was circulated. Outstanding funds from MSC total over \$68,000. Troy Scoble is following these up
Moved Peter Sutherland seconded Michael Love that the accounts as presented be approved.

4. Correspondence/Hire Requests

4.1. Inwards

029 – From Phil Jeffrey re Budget submission

030 – From Troy Scoble signed copy of AMA.

031 – Offer from Heather Chambers for park maintenance management.

4.2. Outwards:

024 – To Troy Scoble detailing management plan for ovals management

Moved Peter Wakefield seconded.

Michael Love that the inwards be received and outwards approved and that we accept the offer from Heather Chamber. Secretary to write to Heather accepting offer.

5. Hire Requests/Upcoming events

5.1. Auto swap meet in October 2016

5.1.1. Scouts will use the park on 4th September 2016

6. Projects Update

6.1. Passive area irrigation- Engineering to include this in the pathway lights program for trenching, cabling and water connection so we can save on the costs and cover it in a small grant or other funding options.

6.2. Shower cubicles in the changerooms have passed all issues at Council and are at the quote stage. A project team consisting of Russ, Peter Sutherland and Sam Romaszko has been established.

6.3. Final design for the Clubroom extension is complete and we are at quote stages. Design has been sent to Sam Romaszko.

7. Art in the Park

Action: Pamela and Gary to work with Anu Patel to develop a community grant application to fund a proposal for art in the park.

8. Policy

9. Funding

- Purchase and install electric barbecues
Action: On hold until lighting project commences so we can use same power cable trenching
- Kiosk upgraded for storage.
Action: Site inspected by FOMP and we plan to put in an internal wall and new entry at west end. Funding to be sorted.
- CCTV in park for security.
Action: Michael to get details of supplier.

10. Other Business

10.1. Junior sport facility/complex for Siberia discussed and sub-committee to be established to develop concepts. All User groups must be involved and possibly external interested parties. David suggested we should meet with Tim Peggy (Metro Planning Authority) to discuss this.
Action: Russ to meet with these parties to see what / if interest exists.

10.2. Marg raised concerns that the Recreation & Leisure Committee reports were not being circulated to MP CoM and will follow this up.

10.3. Troy Scoble asked that we push the Tennis club for a long term lease. Russ to follow up.

10.4. Heather has approached Tim to clean toilets at weekends when we have the park booked. Russ to draft a contract.

10.5. Michael raised the issue of lack of communication between the BMFNC & BMLTC regarding the use of netball courts. Secretary to

send letter to BMFNC re programming of this facility and use outside fixture by Ballarat league. Peter Sutherland to follow up with football club. Also to include the possibility of constructing new courts as demand increases.

- 10.6. Having trouble getting responses from Council assets on repairs to net mats and fence in front of tennis clubrooms. Troy Scoble will follow up.

Meeting closed: 8.15 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday 27th Sept 2016 – James Young Room at the library.

Attachment - Item 11.2(b)



Incorporated A022451E

Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting held at the Navigators Hall on 15th September, 2016

Meeting commenced at 7.35pm.

1. Present:

Marita Austin (President), Debbie Barnett (Vice President), Ken Turner (Treasury), Ole Kelderman (Secretary) Tarsha Gore, Michael Clark, David Tatman, Paul Mullane, Wayne Austin Cr. Tom Sullivan.

2. Apologies: David Reyne .

Motion: Apologies be accepted.

Proposed: Ole. Seconded: Tarsha.....carried.

3. Minutes of last AGM meeting: Has been circulated, Ole read out minutes.

Motion: The minutes to be accepted.

Proposed: Debbie. Seconded: Michaelcarried.

4. Presidents Report: Marita read out President's report. Copy on file.

Motion: The report to be accepted.

Proposed: Ole Seconded: Tarsha.....carried.

Report Summary

Marita thanked the members for their volunteering work throughout the year, highlighted challenges in minimising vandalism and damage.

5. Treasurers Report: A 12month report. Copy on file.

Motion: The treasurers report to be accepted.

Proposed: Ken. Seconded: Wayne.....carried.

Treasure Summary

Balance at 30/6/2015 = \$14,815.00

Balance at 30/6/2016 = \$20,153.09

6. Moorabool Shire Council Representative takes chair

Marita invited Tom Sullivan to chair the next section on the meeting.

Tom thanked all volunteers of Navigators for keeping the grounds in such immaculate condition, for volunteering in hosting community

7. Committee of Management positions.

Tom declared all positions vacant and asked for names to be put forward for the position of;

President:

Wayne Austin – nominated by Oleaccepted.

Vice-President:

Debbie Barnett – nominated by Paul ----- accepted

Treasurer:

Ken Turner - nominated by Michael ---- accepted.

Secretary:

Ole Kelderman – nominated by Debbie ----- accepted.

Tennis Club Representative: - Tarsha Gore

Ordinary Members:

Marita Austin
Michael Clark
Tarsha Gore
David Tatman
Paul Mullane

One position vacant – David Reyne to be asked by next meeting.

Motion: Members Accepted

Paul Moved – Debbie Seconded .. carried

Cr Tom Sullivan accepts composition of new committee and hands chair to Wayne Austin as incoming president .

8. Meeting Closed 8.00pm.

General Meeting to follow after a short break.



1 Navigators Community Meeting 15th September 2016

Terms

- NCC – Navigators Community Centre
- MSC - Moorabool Shire Council

1.1 Office Holders

1. Wayne Austin – President
2. Debbie Barnett – Vice President
3. Ken Turner – Treasurer
4. Ole Kelderman – Secretary

1.2 Committee Members

5. Michael Clarke
6. Tarsha Gore
7. David Tatman
8. Marita Austin
9. Paul Mullane

David Reyne to be confirmed, if he will accept

1.3 Present

1. Wayne Austin
2. Debbie Barnett
3. Marita Austin
4. Ken Turner
5. Ole Kelderman
6. Michael Clarke
7. David Tatman
8. Paul Mullane
9. Tarsha Gore

1.4 Apologies

1. David Reyne
- 2.

1.5 Next Meeting: NCC hall, Wed 2nd Nov 2016 7:30 pm.

Meeting Schedule

- 2 Nov 2016
- 1 Mar 2017
- 3 May 2017
- 5 July 2017

2 Navigators Community Centre Minutes

Meeting Started 8:25 pm

Meeting Concluded 9:00 pm

2.1 Minutes for NCC Meeting 20th July 2016

Minutes circulated.

Motion that Minutes be accepted

Debbie Barnett Moved , Paul Mullane Seconded. Carried

2.2 Business Arising From Minutes

2.2.1 Miscellaneous

1. Michael Clarke and Ken Turner opened Bendigo Bank Account. \$5,000 for 6 months @2.55%
2. Wayne Austin to be 3rd signatory on account

2.3 Correspondence

2.3.1 In>

1. MSC – Moorabool Shire Council Operational Supports Grant 2016/17
2. MSC – Moorabool Shire Council Recreation Reserve Funding 2016/2017
3. MSC – Category 4 Recreation Reserves Annual Management Agreement 2016-2017

2.3.2 Out>

1. Nil .

2.4 Treasurer's Report

Current Balance as of 31 Aug 2016

\$14,979.09 in main account

\$ 5,000.00 In Ballan Bendigo Account

\$274 hall hire – still to be deposited

Motion Treasurer's Report to be accepted

Ken moved. Michael Seconded.

2.5 General Reports

2.5.1 Tennis club by Tarsha Gore

1. C2 team won grand final last year
2. Be fielding 2 C1 teams next year.
3. Working Bee 11 am 2nd October

2.5.2 History Club by Michael Clarke

1. 8-10 people meet bimonthly and focus on different aspects of Navigators History

2.5.3 Miscellaneous

1. Nil

2.6 General Business

2.6.1 Events

Movie Night :- Saturday 15th October. 6:30 pm start . Kids Friendly cartoons and then movie 'The Italian Job' (the original version)

Bonfire Night :- Saturday 5th November 6:00 pm

Kids Xmas Function : Sunday 18th December 6:00 pm. Santa Arrival 6:30 pm

2.6.2 Rotunda Gas Bottles

Gas Bottle stolen. Volunteers supplying cage for bottles to hinder further thefts.

2.6.3 Ground Maintenance

Saturday 17th September – mini working bee to grind out roots and some small stumps .

2.6.4 Hall Hire Liability Insurance

Council still needs to clarify on what is required with co-contributions from hall users.

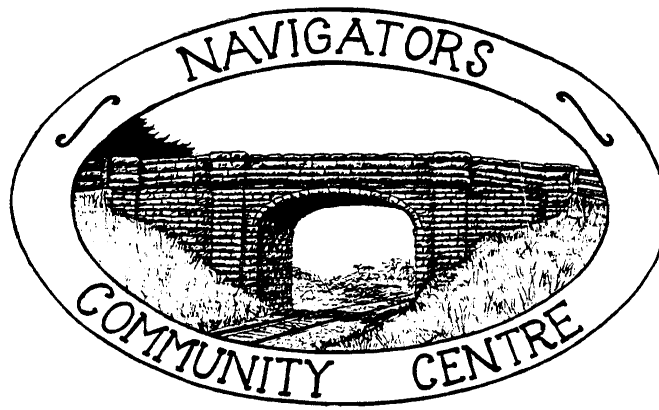
2.6.5 Medical

Defibrillator follow up on Cabinet and to be mounted above stove

Top up of medical kit.

2.6.6 Fencing

Discussions on possibility of fencing in property and benefits.



Navigators Community Centre Grass Roster

January	Alan Rogers
February	Paul Mannix
March	Mark Ryan
April	Mark Mullane
May	Laurie Mullane
June	Rob Gore
July	David Tatman
August	David Tatman
September	Navigators Tennis Club (David Reyne)
October	Paul Mullane
November	Ken Turner/David Reyne
December	Michael Clark

- ❖ Cut grass around hall and car park area.
- ❖ Arrange with another member if month is not suitable.

- Extra contact – Laurie Mullane – 53347261

Enquiries Marita - 53347032

11.3 Advisory Committees of Council - Reports

Advisory Committees are established to assist Council with executing specific functions or duties.

Advisory Committees of Council currently have no delegated powers to act on behalf of Council or commit Council to any expenditure unless resolved explicitly by Council following recommendation from the Committee. Their function is purely advisory.

Advisory Committees are required to report to Council at intervals determined by the Council.

Councillors as representatives of the following Advisory Committees of Council present the reports of the Committee Meetings for Council consideration.

Committee	Meeting Date	Council Representative
Lal Lal Falls Advisory Committee	13 October 2016	Cr. Sullivan

Recommendation:

That Council receives the reports of the following Advisory Committees of Council:

- **Lal Lal Falls Advisory Committee meeting of Thursday 13 October 2016**

Attachment - Item 11.3

Date: 13 October 2016

Attendance: Geoff Hewitt, John McAuliffe, Sue McRae, Colleen Henriksen, Ann Beggs-Sunter

Apologies: Phil Kinghorn

1. Reception of minutes:

That the minutes of the meeting dated 11 August be accepted.

Moved: J. McAuliffe

Seconded: C. Henriksen

Carried

2. Business arising from the minutes:

2.1 Submission for Rasmussen's hut (2.1)

- Discussion with Community Development (25/8) suggested no further written proposal until after Council meeting 7/9
- Contacted T. Sullivan to explain proposal (26/8) for Council meeting 7/9
- Onsite review of proposal with D. Tschujasehenko (21/9) with subsequent request for background addressed. (see Correspondence)
- Request to CHW currently being drafted.

Action: Follow up to clarify what Council decided

2.2 Annual community meeting feedback (2.2)

- Our presentation content: history, achievements, grant's expenditure, plans & priorities
- Material to be provided (Office holders, contact info, meeting dates) for circulation

Arising: Refer issue of office holders and meetings to General Business.

2.3 Traffic counters (2.3)

- Request to alter policy drafted and posted 25/8/16 with emailed copy to Community Development
- Followed up with T. Sullivan (26/8) for Council meeting 7/9
- Council has agreed to installation of counters and they were installed at both car park sites from Thursday 22/9
- Conversation with Ross McCallum re use and checking of traffic counters and exchange of information (26/9)
- Follow up (13/10) that Shire will install old counter models and Committee will record monthly, weekend, holiday and peak period numbers and forward information to Ross as well as Council.

Arising: Committee recommends installation on Falls Rd before first car park entrance and after the second to separate local and tourist traffic.. Geoff to follow up with Ross McCallum.

2.4 Additional road signage (2.4)

- Emailed request for signage at intersection of Harris and Falls Rd (16/8)
- Follow up discussion with Community Development (25/8) to defer until other signage installed then request would be proceeded with.
- First sign installed on Racecourse Rd not on Harris Rd as requested or planned.
- Incorrect placement (on Racecourse Rd). Onsite meeting (21/9) to determine placement.
- Onsite meeting with engineer and D. Tschujasehenko (21/9) to agree on signage and placement with signs to be installed over next few weeks.
- Sign opposite Harris Rd car park installed

2.5 Memorial installation (4.3)

- Draft submission (25/8) forwarded to P. Kinghorn to review.
- Submitted to September Land Care meeting (5/9) for review
- Application pending feedback

2.6 Spring planting ((5.7)

1. Fencing materials

- Ross Holton to provide pine corner posts, wire if available (15/8). Requested we submit a list of specifications with material requirements.
- Posts available No wire. Check onsite for mulch transfer and placement (1/9 meeting deferred)
- 200+ stakes and guards delivered to John McAuliffe

2. Species list

- Matt propagated black woods, not black wattle, but willing to swap some if required.
- Trees ready to plant earlier than shrubs. Matt suggested later in September or early October.
- Committed to sending list week beginning 22/8. Followed up 26/8.
- Initial plan to layout mulch 10-11/9, plant trees 24-25/9, with shrubs later, deferred due to weather conditions.
- Revised tree planting date 8/10 with shrub planting the following weekend but planted 500 plants, installed tree guards and erected fence. Approx. 75 plants still need stakes. Mulch layout and delivery pending weather and ground conditions.
- Checked on 10/10: fixed approx 30 guards and stakes dislodged by winds. Secured another 20+ stakes
- Recommend removing guards because of potential damage to plants.

Actions:

1. Thank Ross Holton for providing stakes and guards.
2. Retain guards at present but monitor for plant damage.
3. Contact Phil Kinghorn to provide stakes for approx. 70 seedlings and possibility of doubling up to stabilize guards.
4. Follow up with Matt Pywell regarding possible medium size shrub species for future collection and planting.

2.7 Eastern zone weed reduction (6.2)

- Ross Holton willing to include slashing of eastern gully section with western section of recreation area.
- On-site inspection with Ross and contractor pending
- Contact with Justin Horne 15-16/9. Need to ensure all contacts are aware of activities planned /undertaken.
- Noted whole of recreation zone, east and west, sprayed for serrated tussock, Monday 12/9/Thursday 15/9. Queried effectiveness of contractors spraying in rain and wet conditions.
- Spear thistle re-growth in weeded area of eastern zone seems to be limited.

3. Correspondence:

3.1 In

1. 15/8/16 D. Tschujasehenko, signage installation (refer 2.4)
2. 16/8/16 P. Kinghorn, fencing material specifications (refer 2.6)
3. C. Henriksen, amendment August minutes
4. 1/9/16 S. McRae, acknowledging amended minutes
5. 2/9/16 L. Grey, Land Care August minutes
6. 5/9/16 P. Kinghorn, Alford Memorial material (refer 2.5)
7. 8/9/16 D. Tschujasehenko, Impact of caretaker period on Committee decisions
8. 15/9/16 J. Horne, Lal Lal spray lines (refer 2.6)
9. 16/9/16 M. Pywell, suggested species to be planted (refer 2.6)
10. J. Horne, acknowledging spray lines explanation (refer 2.6)
11. D. Tschujasehenko, road signage placement (refer 2.4)
12. T. McCullough, Application to amend wind farm application

13. 19/9/16 A. Beggs-Sunter, spring planting (refer 2.6)
14. 20/9/16 C. Henriksen, spring planting (refer 2.6)
15. D. Tschujasehenko, reminder re onsite meeting (refer 2.1 & 2.4)
16. 22/9/18 D. Tschujasehenko, request for background information on Rasmussen's hut (refer 2.1)
17. Anne Beggs-Sunter, apology for 8/10 planting (refer 2.6)
18. 28/9/16 J. McMahon, Lal Lal wind farm update
19. 29/9/16 A. Beggs-Sunter, availability for tree planting
20. 30/9/16 H. McMahon, requesting permission to erect signage
- 21&22. 2/10/16 C. Henriksen, availability for tree planting and follow up dates
23. 3/10/16 A. Beggs-Sunter, availability for follow up planting
24. 7/10/16 D. Tschujasehenko, query re Rasmussen's background (refer 2.1)
25. A. Beggs-Sunter, information re Rasmussen's (refer 2.1)
26. 9/10/16 P. Kinghorn, photo of planting from Harris Rd (8/10)
- 27& 28. 10/10/16 D. Tschujasehenko, acknowledging Rasmussen's information (2.1)
29. 10/10/16 J. Horne, explanation of tree cutting (refer 5.2)
30. 11/10/16 J. McMahon, Wind farm Planning panel deadline

3.2 Out

1. 15/8/16 Committee and contacts, August minutes
2. 16/8/16 D. Tschujasehenko, additional road sign request (refer 2.4)
3. P. Kinghorn, fencing material requirements (refer 2.6)
4. 17/8/16 C. Henriksen, acknowledging amendment
5. R. Holton, fencing material specifications (refer 2.6)
6. 25/8/16 D. Tschujasehenko, request to alter traffic counter policy (email copy 26/8)
7. 26/8/16 P. Kinghorn, requesting information for Memorial application (refer 2.5)
8. 2/9/16 Committee, possible working bee dates (refer 2.6)
9. P. Kinghorn, follow up Alford Memorial draft (refer 2.5)
10. 16/9/16 J. Horne, explaining spray lines and slashing (refer 2.6)
11. 17/9/16 Committee, copy of species list (refer 2.6)
12. 20/9/16 A. Beggs-Sunter, acknowledging dates available (refer 2.6)
13. 22/9/16 C. Henriksen, planting update (refer 2.6)
14. 23/9/16 J. McAuliffe & A. Beggs-Sunter, request for background information on Rasmussen's (refer 2.1)
15. 26/9/16 M. Pywell, tree collection arrangements (refer 2.6)
16. Committee, proposed tree planting arrangements (refer 2.6)
17. R. Holton, thanking for delivery of tree guards and stakes (refer 2.6)
18. Committee, confirming first planting date (refer 2.6)
19. 27/9/16 R. McCallum, attendance figures from 2011 & March 2016 report on tourist figures (refer 2.3)
20. 1/10/16 Committee, follow up request for tree planting availability
21. 2/10/16 C. Henriksen, acknowledging tree planting availability
22. 3/10/16 A. Beggs-Sunter, acknowledging tree planting availability
23. 7/10/16 D. Tschujasehenko, forwarding A. Beggs-Sunter information re Rasmussen's (refer 2.1)
24. 7/10/16 D. Tschujasehenko, follow up interpretation of Rasmussen's material (refer 2.1)
25. A. Beggs-Sunter, acknowledgement of information provided (refer 2.1)
26. J. Horne, query re fallen tree and weed infestation at Moorabool Falls (refer 5.2)
27. 8/10/16 Committee, agenda for Oct meeting
28. 11/10/16 J. Horne, agree to meet onsite for weed control liaison (refer 5.2)
29. 13/10/16 R. Holton, thanking for providing stakes and guards

4. Business arising from the correspondence:

Refer to item 2, Business arising from the Minutes and item 5, Reports as indicated.

5. Reports:

5.1 Public use of Reserve (John)

Month	Cars	Big Buses	Small Buses	Motorbikes	Pushbikes	BBQs cleaned	Harris Rd
August	518	6	25	47	46	8	135
September (1/9-23/9) ¹	1883	7	40	66	61	21	74

¹Traffic counters were installed from 23/9 to 6/10 and the data collected is not included in this table.

These figures continue the increased attendance trend noted for July across all categories.

- Car attendance is nearly three times the previous record for August and nearly 7.75 times the previous best for September.
- The previous best for small buses is 10 for August and 12 for September.
- For bicycles the previous best were 24 and 26 respectively, and for Harris Rd 53 and 25.

The early figures for October also reflect the increased interest when the Falls are flowing.

Month	Cars	Big Buses	Small Buses	Motorbikes	Pushbikes	BBQs cleaned	Harris Rd
7-12 October	789	1	11	6	10	8	28

- Car attendance to date is over 3.25 times the previous best total for October and the figure for Harris Rd already exceeds previous best attendance.
- The figure for motorbikes already makes it the third best out of the six years for which attendance has been recorded.

5.2 Moorabool Falls

- Tree collapsed over access steps descending to alternate circuit walk from viewing platforms area but branches cut so pathway usable
- Significant carrot weed infestation and a clump of blackberry re-growth. Requested possibility of Land Care undertaking poisoning program. Justin Horne has requested a mud map showing the blackberry site.
- Alternate route being used. Track needs only minor clearance work.
- Justin Horne has requested an onsite meeting explore cooperation with Landcare and CHW for the weed control program.

5.3 Land Care

- AGM September with new executive, including Geoff (Secretary) and Phil (Vice President and Projects officer)
- Threatened species project to film phasagale and related activity on sites at Lal Lal Falls, IMLAL and private property
- Blackberry task force funded for one year to collaborate with farmers and focus on roadside infestation

5.4 ImLal/Ballarat Tree Growers

No report

5.5 Lal Lal Soldier's Memorial Hall

- Colleen has replaced Bill Waud as Treasurer
- ANZAC Memorial Park works underway. Memorial draft due and installation within approx 6 weeks.
- Community events grant for \$3000 to organize an official opening

6. Business arising from reports

6.1 Public use of Reserve

6.1.1 Tourist potential

- In addition to the data collected since 2011, feedback from community members living on the road between Lal Lal and the Falls also suggests that the upsurge in attendance at the Falls is unprecedented.

- If that interest is substantially a product of the publicity observed in *The Courier*, 3BA and on Face Book then this has significant implications for how the Shire promotes its tourist assets.
- It certainly demonstrates the potential for linking the Falls with other sites to promote date trips and touring within the Shire.
- It could also provide an associated potential financial benefit for local businesses and a case for business advertising to help defray the cost for the Shire of tourist promotion.

6.1.2 Vehicle access in wet weather conditions

- CHW workers measured water flow on the Lal Lal Creek during the flood period, accessing their site above the Falls by vehicle through the green gate, leaving substantial indentation marks enroute which are still obvious.
- Surface damage in these conditions is almost inevitable and there is potential for bogging, which explains why Parks and related Shire services refrain from using vehicles in the reserve while these conditions prevail.
- Whilst such damage may only appear to be minor, significant indentations tend to remain when the ground dries out and could result in infringements of protocols related to Public Land Aboriginal Heritage Management requirements.
- It should be noted that this point of access, and the route taken by the CHW vehicle between the toilets and rotunda, is within 50 metres of an identified indigenous artifacts site.

Recommendation:

That the Shire addresses this issue with CHW: (1) to ensure that vehicle movement in the recreation area is limited in wet weather conditions to avoid surface damage to the park, (2) to avoid ground surface disturbance within 50 m of the indigenous artifacts site and (3) to explore the possibility of an alternative access point for CHW vehicles to the flow measurement site to avoid the impacts outlined in points 1 and 2 above.

Moved; S. McRae

Seconded: A. Beggs-Sunter

Carried

7. General business:

7.1 Matters for reference to the Shire

The order of business was amended to list the following matters arising from the recent weather conditions.

7.1.1 Lal Lal Falls Rd

The edges of the road are cut away at various points, risking tyre and other damage when passing vehicles are obliged to partly move off the asphalt.

7.1.2 Lal Lal Falls car park

Recently, during periods of high demand, between 15-30 cars have been parked at the Falls car park with upward of 20 or more parked off road along the adjacent roadsides. Skidding on the grass verge of the car park is evident and there is potential for bogging.

Recommendation: That the car park be expanded to level with the existing park fence line to allow two rows of parking space.

7.1.3 Tree clearance for power lines

In the old race course property, the power pole and line servicing the Falls recreation zone are beneath large pine trees area, representing a potential threat to that service.

Recommendation: That Powercorp or the relevant provider be advised of the hazard and requested to rectify it.

7.1.4 Trees on Falls Rd

John McAuliffe has identified several trees along the road from Lal Lal to the Falls park that need attention

7.1.5 Walking tracks in the recreation area

The recent weather conditions have highlighted several points where the pathways to the viewing platform were subject to inundation or substantial drainage flow, requiring lifting or improved drainage arrangements.

Action: That the chairperson bring these matters to the attention of the relevant Shire department(s).

7.2 Meeting schedule 2017

Meetings are to be held on the first Thursday of every second month commencing in February. Meetings will be held in the Lal Lal Soldier's Memorial Hall and commence at 7:30 pm.

The meeting dates are as follows:

- 2 February
- 6 April
- 1 June
- 3 August
- 5 October

7.3 Working parties 2017

These will be mostly scheduled on alternate months to the meeting schedule.

Priorities include the following:

1. Weed check on spear thistle re-growth in designated areas mapped in 2015.
2. Weed check and growth monitoring in newly planted area of western recreation zone.
3. Maintaining track clearance on the alternative track at Moorabool Falls.
4. Installing steps on the slope up to the Salt Creek section of the alternate track, from the viewing site above the Salt Creek-West Moorabool intersect.
5. Planting indigenous shrubs in the vicinity of the viewing platform at Lal Lal Falls.

7.4 Working party, November 2016

Date: Saturday, 12 November

Start: 9:00 am

Focus: Eastern conservation zone: Checking for and removal of spear thistle re-growth, blackberry, scotch thistle and other weeds identified in 2015 survey.

Meeting point: entrance gate at eastern end of conservation zone on Lal Lal Falls Rd.

7.5 Membership and Executive

The terms of reference for the committee (6/11/03) require it to nominate community members each March to Council for approval. There are no formal requirements for office-holders but chairperson and secretary positions were created and filled from 2004 with the role of minute secretary rotated among other members attending meetings.

Decision: That the positions of chairperson, deputy chair and secretary be open for nomination and election at the February meeting.

8. Next meeting:

Date: 2 February 2017
Venue: Lal Lal Soldier's Memorial Hall
Time: 7:30 pm

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

No notices of motion have been received for consideration as part of this Agenda.

13. MAYOR'S REPORT

To be presented at the meeting by the Mayor.

Recommendation:

That the Mayor's report be received.

14. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

To be presented at the meeting by Councillors.

Recommendation:

That the Councillors' reports be received.

15. URGENT BUSINESS

16. CLOSED SESSION OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**16.1 Confidential Report****16.2 Confidential Report****Recommendation:**

That pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1989, the meeting now be closed to members of the public to enable the meeting to discuss matters, which the Council may, pursuant to the provisions of Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) resolve to be considered in Closed Session, being a matter contemplated by Section 89(2) of the Act, as follows:

- (a) personnel matters;
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- (c) industrial matters;
- (d) contractual matters;
- (e) proposed developments;
- (f) legal advice;
- (g) matters affecting the security of Council property;
- (h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
- (i) a resolution to close the meeting to members of the public

17. MEETING CLOSURE