

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 15 August 2017

To be held at the
Robinvale Community Centre,
McLennan Drive, Robinvale
Commencing at 4:00 PM

COUNCIL:

Cr LT McPhee – Mayor

Cr JN Katis

Cr GW Norton

Cr C Jeffery

Cr L Johnson

Cr B Moar

Cr A Young

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SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- **Open**

- **Acknowledgement to Country**

- **Prayer**

- **Apologies**

- **Confirmation of Minutes**
 - 1) Ordinary Meeting held on 27 June 2017
 - 2) Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 27 June 2017
 - 3) Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 25 July 2017

- **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

- **Receptions and Reading of Petitions, Memorials, Joint Letters and Deputations**

- **Public Question Time**

SECTION B – REPORTS

B.17.70 AUDIT COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: S15-28-01
Attachments: 1 Audit Committee Confidential Minutes 29-6-17

Declarations of Interest:

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

Council's Audit Committee met on 29 June, 2017 and this report summarises the items that were discussed at the meeting.

Discussion

The Audit Committee met on 29 June 2017 and as well as the usual procedural items the agenda items included:

1. A presentation was made to the Audit Committee on the Local Law No2 which had been adopted at its Ordinary meeting on 27 June 2017.
2. The Interim Audit Management Letter was presented with a very good result.
3. Quarterly Financial Performance and Position to 31 March 2017 was presented noting that overall Council is tracking well.
4. Legislative changes affecting Council were noted as Local Government Act Review which is still underway and the proposal for revaluations to be done every year by Valuer-General which have been postponed.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

The sitting fees paid to independent members on the Audit Committee is adjusted annually by CPI. Sitting fees are included in Councils Budget.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

The Audit Committee helps to oversee Councils risk management practices. Internal and other audits are routinely done to reduce the risk to Council.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

Options

Not applicable.

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of this report.

Attachment

- Audit Committee Confidential Minutes
29 June 2017

B.17.71 KEY STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2016/17 STATUS REPORT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: S16-28-03
Attachments: 1 KSI Fourth quarter status report

Declarations of Interest:

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

This is the fourth quarterly report identifying the status of the Key Strategic Initiatives from the Council Plan for the 2016/17 financial year. This report also provides updates for any actions that were carried over from previous years. This is the final report in relation to the Council Plan 2013-17. Any outstanding actions will be carried over into the Key Strategic Initiatives report for the Council Plan 2017-21.

Discussion

The Council Plan 2013-17 included 78 initiatives and 248 actions through which the achievement of the Council Plan could be measured over its four-year term. Each action had a nominated responsible officer who is a member of the Leadership Team, reflecting the importance placed on achieving targets.

There are 15 actions in total identified for the 2016/17 period.

The following 10 actions were completed during the fourth quarter:

- 1.1.2 Progressively implement actions from revised Communications Strategy
- 1.2.1 Results of Community Satisfaction Survey analysed by ELT and Council
- 1.3.1 Produce and distribute a Community Newsletter three times a year
- 7.1.2 Determine Council responsibilities and prioritise resource allocation for Annual Operational Plan
- 7.1.3 Implementation of Youth Action Plan actions
- 7.1.4 Review of the Youth Action Plan
- 16.2.1 Utilise Councils media presence to cross promote University accessibility
- 16.2.2 Actively promote Councils cadetships, traineeships and apprenticeships

SECTION B - REPORTS

15 August 2017

- 17.1.3 Review Economic Development incentives within strategies
- 19.9.3 Develop applications to Federal departments for Robinvale levee

Since the adoption of the Council Plan in 2013, six actions have been deemed as no longer applicable.

The progress of all actions is outlined in the table below and the comments section of the attachment to this report.

The five outstanding actions will continue to be reported on in the Key Strategic Initiatives for the Council Plan 2017-21.

Year	No. of Actions	Total completed	No longer applicable	Complete/ Ongoing	Outstanding	Completed this ¼
Rolled over from previous Council Plan	6	6	0	0	0	
2013/14	111	81	4	26	0	1
2014/15	67	34	1	32	0	1
2015/16	49	23	1	25	0	5
2016/17	15	6	0	4	5	3
Total	248	150	6	87	5	Total - 10

Consultation

Council consulted the community during the development of the Council Plan 2013/17. Public submissions were also called for during the 2016 Council Plan review.

The Council Plan was first adopted at the June Council Meeting 2013. The reviewed Council Plan was adopted at the April Council Meeting 2016.

Financial Implications

The implementation of most 2016/17 Key Strategic Initiatives was included in the budget.

Social Implications

Not applicable for this item.

Economic Implications

Not applicable for this item.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable for this item.

Risk Management Implications

Monitoring of Council's progress to implement the Council Plan helps to reduce risks associated with governance and reputation.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

Options

Not applicable for this report.

Recommendation

That Council notes the contents of the Key Strategic Initiatives fourth quarter status report for 2016/17.

1 Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	When	How we will know we have achieved this	Directorate	Officers/s	Complete Y/N	Comments as at 30 June 2017
Legend								
Completed								
Currently underway/Ongoing								
Action yet to be taken								
Initiatives carried over from previous Council Plan								
EG	Housing	Facilitate development of the South West Precinct of Swan Hill	2014-15	Amendment to the Minister of Planning for approval.	DDP	DM	Y	Amendment C58 has been approved by the Minister. Awaiting gazettal of the amendment.
EG	Attracting new business	Begin implementation of the Central Business District Masterplans for Robinvale and Swan Hill including identifying links to Riverfronts	May-14	Stage 3 works complete.	DI	EPAM	Y	Works completed in May 2014.
EG	Attracting new business	Development of a strategy to support the attraction of new business based on the regions comparative and competitive advantages as identified in the Economic Development Strategy	Jun-14	Strategy developed.	DDP	ECDM	Y	The Investment Attraction Policy adopted at Council's September 2015 meeting.
EG	Infrastructure	Conduct a review of Council operated aerodromes and implement both CASA requirements and Council recommendations	Dec-14	Works completed within available funds.	DI	ECDM	Y	Renewal works completed to the amount of the available funds.
EG	Infrastructure	Conduct a review of Council operated aerodromes and implement both CASA requirements and Council recommendations	2014	Expressions of interest advertised if recommended by Business Case for Aerodrome.	DDP	ECDM	Y	Discussions with potential commercial operator has recently ceased due to changes in their commercial direction. Discussions will now be held with Councilors to determine a course of action.
EG	Infrastructure	Commerce Program to identify works required on access roads to enable B Double access	2014	Identify appropriate roads.	DDP	ECDM	Y	National Heavy Vehicle Regulator will determine access as part of national program. Council completed the pre-approval process to determine routes 2017-70% of our rural roads have been opened for B double access
Governance and Leadership (15 Strategic Initiatives : 44 Actions)								
GL	1. Developing open community relationships	1.1 Review and implement actions from the Communication Strategy	2014-15	Revised Communication Strategy adopted by Council	DCS	ODM	Y	Communication Strategy adopted at July Council Meeting.
GL		1.1.1 Review of existing Communication Strategy	2015-17	Half yearly report of achievement of Strategy will be presented to Council	DCS	ODM	Y	Communication Strategy adopted at July Council Meeting.
GL		1.1.2 Progressively implement actions from revised strategy	2013-17	Annual report to Council presenting Survey results and recommendations	DCS	ODM	Y	1. State government community satisfaction survey completed and result presented to Council in July 2013. 2. Staff presentations made in February 2014. 3. SHRC's community satisfaction emailed to Council in August 2014 as per CEO's request. 4. State Government Community Satisfaction Survey result presented to ELT 1 June. Presented at Councilor Assembly 30 June 5. 2016 Community Survey completed. 6. 2017 Community Survey completed
GL		1.2 Review results of Community Satisfaction Surveys to identify and implement changes in service demand	2014-17	Service level changes identified and funded in the Budget	DCS	ODM	CO	Service levels are reviewed as part of the annual budget process.
GL	Developing open community relationships	1.3 Produce and distribute a Community Newsletter three times a year	2013-17	Newsletter distributed in April, August and December	DCS	ODM	Y	August 2013 December 2013, April 2014, August 2014, December 2014, March 2015, April 2015, July 2015, December 2015 newsletters distributed
GL	Developing open community relationships	1.4 Develop Council's systems and processes to improve Customer Service	2013-17	Annual report on completion of actions from IT Strategy presented to Council	DCS	ITM	CO	IT Strategy actions from the previous IT Strategy are complete. A new IT Strategy is now being developed to underpin the objectives of the new Council Plan. we currently have a final version of this plan. Plan is due for completion by mid of 2017.

GL	Nurturing critical external relationships	5.3 Encourage and support Council representatives to obtain positions on relevant boards	5.3.1 Identify opportunities that match the skill set of Councillors and Senior staff	2013-17	Board position opportunities discussed regularly at Council Assemblies	ELT	ELT	CO	Council is well represented on boards and will continue to look for opportunities. Councillor representation on MAV Board (Cr Norton), Cr McPhee appointed to the MAV committee responding to the review of the Local Government Act. This initiative has been referenced in the Council Plan 2017 - 2021 ONGOING
GL	Nurturing critical external relationships	5.4 Ensure regular dialogue with neighbouring NSW municipalities to assist in reducing cross border issues	5.4.1 Schedule regular meetings / assemblies with Wakool & Balranald Shires	2013-17	Schedule is established and agreed to by all municipalities	CEO	CEO	CO	Joint tour of Murray Downs and Swan Hill with Wakool Shire in January 2014. Balranald Municipal Visit: Tuesday 14 April 2015 Wakool Municipal Visit: 12 May 2015. Council met with Wakool Council in April 2016 and with Murray River Council in September 2016 and February 2017 and in June 2017. We have attempted to arrange a meeting with Balranald but have been unable to find a suitable date. ONGOING
GL			5.4.2 Maintain membership of Central Murray Regional Trans Forum & Murray Tourism Board	2013-15	Councillor rep and Senior staff nominated to administer / participate	CEO	CEO	CO	Membership of, and participation in, both organisations has been maintained. ONGOING
GL			5.4.3 Facilitate discussions with Cross Border Commissioner (NSW) and Dept of Premier & Cabinet (Vic)	2013-17	Meetings scheduled	CEO	CEO	CO	A meeting of NSW Councils (RAMRCC) and Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC) that was scheduled for November 2014 has been postponed. This issue has been included in the work plan for the Mallee Regional Partnership. ONGOING
GL			5.4.5 Industry based discussions held with Council staff and industry reps	2013-17	Meetings scheduled	CEO	CEO ELT	CO	CEO and Director Development and Planning have had meetings with large Swan Hill Businesses. Industry presentations have been made at Councillor Assembly. The CEO and the Director of Development and Planning have continued site visits spending two days in the Women and Robinvale areas discussing various issues with large horticulture operations. The CEO continues to meet with Industry and Community leaders. ONGOING
Community Health and Wellbeing (27 Strategic Initiatives: 88 Actions)									
CHW	6. Council seeks to connect members of our community to bring people together to find solutions to community problems	6.1 Assist with the review and implementation of community plans	6.1.1 Implementation of plans are an ongoing process. There are currently 11 community plans in place.	2013-17	Projects identified in the plans are completed and signed off on by relevant community. There will be projects that are investigated by community members and are seen not to be a priority.	DDP	CPO	CO	1. Swan Hill-evaluation of Jayose Park meeting place 2. Manangatang gym equipment installed, lighting timers installed at travellers rest, Manangatang walking path to commence 19/6/17 3. Woorinen gym equipment installed, trees to be planted at the skate park, investigating walking track on VicTrack land 4. Nyan - Two boys walking path to commence 19/6/17 5. Pringali to install a basket ball ring and long roll play equipment 6. Boundary Bend walking path (loop and southern track) currently preparing documents for tender, and median strip is in final stages of scoping 7. Women investigating public toilet 8. Robinvale working on upgrading lights, power outlets and signage on Caix Square. Plans with engineering for 4 bike racks to be positioned along Perrin St, trees to be planted in McGinly Park 9. Lake Boga to install a drinking fountain and 3 themed seats 10. Ultima skate park with engineering to test the density of concrete. Youth public speaking partnership with the school
CHW			6.1.2 Every community plan is reviewed approximately every 18 months. Over a four year period approximately 6 plans are reviewed yearly.	2013-17	New community plans are published	DDP	CPO	CO	Boundary Bend and Ultima mini reviews have been held to update community plan. Woorinen reviewed plan 2016 and have received updated layout. In the process of finalising Robinvale comm plan
CHW	7. Building community capacity	7.1 Implement Youth Action Plan	7.1.1 Youth Strategy reviewed and Action Plan developed	2013-14	Council adopts reviewed Youth Strategy, endorses Action Plan	DCCS	FCGSM	Y	The new Youth Strategy 2015-2019 was adopted by Council in October 2015.
CHW			7.1.2 Determine Council responsibilities and prioritise for resource allocation.	2013-14	Council responsibilities and priorities determined, and resource allocation complete.	DCCS	FCGSM	Y	Annual Operational Plan was presented at Council Assembly on 19 April 2016.
CHW			7.1.3 Implementation of Actions	2014-16	Identified Actions are resourced and completed	DCCS	FCGSM	Y	Operational Plan activities/actions that have been implemented are recorded into an Evaluation Framework.

CHW		7.1.4 Review of the Action Plan	2016-17	Process for continual review undertaken and agreed, resources allocated.	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	The Operational Plan activities/actions that have been implemented are recorded into an Evaluation Framework. This enables a comprehensive review of activities / actions, outcomes and helps identify areas for action in the 17/18 operational plan.
CHW	8. Building community capacity	8.1 Provide leadership/support to the community as issues of significance arise	2013-14	Service gaps determined and Council's role defined	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	Council's participates actively in various working parties: Southern Malles Youth Partnership Governance project has established a sub-regional governance structure. Jan McEwan represents SHRCC on Malles Child and Youth Area Partnership led by DHS and DECD which held its first meeting in September 2014. COMPLETED
CHW		8.1.1 Determine Council's role in our community addressing youth mental health and early intervention service gaps.						
CHW		8.1.2 (For example) Seek the establishment of a Headspace in Swan Hill.	2014-15	A Headspace is established	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	It was announced in October 2014 that a new Headspace Centre will be located in Swan Hill and is due to be open in 2015. Medicare Local has agreed to be the lead agency and business plan has been submitted by Medicare Local in April 2015. COMPLETED
CHW		8.1.3 Implement the agreed actions.	2013-17	Actions are implemented.	DCCS	FYCSM	CO	Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Community enrichment - Strategic objective 1, page 18 and strategic objective 3, page 20. COMPLETED
CHW	Building community capacity	8.2 Provide leadership/support to the community as issues of significance arise	2013-14	Service gaps determined and Council's role defined	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	Council's participates actively in various working parties, and CEO is a member of the Executive Coalition - the governance structure of the Swan Hill Interagency Youth Service System. COMPLETED
CHW		8.2.1 Determine Council's role in closing community mental health service gaps.						
CHW		8.2.2 Implement the agreed actions which are Council responsibility	2014-15	Actions are implemented within budget and to agreed timelines	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	CEO is a member of the Swan Hill Youth Mental Health Executive Coalition which has adopted the Youth Mental Health Project Reform Action Plan 2014-2016. COMPLETED
CHW		8.2.3 Implement the agreed actions.	2013-17	Actions are implemented.	DCCS	FYCSM	CO	Director is a member of the Swan Hill Youth Mental Health Executive Coalition and also Headspace Consortium which has adopted the Youth Mental Health Project Reform Action Plan 2014-2016. ONGOING
CHW	9. Supporting people who need extra assistance	9.1 Investigate implications and opportunities through Council's role regarding the Community Based Aged Care reform	2013-14	Full understanding of the reforms and their effects on local government are understood by ELT and Council	DCCS	CCSM	Y	Financial modelling and software development for managing ODC for packaged care underway. Review of HAAC program has commenced, anticipate first stage to be implemented by mid 2015. Triateral statement of intent from MAV, DSS and Doh confirms current HAAC funding level remain in place until 2018. COMPLETED
CHW		9.1.1 Review implications of aged care reform						
CHW		9.1.2 Provide the community with a clear direction on what services Council could provide post-2015	2013-14	Community is fully informed of the direction of Council, the implications for changes to services.	DCCS	CCSM	Y	Communication plan developed to inform community about HAACHSP service changes. Community has been consulted. Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Community enrichment - Strategic objective 2, page 19. COMPLETED
CHW		9.1.3 Identify opportunities for Council in undertaken community aged care	2014-15	Internal processes are finalised and assessed and adopted, delivery models are assessed and adopted.	DCCS	CCSM	Y	Transition to Commonwealth systems to be phased approach over 2015/16 year. Internal processes are in place. COMPLETED
CHW		9.1.4 (Example) Council will use the Consortium model for regional delivery of community-based aged care services.	2015-16	Service delivery is undertaken using the new regime and costs borne by Council equate those previously due to HAAC system, or with reduced subsidy.	DCCS	CCSM	N/A	Targets and strategies identified for third phase of program transition in 2016/17. Service hours being monitored and are in line with 2016/17 targets. Changes to funding streams means it is no longer possible to deliver a Consortium model.
CHW	Supporting people who need extra assistance	9.2 Finalise, adopt and implement an Early Years Priority Plan	2013-14	Council has adopted the Plan and endorsed the Actions for referral to annual budget processes.	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	Early Years Plan remained in draft form, however all actions in the draft have been further developed and worked through since 2012. Initiatives have included restructure of Council's early years services, Ryan West project, greater coordination of kindergarten services, and continuing work to develop staff professional skills. Council may decide to fund a formalised Early Years Plan in future, a proposal will be presented as part of the Major Projects Plan review for 2016 onwards. COMPLETED
CHW		9.2.1 Early Years Plan completed						
CHW		9.2.2 Identified actions for Council, and their outcomes to be undertaken	2014-15	Actions of Council responsibility are completed within budget and timelines and outcomes achieved by measurable data.	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	As above COMPLETED

CHW			9.2.3 Action - to be identified	2014-15	Project is scoped, outcomes determined and community benefit measurable.	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	As above COMPLETED
CHW			9.2.4 Funding sought for action/project	2014-15	Funding is sourced and received	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	As above COMPLETED
CHW			9.2.5 Completion of action/project	2015-17	Action/project completed.	DCCS	FYCSM	Y	If a new plan is developed further projects may be identified. COMPLETED
CHW	Supporting people who need extra assistance	9.3 Implement Disability Action Plan	9.3.1 Implement actions from Objective 1 - Services and facilities for the community	2013-14	All actions completed within time frame.	DDP	RAC	Y	Of 20, 17 have been addressed. The 3 outstanding actions are not able to be addressed due to the unavailability of the specialist required. These 3 actions will be included in the new Disability Action Plan. COMPLETED
CHW			9.3.2 Implement actions from Objective 2 - Council Employment Services	2013-14	All actions completed within time frame.	DDP	RAC	Y	Of 5 actions, 3 have been addressed and 2 will be included in the next disability plan. COMPLETED
CHW			9.3.3 Implement actions from Objective 3 - Inclusion and participation in the community	2013-14	All actions completed within time frame.	DDP	RAC	Y	Of 4 actions, 4 have been addressed COMPLETED
CHW			9.3.4 Implement actions from Objective 4 - Planning for attitudinal change in the community	2013-14	All actions completed within time frame.	DDP	RAC	Y	Of 15 actions, 12 have been addressed, 3 will be included in the next disability plan. COMPLETED
CHW	10. Maintaining a safe community	10.1 Promote the development of a strategy to enable communication of emergency management plans and activities to CALD communities	10.1.1 Formulate a process during the development of the Diversity Plan	2014-15	Diversity Plan is adopted, a clear process is developed and resourced for communication of emergency plans to CALD communities	DI DCCS	DI DCCS	CO	Cultural Plan currently in draft form. Hazmat and Structural plan completed as part of Municipal Fire Management Plan. Communication strategy to form part of the plan. The current Draft Cultural Plan is to be reviewed and reassessed by Council. This will impact on the plan and will need to be addressed to ensure that the CALD communities are aware of relevant sections of Councils Emergency Management Plan. Emergency Management arrangements are constantly under review and will include the position of all in our community. ONGOING
CHW			10.1.2 Implement the process following adoption of the Diversity Plan	2015-17	The communication process is implemented	DCCS	DI DCCS	CO	No communication has taken place with the CALD communities in relation to Emergency management. Council are developing a Emergency Management Strategy which may consider any communication requirements for CALD communities
CHW			10.1.3 Evaluation of effectiveness	2015-17	The process is evaluated and refined accordingly.	DCCS	DI DCCS	CO	When Cultural Plan actions are complete.
CHW	Maintaining a safe community	10.2 Develop a Hazmat and Structural Fire Plan	10.2.1 Complete an Environmental Scan (including commodity flow survey) of hazardous materials	2013-14	Completion of survey and Hazmat Plan presented to MEMPC	DI	DI	Y	Municipal Fire Management Plan has been updated to include information on structural and hazmat categories. COMPLETED
CHW			10.2.2 Complete an Environmental Scan Structures including completion of Structure Fire Plan	2013-14	Completion of Scan and Structure Fire Plan presented to MEMPC	DI	DI	Y	As above. COMPLETED
CHW	Maintaining a safe community	10.3 Investigate a scheme to provide an incentive for undertaking responsible pet ownership training	10.3.1 This initiative will be included as a major focus in the Domestic Animal Management Plan. Plan to be adopted in 2013.	2013-14	Program will be implemented as part of the Domestic Animal Management Plan. A report on the progress of the program will be provided to Council.	DDP	PHRSC	Y	Domestic Animal Management Plan adopted at September Council Meeting. COMPLETED
CHW	Maintaining a safe community	10.4 Pursue future funding opportunities to work with the community with regards to projects that provide safety for its members	10.4.1 Active membership of the Police Community Safety Committee	2013-17	Assessing, leading and facilitating initiatives that improve community safety	DCCS	DI DCCS	CO	CCTV network extended to include cameras at the dock tower, and increasing the range of the cameras along Campbell street. Have also installed cameras in Perrin Street Robvale. COMPLETED AND ONGOING
CHW			10.4.2 CLASP program outcomes	2013-17	CLASP program successfully completed and outcomes achieved	DCCS	DI DCCS	Y	CLASP program expired 30 June 2014. All indicators are that it has been a success. COMPLETED
CHW			10.4.3 Participate in initiatives and projects that enhance community safety.	2013-17	Initiatives and projects are completed in partnership with other agencies and provide significant community safety enhancements	DCCS	DI DCCS	CO	Worked with Police Community Safety Committee to develop Drug Justice grant for August 2015 submission, which was successful for in early 2016. COMPLETED AND ONGOING
CHW	11. Facilitate and provide services for health and wellbeing	11.1 Continue development and continue to identify other partners for Barry Stiggall Swan Hill Inc	11.1.1 Develop specification for next stage of works (wellness)	2013-14	Specification complete	DCS	N/A	N/A	No longer required.
CHW			11.1.2 Identify potential funding sources	2013-14	Funding identified	DCS	N/A	N/A	No longer required.

CHW			11.1.3 Apply for funding	2013-14	Application submitted	DCS	N/A	N/A	No longer required.
CHW			11.1.4 Secure funding	2013-14	Funding secured	DCS	N/A	N/A	No longer required.
CHW			11.1.5 Tender for works	2014-15	Tender issued	DCS	N/A	N/A	No longer required.
CHW			11.1.6 Complete construction of wetlands	2015-16	Construction complete	DCS	N/A	N/A	No longer required.
CHW			11.1.7 Develop specification for next stage of works	2015-16	Specification complete	DCS	CSC	Y	All actions from Masterplan now complete. COMPLETED
CHW			11.1.8 Identify potential funding sources	2015-16	Funding identified	DCS	CSC	Y	All actions from Masterplan now complete. COMPLETED
CHW			11.1.9 Apply for funding	2016-17	Application submitted	DCS	CSC	Y	All actions from Masterplan now complete. COMPLETED
CHW			11.1.10 Secure funding	2016-17	Funding secured	DCS	CSC	Y	All actions from Masterplan now complete. COMPLETED
CHW			11.1.11 Tender for works	2016-17	Tender issued	DCS	CSC	Y	All actions from Masterplan now complete. COMPLETED
CHW	Facilitate and provide services for health and wellbeing	11.2 Develop the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan	11.2.1 Appoint consultants	2013-14	Master Plan developed and adopted by Council	DI	CDRC	Y	Master Plan developed and adopted. COMPLETED
CHW			11.2.2 Schedule internal committee meetings, stakeholder committee meetings and community consultations	2013-14	Meetings scheduled	DI	CDRC	Y	Meetings of all stakeholders conducted. COMPLETED
CHW			11.2.3 Develop communications plan	2013-14	Communications Plan Developed	DI	CDRC	Y	Communications Plan Developed. COMPLETED
CHW			11.2.4 Complete Master Plan and seek Council adoption	2013-14	Masterplan completed and adopted by Council	DI	CDRC	Y	Master Plan developed and adopted. COMPLETED
CHW		11.3 Develop Implementation Plan	11.3.1 Identify individual projects within Master Plan	2013-14	Implementation program developed	DI	CDRC	Y	Projects identified. COMPLETED
CHW			11.3.2 Allocate resources and schedule implementation of Master Plan	2013-14	Resources allocated and schedule developed	DI	CDRC	Y	Schedule developed. COMPLETED
CHW			11.3.3 Update Major Projects plan in accordance with Implementation Plan	2013-14	Major Projects Plan updated	DI	CDRC	Y	Major projects plan updated. COMPLETED
CHW	11.4 Implement Riverfront Master Plan Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21 - Infrastructure - Strategic objective 2, Page 24		11.4.1 Develop detailed designs and costings for projects	2013-17	Projects completed in accordance with timelines	DDP	CDRC	CO	1. Tender to complete design to construct awarded for the Skate Park. The skate park is additional work and will complement the Active Play Precinct Plan designs completed by Jevors. 2. The shared path near GEW Spoons has been scoped. Tender process to commence. 3. The draft Murray River Cultural Centre Feasibility Study completed with 5 options identified. 4. Design work continues for sculpture park (stage 3) shared path. 5. Correspondence continues between Yamagata and Swan Hill cities to engage a Japanese Horticulturist to design the Japanese garden. 6. The consultant undertaking the Environment Impact Statements has almost completed there work just finalising information for the Swan Hill Boat Ramp project.
CHW			11.4.2 Encourage and facilitate private sector investment in Riverfront.	2013-17	Develop prospects for key assets within the Riverfront.	DDP	CDRC	CO	1. Consultants completed the first draft of the Commercial Development Strategy. 2. Discussions continue with the purchase of the GrainCorp site. 3. Independent valuations have been received for the demolition and site preparation of the graincorp sites on Monashi and Curlewis Street. A quote for a Div6 audit has been received. ONGOING
CHW			11.4.3 Identify funding opportunities and submit applications in accordance with Implementation Plan and Major Projects Plan	2013-17	Funding identified	DDP	CDRC	CO	1. Grant application successful for the extension of the boat ramp, car park and new toilet block. State Government Budget announcement of \$1M to assist to implement the Swan Hill riverfront masterplan.
CHW			11.4.4 Consider funding allocations through Councils annual budgeting process	2013-17	Completion of annual budgeting process	DDP	CDRC	CO	Budget continues to be monitored. Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21 - Infrastructure - Strategic objective 2, Page 24

CHW	Facilitate and provide services for health and well being	11.5 Continue to implement actions within the Public Health and Wellbeing Plan	11.5.1 Action report template taken to Councilor Assembly quarterly	2013-17	Copies of completed quarterly report	DDP	PHRSC	Y	2015 Actions tabled in report. Report presented at Council Meeting on 17 May 2016. ONGOING
CHW	Facilitate and provide services for health and well being	11.6 Investigate options for the development of Chesholm Motor Sports Complex including the possibility of a drag racing facility	11.6.1 Consider the SGS Business Plan and the Essential Economics Business Case	2013-14	Council considered reports' recommendations	DI	ECDM	Y	Options considered. COMPLETED
CHW	Facilitate and provide services for health and well being	11.7 Investigate the options for bus shelters in Swan Hill	11.7.1 Contact MAV and Public Transport Victoria (PTV) to determine responsibilities in regard to the installation and maintenance of bus shelters 11.7.2 Determine the standards of construction of bus shelters and the optimum locations within the municipality 11.7.3 Obtain cost estimates and investigation of possible funding options	2013-14	Upon receipt of advice Information received	DI	EPAM	Y	The construction of eight bus shelters has been included in the major projects plan and budgeted for over the next four years. COMPLETED
CHW				2013-14	Information received	DI	EPAM	Y	As above. COMPLETED
CHW				2013-14	Information received	DI	EPAM	Y	As above. COMPLETED
CHW	Facilitate and provide services for health and well being	11.8 Engage with appropriate organisations to co-locate community facilities	11.8.1 Through the building asset Mgt group, identify co-location opportunities	2013-17	Negotiations with various groups commence	DDP	ECDM	CO	Co-location/facility sharing will be further investigated with the Master Plan for the Chesholm Reserve currently being developed and any other Master Plan undertaken in the future. Further co location or sharing of resources may occur pending the recommendations of the Recreation Reserves Masterplan and Aquatic Centres Masterplan. An opportunity for co location or sharing of resources is being investigated as part of the Murray River Cultural Centre Feasibility Study. ONGOING
CHW			11.8.2 Regular discussions with State Government authorities	2014-17	Updates provided at Councilor Assemblies	DDP	ECDM	Y	Discussions have been taking place with VicRoads, Lower Murray Water, Goulburn Murray Water, Regional Development Victoria, VicTrack and V-Line ONGOING
CHW	12 Celebrating our identity	12.1 Pursue funding for the redevelopment of the Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery	12.1.1 Provide final designs and all costs and contingencies	2016-17	Final designs are approved and accurately costed	DCCS	DCCS	N	Review of redevelopment options in context of Riverfront Masterplan underway. Surveys requesting community feedback begun in November, concluding in February 2015. Update with Gallery Advisory Committee June 2015. ELT review of project 22 June. Cr Assembly discussion November 2015. Awaiting Riverfront investment project to be undertaken to determine next steps. ONGOING - Transferred to the Council Plan 2017-21, Community enrichment - Strategic objective 2, page 19.
CHW			12.1.2 Identify funding sources	2016-17	Funding sources are identified	DCCS	DCCS	N	Major Projects Plan reviewed with no changes at this stage. Meetings with Creative Victoria, confirmed key contacts from RDV for confirmation of funding in 2017-2020 period. Next steps dependent on Council decision to redevelop current site or alternative greenfield development option from Riverfront Prospectus. Awaiting Riverfront investment project to be undertaken to determine next steps. ONGOING
CHW			12.1.3 Seek funding for development	2016-17	Funding is received for development to match Council Major Projects contribution	DCCS	DCCS	N	No applications made to date. Awaiting Riverfront investment project to be undertaken to determine next steps. ONGOING
CHW	Celebrating our identity	12.2 Support for new citizens to the municipality to increase awareness of local customs and practices	12.2.1 Review existing services to address short-term options.	2013-14	Short-term options and actions are undertaken	DCCS	DCCS	Y	Early Years Services under review, and Community Care responding to State Diversity Framework. COMPLETED
CHW			12.2.2 (Following Diversity Plan) Actions identified for ongoing assistance to new arrivals. TBD	2015-16	Actions undertaken and reviewed for effectiveness	DCCS	DCCS	CO	Cultural Plan is a priority of 2017-18, and will include cultural diversity in elements.
CHW			12.2.3 (Following Diversity Plan) Actions identified for ongoing assistance to new arrivals. TBD	2016-17	Actions undertaken and reviewed for effectiveness	DCCS	DCCS	CO	Cultural Plan is a priority of 2017-18, and will include cultural diversity in elements.

CHW	Celebrating our identity	12.3 Encourage Community harmony, cultural understanding and tolerance	12.3.1 Support and develop Harmony Day as the central point for a larger festival of events	2013-14	Harmony Day is improved and annual commitments secured, greater service provider participation	DCCS	CDLM	Y	2017 - Annual Harmony Day continues to be supported by Council and attendance numbers have increased.
CHW			12.3.2 Harmony Day 2015 linked to other events	2014-15	Harmony Day linked to Food and Wine Festival, greater local business participation.	DCCS	CDLM	Y	Will be pursued as opportunities arise. Review completed. Recommendation that the Harmony Day and Food and Wine Festival events remain separate COMPLETED
CHW			12.3.3 Harmony Day 2016 linked closer to Pioneer Settlement 50 year celebrations	2015-16	linked to range of events, including Harmony Day, Indigenous celebration and cultural awareness through linking history <small>of local, state and national significance</small>	DCCS	CDLM	Y	Harmony Day will not happen at a time suitable for linking with the Pioneer Settlement and Art Gallery celebrations
CHW			12.3.4 Change perception of Harmony Day to illustrate iconic status for the region	2016-17	Harmony Day is imbedded as an iconic celebration for the region	DCCS	CDLM	Y	Record number of stalls have been registered for Harmony Day 2016
CHW	Celebration our identity	12.4 Pursue funding to develop a Diversity Plan and investigate the potential to develop a multicultural hub	12.4.1 Identify potential funding sources	2013-14	Funding identified	DCCS	DCCS	Y	Community consultation has been completed. Draft Plan is being finalised COMPLETED
CHW			12.4.2 Develop project scope (consultants brief)	2013-14	Project scope and brief approved	DCCS	DCCS	N	Cultural Plan is a priority of 2017-18, and will include cultural diversity in elements.
CHW			12.4.3 Apply for funding	2013-14	Application submitted	DCCS	DCCS	N	ONGOING
CHW			12.4.4 Secure funding	2013-17	Funding secured	DCCS	DCCS	N	ONGOING
CHW			12.4.5 Develop plan (including consultation)	2013-17	Plan is adopted by Council	DCCS	DCCS	N	ONGOING
CHW			12.4.6 Draw on findings of plan to determine need and location of multicultural hub	2013-17	Plan assesses requirement for multicultural hub	DCCS	DCCS	N	ONGOING
CHW	Celebrating our identity	12.5 Develop and implement a Cultural Plan Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Community enrichment - strategic objective 1, page 18	12.5.1 Develop an understanding of the cultural experiences currently available in the municipality	2013-14	Conduct audit and gap analysis of the cultural assets and experiences available	DCCS	CDLM	Y	Results of audit are included in Draft Cultural Plan COMPLETED
CHW			12.5.2 Development of Plan undertaken	2014-15	Community consultation, and prioritising of potential actions	DCCS	CDLM	Y	Community consultation has been completed. Plan is currently in draft format COMPLETED
CHW			12.5.3 Development continues	2014-16	Community consultation, and prioritising of potential actions	DCCS	CDLM	N	Ongoing Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Community enrichment - strategic objective 1, page 18
CHW			12.5.4 Cultural Plan is completed and adopted	2015-17	Adoption of Plan by Council and	DCCS	CDLM	N	Funding is being sought to engage a consultant to write a cultural plan in 2017-18
CHW	13. Aboriginal Identity	13.1 Review and implement identified actions following the review of Aboriginal Partnership Plan. Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Community enrichment - strategic objective 1, page 18	13.1.1 Upon completion of Aboriginal Community Planning process Review Aboriginal Partnership Plan	2014-17	Plan review completed to the satisfaction of Council and the Aboriginal community	DDP	ECDM	CO	Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy in draft format. Aboriginal Advisory Group established and providing input to Strategy. On completion of review, Strategy to be brought to Council for adoption.
CHW			13.1.2 Implement actions identified in Aboriginal Partnership Plan	2014-17	Actions completed	DDP	ECDM	N	Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy to replace Aboriginal Partnership Plan. The Actions within the Plan will continue to be implemented. New strategy in draft format. Murray River Cultural Centre Feasibility Study has commenced. To go to Council Meeting for adoption in 2017. ONGOING Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Community enrichment - strategic objective 1, page 18

CHW	Aboriginal Identity	13.2 Continued involvement in Aboriginal Strategic Placement program	13.2.1 Assist contracted employment placement provider to place Aboriginal jobseekers into employment by providing advice on local Aboriginal issues; assist in completion of individual issuer's placement plans; assist with identification of employment opportunities; assist with post placement support; process payment of clothing and incidentals allowance	2014-16	Achievement of contracted employment placement and outcomes targets	DDP	ECDM	CO	Jobs Victoria Funding was unsuccessful for Swan Hill but successful for Robinvale. Discussions are taking place to redefine the program to reflect the new parameters. Program has commenced in Robinvale.
CHW	Aboriginal Identity	13.3 Be and active participant in the Aboriginal Community Planning processes throughout the Municipality	13.3.1 Encourage Local Indigenous Networks(LIN) in Robinvale and Swan Hill to consider completion of Aboriginal Community Plans 13.3.2 Advise and assist LIN with the process and methodology to complete community plans	2013-14 2014-16	Commitment gained from LIN to complete Aboriginal Community Plans Completion of community plans in Robinvale and Swan Hill	DDP	ECDM	Y	No update. No budget allocation in the 2016/17 financial year. LIN Community Plans have been completed. These will be used as COMPLETED
Economic Growth: 29 Strategic Initiatives - 96 Actions									
EG	14. Creating population growth	14.1 Support the key initiatives arising from the Northern Loddon Mallicoe Regional Strategic Plan	14.1.1 Align the Council Plan with the objectives of the Regional Strategic Plan 14.1.2 Participate in the review of the Strategic Plan	2013-17 2016-17	Council Plan endorsed and communicated to State Government Council's input is included in reviewed plan	DDP	DM	CO	The next MSS review will highlight and provide strategic directions for this. Review of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme (including the MSS) is completed. A consultant is engaged to undertake the Planning scheme amendment to implement the review. COMPLETED AND ONGOING Completed. Council adopted the plan in 2013. Council will participate on future reviews when initiated by the State Government. Plan endorsed at March Council Meeting 2015. COMPLETED
EG			14.3 Pursue a position on steering committees of key projects within the Strategy	2013-17	Council is granted positions on Committees (eg Natural Gas study committee)	DDP	DDP	CO	Ongoing. Councilors and Council Officers have been involved with the development and implementation of a number of projects from the Regional Strategic Plan e.g. Natural gas study and subsequent roll-out. Officers will continue to pursue opportunities on regional working groups for priority projects.
EG	Creating population growth	14.2 Review of the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) with a view to encourage population growth	14.2.1 Commence MSS review	2014-17	MSS review report completed by end of 2015	DDP	DM	Y	The Review of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme has been adopted by Council and was sent to the Minister for Planning as per the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. COMPLETED
EG	Creating population growth	14.3 Investigate opportunities of accommodation and services being provided for displaced people	14.3.1 Liaise with key stakeholders to identify issues and possible actions.	2014-15	Results of investigation will be reported back to Council	DDP	DM	N	No update. No budget allocation in the 2016/17 financial year. Council are no longer active in the area.
EG	15. Housing	15.1 Develop Rural Land Use/Living Strategy	15.1.1 Scoping paper to be developed	2013-14	Scoping paper approved by E.T and presented at Council/ Assembly	DDP	DDP	Y	Scoping paper complete. Workshop with Councilors on 8 July to COMPLETED
EG			15.1.2 Complete Rural Living/Land Use Strategy (including consultation)	2014-16	Rural Living/Land Use Strategy adopted by Council	DDP	DM	Y	The Swan Hill Rural Land Use Strategy was adopted by Council in September 2016. The Swan Hill Planning Scheme amendment will implement the recommendations of this Strategy.
EG	Housing	15.2 Adopt the Swan Hill Residential Housing Strategy and complete the planning scheme amendments	15.2.1 Respective Planning Scheme Amendments to be initiated	2014-15	Minister's authorisation for the amendment, public exhibition and subsequent processes. Approval of the Amendment	DDP	DDP	Y	Swan Hill Residential Strategy adopted by Council at its Ordinary Meeting in March 2013. Large number of recommendations will be undertaken with the Development Plan for the SWDP. COMPLETED
EG	Housing	15.3 Review of the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) taking into consideration appropriate accommodation options Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Economic growth - strategic objective 4, page 15.	15.3.1 Commence MSS review	2014-15	Revised MSS referral to the Minister	DDP	DDP	N	Review of MMS has commenced. ONGOING

EG	Housing	15.4 Investigate the connection of small towns to reticulated sewerage and potable water Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Economic growth - ongoing responsibility, page 15.	15.4.1 Draw on findings to identify towns	2014-15	Council recommendations adopted	ELT	ELT	CO	Woorneen South feasibility study scoping paper completed and quotes being obtained to undertake the study. Working group, including community reps, has met on at least 2 occasions to assist with the scoping of the project which will commence in 2015. Lower Murray Water is to provide guidance and support on this matter.
EG			15.4.2 Develop a project scope for feasibility study for identified towns.	2014-15	Completed project scope approved by ELT in consultation with Councillors	ELT	ELT	CO	As above.
EG			15.4.3 Complete feasibility study	2014-15	Feasibility study adopted by Council	ELT	ELT	CO	As above.
EG			15.4.4 If feasible, proceed to community consultation	2015-16	Completed consultation process for each town with evidence of input from all relevant sectors	ELT	ELT	N	Further discussions required with Council.
EG			15.4.5 Establish priority towns (council decision in conjunction with relevant community)	2015-16	Council adopted list of priority towns	ELT	ELT	N	No update.
EG			15.4.6 Develop business case for preferred option for each town	2015-17	Adopted business cases for each town	ELT	ELT	N	No update.
EG	16. Education/Skilling	16.1 Advocate for higher educational opportunities in our region	16.1.1 Engage with education providers and community representative bodies (MFC, School Boards, SunTale etc) to identify expansion opportunities	2014-16	Opportunities identified	CEO	CEO ELT	CO	Councillors and Officers toured SunTale Swan Hill Campus and on-going discussions with the providers in the region are continuing.
EG			16.1.2 Gain community involvement to assist the process	2015-16	Community Planning working parties established	CEO	CEO ELT	CO	CEO working on regional skills taskforce and is actively lobbying for the provision of tertiary educational opportunities with local Federal Member.
EG	Education/skilling	16.2 Promote the availability of local University	16.2.2 Actively promote Councils cadetships traineeships and apprenticeships	2013-17	Cadetships are linked to University opportunities available locally	DCS	ODM	Y	Regional Development Victoria is currently coordinating the program design for implementation of the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund (RIJIF) from 1 July 2015. 2 new Scholarship students to commence in 2017. 2017 introducing a Koori Traineeship in Robinvale currently being advertised.
EG	Education/skilling	16.3 Provide access to a study common room and access to professionals for university students	Liaise with education providers and other stakeholders to identify opportunities.	2014-15	Opportunities are identified through discussions with local education providers	DDP	DDP	Y	Discussions held with Sunrise representatives however opportunities limited. Swan Hill Library provides study spaces in close vicinity the COMPLETED
EG	17. Attracting new business	17.1 Investigate new opportunities to support new business development	17.1.1 Implement actions of Economic Development Strategies	2013-17	Progress reports against various actions provided to Council	DDP	ECDM	Y	Implementation of EDS continues, reports provided to Council as actions are completed. Working with Infrastructure Directorate to implement transport and infrastructure projects conducive to business growth and investment
EG			17.1.2 Identify suitable land parcels for new business	2015-17	Land use strategies are reviewed	DDP	ECDM	CO	Planning continues to support and facilitate new business through investment Facilitation committee identifies emerging opportunities and possible locations for new businesses, for implementation by EDU. Discussions being held with various Solar Farm investment firms to identify suitable land parcels for development.
EG			17.1.3 Review Economic Development Incentives within strategies	2015-17	Incentives reviewed and altered where necessary	DDP	ECDM	Y	The Investment Attraction Policy adopted at Council's September 2015 meeting. And is being implemented.
EG	Attracting new business	17.2 Encourage the establishment of value adding industries	17.2.1 Undertake industry forums / discussions	2013-15	Regular discussions take place	DDP	ECDM	Y	A business event calendar for 2014/2015 has been developed and is being promoted monthly through the EDU newsletter. Regular business events are being held. COMPLETED
EG			17.2.2 Prioritise industries with greatest return	2014-16	Priorities established	DDP	ECDM	CO	Encouraging value adding through RLUS. Investment Attraction strategy and individual assistance to potential investors
EG			17.2.3 Seek State Govt assistance	2015-17	Grant applications successful	DDP	ECDM	CO	Ongoing Working with RDV to deliver Agriculture Infrastructure Funding Projects for the Municipality.

EG	Attracting new business	17.3 Conduct and Business Expansion Attraction and Retention survey	17.3.1 Establish criteria for survey	2014-16	Survey Completed	DDP	ECDM	Y	Survey was conducted during May and June, report presented to Council in October 2013. COMPLETED
EG	Attracting new business	17.4 Continue to investigate options for renewable energy for the municipality	17.4.1 Complete a Study that explores opportunities to source renewable energy for Council operations	2013-14	Study completed and adopted by Council	DDP	SEO	Y	Currently working with CVGA to identify the cost of the project on two Council buildings. The Alliance is currently working with partners for a bulk buy option. Once they have resolved this issue, they will commence cost analysis for the Swan Hill project as they have already been requested to do so. Discussions held at Councillor Assembly - two buildings identified and included in Major Projects Plan. COMPLETED
EG			17.4.2 Implement preferred renewable energy options for Council	2014-17	Renewable energies projects delivered	DDP	ECDM	CO	Organic waste feasibility study in progress. Application submitted for New Energy Jobs Funds for a feasibility study to identify whether it is viable and appealing to the targeted market to offer energy efficient accommodation for seasonal workers. ONGOING
EG	Attracting new business	17.5 Encourage organisations to joint tender for works and services	17.5.1 Work with regional Councils to combine contracts and services	2013-17	Joint contracts established (eg road sealing, waste management)	DDP	ECDM	CO	Council is lead agency in an MAV procurement excellence project which aims to better coordinate procurement activities of local government
EG			17.5.2 Assist local business and tenderers to improve their tendering processes	2013-15	Increased success rate for local tenders	DDP	ECDM	Y	The Economic Development Unit have conducted workshops to assist local businesses to tender for government work. Local tenderers have met with council staff to better inform businesses of Council's policies and procedures.
EG	Attracting new business	17.6 Promote the benefits of the region as a place to live, work and invest	17.6.1 Participate in regional Expos	2013-17	Regular bookings established	DDP	ECDM	Y	Regional Victoria Living Expo attended in May 2015. Received approx. 40 leads from people willing to relocate to Swan Hill that are now being followed up. Regional Victoria Living Expo has been discontinued by the State Government. CLOSED
EG			17.6.2 Support regional promotions of the municipality	2013-17	Advertising in regionally distributed publications continue, SH Inc television campaigns continue	DDP	ECDM	CO	Tender for new three year marketing contract for Swan Hill Inc marketing and promotions has been finalised and issued. Active involvement in developing contract and selecting new lead agency. Revision of Swan Hill Inc. marketing and promotions campaign being undertaken. Reprint of OVG undertaken. ONGOING
EG			17.6.3 All Job Vacancies advertised with description on the regions benefits	2013-17	Standard template ad developed	DCS	ODM	Y	Template developed and now used for all job vacancy advertising. COMPLETED
EG	18 Existing Business Support	18.1 Assist local businesses to up skill and retain their workforce	18.1.1 Establish specific skill shortages in the region	2013-14	Shortages identified	DDP	ECDM	Y	Strategies identified in the Swan Hill Region Workforce Development Strategy adopted by Council November 2013. Implementation to commence in 2014. COMPLETED
EG			18.1.2 Support regional training opportunities	2013-17	Council staff participate in regional training	DDP	ODM	Y	AusserHost delivered in conjunction with Swan Hill Inc to local business. Regional training - QBE Work Cover for managers and Mervan and Apal Industrial relations training delivered to multiple industries March 13. COMPLETE AND ONGOING
EG	Existing Business Support	18.2 Investigate opportunities arising from the Murray Darling Basin Plan	18.2.1 Support proposals that provide for economic infrastructure upgrades (natural gas)	2014-17	Regional funding applications lodged	DDP	DI DDP	Y	Funding opportunities coming from the MDBP have been limited. No funding rounds have been released and Council has been unable to make any funding applications. COMPLETED
EG			18.2.2 Continue to work collaboratively with Mergo on basin plan submissions	2013-17	MERGOC regular meetings with State and Federal Ministers	DDP	DI DDP	Y	Council has participated in the Mergo meeting and has been involved in delegations to meet with State and Federal elected representatives including Ministers. COMPLETED
EG	Existing Business Support	18.3 Review of Special Rates and Levies to support marketing activities	18.3.1 Review effectiveness of existing Special Marketing Rate and determine whether to continue	2013-14	Council decision on continuation of Special Marketing Rate determined	DDP	ECM	Y	Special Marketing Rate declared at the April 2014 Council meeting. COMPLETED
EG			18.3.2 Review and update Deed between Council and Swan Hill Inc	2013-14	Deed reviewed and agreed by Council and Swan Hill Inc	DDP	ECM	Y	Deed has been reviewed, finalised and signed. COMPLETED
EG			18.3.3 Undertake Statutory Process to establish a Special Marketing Rate	2013-14	Statutory Process Complete	DDP	ECM	Y	COMPLETED
EG			18.3.4 New Special Marketing Rate in place	2013-14	Special marketing Rate included on Rate Notices Page 12	DCS	CSRC	Y	Special Rate declared on 15 April 2014 for the period of 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2019. COMPLETED

EG	Existing Business Support	18.4 Develop and implement a Workforce Development Strategy	18.4.1 Develop Steering Committee to manage strategy development 18.4.2 Appoint consultancy to facilitate strategy development	2013-14 2013-14	Committee established Consultant appointed	DDP DDP	ECDM ECDM	Y Y	Steering committee established in early 2013. COMPLETED Workforce Planning Australia appointed in March 2013. COMPLETED
EG			18.4.3 Undertake strategy development	2013-14	Strategy completed	DDP	ECDM	Y	Swan Hill Region Workforce Development Strategy adopted by Council November 2013. COMPLETED
EG	19. Infrastructure	19.1 Commerce Implementation of Swan Hill and Robinvale Riverfront Plans	19.1.1 Identify individual projects within Master Plan 19.1.2 Allocate resources and schedule implementation of Master Plan 19.1.3 Update Major Projects plan in accordance with Implementation Plan 19.1.4 Develop detailed designs and costings for projects	2013-14 2013-14 2013-14 2013-17	Implementation program developed. Resources allocated and schedule developed Major Projects Plan updated Projects completed in accordance with timeliness	DDP DDP DDP DDP	ELT ELT ELT ELT	Y Y Y CO	Funding for Swan Hill Riverfront projects applied for. COMPLETED Steering committee has met on numerous occasions to keep projects moving. Riverfront has a dedicated staff member who oversees the implementation of the Masterplan. COMPLETED Major project plan has been updated with projects and spending has been identified across the coming 10 years. COMPLETED Projects completed and underway across the riverfront including pathways, park furniture and strategies.
EG			19.1.5 Identify funding opportunities and submit applications in accordance with Implementation Plan and Major Projects Plan	2013-17	Funding identified	DDP	ELT	CO	Funding has been secured throughout the year including funding for the Heartbeat of the Murray Experience. Work will continue post the Victorian State election and the election of a new government to determine any funding streams as they become available. Funding identified from Healthy Communities Initiatives, Department of Justice, Putting Locals First and Dept Recreation and Sport. Funding has been secured for the Swan Hill Riverfront Commercial Development Strategy from RDV. Funding of \$1M for future riverfront development was announced in the 2017 State Budget.
EG			19.1.6 Consider funding allocations through Council's annual budgeting process	2013-17	Completion of annual budgeting process	DDP	ELT	CO	Council's 15/16 budget being drafted and riverfront has been identified in the Major Projects Plan for funding. The 17/18 budget process has also considered Riverfront projects.
EG	Infrastructure	19.2 Actively pursue suitable alternative opportunities arising from decommissioned irrigation infrastructure Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21, Infrastructure - Strategic objective 3, page 25	19.2.1 Swan Hill modernisation plan approved by Federal Funding body 19.2.2 Identify parcels of land suitable for development as public space or residential development 19.2.3 If continuous length of land is available, complete a Masterplan for its complete development. 19.2.4 Engage with community on best use for community owned land 19.2.5 Identified projects designed and included in Major Projects Plan 19.2.6 Modernisation undertaken, Channel decommissioned. 19.2.7 Gain ownership of the available land for future development	2013-14 2013-15 2014-16 2015-16 2016-17 2016-17	Notification from GMYV connections program and Federal Govt. Parcels of land and ownership of land identified Plan completed List of suitable options identified for costing Projects included in plan Channel removed in Swan Hill and along Karrie Street, works completed on Ynynder Plains	DI DI DI DI DI DI	DI DI DI DI DI DI	Y CO CO CO CO N	Notification received. Continued negotiations with GMYV Connections Program. Project to be completed by 2017. No. 9 Channel COMPLETED Meetings planned for July 2015 with Project Managers from GMYV - Connections Team. There have been ongoing discussions between Officers and GMYV in relation to future opportunities for this land. Officers have briefed Council in relation to opportunities. GMYV have been invited to address Council. GMYV are planning to go for community consultation early in 2017. Periodic meetings have been held with GMYV officers to monitor and assist with this project. Following discussions with GMYV an internal planning group is to be developed to commence the creation of an options paper for use of the land. Funding from the GMYV Connections program for planning future uses of the land has been agreed to. Council officers are pursuing further direction from GMYV in relation to the consultant phase in relation to this project. Further discussion with Council required Further discussion with Council required Further discussion with Council required Further discussion with Council required Further discussion with Council required. Works to commence soon. ONGOING Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21, Infrastructure - Strategic objective 3, page 25 Working with GMYV planners on identifying ownership. Council have provided information to GMYV in relation to land parcel ownership of their project plan. ONGOING Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21, Infrastructure - Strategic objective 3, page 25

EG	Infrastructure	19.3 Actively pursue opportunities for regional focused infrastructure Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Infrastructure - Strategic objective 3, page 25.	19.3.1 Secure support from regional bodies (MRGoC, NW municipalities, Murray Tourism Board, RMF, Central Murray Transport Forum etc)	2013-17	Written confirmation of support from various groups	DI	DI	CO	Represented Council and CMRTF at Regional Network Development strategy workshops in Swan Hill and Mildura. Presented Heartbeat project to MRTB meeting in Deniliquin and hosted MRGoC conference. Ongoing
EG			19.3.2 Identify regional projects within Northern Loddon Mallicote Strategic Plan	2013-17	Projects promoted as key initiatives of the plan.	DI	DI	Y	3 projects have been nominated and included in the Regional Investment Prospectus including, Livestock Exchange upgrade, Art Gallery Development, Acquisition of GrainCorp & Victrola Land at Riverfront. Also involved in rail projects contained in the prospectus Ongoing
EG			19.3.3 Create partnerships within region	2013-17	Agreements in place	DI	DI	CO	CMRTF have met with senior DOT staff, the Premier, Minister for Transport and Regional Development Minister - in conjunction with GrainCorp, Rail Freight Alliance, VFF and Mildura Council. Ongoing. CMRTF are developing a technical committee to identify future opportunities and priorities for consideration
EG			19.3.4 Identify funding sources	2013-17	Sources identified	DI	DI	CO	Funding proposals to be worked through with PTV for passenger rail improvements. Success in terms of recent Federal Government announcement of funding for Murray Basin Rail project, which is now fully funded between State and Federal Governments. Ongoing
EG			19.3.5 Utilise shared services agreements for infrastructure improvements	2016-17	Agreements in place	DI	DI	N	Initiated a freight route planning exercise with Buloke and Gannawarra Shires. This is been reviewed at a regional level through the CMRTF
EG			19.3.6 Complete business cases to justify regional investment	2016-17	Value adding opportunities identified and promised	DI	DI	N	As above for rail advocacy projects Ongoing
EG	Infrastructure	19.4 Implement outcomes of the review of the Swan Hill Regional Livestock exchange	19.4.1 Council endorsement of Functional Design Plan for the Livestock Exchange	2013-14	Endorsement of Plan	DI	DI	Y	Functional Design plan completed and received by Council - Feb 2013. COMPLETED
EG			19.4.2 Subdivision and sale of surplus land	2013-14	Land sold	DI	DI	CO	Remediation works of contaminated ground completed. Local surveyor appointed to complete plan of sub division. Council approval to dispose of sub divided land by private treaty undertaken at June Council Meeting. Expression of interest process complete. Planning Permit obtained. Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Infrastructure - Strategic objective 3, page 25
EG			19.4.3 Identify and Apply for funding	2013-14	Application submitted	DI	DI	Y	Commenced works to subdivide saleable land to assist in funding the redevelopment of the facility. COMPLETED
EG			19.4.4 Secure funding	2013-15	Funding secured	DI	DI	Y	Application for funds from "Stronger Regions Fund" submitted 15 March 2015 - awaiting outcome / decision from Federal body. Additional funding application submitted through Murray Darling Basin Diversification fund. Funding of \$876,150 approved through Stronger Regions Fund program. Agreement signed and returned to funding body.
EG			19.4.5 Prioritise investment	2014-17	Priority projects commenced	DI	DI	Y	Through funding application process
EG			19.4.6 Functional Design Plan Review of progress to date	2016-17	Review and re-prioritisation completed	DI	DI	Y	Funding agreement will be signed in coming weeks. Agreed in principle. Livestock agents to assist in hosting more regular sales if facilities upgraded GWM commencing work on northern end shortly. Easement sought at Livestock Exchange. Improvements to holding paddocks and water supply to them. Project management being confirmed, engineering design consultant brief being prepared.
EG	Infrastructure	19.5 Investigate the possibilities for railhead and rail freight centres in the municipality	19.5.1 Develop project scope (consultants brief)	2013-14	Project scope and brief approved	DI	DI	Y	Central Murray Regional Transport Forum intermodel opportunity study completed. COMPLETED
EG			19.5.2 Apply for funding	2013-14	application submitted	DI	DI	Y	Funding received from RDV and DOT. COMPLETED
EG			19.5.3 Secure funding	2013-15	Funding secured	DI	DI	Y	As above. COMPLETED
EG			19.5.4 Conduct a demand assessment (both current and future) that identifies types and destinations of freight	2014-16	Demand assessment completed	DI	DI	Y	CMRTF study to identify investment opportunities complete. DTPU study into freight also complete. COMPLETED

EG			19.5.5 Conduct assessment of appropriate locations including associated road assets including costings	2015-17	Sites identified	DI	DI	Y	As above COMPLETED
EG	Infrastructure	19.6 Monitor opportunities for the potential of new Municipal Offices in Swan Hill and Robinvale as part of mixed use development	19.6.1 Monitor developments and land availability in Swan Hill and Robinvale for any opportunities that may arise	2013-17	Possible co-location and/or acquisition of land discussed with Council.	DCS	ELT	CO	No opportunities have presented at this stage. This is complete and ongoing. I suggest it be removed from the new Council Plan as it is unlikely we will move in the next decade.
EG	Infrastructure	19.7 Implement staged redevelopment of the Pioneer Settlement Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Economic Growth - Strategic objective 2, page 13.	19.7.1 Identify funding source and apply for funding for stage 1,2 works	2013-14	Application submitted	DDP	GMFS	Y	Funding opportunities continue to be sourced. Funding has been secured for the Heartbeat of the Murray experience, which will be a major focus for 2015. COMPLETED
EG			19.7.2 Secure funding	2013-14	Funding secured	DDP	GMFS	Y	As above. COMPLETED
EG			19.7.3 Tender and construct stage 1,2 works(which includes new steam work shop, men's shed and workshops)	2013-14	Building completed	DDP	GMFS	Y	Construction plans completed, awaiting funding prior to tendering. Note: buildings could be constructed in modules. Men's Shed has been completed by stabilising and fitting out an existing building on site. COMPLETED
EG			19.7.4 Identify funding source and apply for funding for New Evening Product (Replacement of old sound & Light show)	2013-15	Application submitted	DDP	GMFS	Y	Funding Received - Murray - Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification Program (Vice). Contract has been awarded. COMPLETED
EG			19.7.5 Secure funding	2014-15	Funding secured	DDP	GMFS	Y	As above. COMPLETED
EG			19.7.6 Develop and install new Evening Product	2014-15	Installation complete	DDP	GMFS	Y	Heartbeat of the Murray laser, light and water spectacular. Officially opened on 2 Dec 2015. Remaining elements of the Pioneer Settlement redevelopment are the stabling area at the Lower Murray Inn and the fencing off of Horseshoe Bend Park to allow for greater public access. Both of these projects are currently being scoped and will be completed by end December 2016 COMPLETED
EG			19.7.7 Identify funding source and apply for funding for stage 2 works	2015-16	Application submitted	DDP	GMFS	CO	Day Product review taking place. Work with consultant Sally Hirst ongoing. Transferred to Council Plan 2017-21. Infrastructure - Strategic objective 3, page 25
EG			19.7.8 Secure funding	2016-17	Funding secured	DDP	GMFS	CO	As review is progressed funding will be applied for when available
EG			19.7.9 Review Pioneer Settlement Master Plan and prioritise future works	2016-17	Council adopt reviewed plan.	DDP	GMFS	CO	ONGOING
EG	Infrastructure	19.8 Advance outcomes of Central Murray Regional Transport Study	19.8.1 Maintain membership of Forum group	2013-17	CEO and Councilor membership confirmed and commitment to provide technical expertise	DI	DI	Y	Council currently chairs and provides admin for forum. COMPLETED
EG			19.8.2 Prioritise projects according to regional industry need	2013-15	Agreement from regions transport sector on priorities	DI	DDP	Y	Commissioned study into inter-modal development. COMPLETED
EG			19.8.3 Working groups established to direct various projects	2013-15	Working groups established	DI	DDP	Y	Group established and meetings held in mid 2013. COMPLETED
EG			19.8.4 Lobby State(s) and Federal members for support of projects	2015-17	Support received	DI	DDP	Y	Funds received from Dept of Transport and RDV for inter-modal study. COMPLETED
EG	Infrastructure	19.9 Pursue funding for a levee bank at Robinvale	19.9.1 Complete Cultural Heritage Management Plan	2013-14	Plan completed	DI	DI	Y	GMFP Plan completed July 2013 and draft plans completed August 2013. COMPLETED
EG			19.9.2 Complete detailed design	2013-14	Design Completed	DI	DI	Y	Design complete and Cultural Heritage Management Plan completed COMPLETED

EG			19.9.4 Place project in Major projects Plan	2015-16	Project included	DI	DI	Y	Project in Major Projects Plan year 3 COMPLETED
EG		19.10.1 Municipality-wide review of directional signage	19.10.1 Undertake review of directional signage for ease of access to major facilities.	2015-16	Review undertaken with priority signage needs identified.	DI	DDP DI	Y	Working group across Council departments currently being formed. Signage audit is currently underway.
EG			19.10.2 Develop signage strategy	2016-17	Signage Strategy developed and adopted by Council.	DI	DDP DI	CO	Development of signage strategy brief has been developed and will commence in April 2017.
EG			19.10.3 Implement identified actions from Signage Strategy	2016-17	Actions implemented.	DI	DDP DI	CO	Following completion of the Signage Strategy, implementation will commence. In the interim some high priority signage is being updated e.g. Swan Hill Airport. ONGOING
Environmental Management (6 Strategic Initiatives : 13 Actions)									
EM	20. Contributing to good environmental outcomes for the Natural Environment	20.1 Active involvement in external discussions that effect the Murray River, its tributaries and lake systems	20.1.1 Maintain membership of Murray Darling Association	2013-17	Councillor nominated as representative	CEO	CEO ELT	CO	Membership of Murray Darling Association has been maintained. Cr Crove was nominated as Council's representative at the Statutory Meeting on 11 November 2014. Cr Mear was nominated as Council's representative at the December 2016 Statutory Council Meeting. ONGOING
EM		20.1.2 Support regional submissions to Federal agencies via Murray River Group of Councils	20.1.2 Support regional submissions to Federal agencies via Murray River Group of Councils	2013-17	Submissions lodged and reported to Council	CEO	CEO ELT	CO	SHRCC was chairing the Murray River Group of Councils for 12 months until November 2014. Council supported the group in visits to Canberra and in meetings with State and Federal politicians. Council maintains its membership and participation in the MRGC. ONGOING
EM	Contributing to good environmental outcomes for the Natural Environment	20.2 Within available external funding, complete the restoration of the Lake Bogareshore to pre-flood condition or better	20.2.1 Determine timeline stabilisation works unfinished (if any) in 2012/13 financial year 20.2.2 Instruct contractor to complete works as soon as possible	2013-14 2013-14	Status of works assessment completed Works completed	DI	EPAM	Y	All restoration works that were funded have been completed. COMPLETED As above. COMPLETED
EM	21. Regulation and management of the built environment	21.1 Implementation of Waste Management Plan	21.1.1 Review current Waste Management Plan; Update data in line with current practices and waste service contracts 2. Community engagement 21.1.2 Implementation of Capital Works/Improvement Program; design & investigation approvals & Permits contracts & work programs construction	2013-15 2013-17	ELT approval of Review Capital Works/ improvements completed/ in place	DI	EPAM	Y	The new Waste management Plan has been approved and adopted by Council. COMPLETED Facility and MRF at the Swan Hill Landfill. This is to replace the existing facility at Gray Street.
EM			21.1.3 Conduct Feasibility Study for the construction of Transfer station at Swan Hill Landfill	2013-15	Feasibility Study Completed	DI	EPAM	Y	Council was successful in its application for grant funding (\$190K from State Government) for the construction of a transfer station in Swan Hill Landfill. COMPLETED
EM			21.1.4 Implementation of Progressive rehabilitation and aftercare program to Council's Landfill sites	2013-17	Ongoing Reporting on the completion of rehabilitation staging	DI	EPAM	CO	Progressive capping and rehabilitation of Swan Hill Landfill. Section 1B capped in July/August 2016. Ongoing Next stage has been scheduled to commence end June -early July 2017

EM	Regulation and management of the built environment	21.2 Expand the Green waste collection Service	21.2.1 Conduct Investigation & Data collection: 1. Waste Volume / tonnage 2. Matching Price 3. distance between source of collection and final destination 4. Identify alternative methods/means of collecting the green waste from small communities	2013-14	Data Review/Collection	DI	EPAM	Y	Green waste collection scheme has continued to grow. Approx 260 new customers since initial commencement. Investigated possibilities of expanding service to Robinvale and Lake Boga. It was determined more interest will need to be generated (eg promotion, information brochures) to increase numbers to make service viable. COMPLETED
EM			21.2.2 Identify target locations and develop promotions, marketing, and education plan.	2014-15	Increased demand for the service	DI	EPAM	Y	The investigation around extending the service will start with a presentation for the Green Waste service at Robinvale and Lake Boga main streets and community centres (scheduled to take place on 01 July 2015). COMPLETED
EM	22. Promote and advocate sound environmental practices	22.1 Continue to lobby for a state-wide container deposit scheme	22.1.1 Contribute to Regulatory Impact Statements (RIS) via the MAV 22.1.2 Continue to provide waste data as requested to assist scheme development	2013-14	Submissions to the RIS via MAV	DI	DI	Y	This activity will be undertaken via the Central Murray Regional Waste Management Group. COMPLETED
EM			22.1.2 Continue to provide waste data as requested to assist scheme development	2013-16	Data provided as requested	DI	DI		Data is provided to Sustainability Victoria and to the Waste Management Group on a regular basis. Ongoing
EM	Promote and advocate sound environmental practices	22.2 Complete Rural Land Use/Living Strategy that considers the potential impact of dewatered land and a changing climate	22.2.1 Scoping paper to be developed.	2013-14	Scoping paper approved by ELT and Councilors through Councilor Assembly	DDP	DDP	Y	Scoping paper complete. Workshop with Councilors on 8 July to commence study. COMPLETED

B.17.72 APPOINTMENT OF TWO COUNCILLORS TO SIGN ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: S15-28-09
Attachments: Nil.

Declarations of Interest:

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The Local Government Act requires that Council appoint two Councillors as authorised signatories for the Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement.

Discussion

The Local Government Act requires that Council appoint two Councillors to be the authorised signatories to the final set of Annual Statements. The signing will occur once the audit process has been completed.

The Annual Statements comprise of the General Purpose Financial Statements prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and Performance Statement prepared in accordance with the Act.

The Statements will be reviewed by the Auditor General's office and an Audit opinion issued. The two Councillors can then sign the statements enabling the Annual Report to be finalised.

A formal advertising process will then take place, with the Statements being adopted at a Special Meeting of Council, to be arranged for late October.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

It is a statutory requirement that two Councillors are nominated to sign the Financial and Performance Statements.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Effective and efficient utilisation of resources. - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

Options

1. Council may choose to appoint any two Councillors to sign the Statements; however, it is preferable that the appointed Councillors are able to attend Council offices at short notice.
2. Past practice has been that the Mayor is one of the appointed signatories.

Recommendation

That Council nominate and appoint two Councillors to be the authorised signatories to the final set of 2016/17 Annual Financial Statements incorporating the General Purpose Statement and Performance Statement once those statements have been reviewed by Council's Auditor.

B.17.73 COMMUNITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION STRATEGY 2017-2021

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S05-24-01
Attachments: 1 CAIS Strategy 2017-2021

Declarations of Interest:

Heather Green- as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to release the draft Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 (CAIS) for public submissions. The CAIS is Council's commitment to helping reduce barriers for people with disability to access services, programs, facilities and obtaining and maintaining employment for the next four years.

Discussion

Twenty-two per cent of people living in the Swan Hill Rural City municipality have a disability. Additionally, thirty five per cent of people are affected by disability, including caring for someone with a disability. These figures increase if people with temporary disabilities due to injury and illness are included.

The Victorian Disability Act (2006) allows Council to develop and implement a Disability Action Plan (DAP). The Plan is a way for an organisation to plan the elimination, as far as possible, of disability discrimination from the provision of its goods, services and facilities. This document is now being referred to as the Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 (CAIS)

Section 38 of the Victorian Disability Act (2006) allows Council to determine to prepare a Disability Plan. The following clause guides Council in its preparation of its plan.

'A public sector body' must ensure that a Disability Action Plan is prepared for the purpose of:

- *reducing barriers to persons with a disability accessing goods, services and facilities*
- *reducing barriers to persons with a disability obtaining and maintaining employment*
- *promoting inclusion and participation in the community of persons with a disability*
- *Achieving tangible changes in attitudes and practices which discriminate against persons with a disability.*

There are five key priorities (along with goals) included in this CAIS, each of which aligns with the Council Plan 2017-21. These are:

- Economic growth
- Community enrichment
- Infrastructure
- Governance and leadership
- Environment

Many actions involve relatively simple changes to regular practice and attitudes. Other changes are designed to improve physical access within Council buildings and facilities and will be more costly and time consuming. Therefore, the CAIS includes longer-term strategies to address physical access barriers after due consideration of funding implications and priority of works.

The development of the CAIS involved a literature review that included key organisational plans, strategies and documents, plus other important documents from a range of sources. This review guided appraisal of issues around disability and also provided key data to draw upon and direct consultation.

Overall common themes from the consultation were:

- Better infrastructure, including:
 - access to and inside buildings and facilities
 - improved footpaths
 - more toilets at parks and accessible toilets inside other Council facilities
 - more disabled parking
- Improved transport.
- Improved education, awareness and promotion within the community regarding people with a disability and services.
- Improved education and awareness among employers, organisations and clubs regarding people with a disability and their abilities.
- Accessible information in an easy-to-read format.
- Council to lead by example (such as employing people with a disability).

A certain amount of flexibility has been built into the CAIS's implementation plan. This is in recognition of the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), which is scheduled to be implemented in our region by the 1 January 2019.

Council's role in the lead up to this roll out could be vastly different by this time, depending on funding opportunities, possible partnerships and changes in legislative requirements/responsibilities between Federal, State and local governments.

The contract for the State-funded Building Inclusive Communities (BIC) program, that Council is funded to facilitate the RuralAccess program will end in June 2019. It is expected that all State funding for disability-related programs will be rolled into the NDIS. Due to this, there is a chance this contract may not continue, leaving Council without a key asset and link to people with a disability in the community.

Consultation

A campaign was launched through print and broadcast media, brochures, local newsletters and networks to raise awareness of the consultation process. This provided the community the opportunity to provide feedback and input into the development of the CAIS through a range of methods:

- Surveys
- Focus groups and one-to-one-interviews with people with a disability, carers and service providers
- Community consultation sessions
- Listening posts at existing forums (where available)
- Direct contact with the RuralAccess program

Council staff also had the opportunity to provide feedback and input into the development of the CAIS through a range of methods:

- Staff surveys
- Open workshops held in Swan Hill and Robinvale
- Team meetings in key units of Council

Sixty-two members of the community provided feedback via a survey. Additionally, 11 service providers and 26 Council staff completed surveys.

Despite a large media campaign that included brochures delivered to all mail boxes in the municipality, initial consultation attendance was discouraging. A decision was made to extend the consultation period, including an additional community workshop in Robinvale and a focus on raising awareness of the community survey. This resulted in greater consultation attendance.

In addition to the consultation conducted during the development of the Strategy, a number of consultation activities have been planned to inform the community and seek community feedback on this draft strategy. These activities include:

- An open house at the Swan Hill Region Information Centre
- An editorial in the Swan Hill Guardian
- Information in the Mayoral Column
- Information packs provided for our Town Representative Groups via Council senior managers.
- Provision of information on Councils website and through social media.

Financial Implications

The CAIS does not necessarily demand direct financial commitment. Rather, it puts into place strategies to reflect and prioritise the way Council maintains and designs some of its assets. It also provides the opportunity to inform other strategic plans

(such as the major projects plan) to ensure the highest level of benefit to a greatest number of residents.

Similar could be said regarding resources, where many of the alterations are to raise the awareness and change the procedure of tasks that already make up the core business of Council.

Social Implications

The CAIS addresses attitudinal barriers that prevent people from participating in the community through work, leisure and everyday activities that many people take for granted.

Residents affected by a disability face barriers of disadvantage, such as employment, poverty and discrimination. This means that people with a disability do not have the same opportunities as people without a disability. Employment can contribute to a sense of identity and self-worth and have positive health impacts for some people with a disability.

Economic Implications

Improving employment outcomes for people with a disability will provide significant benefits to workplaces and the economy. Employment can provide people with a disability with increased income, and with this, higher living standards and financial independence. Improved employment outcomes for people with a disability can also reduce demand on welfare systems.

Businesses that employ people with a disability benefit from the diverse range of skills, talents and qualifications that people with disability have to offer. Research has shown that workers with a disability have higher rates of retention, better attendance and fewer occupational health and safety incidents than those without a disability.

With the roll out of the NDIS, the funding model will change for people with a disability and how they access services. People with a disability may start accessing and purchasing Council services directly in the same manner as traditional customers. Therefore, it will be more important than ever to ensure Council services and facilities are accessible and attractive.

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Ensuring Council's infrastructure and services are accessible to all of the community helps negate injury or accident. It also reduces the possibility of a complaint to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Community enrichment - Help all people to find a place in our community.

Options

Nil

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Approve the Draft Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 for the purposes of seeking public submissions and feedback for a period of 28 days.**
- 2. Thank and congratulate the committee for their guidance and effort in formulating the plan.**



Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-21



Acknowledgements

Council would like to acknowledge and thank members of our community, local service providers and Council staff for providing valuable feedback and input into this document.

Swan Hill Rural City Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays its respects to their elders, past and present.

DRAFT

Copies of this document are available in a range of formats, including large print, Plain English and Easy English. Please contact us (details below) for your copy.

For questions relating to this document, please contact

Community Development Unit
Swan Hill Region Information Centre
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PO Box 488
SWAN HILL VIC 3585
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Mayor's message

Did you know that more than one third of people living in our municipality are affected by disability? Did you know that 5.4 per cent of our residents have a profound or severe disability requiring help with day-to-day activities? And this figure increases if we include people with temporary disabilities due to injury or illness.

Being home to an incredibly diverse population, inclusiveness is something we have always been proud of. We strive to ensure equity and access in providing all of our services and infrastructure. And while Council always aims to provide accessible services and facilities to our residents, the Community Access and Inclusion Strategy (CAIS) goes further into identifying opportunities to improve this for community members who are affected by disability.

Building on Council's previous Disability Action Plan (DAP), the CAIS includes a range of specific priority areas to help eliminate the barriers that might stop people with disabilities accessing and participating in our community.

Importantly, this document also recognises that its success depends on an 'access for all' way of thinking - a unified approach and strong partnerships between Council, service providers, organisations, businesses and individual community members.

The input and feedback received during the development of the CAIS, including contributions from residents with a disability, their carers, service providers and Council staff, is a fantastic example of this. This collaborative approach has resulted in a detailed localised strategy, with achievable outcomes that we know will make an impact.

So on behalf of Council, I'd like to thank everyone who provided input into the CAIS and helped shape this document. And I encourage everyone to join us in helping achieve access and inclusion for all.

Introduction

The Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 (CAIS) is Council's commitment to helping reduce barriers for people with a disability to access services, programs, facilities and obtaining and maintaining employment.

The inclusion and participation of people with a disability in our community continues to be a challenge. Residents affected by a disability face barriers of disadvantage, such as employment, poverty and discrimination. This means that people with a disability do not have the same opportunities as residents without a disability.

People with a disability are more likely to report poorer health and wellbeing than that of a person without a disability. Of the two million Australians living with disability, 45 per cent live in or near poverty. That's more than 2.5 times the rate of poverty among the nation's general population.

People with a disability also have a higher unemployment rate of 9.4 per cent, compared to 5.8 per cent (March 2017) for those without a disability. And when they do work, they generally earn less compared to employees without a disability.

This CAIS reaffirms Council's commitment to improving the overall quality of life for people with a disability living, working and visiting our region, and ensuring our services and facilities are accessible and equitable.

A certain amount of flexibility has been built into the CAIS's implementation plan. This is in recognition of the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), which is scheduled to be implemented in our region 1 January 2019.

This document was developed with input from our community, including people with a disability, carers, service providers and Council staff. Community feedback was received via surveys, interviews, listening posts, focus group meetings and discussions with Council's RuralAccess Coordinator.

Disability in our region

In our municipality, 22 per cent of our population (4,489 people), have a disability. In addition to this, 35 per cent are affected by disability. This can include caring for someone with a disability. Both of these figures increase if people with temporary disabilities due to injury and illness are included.

Older residents (60 years and over) are the largest age group needing assistance, accounting for almost 63 per cent of all people identifying as having a disability.

According to Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data from 2011, of the 20,449 people living in our municipality, 5.4 per cent, (1,100 people), identified as needing assistance for daily activities due to a severe or profound disability. This is an increase of 4.6 per cent (939 people) since 2006. The Victorian state average is 5.7 per cent.

The statistics also show increases in people within the 20 to 59-year age group requiring assistance (2.3 per cent in 2006 to 2.9 per cent), and the number of residents providing unpaid care to a person with a disability, long-term illness or the aged (10.6 per cent in 2006 to 12.4 per cent).

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Council's commitment

Under the Local Government Act (1989), all councils have the responsibility to improve the overall quality of life for people in the local community and ensure services and facilities provided are accessible and equitable.

Swan Hill Rural City Council is committed to reducing the barriers that stop people with a disability from participating in day-to-day activities due to physical, economic and social constraints. As a local government organisation, Council is uniquely placed as a leader in the community to promote, advocate for and increase the access and participation of people with a disability.

Council also acts in accordance with the Disability Discrimination Act (1992) by ensuring no discrimination exists based on a disability in any of the functions, infrastructure or services that it provides across our municipality.

Additionally, the CAIS follows on from Council's previous Disability Action Plan 2012-15 (DAP). A number of actions were achieved from the DAP, including:

- Review of parks around their use for people of all abilities.
- Shared walkway and access considerations incorporated into the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan.
- Hearing loops installed in the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC, Council's main offices in Swan Hill and Robinvale and the Heartbeat of the Murray laser light show at the Pioneer Settlement.
- A new accessible Council website conforming to W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.
- Accessible information available in alternative formats upon request for print material.
- Inclusive youth programs.
- Employment program support.
- Increased opportunities and support for people with a disability to participate in community events, programs and activities. Identification and actioning of barriers that may prevent them.
- Community events, programs and activities support.
- Continued advocacy for accessible and improved transport services.
- Development of an access appraisal list of priorities for Council infrastructure.
- Ensuring all property maintenance, upgrades and contractors meet AS 1428.1-5 requirements and implement Access to Premises amendments.
- Development of an Active Transport Strategy, including accessible walking networks.
- Identification of improvements needed for existing accessible parking bays and ensuring compliance with AS 2990.0-1.

Council plans and strategies

This CAIS shares the same key result areas of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Plan 2017-21. The Council Plan articulates the municipality's strategic direction and details its commitments towards achieving its vision for the future. It includes a range of strategic objectives and initiatives that Council intends to undertake during the next four years to achieve this vision.

The five key strategic areas Council is committed to are:

- Economic growth
- Community enrichment
- Infrastructure
- Governance and leadership
- Environment

Council's vision and mission are:

Our Vision

A prosperous and healthy community enjoying quality facilities and services.

Our Mission

We will lead, advocate, partner and provide efficient services and opportunities for growth and the wellbeing of our community and environment.

Additionally, the CAIS links to a number of other Council strategies, policies and plans, including:

- Active Transport Strategy
- Charter of Human Rights
- Communication Strategy 2015-18
- Customer Service Strategy and Customer Service Charter
- Diversity Policy
- Footpaths in Road Reserves and Parks Policy
- Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Risk Management Policy
- Swan Hill Car Parking Strategy
- Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan
- Youth Strategic Plan 2015-19

For more information about these documents, visit www.swanhill.vic.gov.au or call in to Council's offices in Swan Hill or Robinvale.

Relevant legislation

State

A Fairer Victoria (2008)
 Local Government Act (1989)
 Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act (2006)
 Victorian Disability Act (2006)
 Victorian Equal Opportunity Act (2010)
 Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015-2019
 Victorian State Disability Plan 2017-2020

Federal

Disability Discrimination Act (1992)
 National Disability Strategy 2010-2020

International

United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Other relevant documents

- Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) *Creating a More Inclusive Community for People with a Disability – A Strategic Framework for Local Government.*

Working in partnership

Although Council is in a position to help achieve access and inclusiveness for all residents in our community, strong partnerships are needed. This includes partnerships between Council, service providers, community members, business, government and other organisations.

Objectives

The CAIS details Council's commitment to improve the overall quality of life for people living in and visiting our region, and ensuring that services and facilities Council provides are accessible and equitable. The key objectives of the CAIS are:

- Reduce barriers to Council services, programs and facilities for people with a disability.
- Reduce barriers to people with a disability obtaining and maintaining employment.
- Increase inclusion and participation in the community for people with a disability.
- Improve community attitudes and perceptions that discriminate against people with a disability.

Development

The information contained in the CAIS was developed through a review of the previous Disability Action Plan and via consultation with community members, service providers and Council staff (detailed below). A literature review was also conducted, including key organisational plans, strategies and documents, plus other documents from a range of other sources, including the MAV framework.

Consultation

A campaign was launched through print, broadcast and online media, brochures, local newsletters and networks to raise awareness of the consultation process. The community had the opportunity to provide input and feedback into the CAIS development through:

- Surveys
- Focus groups and one-to-one-interviews with people with a disability, carers and service providers
- Community consultation sessions
- Listening posts at existing forums (where available)
- Direct contact with the RuralAccess program

Using a variety of consultation methods gave us maximum audience reach while ensuring all residents had the chance to provide input using a method they felt comfortable with.

Overall common themes from feedback received were:

- Better infrastructure, including:
 - access to and inside buildings and facilities
 - improved footpaths
 - more toilets at parks and accessible toilets inside other council facilities
 - more disabled parking
- Improved transport
- Improved education, awareness and promotion within the community regarding people with a disability and services.
- Improved education and awareness among employers, organisations and clubs regarding people with a disability and their abilities.
- Accessible information in an easy-to-read format
- Council to lead by example (such as employing people with a disability)

Implementation Plan

Council will develop policies, strategies and plans to ensure best practices and outcomes are achieved for all community members within our local government area. There are five key priorities (along with goals) included in the CAIS, each of which aligns with the Council Plan 2017-21. These are:

Key priority one: Economic growth

- 1.1 Increase inclusive employment opportunities for the people of Swan Hill
- 1.2 Raise awareness of the economic benefits of accessible businesses

Key priority two: Community enrichment

- 2.1 Promote greater access and inclusion in our community
- 2.2 Promote awareness of the CAIS and its benefits to the community
- 2.3 Increase opportunities for meaningful inclusive community participation

Key priority three: Infrastructure

- 3.1 Ensure Council buildings, facilities and infrastructure is accessible for all
- 3.2 Improve and upgrade current Council facilities and infrastructure to meet disability requirements
- 3.3 Promote and create readily available information on accessible infrastructure
- 3.4 Create new inclusive infrastructure

Key priority four: Governance and leadership

- 4.1 Ensure we are NDIS ready
- 4.2 Take a lead role in increase the awareness, understanding and supports of people with a disability

Key priority five: Environment

- 5.1 Continue to advocate for improved transport options within the municipality, including outlying areas.
- 5.2 Improve wayfinding and access in the community

Implementation Plan – Action Plan 2017-2021

Key priority one: Economic growth

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
Goal 1.1 - Explore inclusive employment opportunities for the people of Swan Hill.					
1. Investigate partnering with local service provider to re-establish animal nursery at the Pioneer Settlement.	Past externally-run program with positive community benefits. Ongoing community requests to reinstate and identified in consultation. Council circumstances have changed and commitment can be re evaluated.	Pioneer Settlement RuralAccess Murray Human Services Risk Management	2019	In kind - staff time	A review document completed with recommendations identified.
2. Investigate opportunities to use products and services from local disability enterprises where available.	Identified in consultation. Might provide better bottom line outcomes.	Procurement Depot Engineering Murray Human Services Task Force	2018 and ongoing	In kind - staff time	Meeting held with local disability enterprises with possible services identified, minutes taken and actions followed up.
3. HR to meet with Disability Employment Services (DES) annually to discuss local issues and possible	Common theme provided by DES in consultation	Human Resources Local DES	Yearly ongoing	In kind - staff time	One meeting held annually with DES, minutes taken and actions followed up.

Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
partnership opportunities.					
4. Invite DES to present at managers meeting on the wage subsidy scheme.	Identified in consultation. Equality of opportunity in employment. May provide better bottom line outcomes.	Human Resources Managers Local DES	2017	No cost	DES invited to present on wage subsidy scheme at Managers' meeting.
5. Managers to review procedures within area and identify tasks that may be more suitable to be performed by DES clients.	Identified in consultation. Equality of opportunity in employment. May provide better bottom line outcomes.	Human Resources Managers Local DES	2017	In kind - staff time	Managers have reviewed work areas and reported to Human Resources on potential work tasks.
6. Implement wage subsidy scheme where applicable. Task have been identified.	Identified in consultation. Equality of opportunity in employment. May provide better bottom line outcomes.	Human Resources Local DES		Subject to external funding	Where applicable, wages subsidy program implemented with DES.
Goal 1.2 - Raise awareness of the economic benefits of accessible businesses					
1. Partner with and promote the 'Come In, we're accessible' campaign.	Shop accessibility raised numerous times during consultation. Inaccessibility has a negative effect upon businesses and the economy	RuralAccess Information Centre Robinvale Resource	2018	In kind - staff time	Conduct the campaign's self assessment at Swan Hill Splatt Street office, Information Centre and Robinvale Resource Centre, and action any identified issues.

Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
	when customers who could be accessing goods and services cannot.	Centre Media RCS West Loddon Mallee Region Swan Hill Incorporated			Media campaign explaining campaign and its benefits to the community. Present at Swan Hill Incorporated meeting to promote the campaign, self assessments and where they can find help.
2. Brochure to advertise/raise awareness of Council services and venues.	The establishment of the NDIS will change the way people with a disability access Council services and venues.	Director of Community and Cultural Services Community Care Services Media External designer/ printer	2019	In kind – staff time Cost to design and print	Council services determined by 2019/20. Brochures created and updated to reflect Council services.

Ongoing responsibilities

- Advocate for State Government support for additional funds to provide extra disability services and respite.
- Develop cross-sector partnership opportunities to capitalise on existing resources and services.
- Continue providing supported employment programs and flexible work practices for people with a disability, like voluntary work experience options, traineeship or scholarship opportunities and options to volunteer.

Key priority two: Community enrichment

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
Goal 2.1 - Promote greater access and inclusion in our community					
1. Raise awareness and continue to develop Council scooter charging station program.	There are over 120,000 mobility scooter users Australia-wide, a number that is expected to reach 280,000 within 10 years due to Australia's ageing population.	RuralAccess Media	2019	Budgeted through RuralAccess Program	Increase of available recharge stations within the community. Media campaign highlighting availability of stations and benefit to the community.
2. Promote the visitswanhill website's events page to service providers and the community.	When asked about challenges in finding out about services, programs and events in the community, almost half of responses identified troubles in finding information.	Media Swan Hill Incorporated	2018	In kind – staff time	Email sent to local service providers, sporting and community groups with information regarding the events page and its use Media campaign highlighting the events page to the community.
3. Provide more information to people regarding accessible options at the Town Hall.	Increases peoples ability to make informed choices and venue marketability.	PACC Media IT	2018	In kind – staff time	Sign created displaying access options for the Town Hall Sign displayed at Information Centre, Town Hall foyer and booking website. Sign converted to flyer and distributed where appropriate.

Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
Goal 2.2 - Promote awareness of the CAIS and its benefits to the community					
1. Ensure the CAIS is available on the Council's website, including progress updates on a regular basis.	Represents Council's commitment to community enrichment.	IT RuralAccess	2017 and ongoing	In kind – staff time	The CAIS is accessible on Council's website. Two progress reports are uploaded annually.
2. Submit the CAIS to the Australian Human Rights Commission for formal registration and actively promote its initiatives to the community.	Represents Council's commitment to community enrichment.	RuralAccess Media	2017	No cost	CAIS is submitted and registered with the Australian Human Rights Commission.
3. Information on the CAIS included in staff newsletter, including updates on key achievements.	Data from staff consultation showed that 54 per cent of staff surveyed were unaware of the DAP.	RuralAccess Human Resources	2017 and ongoing	In kind – staff time	Article included in staff newsletter annually.
4. Develop Plain English and easy English formats of the CAIS.	Once the CAIS has been adopted additional formats will make it accessible to a broader percentage of the community.	RuralAccess External Service	2017	Budgeted through RuralAccess Program	CAIS available on Council's website in Plain English and Easy English formats.

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Actions	Why/Justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
5. Repeat original staff survey to help gauge effectiveness of CAIS through Council.	Information from surveys will help identify areas where more awareness or training may be required.	RuralAccess	March 2019	In kind – staff time	Original staff survey repeated and results reflected in CAIS report.
Goal 2.3 - Increase opportunities for meaningful inclusive community participation					
1. Support community events and opportunities that raise the benefits and value of people with a disability in our community.	When community members were asked when they most feel a part of the community, every answer given described actively participating in the community.	RuralAccess Youth Inc PACC External service providers Community groups	Ongoing	Inkind – staff time, venue use Costing dependent on activity and Council involvement	Four activities ran annually or supported through financial or In Kind support.
2. Provide subsidised use of Town Hall for disability specific events/performance.	It takes more than physical integration to achieve community connectedness, social integration strengthens individuals quality of life and is essential in addressing attitudinal barriers within the community.	PACC RuralAccess Youth Inc	2018 Ongoing	Internally funded Costing dependent on activity	Minimum of 3 subsidised events per year. One inclusive to the Swan Hill Specialist School.

Actions	Why/Justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
3. Create a project brief and seek funding for the creation of a permanent IT/multimedia lab at library.	The library and its programs were repeatedly identified positively throughout the consultations.	Library RuralAccess Works department Engineering department State/Federal governments	2019	Inkind – staff time Costing to be established as part of project brief	Project brief created. Included in 10 year major project list.
4. Investigate the Establishment of a technology program at our libraries.	This style of program has been requested by community members and has shown great benefits where established in other communities (for example thelab.org.au).	Libraries RuralAccess	2018	Inkind – staff time, equipment, venue Dependent on required costs to purchase additional infrastructure.	Technology program established at the library.
5. Review options for screen reading support on Council website.	Having accessible information online was raised in consultation, current contract will be due for review.	IT RuralAccess	2021	Costs to be determined	Options reviewed and contract renewed or alternative option sourced.
6. Install a communication board at Barry	Communication and education was raised in the consultation as a common	RuralAccess RCS West Loddon	2018	Costs to be determined	Communication board installed.

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
Steggall Park.	barrier to community participation.	Mallee Region Engineering department Works department			
7. Investigate feasibility of communication boards at other key community facilities. Costing and funding for additional boards sought.	Communication and education was raised in the consultation as a common barrier to community participation.	RuralAccess RCS West Loddon Mallee Region Community Development Engineering department Works department	2019	Costs to be determined	Meeting held with community groups and service providers. locations and content identified. List of feasible locations created. Funding streams identified.
8. Promote and support local International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD) events.	An internationally recognised day and a great opportunity to provide inclusive activities within the community.	RuralAccess Mallee Sports Assembly Progressive Unity Swan Hill (PUSH) network, Community groups	Ongoing	Inkind – staff time, venue use Other costing dependent on partnerships and Council involvement	An annual event held.
9. Facilitate community focused education	Education and awareness was raised in the consultation as one of the two main	RuralAccess Progressive Unity	2018 and ongoing	Inkind – staff time, venue	Provided/supported a minimum of one training session annually.

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
<p>10. Review current Town Hall programming and promotion with the view to provide more accessible content/performance options.</p>	To ensure that more residents and visitors to Swan Hill can enjoy touring performances.	Swan Hill (PUSH) network, Community Groups, External training providers	2018	use. Other costing dependent on partnerships and Council involvement	Accessible Programs created with PDF's available.
		PACC		Inkind – staff time	

Ongoing responsibilities

- Deliver aged and disability services to eligible members of the community by providing adequate and equitable access to services.
- Regularly promote all services available to people with a disability or mental illness.
- Ensure the community planning process incorporates the whole community, including people with a disability.
- Continue to enforce Councils footpath trading policy
- Market and provide alternative options of communication for people with a disability and to Council staff.
- On request, make available Council publications and information in alternate formats.

Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021

- Continue to maintain the Council website according to W3C guidelines, including screen reader function.

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Key priority three: Infrastructure

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
Goal 3.1 - Council buildings, facilities and infrastructure is accessible for all as resources available					
1. Through assets inspection and ongoing building inspections inspect for access.	Infrastructure was one of two main barriers raised by the community during the consultation.	Works department Engineering department	Ongoing	Dependent on required costs to upgrade facilities. Internal and external funding will be needed.	Increase in Council buildings accessible to people of all abilities.
2. Request through budget process that Council commit an annual budget to retro fit existing Council infrastructure that does not meet accessibility standards.	All new buildings and building works need to comply with accessible building standards. But to effectively address accessible infrastructure additional resources need to be committed to retrofitting.	ELT Works department Engineering department RuralAccess	Ongoing	In kind – staff time	Budget request successful.
3. Review lift procedure and use at the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC.	Common theme in consultation.	PACC	2018	In kind – staff time	Lift is available to be used independently when required.
4. Review option to make stage lift	Currently only a service lift is	PACC	2019	In kind – staff	Options sought including costing and

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
safe for public wheelchair use.	available with no designated wheelchair access to main stage.			time	potential actions.
5. Develop a strategic method to identify and prioritise footpath upgrades within the municipality.	Footpaths were identified in the consultation as a key barrier to access, particularly in outlying communities.	Engineering department Works department Community Planning	Ongoing	Costing to be determined	Missing Links Footpath Strategy developed and actioned.
3.2 - Improve and upgrade current Council facilities and infrastructure to meet disability requirements as resources available					
1. Investigate providing toilet facilities at all Council parks and reserves where no facilities are available.	Identified in community consultation.	Engineering department	2021	In kind – staff time	Public Toilet Strategy developed.
2. Develop a strategic method to ensure where toilet facilities are available at least one is an accessible unisex sanitary facility.	Identified in community consultation.	Works department Engineering department State/Federal governments	Review 2017-2018 Strategy 2018-2019	Internal and external funding will be needed.	Review of public toilets completed Public Toilet Strategy developed including recommendations.

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
3. Progressively update toilets to meet accessible requirements for all Council buildings, including the Swan Hill Regional Library and Swan Hill Town Hall.	During community consultation, the Library and Town Hall were identified as needing attention.	Engineering department Works department Library RuralAccess	Ongoing	Internal and external funding will be needed.	Review of public toilets completed Public Toilet Strategy developed including recommendations. Feasible changes are actioned.
4. Provide extra facilities in existing toilets, such as shelving, handrails, etc.	Request for shelving was made during consultation.	Engineering department Works department	2018/19	To be determined	Shelving units supplied in accessible toilets. Handrails retro fitted to create ambulant facilities where feasible.
5. Ensure redevelopment of Council's front counter is access friendly.	Accessibility of Council facilities was raised in consultation.	Works department Engineering department	2018/19	Internally	New accessible front desk at Council Splatt Street office.
6. Address wheelchair access at Robinvale Community Arts Centre.	Identified in staff consultation.	Robinvale Community Arts Centre Works department RuralAccess Engineering department	2018 Inspection Ongoing dependant on work required	In kind – staff time To be determined	Robinvale Community Arts Centre is accessible to wheelchairs.

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
7. Review TGSI usage and ensure installation on both sides of crossing when used.	Identified in consultation.	Engineering department Works department	2019 Ongoing	In kind – staff time To be determined	All intersections with TGSI available have installations on both sides.
8. Investigate alternative mobility options for transport between the ticket booth and the amphitheater for Heartbeat of the Murray.	Identified during staff consultation and OHS concerns raised.	Pioneer Settlement Rural/Access Occupational Therapist	2018/19	In kind – staff time. Internal budget committed	Options sought including costing. Alternative transport option provided.
9. Scope costs and funding to modify Leisure Centre hoist to a H frame.	Community and service provider feedback expressed that the current single beam hoist does not meet user requirements.	Belgravia Leisure Works department	2021	To be determined.	Project scoped. Costing and funding sought.
10. Ensure Disabled Parking is to standard.	Raised consistently throughout consultation.	Engineering department		In kind – staff time.	Ensure all future developments or redevelopment adhere to current Australian Standard 2890.6-2009.
3.3 - Promote and create readily available information on accessible infrastructure					
1. Create an accessibility	Mobility map requested by the	Engineering	2017	In kind – staff	Accessible options available for

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
overlay for interactive map available on Council website.	community.	department IT	Ongoing	time.	interactive map.
2. PDF version of accessibility map available in hardcopy at Council office front counters and on Council's website.	To ensure the map is more broadly available.	Engineering department IT Customer Service	2018	In kind – staff time.	Map available and accessible for public use.
3. Educate and encourage people on how to lodge service requests when they identify access issues within the community.	Having the community lodge service requests helps identify, prioritise and action issues with Council infrastructure.	Media Engineering department	2018	In kind – staff time.	Media campaign, including examples like the Council's website and third party phone apps.
4. Guide dog stickers on entrances.	Promoting Guide dog acceptance proactively advocates and raises awareness throughout the community.	RuralAccess Customer service	2017-05- 22	In kind – staff time	Sticker displayed on Council buildings that provide direct customer service.
5. Create an accessibility map for the Pioneer Settlement.	Improves customer experience and marketability.	Pioneer Settlement	2019	In kind – staff time. Cost to print	Map available for public use.

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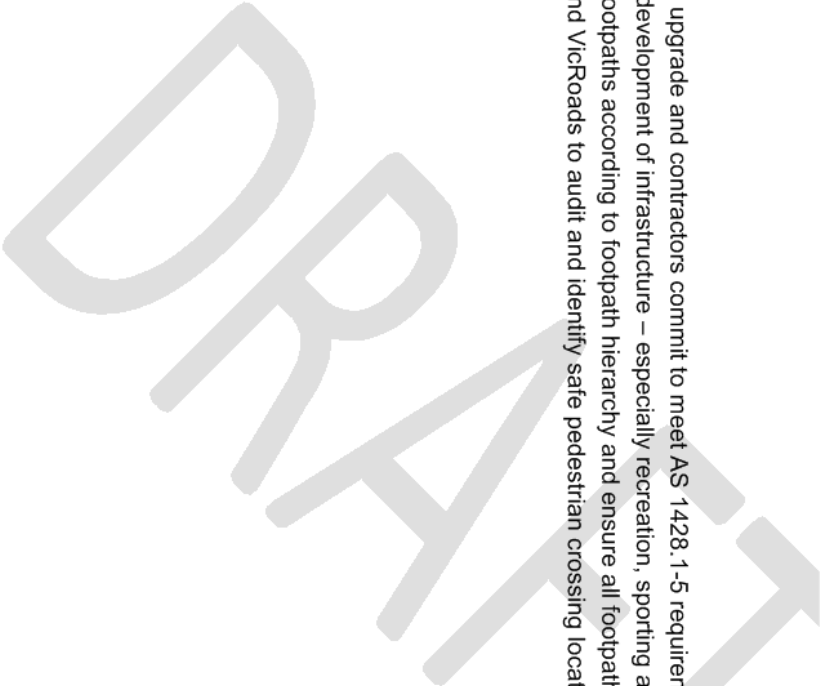
Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
Goal 3.4 - Create new inclusive infrastructure					
1. Investigate feasibility of designated scooter parking in key community locations.	There are over 120,000 mobility scooter users Australia-wide, a number that is expected to reach 280,000 within 10 years due to Australia's ageing population.	Engineering department Local Laws Rural/Access Occupational Therapist	2021	In kind – staff time.	Options reviewed and report presented to ELT.
2. Investigate feasibility of a Changing Places sanitary facility.	Considered to be best practice infrastructure. Funding opportunities available.	Works department	Ongoing	\$160,000	Project brief created and funding sought if determined feasible.
3. Construct new accessible bus shelters.	Commitment to accessible infrastructure.	Engineering department Works department	2017	Internal budget committed and external funding through Transport of	Eight new accessible bus shelters constructed.

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
				Victoria	

Ongoing responsibilities

- Ensure all property maintenance upgrade and contractors commit to meet AS 1428.1-5 requirements.
- Ensure any future planning and development of infrastructure – especially recreation, sporting and playground facilities include 'Access for All' principles.
- Prioritise remedial repairs of all footpaths according to footpath hierarchy and ensure all footpath renewals or upgrade are constructed to standards.
- Work with the Works Manager and VicRoads to audit and identify safe pedestrian crossing locations for major arterial routes.



Key priority four: Governance and leadership

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
Goal 4.1 - Ensure we are NDIS ready					
1. Support NDIS associated peak bodies to keep the community and local service providers informed regarding the roll out of NDIS in our municipality.	The NDIS will directly or indirectly effect the lives of all people with a disability.	Federal/State governments RuralAccess Media	Ongoing	In kind – staff time	Information disseminated (when and where appropriate, for example existing networks like PUSH).
2. Investigate Council becoming a service provider under the NDIS.	The NDIS reform will potentially change how Council provides services to the community.	Director of Community and Cultural Services	June 2018	In kind – staff time	Options paper presented to Councillors.
Goal 4.2 - Take a lead role in increasing the awareness, understanding and supports of people with a disability					
1. Work with local service providers and provide support to identify gaps and training opportunities.	Education and awareness was raised in the consultation as one of the main barriers to community participation.	RuralAccess Progressive Unity Swan Hill (PUSH) network Community Groups	Ongoing	Inkind – staff time	PUSH meetings attended. Minutes taken with community groups/service providers. Training options and project briefs developed.
2. Facilitate and support local training opportunities on	Education and awareness was raised in the consultation as one of the main barriers to	RuralAccess Progressive Unity	Ongoing	Inkind – staff time,	Facilitate a minimum of two training sessions annually.
Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021					

Actions	Why/Justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
identified gaps and issues.	community participation.	Swan Hill (PUSH) network Community Groups Eternal training providers		venue use Other costs dependent on partners and Council involvement	
3. Establish a 'Walk in our shoes' campaign to educate Councillors and management about key disability issues in accessing the community.	Suggested in community and staff consultation.	RuralAccess Management Councillors Community members with disability Local service providers Media	2019	In kind – staff time	'Walk in our shoes' activities undertaken with media promotions.
4. Create communication boards at Council's Swan Hill Splatt Street office front desk and information desk.	Carried over from previous DAP.	RuralAccess Customer Service RCS West Loddon Mallee Region	2018	In kind – staff time Cost budgeted through RuralAccess program	Communication boards available at main office front desk and information desk.
5. Promote alternate options for Council's print	Common theme in consultation	Media	June 2018	In kind – staff time	Article promoting the availability of alternative options included in Council

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Actions	Why/Justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
material.		Governance			newsletter. Public document templates adjusted to add statement of availability in the footer.
6. Disability specific training available to staff online as part of e3learning and delivered in person.	Identified in staff survey.	Human Resources RuralAccess	e3learning -2021 In person training 2017 and ongoing	Inkind – staff time Cost dependent on training options	Disability specific training available through e3learning on staff portal. Minimum of one disability specific training made available to staff annually.
7. Create a disabilities resource with information and links for easy staff access.	Identified in Staff Survey.	Human Resources IT RuralAccess	June 2018 Ongoing	Inkind – staff time	Disabilities resources site made available to staff on Alfresco.
8. Facilitate training on creating inclusive events for staff who plan and facilitate community programs.	The consultation reinforced the importance to people with a disability being able to actively participate in community events.	Human Resources RuralAccess External training provider	2021	Cost to be determined	Training delivered to relevant staff.
9. Investigate applying for the Communication Access symbol.	Program supported by NDIS ILC grant funding.	RuralAccess RCS West Loddon	2021	Cost to be determined	Report created and presented to ELT.

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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Estimated cost	Measured by
10. Partner with Belgavia Leisure to support the YouMeUs inclusive training package for staff.	A training package that is being developed specifically for Belgavia Leisure.	Mallee Region SCOPE Belgavia Leisure YouMeUs RuralAccess	2021	Costed through Belgavia Leisure	Training provided.
11. Develop a best practice document about accessibility for live performance.	Everyone benefits when access is better, including performers, attendees, people making deliveries, people with heavy baggage, families with young children and those with prams.	PACC	2018	Inkind – staff time	Document created and available to the public.

Ongoing responsibilities

- Promote and enforce Local Laws regulations for compliance with footpath trading and illegal parking in accessible parking bays.
- Continue to ensure all Council Band 3 and below positions descriptions are in easy-to-read English.
- Include 'Access for All' principles when drafting new or reviewing existing strategic plans or policies.

Key priority five: Environment

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/partners	Time frame	Est cost	Measured by
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Goal 5.1 - Continue to advocate for improved transport options within the municipality, including outlying areas

1. Advocate for funding through the Transport Connections Group.	Transport was identified as a major barrier throughout consultations, particularly by service providers trying to cater for outlying communities.	RuralAccess Coordinator Community Development	Ongoing	In kind – staff time	Attended Local Mallee Transport Forums. Participated in appropriate working groups as identified in the options paper currently being developed.
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2. Review access at rail crossings in Swan Hill and advocate to VicTrack for accessible pedestrian crossings where appropriate.	Raised in consultation, currently there is no footpath access to the Federal Square area and at the Pioneer Settlement/Art Gallery.	Engineering department	Review 2019 Initial conversations 2019 Ongoing	In kind – staff time	Report created with recommendations. Date of initial meeting with Victrack, minutes taken and actions followed up.
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Goal 5.2 - Improve wayfinding and access in the community

1. Promote wayfinding signage.	It is generally taken for granted that people are aware of their surroundings and can navigate from one place to another. However, for an	Media	2021	In kind – staff time	Article explaining wayfinding signage included in Council Newsletter.
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Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021

Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Est cost	Measured by
	individual with a disability, finding your way in often complex surroundings can be difficult.				
2. Review way/finding, investigate additional options such as braille, tactile and new technology where feasible.	It is generally taken for granted that people are aware of their surroundings and can navigate from one place to another. However, for an individual with a disability finding your way in often complex surroundings can be difficult.	Engineering department IT	2018 ongoing	Inkind – staff time with costs to be determined	Report created and costing sought to replace signage where feasible.
3. Run a media campaign highlighting the importance of accessible footpaths and the public responsibility to keep clear.	Footpath access was raised numerous time throughout consultation.	Local Laws Media RuralAccess	2021	Inkind – staff time	Media release sent to local media outlets and included in Council Newsletter.
4. Investigate options for augmented reality use within the community.	Advances in technology create greater opportunities for inclusive participation and may have positive flow on effects for tourism.	IT Media RuralAccess EDU Youth Inc Library	2021	Cost to be determined	Report delivered to ELT.

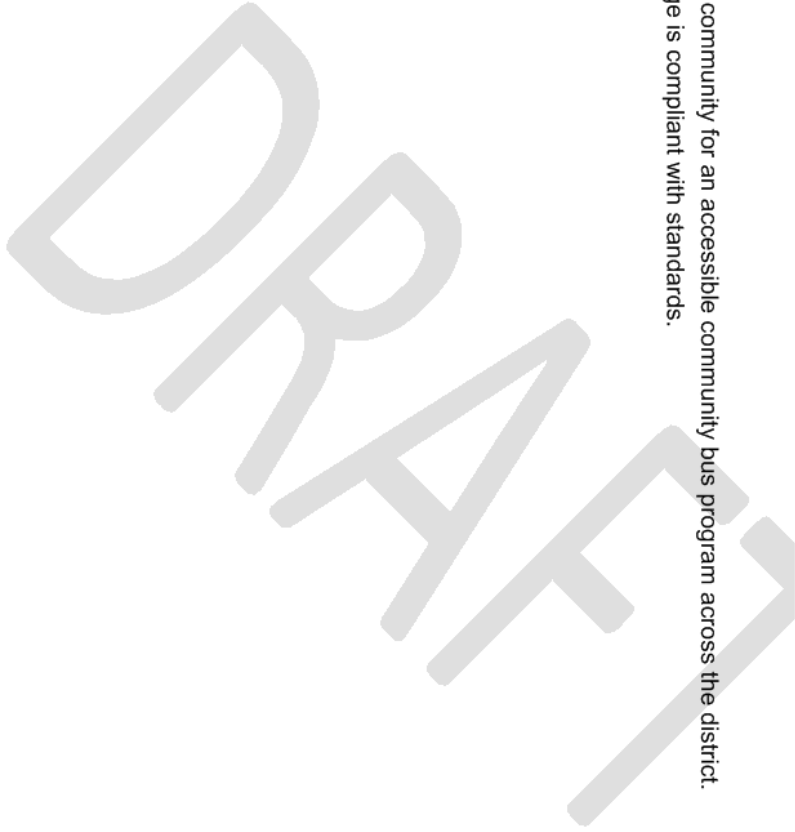
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Actions	Why/justification	Responsibility/ partners	Time frame	Est cost	Measured by
		Pioneer Settlement Art Gallery			

Ongoing responsibilities

- Advocate on behalf of the whole community for an accessible community bus program across the district.
- Ensure new and renewed signage is compliant with standards.



Implementation and management

Performance against the Community Access and Inclusion Plan will be monitored six-monthly and reported to Council annually.

Council reporting, review and evaluation will take place in accordance with the timeframes listed below.

Requirement	Due date
Adoption by Council	August 2017
Six-monthly review	February 2018
Annual review and report to Council	August 2018
Evaluation and redevelopment of Implementation Plan – Action Plan	February 2019

Evaluation

Evaluation questions:

1. Has Council achieved what it set out to do?
2. Has there been a notable change in accessibility for all community members?
3. Do people with a disability in our municipality feel more included?
4. What worked and what needs to be improved or changed?

References

- Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Commonwealth Government, 1992, Disability Discrimination Act (1992)
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Swan Hill Rural City Council website and profile.id data.
- Victorian Government, 2016, Absolutely Everyone: State Disability Plan 2017-2020
- Victorian Government, 2006, Victorian Disability Act (2006)
- Victorian Government, 2008, A Fairer Victoria
- Victorian Equal Opportunity Act (2010)
- Local Government Act (1989)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Plan 2017-21
- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015-2019
- National Disability Strategy 2010-2020
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Glossary

Alternate formats – This terminology is about providing information in other formats for people who might have very limited or no vision at all. Alternate formats that need to be considered when catering for all levels of vision impairment include:

- Audio – either audio cassette, DVD or CD with fast forward options to skip each topic that is not of interest.
- Large print – font size minimum 16 points in non-serif fonts as described above.
- Website – organisation’s website needs to be compliant with the international W3C standards for web design and targeted content must be in Word format (screen readers cannot read PDFs).

Auslan – Visual-gestural language used by the deaf community.

Australian Standards – Building standards legislation that includes ‘Access to Premises’ in the AS 1428.

Barrier – The term ‘barrier’ refers to an obstacle that might be encountered that restricts a person with a disability from fully participating in community life.

Changing Places - Changing Places Toilets are an improvement on standard accessible toilets. Each Changing Places toilet provides: a height adjustable adult-sized changing table, a tracking hoist system, enough space and a safe and clean environment.

Come in, we’re accessible – A program providing information to support businesses to meet the legal and community expectations of fair ‘Access for All’ to goods, services and opportunities.

Communication board – Communication boards are picture-based communication aids that help people who have difficulty communicating their needs verbally or have language difficulties. They might have an alphabet, pictures of Council services or tourism venues.

Communication Access symbol - A symbol that means that the business or service you are visiting is communication accessible, staff have had relevant training and alternative communication options are available

DDA – Disability Discrimination Act (1992) is Commonwealth legislation that protects the rights of people with a disability in the areas of employment, education, access to premises, provision of goods, services and facilities, accommodation, buying land, activities of clubs and associations, sport and administration of Commonwealth Government laws and programs.

Easy English - Uses simpler language than plain English, minimal punctuation, images to support headings and key messages, larger font sizes and plenty of white space.

Hearing loop – A device installed into a room that allows people who use hearing aids to hear more clearly.

IDPWD – International Day of People with a Disability is held annually on 3 December and celebrates people’s abilities.

NDIS – National Disability Insurance Scheme – visit www.ndis.gov.au for more information.

PDF - Portable Document Format is a file format used to present and exchange documents reliably, independent of software, hardware, or operating system.

PUSH - Progressive Unity Swan Hill network is a group of community members, local and outreach disability services with a purpose to work collaboratively to improve the quality of life for people with disability

RuralAccess – An initiative of the Department of Human Services with local rural councils that aims to build the capacity of local communities and is inclusive of people with a disability.

Screen reading support – A program reads web pages aloud for people who find it difficult to read online content. Reading large amounts of text on screen can be difficult for those with literacy difficulties, dyslexia, mild visual impairments and those who speak English as a second language.

Simple English – Documents written to a literacy level equivalent to year eight.

TGSI – Tactile Ground Surface Indicators purpose is to provide a tactile surface on public pathways & access routes that can be felt underfoot and recognised as a warning of impending pedestrian hazard, particularly to the vision impaired, but also as an added safety precaution to all pedestrians.

Visitswanhill – Tourism website for the Swan Hill region - <https://www.visitswanhill.com.au>

W3C – Standards for website accessibility for people with a vision impairment who might use computer technology to access web information.

Wayfinding – Refers to all of the ways in which people orient themselves in physical space and navigate from place to place.

Walk in our shoes – Refers to experiencing something from someone else's perspective.

YouMeUs – Is a staff learning program about inclusion in leisure centres.

B.17.74 PROGRESS REPORT ROBINVALE 2031 (COMMUNITY PLAN)

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S01-24-01-08
Attachments: 1 Robinvale Community Plan

Declarations of Interest:

Heather Green- as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

This report seeks to provide Council with the methodologies behind the review of the Robinvale Community Plan in 2015 and seeks approval to release the plan for public submissions.

Discussion

'Robinvale 2031' (The Plan) is the outcome of a partnership between Council and Latrobe University and many weeks of intense community engagement and consultation with the Robinvale community. The Plan was developed during the review of the Robinvale Community Plan in 2015. The level of involvement from the community far exceeded expectations, shifting the original goal of producing a two-to-three year plan to a long term vision for the community.

The Plan will be managed by Council in partnership with the Robinvale Improvement Group (RIG), consisting of a diverse range of Robinvale community members, meeting on a monthly basis. REBA has agreed to auspice this group until they become established. RIG will represent the community in the same way that other Council Town Representative Groups operate across the municipality.

Three key themes were identified in the consultation process with several priority areas raised by the community.

1. **Access to Services**
 - a. Health & Medical Services
 - b. Agriculture, Retail & Commercial Enterprise
 - c. Telecommunications
2. **Promoting Participation**
 - a. Leadership & Governance
 - b. Diversity & Inclusion
 - c. Education & Training
3. **Building Infrastructure**
 - a. Housing
 - b. Recreation, Culture Arts & Tourism
 - c. Built Environment

Members of RIG voted on the following priority areas:

1. Health & Medical Services
2. Agriculture, Retail & Commercial
3. Telecommunications
4. Leadership & Governance
5. Diversity & Inclusion
6. Education & Training
- 7. Housing**
- 8. Recreation, Culture Arts & Tourism**
- 9. Built Environment**

The top three priority areas for the Robinvale community include – Housing, Recreation, Culture Arts & Tourism and Built Environment, these voting results formed the basis for the Project Scoping & Implementation Plan 2017-2018.

Consultation

Throughout October 2015, over 200 community members fed their thoughts, hopes, aspirations, stories, ideas and time into this Plan. LaTrobe University researchers utilised an empty shop on Perrin St as a 'drop-in' centre where residents were able to visit when it suited them. Members of the community had the opportunity to speak with Council officers from community planning, community development, economic development and aboriginal community planning. Other community engagement and consultation included:

- Formal interviews with service organisations;
- Formal focus group discussions with health service representatives, mothers group, youth group;
- Presentations, group discussions and cognitive mapping with Robinvale P-12 College;
- Presentations about Bromley Road design possibilities by St Mary's Catholic school students;
- Urban design workshops with general community; and
- Email, comments/discussion on Facebook and Twitter (which extended to mid-November)

Financial Implications

Identifying key projects in the implementation plan allows for forward planning and scoping of projects. This allows for budgets to be developed around projects that are fully scoped and ready to go.

Social Implications

The initiatives within the plan are intended to address a number of key social issues including a lack of housing, improved livability, health and well being.

Economic Implications

Supporting projects through the community plan can stimulate economic growth. Ongoing projects identified through the community planning process include: Almond Blossom Festival, Robinvale Community Market and the Robinvale Community Garden.

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Nil

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Community enrichment - Develop a community with a sense of pride and responsibility/ownership that strives to achieve its aspirations.

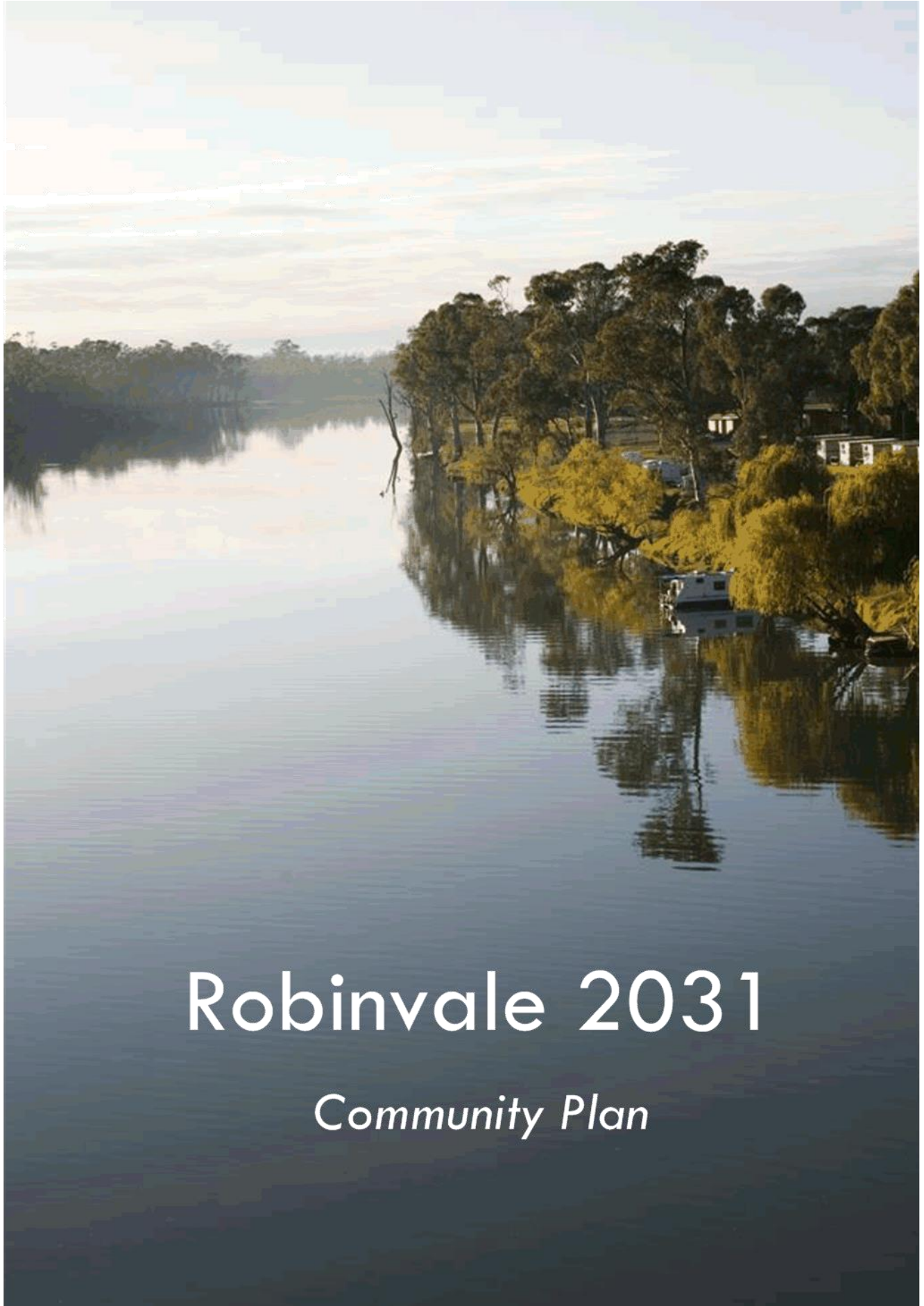
Options

Nil

Recommendations

That Council

- 1. Approve the draft Robinvale 2031 Community Plan for the purposes of seeking public submissions and feedback for a period of 28 days.**
- 2. Thank the committee and community for their involvement and effort in developing the plan.**



Robinvale 2031

Community Plan

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

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Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

1. Community Vision for Robinvale

Robinvale Improvement Group aims to improve the infrastructure, health, education and tourism for members of the Robinvale community, surrounding districts and visitors, while celebrating our history and heritage.

2. Community Profile

Robinvale is a picturesque town located on the banks of the Murray River in north-west Victoria, about 470km north-west of Melbourne. Aptly named the 'Jewel of the Murray' it has no shortage of natural beauty and wonders. At the 2016 Census, the Robinvale region's population was officially 3,411. While this is the official figure, the Robinvale community and Council agree that the region's population is much higher.

As Robinvale is surrounded by labour intensive agriculture, this population can grow some seasons to double what is recorded. Robinvale has a diverse and culturally rich community made up of some 40 cultures and with over 20 languages being spoken.

3. Background

The '*Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan*' has been developed by La Trobe University, Swan Hill Rural City Council and the Robinvale Community. This Plan came about during the review of the Robinvale Community Plan in 2015. Initially the review aimed to develop a new two-to-three year community plan, as had been done previously. With so many valuable insights, ideas, stories and aspirations from the community captured, a longer term vision and plan was created.

From here action plans can now be developed and implemented as the community and Council work together to make Robinvale a prosperous regional centre now and into the future.

This Plan will be reviewed every four years or as needed, so that as new community issues and priorities emerge, they can be encompassed within the Plan.

Over 200 people have fed their thoughts, hopes, aspirations, stories, ideas and time into this Plan. In October 2015, an empty shop in Perrin Street was used as a 'drop-in' centre, where residents could visit when it suited them and speak with La Trobe researchers and staff as well as Council officers. Other community engagement activities included:

- Formal interviews with service organisations;
- Formal focus group discussions with health service representatives, mothers group, youth group;
- Presentations, group discussion and cognitive mapping with Robinvale P-12 College;
- Presentations about Bromley Road design possibilities by St Mary's F-8 School students;
- Urban design workshops with general community; and
- Email, comments/discussion on Facebook and Twitter (which extended to mid-November).

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

4 .Previous Projects

Community Planning first began in Robinvale with the 2009 Community Plan. There were 10 community projects identified and included in the latest version of the Robinvale Community Plan from 2011 to 2013. The projects that are yet to be completed have been carried forward for inclusion in this Plan. As the table shows, many are underway or are an ongoing community effort that the Robinvale community to continue support.

Implementation Plan

Action	Progress Toward Completion
1. Town beautification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bromley Road (Current) • Centenary Park (Future) • Town Entrances (Future) • <i>Focus Group—Town Beautification Group</i> 	Design options finalised for Bromley Road Town entrances have had updated signage
2. Robinvale country market <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Focus Group - Robinvale Euston Rotary Club</i> 	Ongoing successful market run by Rotary Club
3. Memorial park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Focus Group - Memorial Park Steering Committee</i> 	Plans completed and works happening
4. Strategic marketing and development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shop Locally Campaign • Robinvale Information Centre • Graffiti Trailer • <i>Focus Group - Robinvale & Euston Business Association</i> 	Ongoing efforts by REBA (Robinvale Euston Business Association)
5. Physical activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking Paths and Tracks with interpretive signs • <i>Focus Group—Walking Track Group</i> 	Riverfront walking and gym equipment installed and well used
6. Almond Blossom Festival <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Focus Group - Almond Blossom Festival Committee</i> 	Ongoing community led event
7. Tongan led community garden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Focus Group - Tongan Community</i> 	Community Garden established at Robinvale College
8. Acknowledgement of our local Indigenous war veterans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Focus Group - Local Indigenous Network Youth</i> 	Not completed – potential for this to be addressed in Memorial Park *on hold
9. Environment and climate change	Ongoing – addressed partly through sustainability strategy.

Projects * on hold are waiting for focus groups to be established to drive the projects on behalf of the community.

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

5. Swan Hill Rural City Council's Community Planning Program

Community Planning in the Swan Hill Rural City Council began in 2009 and has since involved 11 of the municipality's towns. Robinvale is the first to be presented with a longer term plan.

For community planning to be a success, the community absolutely must be involved and drive the projects included in this Plan. This Plan provides a fantastic opportunity for the people of Robinvale to influence the future of their town and broader community for years to come.

6. Linked and Supporting Plans and Strategies

The plans and strategies listed below are a sample of the documents that Council currently works from that directly impact Robinvale.

- Council Plan 2017 - 2021
- Robinvale Economic Development Strategy
- Active Transport Strategy 2014 - 2034
- Municipal Community Plan
- Bromley Road Masterplan

7. Management of the Plan

A partnership between the Swan Hill Rural City Council and the Robinvale Improvement Group (RIG) will drive both the aspirations and actions of this plan.

The Robinvale Improvement Group will manage the identification of community aspirations and those items within the implementation plan that are within their scope and resource capacity to deliver. As a key stakeholder and partner, Council will provide guidance and advocacy for larger projects and work together with RIG to achieve these actions as identified within the plan. Each project should have a focus group member that is also represented on the main group. This focus group representative will report on their progress at each RIG meeting.

A Council Senior Manager or Director will attend each RIG meeting to provide feedback and information to Council departments about the projects occurring. This person will also be able to inform RIG about important Council news and plans impacting Robinvale.

RIG is free to act upon initiatives outside of the Community Plan of its own accord. However, it is suggested that issues with high levels of community support be included in the Plan to enable potential resourcing and assistance from Council.

The Plan will be reviewed every four years or as needed, with a progress report identifying each priority area and the actions taken in each area.

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

8. Structure of Robinvale 2031

The information that was received during consultation with the Robinvale community was categorised into three overarching themes, with several underlying priority areas for each theme. Within each priority area are the recommendations that were identified as priorities during the consultation. These recommendations are the goals that Robinvale 2031 will seek to achieve in coming years.

9. Priority Areas

Access to services

Access to services is a crucial part of making any community liveable. Services like healthcare, telecommunications, specialist medical services, community safety and a range of shops and employment opportunities were all raised as important for Robinvale's future.

Priority Area 1 - Health and Medical Services

Over a quarter of Robinvale's population is aged over 55 years and more than 20 per cent is under the age of 14, based on the 2016 Census data. This alone makes good healthcare important in order to provide relevant and quality services to both young and older community members.

Projects to address Priority Area 1:

- Work with Robinvale District Health Services to identify how residents can access specialist services through mobile visits, transport options to Mildura or local internships

Priority Area 2 – Agriculture, Retail and Commercial Enterprise

Robinvale is a hub for food production. The district around Robinvale produces approximately 60 per cent of Australia's table grapes, 70 per cent of Australia's almonds and 80 per cent of Australia's olive oil. Agriculture and horticulture also makes up 38 per cent of jobs in the Robinvale community.

For Robinvale to continue thriving as a town, it is important that access to retail and commercial businesses is maintained. In recent years, retail and commercial businesses have been declining as people shop elsewhere and markets change. The community identified maintaining the look and feel of Perrin Street and supporting retailers, traders and commercial enterprise as important.

Projects to address Priority Area 2:

- Develop and implement a shop local campaign (REBA);
- Work with government and contractors to address issues with contracting processes;

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

- Identify and attract businesses that are needed and will be sustainable in Robinvale;
- Continue to improve the Perrin Street streetscape;
- Identify and develop a suitable space for artists to work and sell work from; and
- Advocate and investigate the development of a renewable energy industry in the district.

Priority Area 3 - Telecommunications

Access to good telecommunication services is becoming more important every year as businesses are able to thrive online no matter where they are based. Connections to other countries for immigrants and reliable phone service are also critical parts of making Robinvale liveable.

Projects to address Priority Area 3:

- Advocate for improved services from telecommunications bodies including services suitable for low and middle income families, in particular:
 - Access to affordable and reliable internet service; and
 - Improved mobile phone and broadband coverage.

Promoting participation

The Robinvale community sees promoting participation in community life and in employment as an important focus area for the town's future. This theme covers areas like leadership, governance, inclusion and education and training. To live in a vibrant and liveable community often means establishing a tight-knit community, willing to get involved in many aspects of community life, from volunteering to mentoring and training youth.

Priority Area 4 – Leadership and Governance

A community with good governance and leadership is able to advocate for its needs, create community solutions to problems and engage with the right authorities to continue developing their community. The Robinvale community identified a number of challenges to promoting good governance and leadership in their community, with a focus on volunteerism, local government service provision and difficulties bringing multiple cultures together to work and make decisions on community issues.

Projects to address Priority Area 4:

- Work with Robinvale-Euston Community Alliance to advocate to government and non-government agencies for funding to complete projects identified in the community plan;
- Work with Council to identify and advocate for community needs; and
- Advocate for improved relationships and contributions from large industry to the Robinvale community.

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Priority Area 5 – Diversity and Inclusion

Robinvale is an incredibly diverse community. It is estimated that there are 40 different cultures in Robinvale and over 40 per cent of households have more than two languages spoken. Robinvale is also home to a large population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with an estimated 10.7 per cent identifying as either Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Robinvale has large communities of Vietnamese and Islander people, further adding to the diversity.

Such a diverse population offers residents a wealth of knowledge about the world, understanding of diverse cultures and many opportunities for amazing festivals and food. The diversity of Robinvale does have challenges though, with the community identifying some racism and difficulties for new arrivals to learn English.

Projects to address Priority Area 5:

- Continue to support and grow local events and festivals including:
 - Mallee Almond Blossom Festival;
 - Carols by Candlelight;
 - Lunar New Year; and
 - Robinvale Ski Race.
- Support new events and festivals where possible;
- Develop an English language resource for new arrivals from non-English speaking backgrounds;
- Develop an invitational 'inspirational speakers' and workshop program aimed at secondary level students;
- Encourage entrepreneurship by linking local successful business people to share their stories;
- Compile and work through a list of small research based projects in conjunction with local and regional education providers (eg. photo-essay on local migration stories, Aboriginal history and stories, soldier settlement);
- Extend Nachos, Gunlli & Nasi Goreng program to include collaborative cooking where people learn to cook from peers from different cultures; and
- Attract funding for the development and operation of a Multicultural Resource Centre.

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

Priority Area 6 – Education and Training

This priority area focuses on enabling people to participate in education and effective training and will ultimately lead to enhancement of the local workforce and economy for Robinvale and district. Education and training for Robinvale is seen as critical to the success of the community, particularly retaining and retention of young people. It is believed by ensuring high quality education is available families will be encouraged to stay in and move to Robinvale, while also offering the best chance for careers to be formed in the district. The community identified multiple challenges in this area, but also provided multiple recommendations.

Projects to address Priority Area 6:

- Support the Robinvale L2P program;
- Support the development of the Community Hub at Robinvale College, particularly the construction of project work spaces;
- Investigate opportunities for community work experience for students (i.e. in the information centre);
- Investigate funding opportunities to develop social enterprise that facilitates skills development and gaining certificates (i.e. youth cafe, farm tours, pop-up restaurants);
- Work with education providers to enable access to education and skills training via online, blended learning and on-site assessments;
- Develop extended learning or advanced learning programs during school holidays; and
- Work to improve access to childcare.

Building infrastructure

Infrastructure is a critical part of every liveable town or city. During consultation, participants were asked what made Robinvale great and where Robinvale could benefit from some improvements. Many suggestions related to physical infrastructure improvements as highlighted in Priority Area 9. However, many suggestions also related to the community building social infrastructure and focusing on tourism and recreation opportunities. This section highlights the three crucial priority areas of Housing; Recreation, Cultural Arts and Tourism; and Built Environment.

Priority Area 7 – Housing

Housing in Robinvale was identified as one of the largest challenges facing the community. As Robinvale relies heavily on thousands of itinerant workers during harvest at the surrounding farms, ensuring access to safe, hygienic and legal accommodation is essential. The community identified health and safety risks due to the lack of affordable housing, and labourers staying in poor quality housing. In addition, the types of housing in Robinvale are sometimes unsuitable for the large family structures of some new arrivals to Australia.

Projects to address Priority Area 7:

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

- Work with Federal, State and Local governments to develop options for improved housing choice for low and middle income earners.

Priority Area 8 – Recreation, Cultural Arts and Tourism

Robinvale has a strong foundation of recreational, arts and cultural facilities, programs and events. There is widespread leadership and participation among a number of groups throughout Robinvale.

The community centre, community garden, Rotary Park, museum, river, riverside caravan park, walking paths, tennis courts, pool, pub and golf club were identified as valuable local and tourist facilities. NAIDOC Week, the Mallee Almond Blossom Festival, Lunar New Year, NACHOS community cooking, and the annual ski race were identified as positive and enjoyable community activities.

There is strong Aboriginal history and culture, as well as an art centre in the area. The Tongan community is actively involved with the brass band, a choir and Carols by Candlelight.

Most of the facilities and activities are family oriented, but do not necessarily cater to different age groups, for example, youth specific or older people specific places and/or activities.

Projects to address Priority Area 8:

- Develop strategies for utilising empty shops as they become available;
 - Pop-up local history displays
 - Artist displays and workshops
- Find a group to run day trips to other entertainment facilities like paintball, Bounce etc;
- Promote and grow the Men's Shed;
- Continue to support and develop the Robinvale Community Garden;
- Work to establish an events group;
- Establish a youth 'hang-out' space with the help of young people;
- Work with Council to attract shows and performances to Robinvale;
- Investigate establishing a community radio station;
- Conduct a signage audit to improve directional signage in Robinvale;
- Design and implement an interpretive signage program to celebrate Robinvale's heritage;
- Develop the Art Centre, surrounding parkland and Robinvale riverfront area;
- Investigate options for local public transport options;
- Investigate viability of farm tours; and
- Investigate and establish a river tourism industry, like cruises, houseboats and fishing etc.

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

Priority Area 9 – Built Environment

Robinvale is characterised by a centralised town centre focused on Perrin Street, with single storey shop-fronts. Dispersed social services are located in the streets around this area.

Low-density housing is primarily located to the south-east of the town centre, which transitions to farm zoning to the east along the river and to the south. Rural residential living occurs in pockets to the south-east, north-west and south-west.

Industrial zoning is mostly located to the west of the town, separated by Bromley Road and the railway corridor, although there is land dedicated to industrial uses to the south-east of the residential area.

Land directly adjacent to the Murray River is public, zoned for conservation and resource purposes. Public parks are located throughout the township. Wide roads are the main transport service networks; pedestrian and recreational infrastructures are inconsistent with regard to connectivity, quality of pathways and shade.

Participants identified a number of challenges ranging from a lack of footpaths to poor public transport.

Projects to address Priority Area 9:

- Improve lighting within Robinvale;
- Continue redeveloping residential parks;
- Implement beautification and road improvement projects for Bromley Road;
- Investigate how to make the courthouse more private to offer shelter and dignity to those using it;
- RIG to act as a liaising body for the community's suggestions regarding improvements to the built environment; and
- Investigate and implement shading options over car parking areas.

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

Robinvale 2031- Community Plan

Project Scoping & Implementation Plan 2017 - 2018

This implementation plan will be reviewed each year to ensure it reflects the community's priorities and aligns with Council's budgets.

Priority Area 9 – Built Environment
Built Infrastructure

Project Description	Action	Responsibility/Partners	Timeframe	Budget
Caix Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop signage in accordance with designs specifications and regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG VicRoads 	30/12/17	\$860,00
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council - Engineering 		
b. Lights and power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain quotes from electricians. Decide if the project needs to be staged. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG Council - Engineering Powercor 	30/06/18	\$20,000

Priority Area 9 – Built Environment

Active Transport Strategy

Project Description	Action	Responsibility/Partners	Timeframe	Budget
Walking tracks				
a. Anniversary Drive to Ronald Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Council, local schools and the community to scope a safe walking path (subject to funding) Investigate external funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council RIG 	1 – 2 years	\$65,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VicRoads 		
b. David Street to Happy Valley Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application to VicTrack for land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council RIG VicTrack 	2 – 3 years	TBC- scoping underway
Penny farthing bike racks in CBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to approve selected positions, consult with local traders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG Council 	30/12/17	\$2,200

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Priority Area 9 – Built Environment
Town Beautification

Project Description	Action	Responsibility/Partners	Timeframe	Budget
Bill McGinty – shade trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant trees in identified places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG Council - Parks and Gardens 	30/10/17	NA
Centenary Park – beautification and improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Aboriginal Victoria to determine areas of Cultural Heritage and significance Investigate possible overflow parking during Almond Blossom Festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG Council Aboriginal Victoria (AV) 	1 – 2 years	TBC- scoping underway
Pony Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalise the old pony club location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG 	1 – 2 years	TBC- scoping underway

Priority Area 8 – Recreation, Cultural arts and Tourism
Branding and Signage

Project Description	Action	Responsibility/Partners	Timeframe	Budget
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install directional signage at information centre- toilet and walking track 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG Council VicRoads 	1/10/17	\$600
Bill McGinty Park				
a. Robinvale History Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collate information with help from the historical society Location to be decided on by RIG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG 	1-2 years	TBC- scoping underway
Name two railway crossing roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Council to approve two names 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIG Council – Assets and Property 	1/8/17	NA

Robinvale 2031 – Community Plan

Appendix

1. Making a Variation to the Plan

Over time, community priorities change. For this reason, changes to this Plan are possible through RIG. However, these changes must go through a process that is transparent and fair. The following process has been identified:

This Community Plan document shall not be altered in any way unless written notice specifying proposed alteration in full shall have been delivered to the Secretary of the Robinvale Improvement Group at least 30 days before a scheduled meeting of the group and further that not less than two thirds of the number of community members attending at that meeting shall vote in favour of the amendment/s.

2. Dispute Resolution

In the event of a dispute, all parties must meet to discuss and resolve the matter as soon as possible.

If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute, they may agree to hold a mediation meeting with an independent mediator appointed by Council. The role of the mediator is only to guide the parties toward settling the dispute, not to make a decision to resolve the dispute.

All parties must be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard to ensure natural justice is applied during the mediation process.

This community plan was developed by the Robinvale community with the assistance of the Swan Hill Rural City Council and La Trobe University.

The views and opinions are those of the community and not necessarily those of the Swan Hill Rural City Council staff or Councillors or La Trobe University and its staff.

B.17.75 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION – ALAN GARDEN NETBALL CENTRE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S09-20-03
Attachments: 1 Instrument of Delegation - Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee

Declarations of Interest:

Heather Green - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

This report seeks Council's ratification to amend the Instrument of Delegation to the Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee (the Committee) as per the Committee's requested changes to reflect their current circumstances.

Discussion

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Instrument of Delegation to the Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee was authorised by a resolution of Council at an Ordinary Meeting held on 21 May 2013.

As per the declaration, this Instrument of Delegation, its powers and duties set out in the Schedules, *remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it (2.1)*. A copy of the Instrument of Delegation and its Schedules is attached.

At its April 2016 meeting and Annual General Meeting held on 13 February 2017, the Committee requested several changes to the Swan Hill Rural City Council Instrument of Delegation.

The Committee has been made aware that any requested changes must be considered at an Ordinary Meeting of Council for ratification before any changes can be implemented.

The Committee's requested changes are listed below.

Current

2.4. All accounts must be paid by cheque. Cheques are to be signed by the Chairperson and countersigned by another authorised person or authorised member of the Committee.

Requested change

2.4. All accounts must be paid by cheque **or by electronic funds transfer**. Cheques are to be signed by the Chairperson and countersigned by another authorised person or authorised member of the Committee. Online banking accounts must require two members of the committee to confirm any payments made via electronic funds transfer. All payments are to be reported to the committee at its next meeting.

Reason

A majority of the Committee's clients prefer to pay via electronic funds transfer. Furthermore, some clubs do not possess a cheque book.

Current

2.7. The Committee is required to submit to Council an annual budget showing the proposed operations of the Committee and detailing proposed fees and charges by the end of April each year.

Requested change

2.7. The Committee is required to submit to Council an annual budget showing the proposed operations of the Committee and detailing proposed fees and charges by ~~the end of October~~ each year.

Reason

This will enable proposed fees and charges to be noted by Council as part of its budget ratification process. It will also ensure that any new fees that are set will be in place before the upcoming netball season. This will enable the Committee to inform the following season's registering users and club members of fee changes (and budget accordingly) prior to commencement of the new season.

Current

4.1. The Committee will consist of ten (10) members which shall comprise:

- a) two Swan Hill Football Netball Club representatives;
- b) two Tyntynder Football Netball Club representatives;
- c) two City and District Netball Association representatives;
- d) two Central Murray Football Netball League representatives; and
- e) one School/Community representative;
- f) one of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Councillors (who will be the Chair)

Requested changes

4.1. The Committee will consist of **eight (8)** members which shall comprise:

- a) two Swan Hill Football Netball Club representatives;
- b) two Tyntynder Football Netball Club representatives;
- c) two City and District Netball Association representatives;
- d) **one** Central Murray Football Netball League representative; and
- e) ~~one School/Community representative;~~
- f) one of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Councillors (~~who will be the Chair~~) (the Councillor will not have voting rights).

Reason

A school/community representative has never attended the Committee meetings, while there aren't a sufficient number of representatives from the Central Murray Football Netball League to have two of their members attend Committee meetings. Wording regarding committee members and eligibility to vote has been reflected in the Instrument of Delegation.

Current

4.10. The Committee shall advise Council of the date and venue of the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, at least three (3) weeks prior to the meeting, to enable the meeting to be publicised in the local newspaper.

Requested change

4.10. The Committee shall advise **Council, Committee Members and all Stakeholder groups** of the date and venue of the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, at least three (3) weeks prior to the meeting and arrange for the meeting to be publicised in the local newspaper.

Reason

In addition to notifying the Council of its Annual General Meeting, the Committee feel committee members and stakeholder groups should also be notified.

Consultation

The changes were discussed among members of the Committee during meetings on the 11 April 2016 and at their Annual General Meeting held on 13 February 2017. The Committee also received informal feedback from clubs that use the facility.

Financial Implications

Nil

Social Implications

The use of the Alan Garden Reserve by clubs and the community promotes health and wellbeing for all users.

Economic Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

As a Section 86 Committee, Council is ultimately responsible for any decisions that the Committee makes as they act as formal delegates of Council. As a formal

Council delegate, a Section 86 Committee is covered by Council's Public Liability Insurance and offered legal protection.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

Options

1. Council can accept all of the Committee's requested Instrument of Delegation changes.
2. Council can accept some of the requested changes to the Instrument of Delegation.
3. Council can accept none of the requested changes to the Instrument of Delegation.

Recommendation

That Council

1. **Delegate to the Alan Garden Reserve Committee of Management the powers, duties and functions as contained in the attached amended Instrument of Delegation.**
2. **Affix the Common Seal of Swan Hill Rural City Council to the amended Instrument of Delegation.**

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL

INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION

TO THE

ALAN GARDEN NETBALL CENTRE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

In the exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86 and 88 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") Swan Hill Rural City Council RESOLVES THAT:

1. There be established a special committee to be known as the Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee "the Committee".
2. The quorum for meetings of the Committee is a whole number that is an absolute majority of members of the Committee.
3. All members of the Committee have voting rights on the Committee.
4. Members of the Committee are exempted under section 81(2A) of the Act from being required to submit a primary return or an ordinary return.
5. The purposes of the Committee are set out in the Schedules to this resolution.
6. There be delegated to the Committee the powers, functions and duties set out in the attached Instrument of Delegation.
7. The Instrument of Delegation –
 - 7.1. comes into force immediately the Common Seal of Council is affixed to it; and
 - 7.2. remains in force until Council decide to vary or revoke it.
8. The powers and functions conferred, and the duties imposed on the Committee must be exercised or performed in accordance with any guidelines or policies that Council may from time to time adopt.
9. Any act of the Committee shall be deemed to be an act of the Council with the subsequent responsibilities and obligations.
10. The Instrument of Delegation be sealed.
11. The Committee is required to report to Council by the end of October on activities for the preceding season;
 - 11.1 the performance of its functions and duties and the exercise of its powers;
 - 11.2 the financial performance of the Alan Garden Netball Centre;
 - 11.3 the development of aims and objectives for the Centre for approval by Council;
 - 11.4 any issues relating to the management of the facility which the Committee considers should be reported to Council, or which Council directs should be dealt with in the report.

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL

INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION

TO THE

ALAN GARDEN NETBALL CENTRE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Swan Hill Rural City Council (“Council”) delegates to the Special known as the “Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee (“the Committee”), the powers and duties set out in the attached Schedules, and declares that:

- 1. this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on
27 June 2017
- 2. the delegation:
 - 2.1. comes into force immediately the Common Seal of Council is affixed to this instrument Delegation;
 - 2.2. remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it; and
 - 2.3. is to be exercised in accordance with the guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and
- 3. all members of the Committee eligible to vote will have voting rights.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE)
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL)
 was hereunto affixed in the presence of:)

..... Councillor
 Councillor
 Chief Executive Officer

SCHEDULE 1

Purposes Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee

The purposes of the Committee are, on behalf of Council –

1. To manage the Alan Garden Netball Centre in order to provide a first class facility for sport and recreation within the municipality.
2. To promote recreational activities to the community.
3. To maintain the Alan Garden Netball Centre with revenue obtained by the management.
4. To provide a diverse range of quality recreation activities at a minimal cost to the users of the Centre.
5. To maximise the use of the Centre.
6. To ensure equitable access to the Centre by each of the participant sports bodies.
7. To ensure representation and participation of all user groups on the Committee.

SCHEDULE 2

Powers of Delegation of Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee

1. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

To exercise Council's functions and powers to perform Council's duties in relation to the management of the Alan Garden Netball Centre, and for those purposes:

- 1.1. to enter into contracts, and to incur expenditure within the authorised budget, as ratified by Council.
- 1.2. to do all the things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance those functions, duties and powers.
- 1.3. to allocate times of use for the user groups, set fees and charges as determined by the authorised budget, resolve disputes between user groups and draw up rules or conditions under which use of the facilities is permitted.
- 1.4. to hire the facility out for use by members of the community.
- 1.5. to collect fees for use of the facility from the users of the facility.
- 1.6. to undertake the maintenance (running repairs) requirements specified in Schedule 3 noting that Council is responsible for major building and structural maintenance items.
- 1.7. to ensure that all maintenance is undertaken in accordance with Australian Standards and Regulations.
- 1.8. to ensure the facility is kept in a clean, tidy and safe state at all times.
- 1.9. to ensure that the Committee of Management/staff take adequate care to secure the facility after use.
- 1.10. to take action as is necessary to maintain and arrange for security of the facility during periods when the facility is not in use and unoccupied.
- 1.11. to report any breach of security to Council within forty eight (48) hours of the event.
- 1.12. to be responsible for obtaining a police report for any breach of security involving the repair of the facility, i.e. external doors and windows.
- 1.13. to maintain at all times, an up to date register of persons who have access and keys to the facility. A copy of the register shall be supplied to the Council as requested.
- 1.14. to replace any lost or stolen keys.
- 1.15. to ensure the provision of utilities to the facility.

- 1.16. to prepare and distribute and sell or otherwise dispose of any publicity designed to promote the use of the premises in accordance with Council policy.
- 1.17. to submit to Council after due consideration any recommendations for alterations or additions to the premises.
- 1.18. to ensure all user groups/clubs/associations of the facility possess Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$5M.
- 1.19. to ensure that user groups/clubs/associations of the facility understand that they are responsible for maintaining their own Contents Insurance.
- 1.20. to develop appropriate hire agreements with users which detail conditions of use and include appropriate indemnity clauses as stipulated by Council.
- 1.21. to observe and comply with the provisions of any Statute, by-law or regulation (including any regulation for the care, protection and management of the facilities made from time to time) which are applicable to the facilities or to any matter or thing done or occurring thereon.
- 1.22. to develop and maintain an annual budget to be approved by Council by the end of April each year.
- 1.23. to permit the Council by its servants and agents at all reasonable times to enter upon the Centre with a view to inspecting the condition of the Centre.

2. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

- 2.1. The Committee shall be responsible for meeting the cost of managing the facility and shall meet that cost from the fees collected from users of the facility and any other income.
- 2.2. Council will be responsible for payment of the cost of the facility's Building Insurance and Building Contents Insurance up to the value of \$50,000.
- 2.3. The Treasurer shall receive all monies and issue receipts and shall pay all accounts which shall have been passed for payment by the Committee.
- 2.4. All accounts must be paid by cheque or by electronic funds transfer. Cheques are to be signed by the Chairperson and countersigned by the Treasurer or authorised member of the Committee. Online banking accounts must require two members of the committee to confirm any payments made via electronic funds transfer. All payments are to be reported to the committee at its next meeting.
- 2.5. The Committee must ensure that all monies received from the operation of the facility are promptly paid into a bank account in the name of the Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee. Amounts shall only be drawn from that account by signature of the Committee Chair and another authorised person or authorised member of the Committee.

- 2.6. Adequate books of account are to be submitted to the Swan Hill Rural City Council with an Annual Report and financial statement at the end of October each year. This financial statement is to be audited. The report should set out in adequate detail income and expenditure (including income owing but not received and debts owing but not paid) in respect of the use, operation and maintenance of the facility for the preceding season.
- 2.7. The Committee is to submit to Council an annual budget showing the proposed operations of the Committee and detailing proposed fees and charges by October each year.
- 2.8. The Committee is required to make provision for future repairs by setting aside funds which in the opinion of the Committee will be required to finance or partly finance repairs to be carried out by it at some time in the future.
- 2.9. The Committee shall invest any surplus funds or funds set aside pursuant to clause 2.7 in such investment or investments as are allowed by law for the time being for the investment of trust funds.
- 2.10. The Committee may conduct fundraising activities and the proceeds shall be used to achieve the objectives set in this Instrument of Delegation.

3. EXCEPTIONS, CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

- 3.1. In accordance with Section 86(4) of the Act, the Committee shall not have the power to:
 - a) Delegate any of its functions, duties or powers,
 - b) Declare a rate or charge,
 - c) Borrow money, or
 - d) Enter into contracts for an amount which exceeds the budget as authorised by Council.
- 3.2. The Committee is not permitted to display upon the Centre any notices, placards, advertisements or bills of any description connected with tobacco or alcohol and to immediately comply with all reasonable direction issued in writing by the Council relating to the manner of display and content of notices, placards, advertisements or bills of any description.
- 3.3. The Committee shall not make any alteration or addition to the Centre except and in accordance with the written consent or direction of the Council.
- 3.4. The Committee shall not install upon the Centre without the written consent of the Council any fixtures or fittings other than those reasonably required for the permitted use.
- 3.5. The Committee is not to allow the Centre to be used in a manner which may cause a nuisance.

4. FORMAT AND OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- 4.1. The Committee will consist of eight (8) members which shall comprise:
 - a) two Swan Hill Football Netball Club representatives;
 - b) two Tyntynder Football Netball Club representatives;
 - c) two City and District Netball Association representatives;
 - d) one Central Murray Football Netball League representatives; and
 - e) one of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Councillors (the Councillor will not have voting rights)
- 4.2. Any future sporting organisation that becomes a principal user body will have the right to make application to the Committee for representation on the Committee and a recommendation on this application is to be made to the Council by the Special Committee.
- 4.3. The Committee shall meet for ordinary business on a minimum bi-monthly basis. The Committee may meet on a monthly basis if required.
- 4.4. The Committee shall at each Annual General Meeting nominate representatives via an election process. These nominations are to be submitted to Council for approval. No person nominated shall become a member of the Committee until the Council has been given advice in writing of his or her name and address and has passed a resolution appointing them as a member.
- 4.5. A member of the Committee appointed under Clause 4.4 shall hold office for a period not exceeding one year but shall be eligible for re-appointment.
- 4.6. If any appointed member of the Committee –
 - a) Is absent without apology from three consecutive meetings of the Committee;
 - b) Is convicted of an indictable offence or of an offence which, if committed in Victoria, would be an indictable offence;
 - c) Becomes incapable of performing the duties of his or her office;
 - d) Has his or her appointment revoked;
 - e) Resigns his or her office; or
 - f) Dies

That person's position as a member of the Committee shall become vacant.

- 4.7. Written or email notice of each meeting of the Committee shall be served by the Secretary on each member of the Committee by either delivering it to the member at least forty eight (48) hours before the meeting or by sending it by pre-paid post addressed to him or her at his or her usual or last known place of abode at least three business days before the date of the meeting.
- 4.8. The Committee shall not proceed to the transaction of business unless there be at least five (5) members of the Committee present.
- 4.9. Each member present at a meeting of the Committee eligible to vote is entitled to one vote. In the event of an equality of votes on any question the Chairman may exercise a second or casting vote.

- 4.10. The Committee shall advise Council, Committee Members and all Stakeholder groups of the date and venue of the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, at least three (3) weeks prior to the meeting, to enable the meeting to be publicised in the local newspaper.
- 4.11. At the Annual General Meeting of the Committee, members of the Committee shall elect:
 - a) Chairperson
 - b) Treasurer
 - c) Secretary, and
 - d) Such other officers as the Committee deems necessary;
- 4.12. The Committee shall provide the Council with a copy of the minutes of each Annual General Meeting, including reports submitted by the Chairperson and Treasurer.
- 4.13. The Committee shall be responsible for filling any casual vacancy which occurs on the Committee. The person who fills the vacancy shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 4.14. In the event that Committee members cannot attend general meetings of the Committee, they may note their absence via an apology or nominate another member of their group to act as proxy in their absence.
- 4.15. The Chairperson, in accordance with Section 93(3) of the Local Government Act, shall arrange for the minutes of each meeting to be kept, but may delegate this task to the Secretary.
- 4.16. Under Section 89 (1) of the Act, the Committee is required to ensure that general meetings are to be opened to the public. The Committee, under Section 89(2), has the discretion to close a general meeting or a proportion of the meeting to discuss any of the following matters:
 - 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 Committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person, or
 - i) A resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.
- 4.17. If the Committee resolves to close a meeting to members of the public the reason must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 4.18. The Secretary of the Committee, shall:
 - a) Accurately record the minutes of each meeting and distribute them after the meeting;

- b) Organise meetings of the Committee, including advising Committee members of the meeting, preparing and distributing meeting agendas and minutes and organising the venue;
- c) Report on incoming correspondence to the Committee and conduct outgoing correspondence according to the instructions of the Committee;
- d) Be the contact person for the Council, correspondence and other business.

4.19. The Treasurer shall:

- a) Ensure that receipts are issued for all money received;
- b) Ensure that all income and outgoing money is correctly recorded;
- c) Ensure that money is deposited within three (3) days of receipt;
- d) Ensure that accounts are paid on time and reconciled with each bank statement;
- e) Prepare a monthly financial statement for presentation to the Committee;
- f) Prepare the annual financial reports for auditing and presentation at the Annual General Meeting.
- g) Prepare annual financial reports to Council. Such reports are to clearly specify progress made towards the approved budget targets.

4.20. The Chairperson of the Committee shall:

- a) Preside over meetings and ensure the proper and orderly conduct of meetings;
- b) State the time, date and venue of the next meeting;
- c) Work with the Secretary to prepare agendas and minutes;
- d) Assist the Treasurer to prepare the budget and the annual financial report;
- e) Prepare an annual report to Council.

4.21. The Committee's Chairperson shall chair all meetings of the Committee. If the Chairperson is absent at any meeting or not present within fifteen (15) minutes of the appointed meeting commencement time, the Committee shall nominate one of the members to chair the meeting.

5. SUB COMMITTEES

The Committee may at any meeting, appoint sub committees for any purpose. The Chairperson shall be appointed from the Special Committee. Such sub committees shall consist of members of the Special Committee and have the power to recommend proposals as it thinks fit.

6. DISSOLUTION

- 6.1. The Committee may at any meeting, agree to disband and hand over its responsibilities to the Council.
- 6.2. If the Committee does not fulfil its obligations as laid down by the Instrument of Delegation, the Council may disband the Committee upon notice to the effect being given by Council to the Committee members.
- 6.3. The chairman shall, in either case, within one month arrange for:
 - a) A financial statement to be prepared, audited and presented to Council.
 - b) The Committee's bank account to be closed and the balance paid to Council.

- c) All keys to the building formerly under the management of the Committee to be handed over to Council.

SCHEDULE 3

Maintenance Responsibilities of the Alan Garden Netball Centre Special Committee

DESCRIPTION	COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES	COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES
Maintenance Program	To prepare annually for approval by Council a program of building maintenance including a monetary allocation for running repairs.	None
Normal Service Agreements/Contracts	Maintain any existing formal service agreement and contract entered in to by Council for such items as: servicing of air-conditioning systems, pest control, fire alarm systems testing, fire service/fire extinguisher testing/emergency lighting/exit sign testing, goods lift maintenance etc. No other agreements can be entered into where Council already has a formal service agreement.	None
Running Repairs	<p>Running repairs are generally categorised as those repairs which are considered to be of a minor nature and generally do not exceed \$1,000 for any one repair, for example:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial tradesman service calls, • burst/leaking water pipes, • changing light fittings, • leaking roof/box gutters, • door/door lock repairs, • toilet repairs (e.g.) cisterns/toilet seats etc., • removal of graffiti, • reinstatement of vandalism damage, • broken windows, • repair of hot water services, • components of air-conditioners/heating, • repair of curtains. <p>Financial assistance for running repairs in excess of \$1,000 for any one repair will be subject to negotiation with Council where Council may contribute the required funds in excess of \$1,000.</p>	None
Periodic Maintenance	<p>Repairs which can be programmed and readily identified during the annual maintenance inspection regime for inclusion in the budgetary process e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled internal and external painting, • servicing of air-conditioning units, • carpet-floor coverings, 	All

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • roof plumbing, • gas heater • internal/external wall cladding repairs, • removal of asbestos linings, • re-blocking, • re-sanding and resealing of timber floors, • replacement of defective plumbing fixtures/fittings, • upgrading of security lighting. 	
Major Maintenance	<p>Those items which may constitute a significant impact upon the overall fabric and use of a particular building e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-roofing of buildings, • removal of significant quantities of asbestos linings, • replacement of air-conditioning plant and equipment, • complete re-paint of a building both internal and external, • removal of wall/remodelling, • underpinning, re-blocking, • repair/replacement of floors 	All
Capital Works	<p>New buildings and facilities, major building improvements including extensive remodelling/renovation, additions, upgrade of amenities including court repairs/resurfacing.</p> <p>Will require reference to Council's annual Capital Works Programme or Community Assistance Schemes for consideration.</p>	All in collaboration with Special Committee

B.17.76 MONTHLY PLANNING AND BUILDING FIGURES – JUNE 2017

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S28-28-01 S31-28-01
Attachments: Nil

Declarations of Interest:

Heather Green - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The purpose of this report is for Council to note the monthly planning and building figures for June 2017.

Discussion

Planning - June

Type	2017		2016	
	No. of June	No. Of YTD	No. Of June	No. Of YTD
Planning Permit Applications Received	14	79	20	85
Approvals under delegation	14	63	13	63
Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit	0	1	1	1
Notice of Decision to refuse a Planning Permit	0	1	0	0
Application Lapsed or Withdrawn	0	1	1	4
VCAT upheld Council decision	0	0	0	1
VCAT set aside Council decision	0	0	0	0
Total number of decisions	14	65	14	65

Monthly decision breakdown by town

	Approved June 2017	Approved YTD	Refused June 2017	Refused YTD
Swan Hill	5	21	0	0
Robinvale	2	21	0	0
Lake Boga	3	6	0	0
Nyah	1	3	0	0
Nyah West	0	0	0	0

Building

June - Comparisons

TYPE	2017		2016	
	NO.OF	VALUE	NO.OF	VALUE
Dwelling	6	2,198,138	3	1,415,345
Dwelling additions	2	17,268	8	585,396
Unit Developments	0*(0)	0	0*(0)	0
Shops	0	0	0	0
Offices	0	0	0	0
Warehouses	1	70,000	1	40,000
Factories	1	1,300,000	4	155,000
Public Buildings	0	0	1	140,000
OutBuildings	14	415,447	9	185,865
Other	4	142,210	4	126,928
Total	28	\$4,143,063	30	\$2,648,534

*() denotes total number of Dwelling Units

New Dwellings			
June 2017		June 2016	
Swan Hill	2	Swan Hill	1
Robinvale	1	Murrawee	1
Tyntynder	1	Tol Tol	1
Bolton	1		
Vinifera	1		

Year to Date – Comparisons

TYPE	1/01/2017 to 30/06/2017		1/01/2016 to 30/06/2016	
	NO.OF	VALUE	NO.OF	VALUE
Dwelling	26	9,200,418	29	9,963,341
Dwelling additions	36	2,802,327	43	1,938,124
Unit Developments	2*(48)	622,000	2*(9)	430,000
Shops	4	205,000	3	121,000
Offices (2)	5	3,172,558	1	144,711
Warehouses	3	600,000	3	305,000
Factories (1)	4	3,095,626	9	2,245,119
Public Buildings	5	689,000	6	1,024,654
OutBuildings	67	1,707,759	48	935,913
Other	30	1,020,474	23	505,964
Total	182	\$23,115,162	167	\$17,613,826

*() denotes total number of Dwelling Units

- (1) The majority of the 2017 'Factories' value relates to additions to a processing plant valued at \$1,300,000 at 3916 Hattah-Robinvale Road, Wemen, also to Extensions to the Swan Hill Abattoirs valued at \$1,276,144.
- (2) The majority of the 2017 'Offices' value relates to an Office development valued at \$500,000 at 18 Beveridge Street, Swan Hill and a Counselling Office Building at 11 Pritchard Street, Swan Hill valued at \$1,927,058 and an Office Fit-Out valued at \$600,000 at 221-227 Beveridge Street, Swan Hill.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Economic growth - Encourage and attract new business to our region.

Options

Not applicable.

Recommendation

That Council note the Planning and Building figures for June 2017 and the Year to Date comparisons as reported.

B.17.77 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2017-2022

Responsible Officer:	Director Development and Planning
File Number:	S12-24-07
Attachments:	1 Swan Hill Economic Development Strategy 2017- 2022
	2 Implementation Plan

Declarations of Interest:

Heather Green - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The Swan Hill Region Economic Development Strategy 2017-2022 has been prepared internally by Council's Economic Development Unit. The strategy is supported by the Swan Hill Region Economic Background Report and Implementation Plan.

This report seeks Council's approval before releasing the document for public comment.

Discussion

Council's Economic Development Unit has been working towards a developing new Economic Development Strategy for the municipality. To ensure this strategy reflects the regions desires and needs, Council established an Economic Development Strategy Advisory Committee, made up of Councillors, Council staff, local businesses, key stakeholders and community members. This committee has assisted with the structure and framework of the strategy, provided guidance during the consultation process and assisted with the strategic direction and actions outlined in the report.

Key aspects of the strategy include:

- A shared vision for economic development of the Swan Hill region;
- Economic snapshot of the region;
- Agreed economic development Priorities Areas;
- The identification of economic development strategies, initiatives and projects.
- Monitoring mechanisms / key performance indicators (KPIs);
- Prioritising where Council's resources can best be directed for the purpose of facilitating and promoting economic development.

The strategy highlights three key themes, *Expand our Strengths, Develop New Opportunities and Take up the Challenge*, with a number of identified strategic initiatives that will assist economic growth and prosperity, support local employment opportunities and further position the region as a vibrant place to visit, invest, work and live.

The strategy is supported by an Economic Background Report and Implementation Plan.

The Implementations Plan provides the necessary direction and framework to support key themes and strategic initiatives identified in the Economic Development Strategy. The plan lists approximately 70 separate tactics and initiatives that have been earmarked as actions to undertake during the life of the strategy.

The plan also indicates timelines, key stakeholders and Councils role in its implementation. To ensure the document remains relevant and current over the five year period, the plan will be reviewed and updated by Council staff on an annual basis. The success of actions will also be reported.

To assist with the allocation of Economic Development funds, as well as internal reporting procedures, an Operational Report will be attached to the Implementation Plan. The Operational Report provides further insight to costs associated with implementing identified tactics, including grants received and other income sourced. This report will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

Consultation

Council's Economic Development Unit facilitated a number of industry specific workshops, in both Swan Hill and Robinvale.

Business engagement was a high priority during the consultation period, with over 120 people contacted from a variety of industries via business site visits, phone calls and online business targeted surveys. This process provided the necessary direction to ensure the new strategy represents the wants, needs and wishes of the local business community. The strategic items and actions are reflective of the conversations held with industry and advice provided by the advisory committee.

Council's Economic Development Unit also conducted extensive internal and external discussions with key stakeholders regarding the implementation plan.

In addition to the consultation conducted during the development of the Swan Hill Region Economic Development Strategy, a number of consultation activities have been planned to inform the community and seek community feedback on this draft strategy, including:

- An open house at the Swan Hill Region Information Centre
- An editorial in the Swan Hill Guardian
- Information in the Mayoral Column
- Information packs provided to Town Representative
- Website and social media
- A notice in the local media

Financial Implications

The development of the strategy has been conducted in-house by Council's Economic Development Unit. Support and assistance has been provided by the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Council's future financial commitment towards the strategy's implementation is outlined in the ten year operational budget, under Economic Development Initiatives. Estimated costs for 2017/2018 activities have been indicated in the attached implementation plan.

Social Implications

Implementing key initiatives within the strategy will empower community pride and social inclusion.

Economic Implications

The strategy's implementation will drive real long term economic benefits for the region including supporting business growth and development, attracting new investment opportunities and maintaining the region's population base.

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Nil

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Economic growth - Encourage and attract new business to our region.

Options

Nil

Recommendation

That Council approve the Draft Economic Development Strategy 2017-2022 for the purposes of seeking public submissions for a period of 28 days.



**Swan Hill Region
Economic Development Strategy
2017-2022**



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A message from the Mayor

The Swan Hill municipality has experienced unprecedented levels of investment over the past decade, with renewed confidence in the horticultural and agricultural sector driving this positive trend.

With population growth, low unemployment and record levels of investment, the region is cementing its position as a preferred regional location to live, work and invest.

This Swan Hill Region Economic Development Strategy 2017-2022 sets out how, as a Council, we aim to continue this prosperous outlook.

This strategy aims to facilitate future development and investment, to ultimately stimulate business and population growth in our municipality over the next five years and beyond.

The strategy has three key areas - 'Expand on our strengths', 'Develop new opportunities' and 'Take up the challenge'.

There are a number of significant projects and developments earmarked to enable these objectives and visions to be realised. These include but are not limited to, solar farm and clean energy developments, expansion of horticultural and agricultural practices, the roll out of the NBN and natural gas networks, increase value-adding practices and commercial developments along the Swan Hill riverfront.

The strategy places emphasis on accelerating the availability of large land parcels suitable for residential redevelopment

The strategy also focuses on improving livability and transport logistics, especially within our rural and remote townships.

We look forward to partnering with business, industry, key stakeholders and the community to implement this strategy, to ensure our municipality remains a prosperous and vibrant place to invest, live, work and visit.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Les McPhee', set against a background of faint, concentric white circles.

Les McPhee, Mayor

1.0 Setting the scene

Swan Hill Region Economic Development Strategy 2017-2022 provides strategic direction for economic growth in the Swan Hill municipality over a five-year period and beyond. It aims to build on the region’s strengths, capture new opportunities and address challenges to make the region a highly desirable place to invest, live, work and visit.

To ensure a vibrant and prosperous economy, the region needs to continually evolve and be responsive to change. *A Case for Change* has been developed within this strategy, providing three objectives that will enable the region to achieve this:

- **Expand on strengths**
- **Take advantage of new opportunities**
- **Take up the challenge**

A number of significant projects underpin this strategic direction and once implemented, will assist with delivering this strategy’s objectives. These include:

- **Commercial developments in the Swan Hill Riverfront precinct**
- **A new art and cultural precinct**
- **Renewable energy parks**
- **South West residential development and commercial development in Swan Hill**
- **Murray Valley Highway commercial precinct entrances**
- **Swan Hill Livestock Exchange precinct upgrade**
- **Regional community sustainability, through the delivery of Community Plan priorities**
- **Swan Hill Abattoirs expansion**
- **Bromley Road, Robinvale, upgrade**
- **Waste to energy**



2.0 Economic content

Swan Hill region is the perfect place to live, work, invest and visit. The Swan Hill municipality covers an area of over 6,100km² and is located in north-western Victoria, about 340km from Melbourne, 530 km from Adelaide and 940km from Sydney. The regional centre of Robinvale is 130km north of Swan Hill.



The municipality has a population of 20,584 and services a broader catchment area of some 38,000 people.

The current economic environment consists of the following:



Industry

- 2,473 businesses
- 7,927 employment positions
- Un-employment rate at 3.9%
- Total output is \$2.3 billion
- GRP is \$1.18 billion
- \$800 million in regional exports



Infrastructure

- \$25.0 million residential building permits
- \$8.5 million non-residential building permits
- 4,492 km sealed and unsealed roads



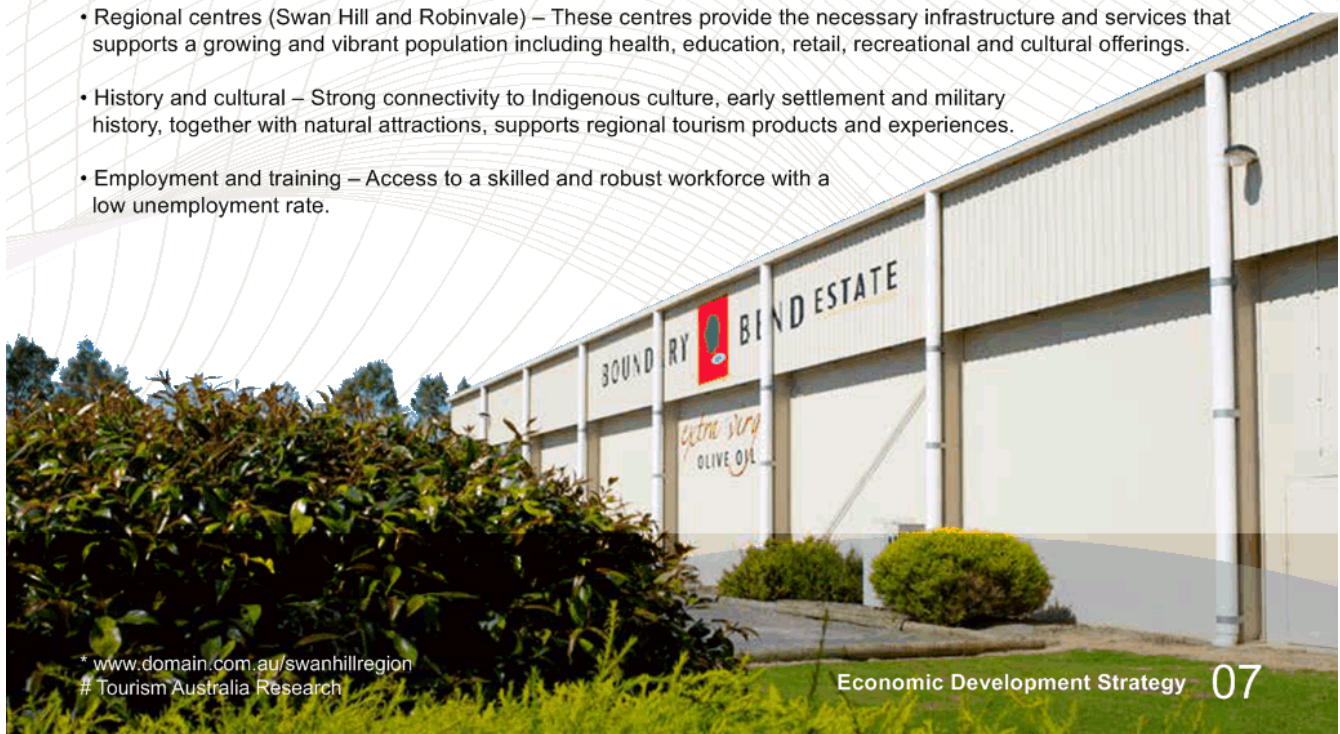
Lifestyle

- Population of 20,584
- 11,849 rateable properties
- \$249,000 median house price the Swan Hill municipality*
- \$265,000 median house price in Swan Hill (3585)
- \$210,000 median house price in the Robinvale region (3549)*
- Attracting approx 663,000 visitors per year #
- Tourism sector provides \$95 million into the economy

Source: Remplan 2017

Regional advantages

- Agriculture and horticultural – The region produces a diverse and expansive array of agricultural products, from both dryland and irrigated farms. The industry is supported by an innovative engineering and manufacturing sector, and aided by robust transport and logistics infrastructure.
- Environment- Housing affordability, a favourable climate, access to abundant natural resource including the Murray River, and connectivity to capital cities and major shipping ports are some of the major advantages the region's advantages.
- Regional centres (Swan Hill and Robinvale) – These centres provide the necessary infrastructure and services that supports a growing and vibrant population including health, education, retail, recreational and cultural offerings.
- History and cultural – Strong connectivity to Indigenous culture, early settlement and military history, together with natural attractions, supports regional tourism products and experiences.
- Employment and training – Access to a skilled and robust workforce with a low unemployment rate.



* www.domain.com.au/swanhillregion
Tourism Australia Research

Economic Development Strategy 07

Fast facts

The Swan Hill region

- Is Australia's largest producer of table grapes, pistachios and olives.
- Has the largest concentration of stone fruit production in Australia.
- Accounts for approximately 70% of Australia's almonds.
- Is the second largest producer of wine grapes in Victoria.
- Is home to the company that processes 80% of Australia's olive oil production.
- Is home to one of Australia's biggest carrot producers.

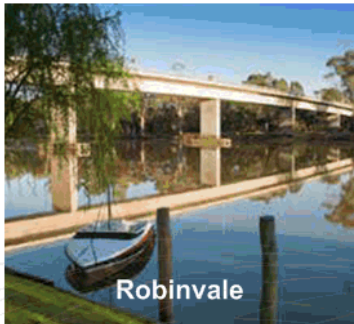


08

3.0 Regional community plan economic priorities

Through Council's Community Planning process, regional towns have the chance to play an active role in identifying initiatives and delivering real economic outcomes for their community.

Regional communities in the Swan Hill municipality have highlighted the following initiatives as key economic priorities. These will be referred to as potential actions in the implementation phase of this strategy.



Robinvale

- Improve streetscape – Bromley Rd
- Increasing housing accessibility



Nyah/Nyah West

- Improve streetscape in Nyah & Nyah West trails



Woorinen

- Walking trails
- Access to town sewerage
- RV friendly status



Lake Boga

- Swan Hill to Lake Boga Active Trail
- Catalina Park redevelopment
- Continuation of the active trail around the lake foreshore



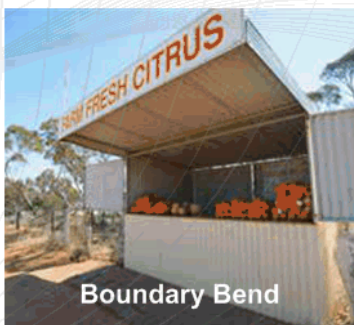
Beverford & Ultima

- Enhance community facilities



Prangil

- Improved streetscape – Mallee Hwy



Boundary Bend

- Street beautification
- Active trails



Manangatang

- Town beautification
- Active transport



Wemen

- Enhance community facilities

4.0 Vision for a vibrant economy

4.0 This strategy aims to facilitate and enhance the region's economy now and for the foreseeable future by making Swan Hill region

- ...a vibrant place for business growth and development
- ...a vibrant place to live and invest
- ...a vibrant place to visit and play

By 2022, the Swan Hill region will be recognised as an Australian leader in

- Solar clean energy facilities
- Production of almonds, pistachios, olives, table grapes and stone fruit

The region will also be renowned for its innovative manufacturing practices and its historical and nature tourism based attributes.

This Economic Development Strategy is aligned closely to Swan Hill Rural City Council's 2017-2021 Council Plan, which highlights five key strategic priority areas.

These are:

- **Economic Growth**
- **Community Enrichment**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Governance and Leadership**
- **Environment**

Under 'Economic Growth', Council's vision is to *"... encourage new business development, provide support for business expansion and will continuously seek to help our existing businesses to prosper."*

In addition to the strategic initiatives outlined further in this report, this strategy places great emphasis and importance on strengthening and promoting the unique character of the region, enhancing art and cultural assets and experiences and supporting regional communities growth and development.

4.1 The Economic Development Strategy provides the following:

- A shared vision for economic development of the Swan Hill region.
- An economic snapshot of the region.
- Agreed economic development priorities areas.
- The identification of economic development strategies, initiatives and projects.
- Monitoring mechanisms and key performance indicators (KPIs).
- Prioritisation of Council's resources to facilitate and promote economic development



5.0 Council’s role in economic development

The driving philosophy underpinning this strategy is to expand our strengths, develop new opportunities and take up challenges to derive economic growth and prosperity for the next five years, 10 years and beyond.

To achieve these desired outcomes, Council’s Economic Development role will be focused on: **Planning, Supporting, Advocating, Leading and Partnering.**

In line with past accomplishments, such as the rezoning of public land to accommodate commercial investments such as Bunnings and the ongoing development of Tower Hill in Swan Hill, Council will continue to lead and facilitate an environment that supports jobs and population growth for the region.

Tower Hill Estate

The once large vacant Council owned land close to Swan Hill’s CBD is now home to over 500 new houses and a \$1.3 million community park – resulting in enormous economic and social outcomes for the region.
 Total project area: 150 hectares
 Total number of residences when completed: 1,100 homes

01 Planning

- Rezone key parcels of land within the Swan Hill Riverfront precinct
- Undertake high level strategic planning to attract and facilitate potential development
- Implement the Swan Hill Region Rural Land Use Strategy



02 Partnering

- Work collectively with internal Council departments to achieve common goals and objectives
- Develop healthy relationships with neighbouring LGAs, as well as regional and State Government officials to improve local economic outcomes
- Work with community groups to enhance the livability of our many townships
- Collaborate with industry and key stakeholders to identify and support developments



03 Supporting

- Attract and facilitate potential development opportunities, especially in priority focus areas such as housing, value adding production and renewable energy
- Local business growth and future development initiatives



04 Advocating

- Develop of rural townships via Council’s Community Planning process
- Seek external funding opportunities with relevant authorities including State and Federal governments
- Continue a vibrant arts and cultural environment throughout the municipality
- Preserve and expand essential services such as health, education and communication services



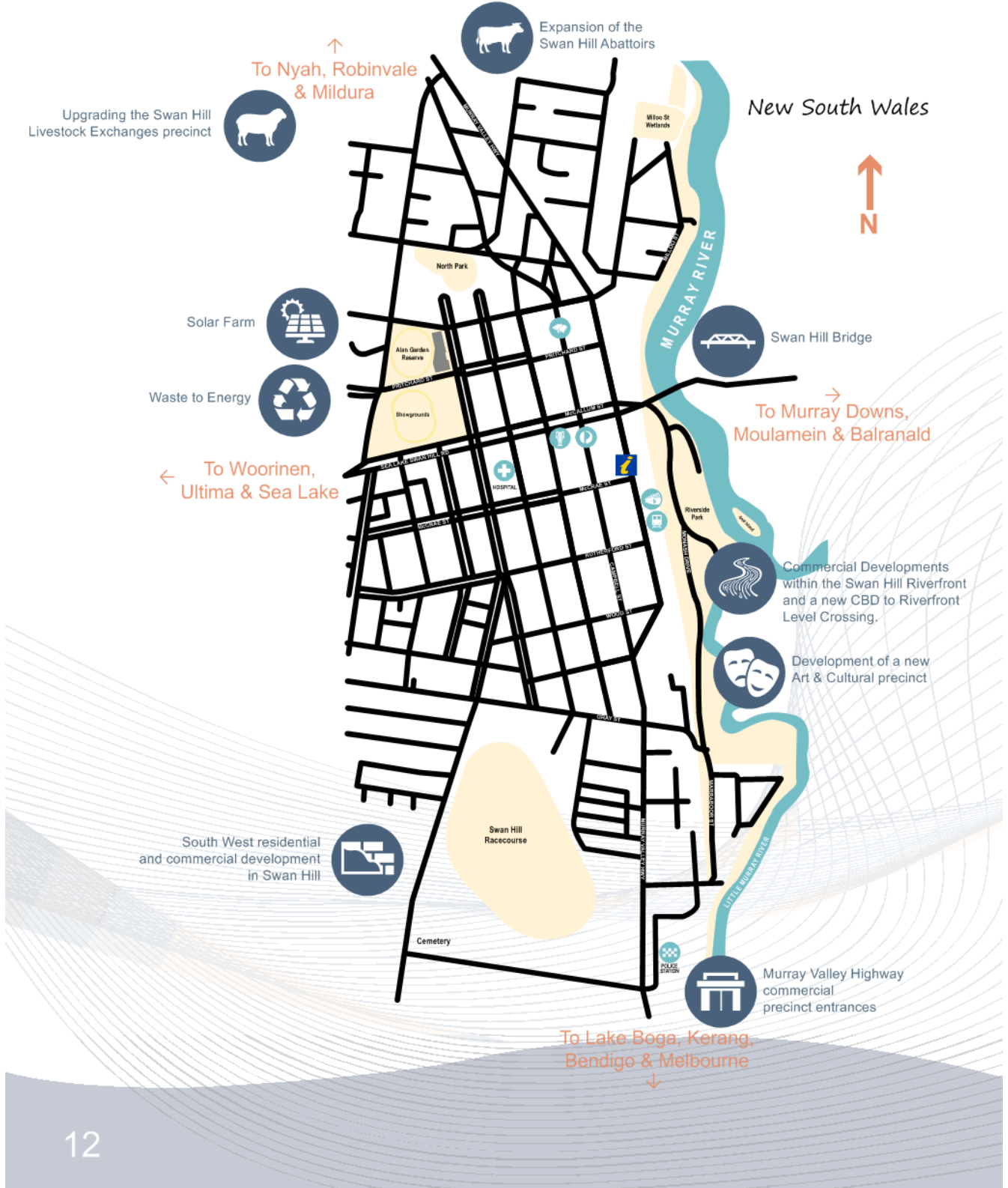
05 Leading

- Act as strong regional advocate to other levels of government
- Facilitate joint projects with key stakeholders including industry, business and community groups



6.0 Transformational projects

Implementation of the following significant earmarked projects throughout the region will assist realising the vision and objectives set out in this strategy. Priority focus areas include the Riverfront Precinct Swan Hill, Swan Hill Bridge and Renewable Energy.





Riverfront Precinct Swan Hill

- Connecting the Swan Hill Riverfront precinct to the CBD
- Development of vacant land for commercial purposes



Swan Hill Bridge

- Working in partnership with Murray Council, Vicroads, State and Federal Governments and key stakeholders to progress the implementation of the Swan Hill bridge



Renewable Energy

- Becoming solar capital of Australia – Blackwire Reserve, Bannerton and Wemer solar farms



7.0 Making it happen

Projects currently under construction that will support initiatives within this strategy include:



Solar farm developments

Three major solar farms earmarked for construction during 2017/2018 consisting of:

- Approximately 200 MW
- Capital investment of over \$250 million
- Approximately 650,000 PVC panels
- Over 200 jobs during construction phase alone
- Enough clean energy for approximately 100,000 homes



Horticultural / agricultural developments

Planned expansion in 2017/18 includes:

- 50,000 hectares for land earmarked for new developments, including almonds, table grapes, pistachio and vegetables.
- One million new almond trees
- Approximately 500 new jobs



New infrastructure developments

Over \$50 million allocated for future infrastructure projects for the region in 2017/18 alone, including but not limited to:

- Swan Hill Modernisation Project
- Swan Hill Abattoirs expansion
- Swan Hill Regional Livestock Exchange redevelopment
- Active Play Precinct in Swan Hill Riverside Park
- Connecting the Swan Hill Riverfront precinct to the CBD

8.0 A Case for change

A number of factors have significantly affected the region’s economy over the past decade, including the effects of climate variability, water allocation and entitlement uncertainty, and minimal population and job growth.

The local economy is heavily reliant on the manufacturing and agriculture sectors, with about 40 per cent of total output and almost 30 per cent of employment derived from these two industries.

Ongoing challenges with housing accessibility, a skilled workforce, education, health, connectivity, freight, and tourism products highlight the need for a more diverse and innovative local economy.

A Case for Change refers to the strategic focus and direction for the region’s economy to overcome challenges and grow and expand, not only for the next five years, but for the next 10 years, 20 years and beyond.

Underpinning this new focus are the following objectives - **Expand on strengths, Develop new opportunities and Take up the challenge.**

Priority focus areas, strategic initiatives and significant projects earmarked in this strategy have been selected to ensure Council’s available resources will have maximum impact on the region’s future economic prosperity. Their delivery will be via a co-ordinated approach, leveraging partnerships and actively advocating.

The Swan Hill region’s economy in 2022 will consist of these economic characteristics



Industry

- 2,500 businesses
- 8,200 employment positions
- Un-employment rate at 4.0%
- Total output is \$2.50 billion
- GRP is \$1.20 billion
- \$900 million in regional exports



Infrastructure

- \$40 million in commercial and residential building permits
- \$100 million in solar park investment



Lifestyle

- Population of 21,000
- Attracting 700,000 visitors per year

8.1 Expand on the region’s strengths

Rationale

It is imperative the region takes full advantage of its 'traditional' strengths and provides an environment to expand, grow and capture opportunities, now and in the foreseeable future.

For a strong and diverse economy, the region must also explore opportunities to expand and spread its core economic base. This will be achieved by supporting business development, as well as providing lifestyle opportunities.

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

8.1.2 Enhancing livability

8.1.3 Support existing business growth

8.1.2 Enhancing livability

Swan Hill and Robinvale enjoy an attractive natural setting along the Murray. The municipality needs to continue enhancing and promoting the relaxed lifestyle associated with living in the Swan Hill region, while providing the necessary infrastructure and services that is expected of a growing economy. These range from sporting facilities, parks and gardens, to events, infrastructure investments in allied health, educational services and community assets including the library and art gallery.


Enhancing the region’s livability is a medium to long term endeavour and is a task that requires the support and commitment from all levels of Government, as well as local businesses, key stakeholders and community members.


Strategic Initiatives

01 Improve and enhance regional townships environment and facilities 

02 Support the development of art and cultural facilities and experiences throughout the municipality such as public art infrastructure 

03 Advocate for the development and improvement of shared paths and appropriate signage 

04 Attract and facilitate significant events 

05 Actively pursue opportunities that will enhance the regions recreational facilities and earmarked public space precincts 



Success in 2022 looks like



Lifestyle

- Population of 21,000
- Attracting 700,000 visitors per year
- NBN across the municipality

CASE STUDY

"We're lucky to live in a region with so many diverse cultural activities and events happening throughout the year. From the Mallee Almond Blossom Festival, the Youth Arts Festival and Harmony Day, to a remarkable Performing Arts program and outstanding exhibitions at the gallery."



*Ian Tully - Art Gallery Director
Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery*

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Rural Township Placemaking Strategy
- Activating Bromley Road



8.1.3 Supporting existing business growth

The size and health of existing businesses is the foundation of any successful local economy. In 2017 there were approximately 2,150 businesses registered within the Swan Hill region, ranging from entrepreneurial start-ups and family operated businesses to multinational corporations, spanning a variety of industries.

For the region’s business sector to grow and prosper, an environment and culture that supports industry and business growth and development is required. In the Swan Hill region, this business support is traditionally provided by Council, supported by key partners including State and Federal Government, Swan Hill Incorporated and local traders’ associations.

The need to engage local businesses will be essential in achieving this goal.

CASE STUDY

“Introducing new ways of thinking, sharing insights and research from other regions and reducing barriers (financial/risk) to adopting a more entrepreneurial way of thinking, will make it easier for businesses to evolve and grow in the Swan Hill region.”



Paul Dillion – Director Digital 54

Strategic Initiatives

01 Facilitate programs and service to support growth in business skills and capacity

02 Support the growth of agriculture & manufacturing sectors through appropriate advocacy & strategic planning

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Business workshop and networking program

Success in 2022 looks like

Industry

- 2,500 businesses
- 8,000 employment positions
- Total output is \$2.50 billion

Lifestyle

- Population of 21,000

8.2 Develop new opportunities

Rationale

To build wealth and prosperity, the Swan Hill municipality needs to facilitate an environment that attracts and embraces new opportunities and investment into the region's economy, both from the public and private sectors.

Future advances to alternative energy sources, irrigation facilities, local railway networks and broadband connection will provide the necessary catalyst for new opportunities to arise.

Targeting strategic investment opportunities as well as planning and developing the necessary capital infrastructure to support this initiative, will be the core ingredient in enabling the region to gain new ground and markets in the future.

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

- 8.2.1 Renewable energy and waste
- 8.2.2 Value adding
- 8.2.3 Attracting and encouraging new business
- 8.2.4 Improving tourism product and experiences

8.2.1 Renewable energy and waste

Swan Hill region offers excellent opportunities for the generation of solar and renewable energy with flat agricultural land, high solar radiation output and good electrical network capacity. There is future scope to develop non-network energy parks that encompass various types of clean technology, including solar, geothermal, bio energy and storage.

Strategic Initiatives

- 

01 Explore the viability of waste to energy and waste to compost 
- 

02 Advocate for grid enhancement capacity for the region 
- 

03 Investigate and explore renewable energy investment opportunities 

Success in 2022 looks like



Infrastructure
• \$200 million in solar park investment



8.2.2 Value adding

Advancing the region's economic prosperity will be closely linked to new and expanding horticultural developments, increasing the value adding and processing of local products - and manufacturing activities. Access to alternative energy sources such as natural gas and improved transport and logistics to major ports and capital cities is expected to support growth in these areas.

Strategic Initiatives

01 Advocate for and actively pursue new businesses that are upstream processors for our local produce 

Success in 2022 looks like



Industry

- 8,200 employment positions
- Total output is \$2.50 billion
- GRP is \$1.20 billion
- \$900 million in regional exports

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Research opportunities for agricultural waste (seconds) product



8.2.3 Attracting and encouraging e-new business

The Swan Hill region needs to advocate and attract new business activities and investments by showcasing its competitive advantages. These competitive advantages stem from the region’s geographic location, availability of natural resources, desirable climate, access to infrastructure, as well as a stable and diverse economic environment. Advances in natural gas and communication infrastructure will have positive impact on the region’s competitiveness to attract business and investment in the future.


It is expected the region will continue to attract overseas investment, especially within the agricultural sector.


Marketing the region as a location of choice, will be a critical factor in attract new business and investment into the region.

Strategic Initiatives

01 Strategically explore ways of identifying and attracting new business and investment opportunities 

02 Facilitate the development of identified commercial opportunities within the Swan Hill Riverfront precinct 

03 Target relocation or establishment of appropriate government office/agencies /higher education facilities and/or attract superannuation investment opportunities 

04 Enhance Swan Hill regions image as a preferred location to live, work and invest 

CASE STUDY

“Whilst our head office is in Swan Hill, we obtain about 70% of our clients from outside of the Swan Hill region. We established Heil Engineering Consultants in the Swan Hill region for the lifestyle opportunities it provides as well as the availability of essential infrastructure that allow our business to reach broader markets, such as the NBN.”



“Our success to date highlights the fact there are opportunities for businesses to establish themselves in the Swan Hill region and not be 100% reliant on the local market to survive.”

Ryan Heil – Project Engineer/ Director of Heil Engineering Consultants

Success in 2022 looks like



Industry

- 2,500 businesses
- 8,000 employment positions
- Total output is \$2.40 billion



Lifestyle

- Population of 21,000

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Undertake a business and industry sector gap analysis
- Implement Swan Hill Riverfront Commercial Development Strategy

8.2.1 Improving tourism product and experiences

The Swan Hill region has substantial historical based tourism assets and promotes itself as the 'The Heart of the Murray' and 'Where the River's Fun'. There is a potential to expand this tourism offering and work in partnership with adjoining municipalities - to provide a unique offering that is nationally recognised.


Opportunities for growth include advancing nature-based and agri-tourism products and experiences.

Strategic Initiatives

01 In partnership, develop a destination development plan to identify market gaps and future product and infrastructure investment requirements



02 Assist Swan Hill municipality to develop and promote itself as a tourist destination



03 Actively pursue activities that will develop and support creative and informative spaces in the Swan Hill region including art/cultural and tourism assets



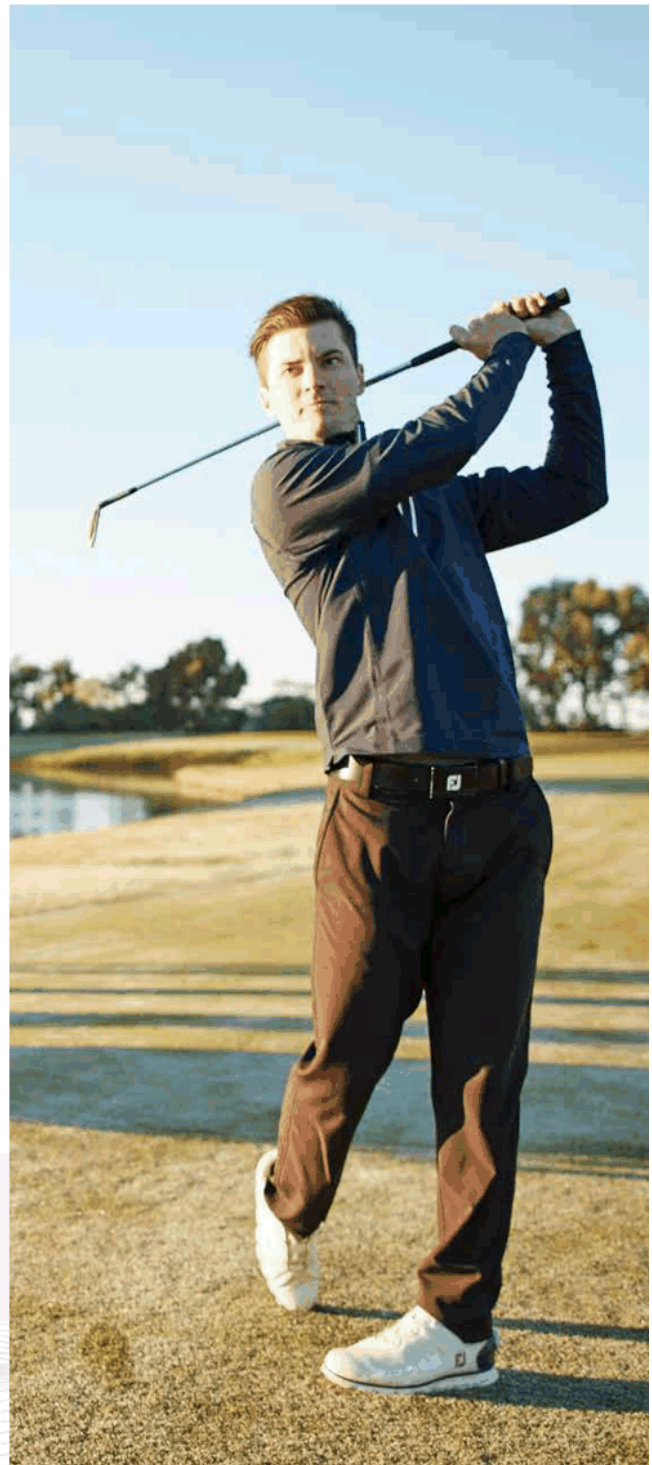
Success in 2022 looks like



Lifestyle
• Attracting 700,000 visitors per year

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Swan Hill Region Tourism Destination Development Plan



8.3 Take up the challenge

Rationale

Moving towards 2022 and beyond, the region’s economy will need to evolve and work collectively to overcome the significant challenges rural and regional centres, such as Swan Hill and Robinvale, confront now and in the foreseeable future. Further investment in the region’s major infrastructure assets will be essential in addressing these challenges, in particular job creation and population growth.

Support around agricultural production and value adding food processing, encouraging further expansion of the region’s manufacturing capacity as well as increasing the products and goods to national and international markets, will be required to take up the challenge.

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

8.3.1 Transport and logistics

8.3.2 Industry development

8.3.3 Housing development

8.3.1 Transport & logistics

The region has large agricultural and manufacturing sectors that require transport and logistics services. As such, transport and logistics play an integral and enabling role in the growth and development of these two important sectors. Recent developments in rail service and networks need to be supported by a coordinated approach to freight infrastructure development and investment. These include improving connectivity of freight movements via developments such as intermodal freight transporting station and improving regional and rural road networks.

Increasing public transport will also have a positive effect on the livability and attractiveness of the region.

Strategic Initiatives

- 01

Support infrastructure and services that improve the regions freight and logistics supply chains


- 02

Advocate and actively pursue opportunities to improve public transport services to and within the Swan Hill region


- 03

Advocate for private and government investment in the Swan Hill Aerodrome


- 04

Advocate for the development of improved cross border connections and infrastructure



Success in 2022 looks like



Industry

- Total output is \$2.50 billion
- GRP is \$1.20 billion
- \$900 million in regional exports

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Develop of intermodal freight hub
- Increase passenger services on Swan Hill – Bendigo V/Line network

8.3.2 Industry development

Access to a skilled workforce is essential for business growth and development. The region must continue to develop career pathways that support industry needs. Water security and affordability play an integral role in the region's economic growth and development.

Ensuring there is sufficient and appropriate level of industry and commercial zoning throughout the region will also be a critical factor in attracting new types of industries.

A strategic focus for the region will be to continue investing in the allied health and education sectors to ensure they provide the level of support required for a growing regional centre.

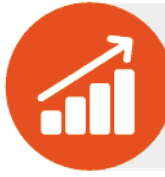
Strategic Initiatives

01 Advocate for the alignment of local education, training and services providers with the needs of businesses, industry and the community 

02 Advocate and partner with local services to further enhance the regions health and educational services 

03 Encourage regional collaboration to generate new market opportunities for specific industry sectors 

Success in 2022 looks like



Industry

- 8,200 employment positions
- Un-employment rate at 4.0%



Infrastructure

- \$40 million in commercial and residential building permits



Lifestyle

- Population of 21,000

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Education/training and employment pathway



8.3.3 Housing development

To achieve employment and population growth for the municipality over the next 5 years and beyond, the region needs an adequate and diverse range of housing and rental options. The development of South West precinct in Swan Hill is expected to provide the market with sufficient available land for the foreseeable future.

More suitable accommodation options are required for seasonal workers, as many current options offered are either not acceptable or difficult to obtain.

Investment and promotional material needs to be developed and a targeted campaign undertaken to attract investment into the local housing sector. Supporting initiatives to reduce or limit the issues associated with new land developments will assist the supply and affordability of land in the future.

The new South West Development Precinct in Swan Hill covers 145 ha of vacant residential land which will equate to between 1,500 to 2,000 residential lots

Success in 2022 looks like



Infrastructure

- \$40 million in commercial and residential building permits
- 100 ha of new residential land




Lifestyle

- Population of 21,000

Activating our strategic initiatives

- Implement of South West Development Precinct in Swan Hill
- Robinvale levee bank

Strategic Initiatives

01 Advocate for improved housing accessibility 

02 Advocate for and pursue development within the aged care/retirement sectors to meet current and future demands 

03 Pursue appropriate investment in short term accommodation developments 



9.0 Implementation


Council together with its partners will play a leading role in implementing identified actions and initiatives outlined under the Case for Change.

To deliver each of the strategic themes and their priority focus areas, a practical and clear Implementation Plan has been developed. (Appendix) This plan provides Council with a short to medium term framework to guide future investment and collaboration with stakeholders like State and Federal governments, businesses and communities.

Under the five-year Implementation Plan, Council will undertake an annual review of activities, actions and outcomes. This review will be reported to Councillors, businesses, key stakeholders and residents.

The outcomes will be measured against actions listed within the Implementation Plan as well as against:

- 01** Business feedback captured through business engagement 
- 02** The number of economic development programs delivered 
- 03** Level of business participation in Council activities / workshops 



Swan Hill Rural City Council
Economic Development Unit
Swan Hill Region Information Centre
PO Box 488
Cnr McCrae and Curlewis Street
Swan Hill, VIC, 3585
www.swanhillonline.com

 DESIGNED BY
ACADEMY GRAPHICS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2017-2022						
FOCUS AREA: ENHANCING LIVEABILITY						
EXPANDING OUR STRENGTHS						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics - Reviewed annually	Implementation		Partners	Council Role
			1-2 years	3-5 years		
Improve and enhance regional townships environment and facilities	Vibrant & resilient rural townships	Activate Bromley Road Implement the shared Library Hub in Robinvale	X		Council, RDV, REBA, RIG	Develop
			X		Council, Robinvale Secondary School, RDV, RIG	Develop
		Investigate undertaking a Rural Township Placemaking Strategy (through Council's Community Plan process)		X	Council, Rural Community Groups	Develop
Support the development of art and cultural facilities and experiences throughout the municipality	Rejuvenating public space precinct	Incorporate public art infrastructure and/or elements into Council's maintenance and asset improvement program		X	Council, Regional Arts Victoria, RDV	Develop
		Identify major event opportunities for the region and partner with relevant entities (Art Gallery, Performing Arts Centre) to deliver them	X		Council, SHI	Support
Advocate for the development of shared paths and appropriate signage	New public infrastructure	Actively pursue funding for the Swan Hill to Lake Boga active trail (priority project identified in the Swan Hill Region Active Transport)		X	Council, RDV, Lake Boga Inc	Advocate
		Investigate and actively pursue funding for a path that will link the Big 4 Caravan Park to the Swan Hill Riverfront precinct	X		Council	Develop
		In partnership with Parks Victoria, support the development of active trail facilities throughout the Nyah-Vinifera Park		X	Council, Parks Victoria, Nyah Action Group	Support
		Increase the awareness and profile of the region's existing walking and bicycle trail networks via appropriate signage and promotional material	X		Council, SHI	Develop
		Update and or replace the region's tourism signage (brown and blue street signs)	X		Council, SHI	Develop
		Develop a Branding and Signage Guideline for the region (including Swan Hill Riverfront precinct)	X		Council	Develop
Attract and facilitate significant events		Review of Council's funding programs including the Major Event Support Scheme to maximise Council's contribution to economic outcomes	X		Council	Develop
Actively pursue opportunities that will enhance the regions recreational facilities and earmarked public space precincts	Delivery of new public space facilities	Develop the Active Play precinct at Riverside Park in Swan Hill	X		Council, RDV	Develop

FOCUS AREA: SUPPORTING BUSINESS GROWTH						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics - Reviewed annually	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
			1-2 years	3-5 years		
Facilitate programs and service to support growth in business skills and capacity	Vibrant & resilient small business community	Conduct at least 10 Small Business Victoria Workshops / Seminars each year	X	X	Council, SHI, Small Business Victoria	Develop
		Promote and facilitate the Help for Small Business program in the Swan Hill region (start up business mentoring program)	X	X	Council, Help-4-Small-Business, SHI	Support
		Engage in at least five Business Networking functions annually - E.g. Robinvale Business Mix	X	X	Council	Develop
		Undertake Business Visit program - 50 business per year	X	X	Council	Develop
		Continue supporting Skilled Migration Program through the Regional Certify Body Scheme	X	X	Council	Develop
Support the growth of Agriculture and Manufacturing sectors through appropriate advocacy and strategic planning	Favorable investment conditions	Investigate and liaise with Manufacturing sector to determine the need for a Manufacturing Advisory Committee	X		Council, SHI	Develop
		Inform and train businesses of new technology available to improve their productivity through newsletters, personalised emails and workshops	X		Council	Develop
DEVELOP NEW OPPORTUNITIES						
FOCUS AREA: RENEWABLE ENERGY & WASTE						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
			1-2 years	3-5 years		
Explore viability of waste to energy and waste to compost	New bio waste Infrastructure	Support and assist the development of a Waste to Energy facility		X	Council, Commercial Entity	Support
	New composting facility	Investigate the development of a regional composting facility focusing on agricultural 'seconds' produce	X		Council	Advocate
Advocate for grid enhancement capacity for the region	New infrastructure investment	Identify and document constraints in the region's electricity infrastructure grid capacity and advocate for augmentation		X	Council, RDV	Advocate
Investigate and explore renewable energy investment opportunities	New solar park facilities	Seek funding for the Swan Hill Region Community Garden Solar pilot program	X		Council	Advocate
		Implement identified solar farm projects including Blackwire Reserve and Bannerton	X	X	Council	Develop

FOCUS AREA: VALUE ADDING						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
			1-2 years	3-5 years		
Advocate for and actively pursue new businesses that are upstream processors for our local produce	Value Added Infrastructure	Investigate opportunities to utilise the region's agricultural 'seconds' product Develop and promote specific case studies that highlight small scale on site value adding activities		X	Council, RDV	Advocate
		Support the development of significant value add processing facilities including hay processing plant, grain milling and the abattoirs expansion	X	X	Council, RDV	Advocate
FOCUS AREA: ATTRACT & ENCOURAGE NEW BUSINESS						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
Strategically explore ways of identifying and attracting new business and investment opportunities	Favorable investment conditions	Undertake a business and industry sector gap analysis Promote Council's Investment and Business Expansion Attraction Strategy		X	Council	Develop
Facilitate the development of identified commercial opportunities within the Swan Hill Riverfront Precinct	New public infrastructure / commercial investment	Implement key initiatives identified in the Swan Hill Riverfront Commercial Development Strategy (including short term accommodation)		X	Council, RDV, Private Investors	Develop
Target relocation or establishment of appropriate Government office/ agencies / higher education facilities and/or attract superannuation investment opportunities	Increase investment opportunities	Develop promotional lobby material targeting the relocation of Government Agencies to the region	X		Council	Develop
Enhance Swan Hill regions image as a preferred location to live, work and invest	New tourism product / experiences	Develop an attraction and communication campaign to encourage investment, lifestyle and development opportunities for the Swan Hill region Complete a New Resident Guide and update annually as required		X	Council, SHI Council	Develop Develop

FOCUS AREA: IMPROVING TOURISM PRODUCT & EXPERIENCES						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
			1-2 years	3-5 years		
In partnership, develop a destination development plan to identify market gaps and future product and infrastructure investment requirements	New tourism product / experiences	Develop a Swan Hill Region Tourism Destination Development Plan (enable market gap and future developments to be identified)		X	Council, SHI, MRT	Develop
Assist Swan Hill municipality to develop and promote itself as a tourist destination	Increase visitor numbers	Develop agri-tourism products and experiences - aim to develop min two new products per year	X	X	Council, SHI, Robinvale Improvement Group	Develop
		Develop a Visiting Friends and Relatives campaign for the Swan Hill region		X	Council, SHI	Develop
		Implement and promote an online interactive walking and touring guide for the region - Discover More	X	X	Council, SHI, Community/groups	Develop
		Build partnerships and cluster products with neighbouring Councils	X		Council, Surrounding Councils, MRT	Develop
		Investigate and advocate for connecting the Swan Hill's CBD to the Riverfront precinct (Pedestrian crossing near crn McCrae & Curlewis Streets - Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan)	X		Council, Victrack, Graincorp, Lower Murray Water	Develop
Actively pursue activities that will develop and support creative and informative spaces in the Swan Hill region including art / cultural and tourism assets (VIC)	New tourism product / experiences	Support the expansion or relocation Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery		X	Council, RDV	Develop
		Investigate the location and management of the Robinvale and Swan Hill Region Information Visitor Centres	X	X	Council	Develop
		Assist implementing key initiatives derived from the Murray River Interpretive Centre Feasibility Study		X	Council	Develop

TAKING UP THE CHALLENGE						
FOCUS AREA: TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
			1-2 years	3-5 years		
Advocate for infrastructure and services that improve the region's freight and logistics supply chains	Major economic infrastructure	Support the development of intermodal freight hub facilities along the Murray Basin Rail line (Manangatang / Ultima Railway line)		X	Council, RDV	Support
		Continue to lobby for funding for improvements to the roads and rail network			Council, State and Federal Government	Advocate
		Improve the region's air freight capabilities by supporting surrounding municipalities future airport developments (focusing on agriculture)		X	Council, Regional Councils	Support
Advocate and actively pursue opportunities to improve public transport services to and within the Swan Hill region	Improved public transport accessibility	Continue advocate for increased passenger services on the Swan Hill to Bendigo V/Line network	X	X	Council, V/Line	Advocate
		Investigate the feasibility of increasing public transport services to regional townships (from Swan Hill)		X	Council, community groups	Develop
		Support and advocate funding for initiatives identified by the Mallee Local Transport Group that will improve the region's transport network (Baseline Transport Report and Transport Options Paper)		X	Mallee Local Transport Group, State Government, Council	Advocate
Advocate for private and government investment in the Swan Hill Aerodrome precinct	Rejuvenating Aerodrome precinct	Implement initiatives from the Swan Hill Aerodrome Business Case - International Flying School - Improve key infrastructure facilities on site		X	Council, RDV	Develop
Advocate for the development of improved cross border connections and infrastructure		In partnership with Murray River Council, Vicroads progress the Swan Hill Bridge		X	Council, Murray River Council, Vicroads,	Advocate

FOCUS AREA: INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
			1-2 years	3-5 years		
Advocate for the alignment of local education, training and services providers with the needs of businesses, industry and the community	Education attainment and employment	Support the implementation and development of the Swan Hill Region's Connect U program (connecting local service and education providers to employment opportunities)	X		MMILLEN, Council, SHI, RDV	Develop
		Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to attend IBA (Indigenous Business Australia) training		X	Council, SunTAFE, Swan Hill Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy Advisory Group	Support
		Support a bi annual Education/ Employment Summit that engages key industry stakeholders examine innovative methods and practices to retain local youth through the provision of local employment opportunities	X	X	MMILLEN, Council	Support
Advocate and partner with local services to further enhance the regions health and education services	Improved health & education precinct	Advocate to expand courses available at the SunTAFE and Deakin University facility		X	MMILLEN, Council, SunTAFE, Secondary Schools, FLO	Advocate
		Partner with Swan Hill District Health / Robinvale District Health Services to advocate improved health facilities for the Swan Hill region		X	Council, SHDH, RDHS	Support
Encourage regional collaboration to generate new market opportunities for specific industry sectors	New commercial opportunities	Develop and promote investment prospectus / opportunities for specific industries		X	Council	Develop
		Establish cluster working groups ('pulse workshops') to target ongoing regional issues and or opportunities (Industry / business SWOT analysis - annually)	X	X	Council, Agri Business Committee, SHI, REBA	Develop
		Advocate for a Cross-Border Commissioner	X	X	Council, Murray River Council	Advocate

FOCUS AREA: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT						
Strategic Initiatives	Primary Outcome	Tactics	Implementation		Key Partner	Council Role
			1-2	3-5		
Advocate for improved housing accessibility	Improve housing accessibility	Develop a Swan Hill Rural City Council 'infill Land Development' policy to encourage subdivision / housing development		X	Council	Develop
		Market and promote housing investment opportunities for the region (South West development masterplan)	X	X	Council	Develop
		Continue stage developments for new residential allotments at Tower Hill Estate in Swan Hill to meet current demand	X	X	Council	Develop
		Facilitate the construction of the Robinvale Levee Bank that will enable favourable zoning conditions for residential land developments		X	Council, RDV, DELWEP	Develop
		Advocate the rezoning of identified public zone areas (Crown Land) for residential development purposes		X	Council, State Government	Advocate
Actively advocate and pursue developments within the Aged Care / Child Care / Retirement sectors meeting current and future demands	New or and rejuvenated Aged Care / Child Care precincts	Advocate for the supply of adequate aged care and child care infrastructure and required services		X	Council, commercial operators	Advocate
Activity pursue appropriate investment in short term accommodation developments	New commercial opportunities	Pursue opportunities earmarked in the Swan Hill Riverfront Commercial Development Strategy	X	X	Council, SHI, RDV	Develop
		Pursue opportunities for short term accommodation developments		X	Council	Advocate
		Develop specific case studies to demonstrate the process and procedures with on farm housing accommodation developments		X	Council	Develop

- * RDV - Regional Development Victoria
- * SHI - Swan Hill Inc
- * REBA - Robinvale Euston Business Ass
- * RIG - Robinvale Improvement Group
- * Murray Mallee Local Learning & Employment Network
- * MRT - Murray Regional Tourism

B.17.78 GILLESPIE STREET SWAN HILL SPECIAL RATES AND CHARGE SCHEME

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure
File Number: S32-02-01
Attachments: 1 Special Charge Scheme Project Chart

Declarations of Interest:

Oliver McNulty - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

To inform Council of a request from residents of Gillespie Street in Swan Hill to commence a special rates and charge scheme to upgrade the street to a sealed road surface. This report also requests that Council consider approving funding towards the detailed design of the upgrade to enable the special rates and charges scheme process progress.

Discussion

The section of Gillespie Street that this report relates to is located to the North of Bryan Street facing out onto the VicTrack rail reserve. The street is approximately 180m long and is classified as a local unsealed road. This section of Gillespie Street provides primary access to 8 houses and secondary access to 2 houses.



In 2006 Council were approached by residents along Gillespie Street requesting that they seal the road. A letter was sent out to all the residents at this time requesting their feedback as to whether they would support a special rate and charge scheme to upgrade the road. The intention at this time was to construct a 5.5m sealed road with kerb and channel on the uphill side of the street in front of the houses. This proposal was not supported by the residents at this time. A further request was made to develop a scheme in 2008 but this was also not supported.

In April 2017 officers were approached by residents of Gillespie Street requesting that Council would re survey the residents to determine if there would be support to develop a scheme to seal the road.

A letter was issued to all impacted property owners to assess if there was sufficient support for a scheme to proceed. Officers received a request from the residents to attend a meeting to discuss options with the community.

The Director Infrastructure attended a meeting to discuss the process and options available to the community should this project progress to construction stage.

Subsequent to this Council received 6 responses from the 10 impacted home owners. Five responses were in favour of progressing with the scheme. 1 response was against the scheme. 4 residents did not respond. 1 of these residents called and indicated that they had not received the letter but would not have any objection to progressing to a stage where there was a better understanding of potential cost.

Special Rates and Charge Scheme

The Local Government Act provides Councils with the authority to levy a special rate or a special charge on properties as a means of generating the funds required to undertake a service or activity that will be of special benefit to the property owners. A special rate or special charge scheme are different from general rates and charges because they are levied on a limited number of properties.

These schemes are commonly used to construct footpaths, roads, kerb and channel or drains. A scheme can also be used to provide services like promotion, marketing or economic development for commercial businesses.

The initiation of a scheme can be undertaken by Council, by the residents or the property owners within a certain area.

Council officers investigate the residents or property owners request to decide if there is a need to provide the infrastructure (or service) and that the nature of the work is such that a group of property owners will be likely to receive "special benefit" from the works.

The level of preliminary investigation, survey and consultation will usually depend on the complexity of the issues surrounding the need for the infrastructure.

Council officers will generally seek the views of all those owners who may be the subject of a scheme and make an assessment of the degree of support before proceeding. Even when Council proceeds with a scheme, the process enables owners to have input, attend a hearing and speak to Council officers.

Council may decide to amend the scheme based on submissions and the level of support. Only then will Council make a final decision to proceed or not.

In assessing the need for any proposal, Council should take into consideration the following:

- Background information including the numbers of property owners who support the proposal
- Community benefits
- Any previous proposals
- Existing conditions, the standard of construction, requirements of authorities and emergency services and where applicable, the relevance of the proposals in Council plans, construction priorities and budget allocations
- The need for the project taking into account the matters of health, safety and amenity
- The group of property owners likely to benefit from the project or service
- The available options for staging and funding the project.

Council must ensure there is benefit to all properties and this can vary depending on the type of infrastructure or service provided.

Benefit to owners from a road construction may include, but limited to, improved access, removal of dust/mud nuisances, improved road safety, improvement to the general amenity and likely increase in property values.

The Local Government Act requires that Council carry out a formal process, a summary of the process is outlined in the document appended to this report. It is critical for Council to follow the process as outlined in the Local Government Act. It is possible for impacted property owners to object to the scheme throughout the process. Typically once Council can demonstrate that they have followed the steps as outlined in this process VCAT will find in favour if the scheme proceeding.

Scope of Work

The resident's primary concern along Gillespie Street is duct generated by cars travelling along the gravel road surface. Taking this into consideration the scope of this work will include constructing a 6.2m seal with a suitable turning circle on Gillespie Street. A review will be completed for any drainage required. The additional options that should be considered and will be priced for possible inclusion in the scheme will be:

- Provision kerb and channel along the west side of Gillespie Street.

- Provision of kerb and channel on both sides of the street.
- Provision of a new footpath along the West side of Gillespie Street.

Consultation

Letters have been sent to each of the impacted residents as outlined in this report. A meeting has been held on site with residents to discuss options. This report has been presented to Council for discussion at an assembly.

Financial Implications

Section 163 of the Local Government Act outlines how Council manage and develop a Special Rate and Charge Scheme.

It also outlines the principles of benefit cost ratio and the mechanism by which Council can determine the amount of cost to be applied to benefiting landowners.

In this case Council are a beneficiary landowners, however if the assessment is based on amenity and access then the percentage that Council will have a lower benefit than landowners.

There is a requirement that if the levee to be charged is greater than 2/3 of the associated cost then there must be majority support for the scheme to proceed. Alternatively Council can choose to fund our 1/3 of the costs and then impose a scheme through this process.

There is a cost involved of approximately \$10k to proceed with a design to enable sufficient detailed information for the scheme to proceed.

It is proposed that this cost will be absorbed by Councils engineering operational consultant's budget. These costs can be charged subsequently as part of the scheme.

Social Implications

This project will impose the amenity and value of the properties along this section of Gillespie Street.

Economic Implications

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications

Not Applicable

Risk Management Implications

Not Applicable

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Infrastructure - Infrastructure that appropriately services community needs.

Options

Nil

Recommendation

That Council approve the request from the residents of Gillespie Street to proceed to develop detailed designs for the upgrade of the road and other road infrastructure as outlined in this report.

SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME PROCESS CHART
(Section 163 – Local Government Act 1989)

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>Survey of Landowners</i>	Initial survey of property owners to assist in determining the need, associated issues and level of support for the proposed works and special rate/charge scheme. Survey based on preliminary investigations.
<i>Approval to prepare scheme</i>	Decision made to prepare scheme or to shelve project following consideration of surveys of property owners and feed back from the community. Council may proceed by placing the project in the budget system or commencing immediately to prepare a scheme. Scheme preparation involves survey, design, detailed estimates and preparation of an apportionment of costs.
<i>Intention to Declare Scheme</i>	Report to Council providing information on proposed scheme including advice of impending advertising of scheme and declaration of charge. Report seeks Council approval by resolution to proceed with process.
<i>Advertisement and Notification</i>	The proposed scheme is advertised in the local newspaper and all affected property owners are notified by mail of proposed works, costs and contributions. This advertisement and notification indicates Council's intention to 'declare' a scheme in a month's time and seeks submissions from affected property owners. Details of the scheme may be inspected at the Shire Offices.
<i>Submissions</i>	From the time of advertising, property owners have 28 days (as set down by the Act) to lodge submissions, either in support or opposing the proposed scheme. If intending to recover more than 2/3 of scheme cost from contributors, they have 28 days to object to the scheme.
<i>Submissions Review Panel Hearing</i>	A Submissions Review Panel is convened (may be Council Committee or whole Council) and meets to consider submissions. Some submissions are written only. Submitters may also request to be heard before the Committee. The Panel makes a recommendation to Council regarding the scheme.
<i>Abandonment of scheme</i>	The Panel may recommend to Council that the scheme be abandoned. After considering the Panel's report, Council may proceed to abandon the scheme following which property owners are notified and the scheme does not proceed.
<i>Declaration Report</i>	Alternatively the Panel may recommend to Council that the scheme proceed. After considering the Panel's report, Council may proceed to "declare" the charges in accordance with its advertised intent. Subsequent to this the Finance Manager issues the levy notices and there is a formal charge placed on the property. This is the final step in the process for Council to make a decision on the scheme.
<i>Appeal</i>	Property owners may lodge an application for review of Council's decision with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) within one month of issue of the levy notice. An appeal is listed, heard and determined by the Tribunal and this process generally takes four to six months. Decisions made by VCAT are binding on all parties.
<i>Construction</i>	Council may then proceed to construction. Tenders are invited and a contractor appointed to construct the works. Invoices are issued seeking payment of the estimated cost within one month of commencement. Payment may be by instalments or lump sum. The Social Responsibility provisions of Council's Special Charge Policy provides for those facing financial difficulty.
<i>Final Cost Report</i>	At the completion of the works the scheme is "finalised" taking into account actual costs incurred and payments are adjusted accordingly.

B.17.79 ASSET NAMING SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE

Responsible Officer:	Director Infrastructure
File Number:	S11-01-01
Attachments:	1 Minutes 16 May 2017
	2 Map of proposed Park Robinvale for Naming
	3 Map of proposed roads Robinvale for Naming
	4 Map of proposed road Winlaton for Naming
	5 Map of proposed Park Swan Hill for Naming

Declarations of Interest:

Oliver McNulty - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The Asset Naming Sub-Committee met on 16 May 2017. This report seeks a Council resolution to accept the minutes and recommendations from the sub-committee meeting as directed by Council's Asset Naming procedure POL/INFRA500.

Discussion

Correspondence is periodically received from residents and Government representatives concerning the naming of roads and community assets. The Asset Naming Sub Committee meets on an as-needs basis, depending on the number of outstanding requests. The Committee is comprised of two Councillors, and a community member from the Swan Hill Genealogical and Historical Society as well as Council officers.

In relation to the names contained in this report, they have been verified by the Committee and have been researched to ensure that Council can endorse the recommendations as outlined.

Each of the following items listed are a result of a request or approval from members of the Committee:

Item 1 - NOTER

Council was approached by the Deta Noter requesting that a sign be dedicated to her father and mother, Cedric and Beryl Noter.

Recommendation - the Noter name be added to the Asset Naming Master List, in recognition of the contributions made by the family in the Robinvale community.

Reason - due to the family's history and contribution to the Robinvale community

Item 2 – PISASALE

Councillor Katis requested the Committee consider recognising Pam and Tory Pisasale in the Robinvale community.

Recommendation - to name the park on the corner of George and Ronald Street Robinvale, "Pisasale Park".

Reason - the name Pisasale has been on the Asset Naming Master list for some years.

Item 3 – BORNEO & BANGKA

Council was approached by the Robinvale Improvement Group to name two unnamed roads in Robinvale.

Recommendation - to name the two roads, Borneo and Bangka Roads.

Reason - the names were chosen from the Asset Naming Master List and have significant history relevant to the Robinvale area and the Anzac Commemorative Naming Project. The Robinvale districts are already themed with World War 2 Pacific area battles (or theatres of war).

Issues - the two unnamed roads in Robinvale run through parcels of Land owned by VicTrack and a submission and documents have been forwarded for their perusal. They have acknowledged that a determination can take up to 2 months.

Item 4 – LEE ROAD

A request was made from Council's Technical Officer, Graham Jarvey for the naming of an unnamed road in the Winlaton area.

Recommendation - to name the road Lee Road

Reason - the Committee considered the five names proposed, Lee, Angus, Scriven, Prothero & Quirk. These names were chosen due to their relevance within the location. Lee was the only name to be listed on the Asset Naming Master List, added 2008. The name has a significant historical connection to the area.

Item 5 – JOE CROWE PARK

Council was approached by Mr John Crowe to revisit the original submissions received back in 2013 to name a park after Joseph (Joe) Crowe.

Recommendation - name the park in Beveridge Street Swan Hill, "Joe Crowe Park".

Reason - two submissions were received back in 2013 with an extensive history and contributions made by Joseph (Joe) Crowe within the Swan Hill Community and his significant dedication made to the maintenance and care of this particular park.

Issues - the Unnamed Park is owned by Lower Murray Water and previous correspondence by them has requested that Council will manage the naming process, with the Lower Murray Water Board having the final sign off of the proposed name. The financial expense for the sign will be Council's responsibility.

Consultation

A community representative is a member of the Asset Naming Sub-Committee and the proposed naming of the parks and roads are subject to public advertising and submission process.

The community members who made the requests have been informed of the outcome of the Asset Naming Committee meeting and the process going forward.

The Robinvale Improvement Group (RIG) has thanked Council for acknowledging their request and following up on this process.

Financial Implications

Minor costs associated with the purchase and installation of signs and advertising of proposed names for the parks and roads in Swan Hill, Robinvale and Winlaton.

Social Implications

Recognition of the contribution of outstanding citizens via Asset Naming will have positive social benefits.

Economic Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

The naming of unnamed roads will assist emergency services in identifying roads and locations during emergency callouts.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Positive community engagement through appropriate and constructive consultation.


Options

1. Accept the recommendation of the Asset Naming Sub-Committee and implement them.
2. Disagree with the recommendation of the Asset Naming Sub-Committee and reconvene the group to provide alternative solutions to Council.

Recommendations

That Council:

1. **Note the draft minutes of the Asset Naming Sub-Committee of 16 May 2017.**
2. **Add the name Noter to the Asset Naming Master List as pending, to be utilised at the appropriate time.**
3. **Advertise the naming of the playground located in the Road Reserve, on the corner of Ronald and George Street, Robinvale as Pisasale Park.**
4. **Advertise the naming of the unnamed road in the Winlaton locality as Lee Road.**
5. **Advertise the naming of the unnamed roads in the Robinvale locality, as Borneo and Bangka Road, pending on VicTrack determination.**
6. **Advertise the proposed name of the park located at the Beveridge Street entrance, Swan Hill Joe Crowe Park, and pay for the cost of the sign.**

 <p>SWAN HILL Rural City Council</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ASSET NAMING SUB-COMMITTEE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MINUTES</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tuesday, 16 May 2017 Executive Meeting Room Swan Hill Rural City Council</p>
<p>Attendees:</p> <p>Members of Committee: Cr John Katis (Chairperson) Cr Chris Jeffery Mrs Jan Guse, Swan Hill Genealogical & Historical Society</p> <p>In Attendance: Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure Graham Jarvie, Technical Officer David Murphy, GIS Officer Sandy Guy, Revenue Officer Michelle Schleiger, Planning Support Officer</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Apologies N/A</p> <p>1. Welcome</p> <p>John Katis declared the meeting open at 11.05am and welcomed everyone to the Asset Naming Sub-Committee meeting for 16 May 2017.</p>	
<p>2. Confirmation of Minutes – Tues, 17 May 2016</p> <p>Discussion: Moved: Jan Guse Seconded: Sandy Guy CARRIED</p>	

3	Noter Family Name to be used for unnamed road, Robinvale Basketball Stadium
<p>Submission received from Detha Noter requesting to have Cedric & Beryl Noter family named to be utilised, for unnamed roads preferably in location of the Robinvale Basketball Stadium.</p> <p>The Committee discussed under the Office of Geographic Names Statutory requirements, General Principle(H), names of people who are still alive must be avoided because community attitudes and opinions can change over time.</p> <p>Naming of access roads will be omitted from the naming process, as these are not considered accepted roads with required address points for emergency services.</p> <p>Conclusion: The Committee agreed that the name will be added to Asset Naming Master List noted as pending, to be used at the appropriate time. History has been provided regarding Cedric & Beryl Noters contribution to the Robinvale community. Correspondence will be sent to Detha Noter to be advised.</p> <p>Moved: John Katis Seconded: Jan Guse CARRIED</p>	
4	Pisasale to be added to Master List
<p>Submission received from Cr John Katis to have the Pisasale added to the Asset Naming Master List, and has suggested to utilise the name for an unnamed road or Feature of Interest.</p> <p>The Committee confirmed the name Pisasale is currently in the Asset Naming Master List, added in 2013, and has a strong history recognising the considerable contribution made to the Robinvale Community.</p> <p>Conclusion: The Committee recommends that the playground situated in the road reserve on the corner of George and Ronald Street, Robinvale, shown in the map attached be named Pisasale Park.</p> <p>Moved: Chris Jeffery Seconded: Oliver McNulty CARRIED</p>	
5	Naming of unnamed roads Robinvale
<p>Submission received from Oliver McNulty, Director of Infrastructure on behalf of the</p>	

Robinvale Community Group, requesting the possibility of naming two unnamed roads in Robinvale. The Committee discussed that the two roads run through parcels of land owned by Victrak. The roads are currently maintained by Council upto the fence and upto 3meters either side of the railway line.

The Committee considered the following options received by the Community Group:

1. Borneo Road
2. Bangka Road

The names were chosen from the Asset Naming Master List and have a significant history relevant to the Robinvale area and the Anzac Commemorative Naming Project. These two short roads are not selective or personalised. Over 350 local people served in WW2 and the Robinvale Irrigation Districts are already themed with WW2 Pacific area battles(or theatres of war).

Conclusion:

The Committee agreed that correspondence be sent to Victrack with the intentions to name the roads. The Committee recommends that these two roads shown in the map attached be named Borneo and Bangka Road, Robinvale. A review of the current map book for the municipality has indicated there are no roads named in the suggested list in 100km of the municipality.

Moved: Oliver McNulty

Seconded: Michelle Schleiger

CARRIED

6

Naming of unnamed road Benjeroop-Tresco

Submission received from Graham Jarvie, Technical Officer(Survey). For the naming of unnamed road in th Benjeroop-Tresco area.

The Committee considered the following options:

1. Lee
2. Angus
3. Scriven
4. Prothero
5. Quirk

The names were chosen due to their relevance within the particular location. Lee is the only name listed on the Asset Naming Master List, added in 2008. The name has a significant historical connection to the area. The other identified names were previous owners of the surrounding land.

Conclusion:

The Committee recommends that the unnamed road in the map attached be named Lee road. A review of the current map book for the municipality has indicated there are no roads with this name in 100km of the municipality.

Moved: John Katis

Seconded: Jan Guse

CARRIED

7

Naming of small park in Beveridge Street to Joe Crowe Park.

The Committee was advised that Mr John Crowe has requested that his previous submission be revisited by The Asset Naming Committee. Two submissions received by members of the public in 2013, Mr John Crowe and Mr Peter Murray, requesting the small park in Beveridge Street be named Jow Crowe Park.

The Committee was advised that the park is owned by Lower Murray Water and discussed previous correspondence between Council and Lower Murray Water.

Conclusion:

The Committee recommends to have the sign erected and that Council Pay for the sign. David Girdwood, Manager Southern Region, Lower Murray Water, has been sent correspondence advising of this recommendation.

Moved: Chris Jeffery

Seconded: Michelle Schleiger

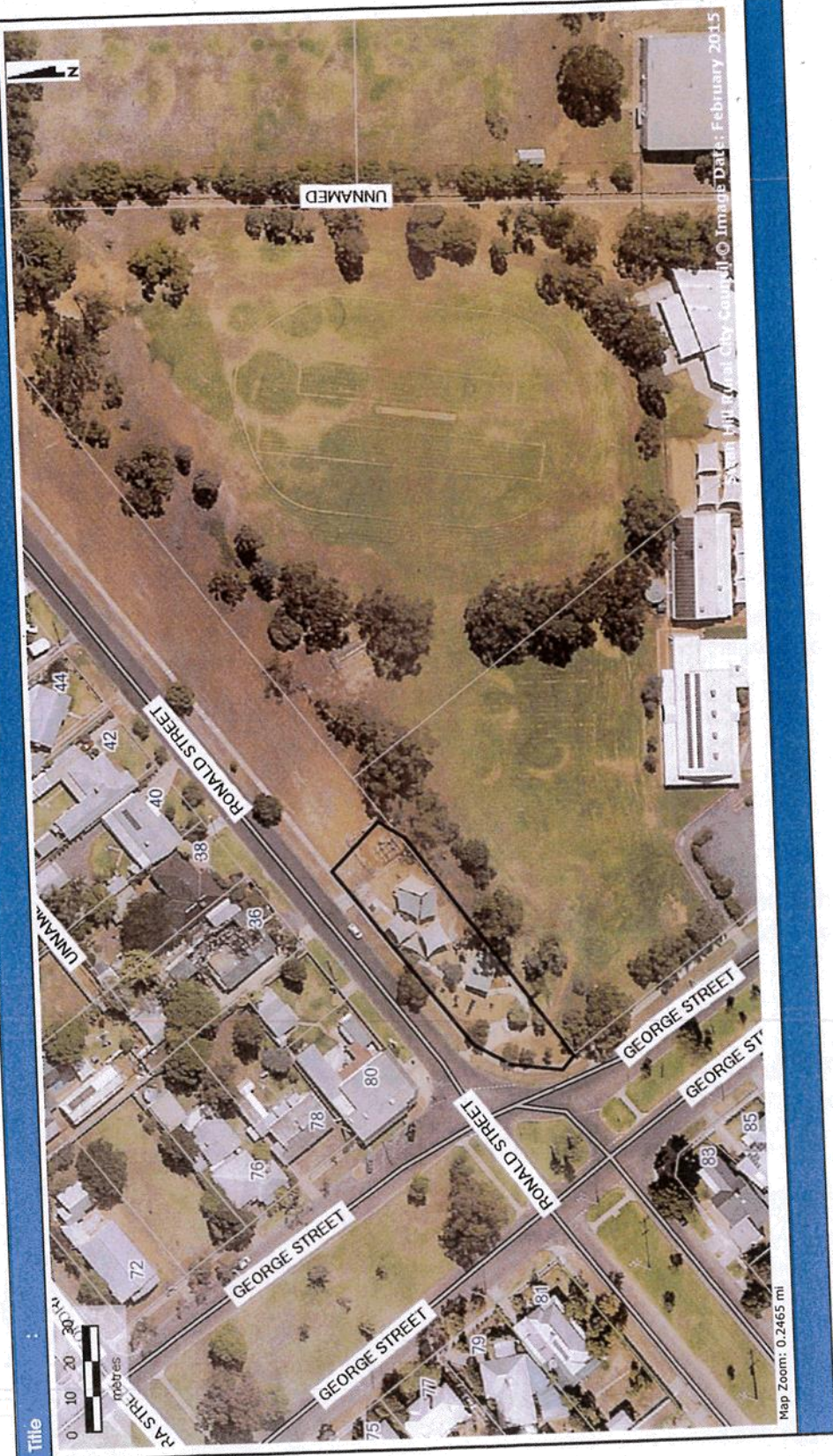
CARRIED

Meeting Closed at 11.25PM

Next Meeting –

TBA

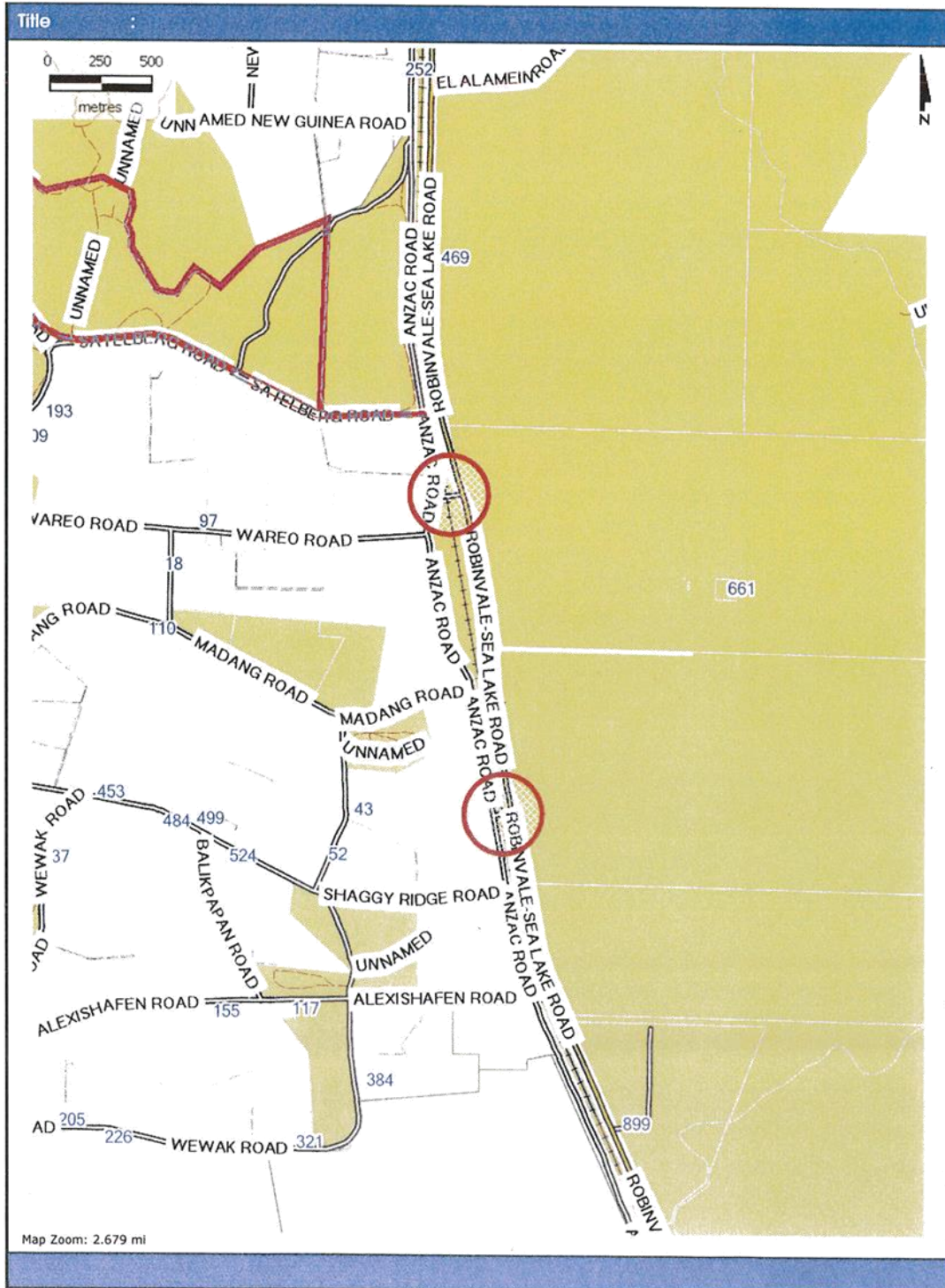
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PROPERTY MAP



Created by SWANHILL\omcnulty on Thursday, 27 April 2017



SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PROPERTY MAP



Crown Folio Statement - Volume 11775 Folio 015

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LAND DESCRIPTION

Crown Allotment 2012 Parish of Toltol.
Created by instrument MI204093V 06/08/2016

CROWN LAND ADMINISTRATOR

VICTORIAN RAIL TRACK of LEVEL 8 1010 LA TROBE STREET DOCKLANDS VIC 3008
MI204093V 06/08/2016

STATUS, ENCUMBRANCES AND NOTICES

GOVERNMENT ROAD MI204095R 06/08/2016

DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE CD079092G FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NIL

-----END OF CROWN FOLIO STATEMENT-----

Additional information: (not part of the Crown Folio Statement)

Street Address: ANZAC ROAD ROBINVALE VIC 3549

DOCUMENT END

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Delivered at 04/05/2017, for Order Number 43861595. Your reference: rates.



Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning

Electronic Instrument Statement

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Produced: 04/05/2017 03:16:19 PM

Dealing Number: MI204093V

Rectification Date: 06/08/2016
Rectification Category: Crown Land Data Migration
Status: Registered

RECTIFICATION

Raised By: REGISTRAR OF TITLES
DX 250639 MELBOURNE

Folio Affected	CofT Supplied	Controlling Party
11775/015	No	

Details of Rectification

This Crown Land Migration transaction was created as part of the crown land data migration. No instrument is available for this transaction.

Statement End.





Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning

Electronic Instrument Statement

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Produced: 04/05/2017 03:16:21 PM

Dealing Number: MI204095R

Rectification Date: 06/08/2016

Rectification Category: Crown Land Data Migration

Status: Registered

RECTIFICATION

Raised By: REGISTRAR OF TITLES
DX 250639 MELBOURNE

Folio Affected CofT Supplied Controlling Party

11775/015 No

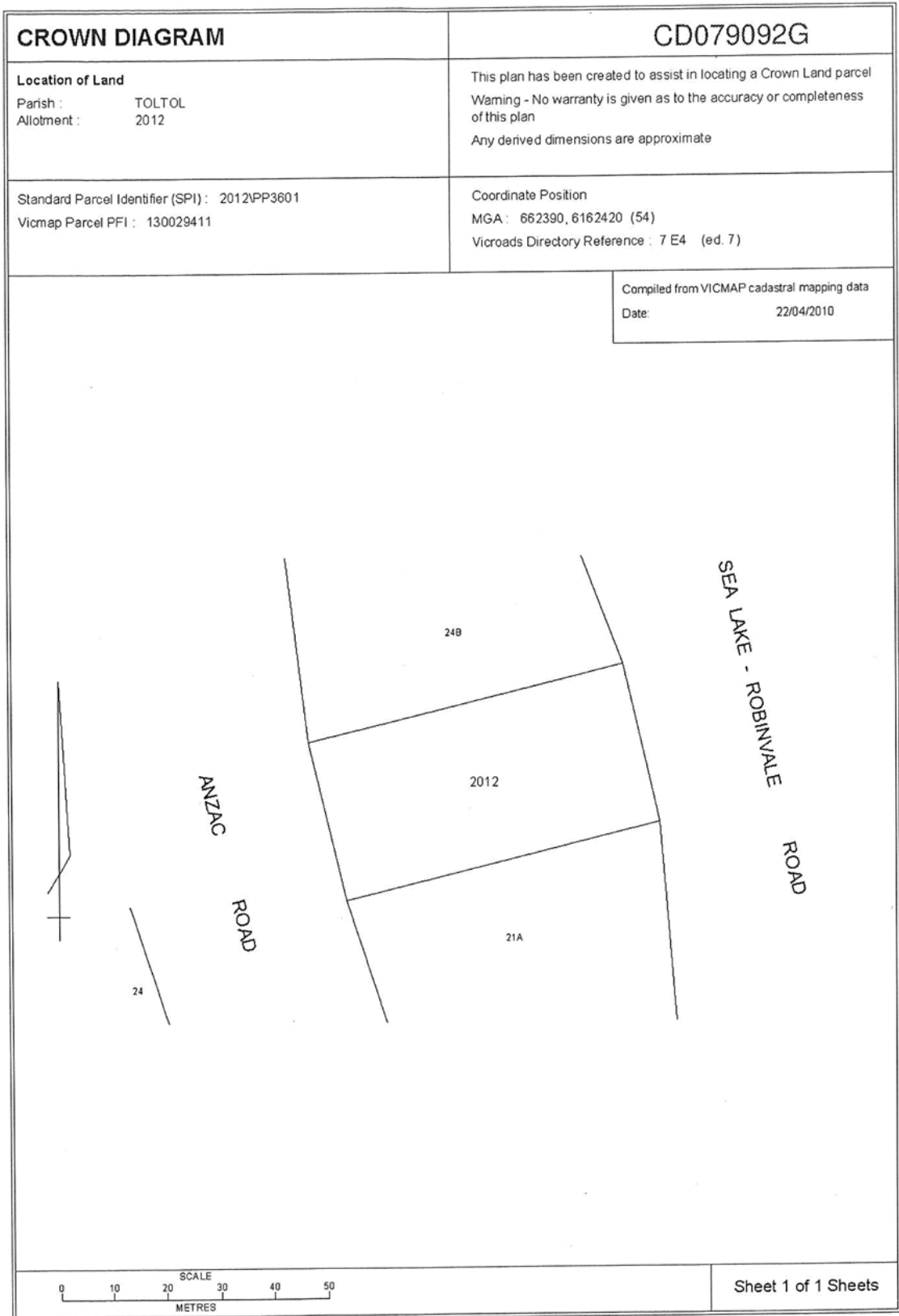
Details of Rectification

This Government Road transaction was created as part of the crown land data migration. No instrument is available for this transaction.

Statement End.



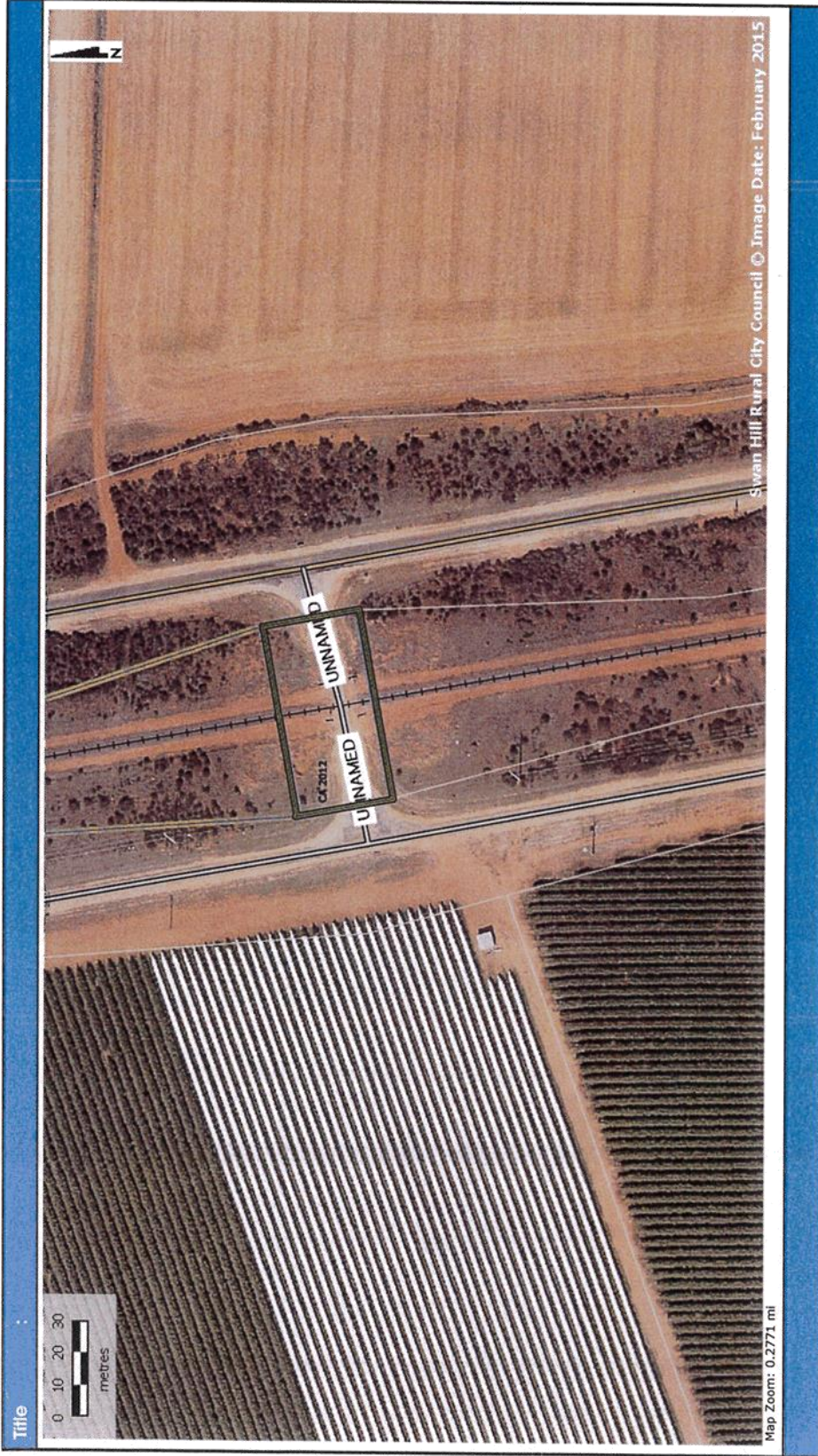
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Created by SWANHILL.gov.au on Thursday, 11 May 2017



SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PROPERTY MAP



Crown Folio Statement - Volume 11775 Folio 014

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CROWN FOLIO STATEMENT

VOLUME 11775 FOLIO 014 Security no : 124065825379D
No CofT exists Produced 04/05/2017 03:11 pm
CROWN FOLIO

LAND DESCRIPTION

Crown Allotment 2013 Parish of Toltol.
Created by instrument MI204090C 06/08/2016

CROWN LAND ADMINISTRATOR

VICTORIAN RAIL TRACK of LEVEL 8 1010 LA TROBE STREET DOCKLANDS VIC 3008
MI204090C 06/08/2016

STATUS, ENCUMBRANCES AND NOTICES

GOVERNMENT ROAD MI204092X 06/08/2016

DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE CD079091J FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NIL

-----END OF CROWN FOLIO STATEMENT-----

Additional information: (not part of the Crown Folio Statement)

Street Address: ANZAC ROAD ROBINVALE VIC 3549

DOCUMENT END

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Produced: 04/05/2017 03:12:12 PM

Dealing Number: MI204090C

Rectification Date: 06/08/2016

Rectification Category: Crown Land Data Migration

Status: Registered

RECTIFICATION

Raised By: REGISTRAR OF TITLES
DX 250639 MELBOURNE

Folio Affected	CofT Supplied	Controlling Party
11775/014	No	

Details of Rectification

This Crown Land Migration transaction was created as part of the crown land data migration. No instrument is available for this transaction.

Statement End.



Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning

Electronic Instrument Statement

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Produced: 04/05/2017 03:12:15 PM

Dealing Number: MI204092X

Rectification Date: 06/08/2016

Rectification Category: Crown Land Data Migration

Status: Registered

RECTIFICATION

Raised By: REGISTRAR OF TITLES
DX 250639 MELBOURNE

Folio Affected CofT Supplied Controlling Party

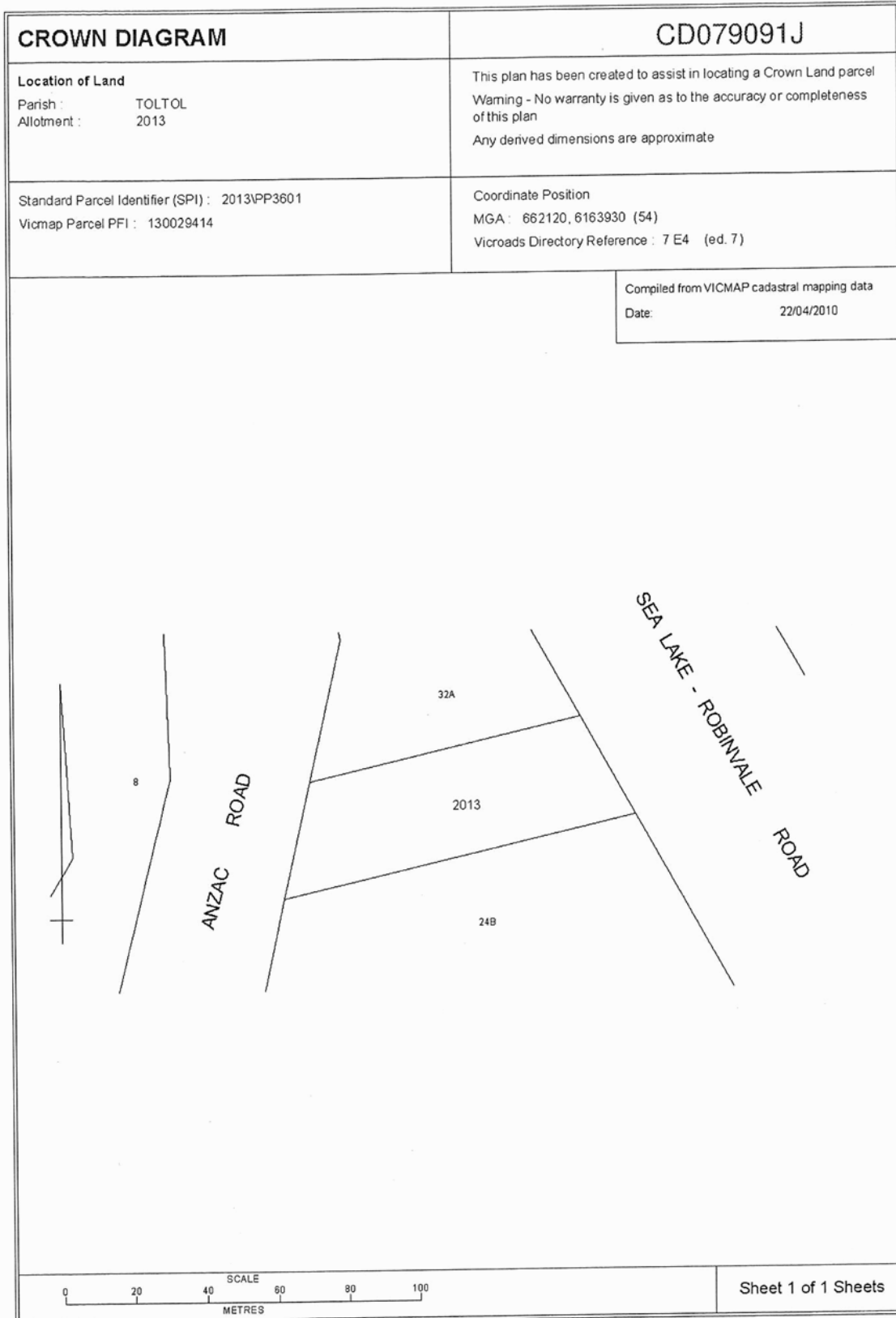
11775/014 No

Details of Rectification

This Government Road transaction was created as part of the crown land data migration. No instrument is available for this transaction.

Statement End.

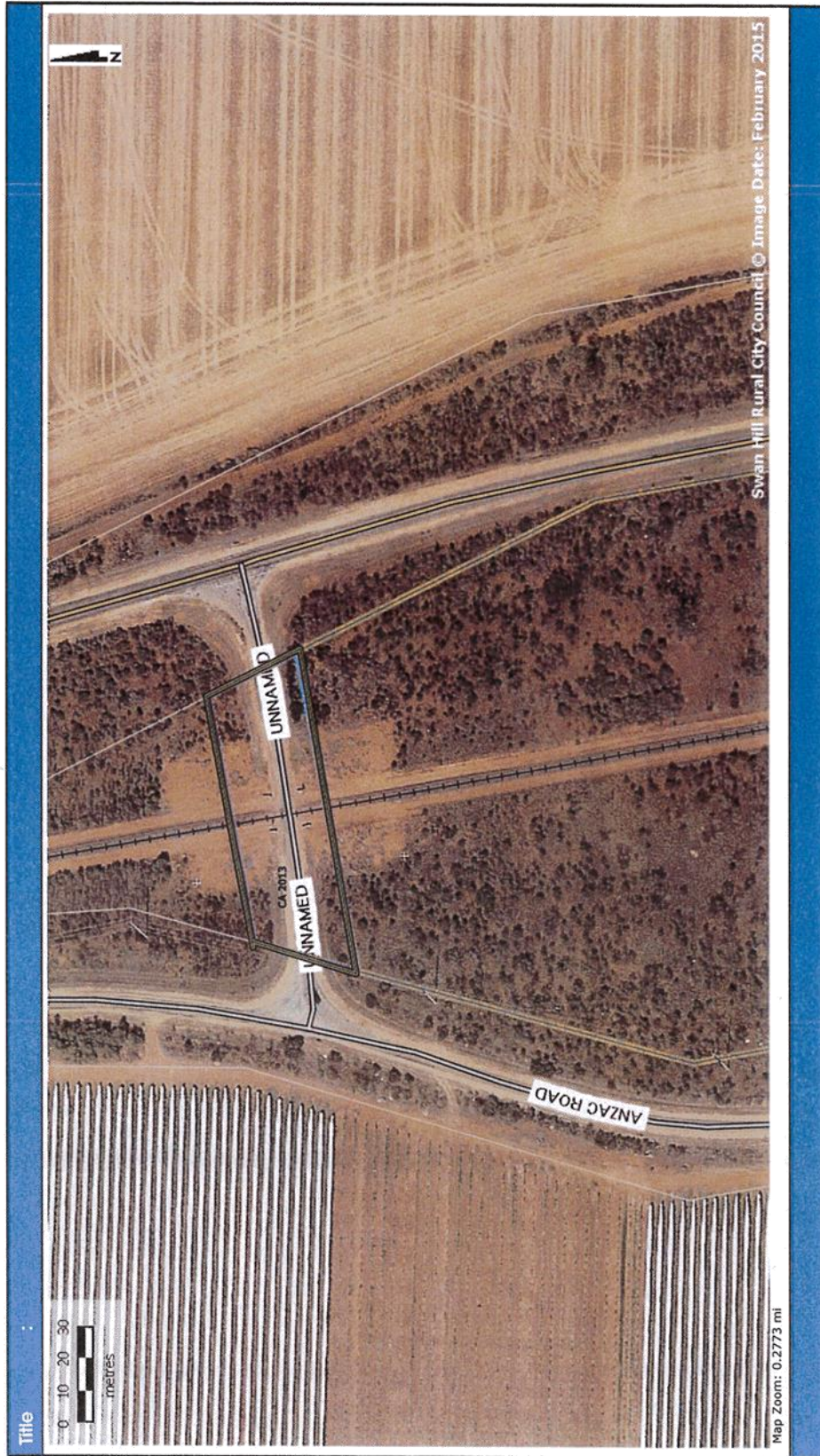
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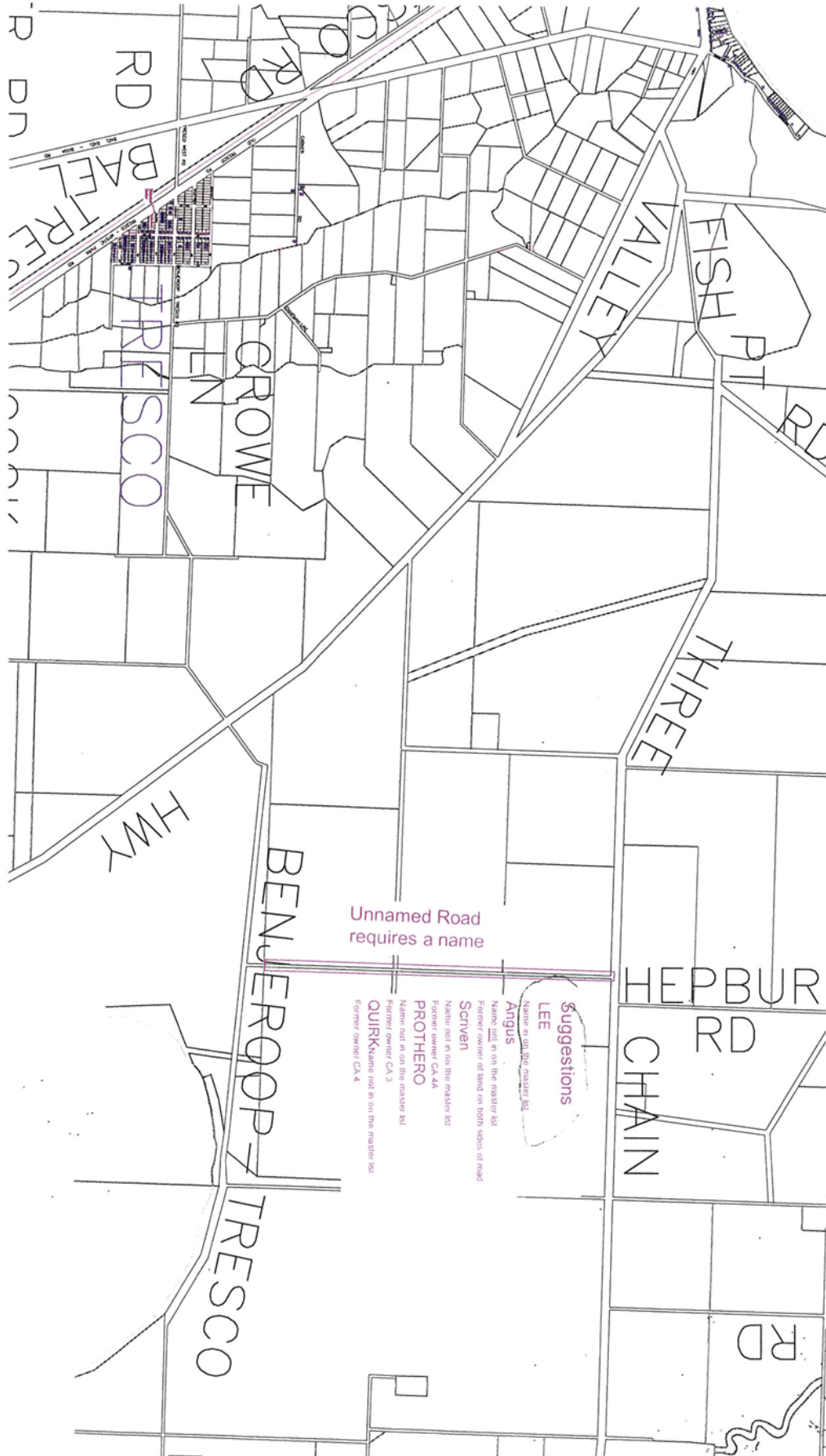


SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL PROPERTY MAP



Swan Hill Rural City Council © Image Date: February 2015

Map Zoom: 0.2773 m



Created by SWANHILL\sguy on Tuesday, 4 July 2017



SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PROPERTY MAP



B.17.80 INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS TRAVEL

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S16-02-03
Attachments: Nil

Declarations of Interest:

John McLinden - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

This report proposes that Council be represented by the Mayor, and Chief Executive Officer at a Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC) advocacy trip to Canberra.

Discussion

Swan Hill Rural City Council is a member of the MRGC and as part of the group it is important that we participate in a joint advocacy program in Canberra. This will give the six Councils represented by the MRGC the opportunity to communicate the major projects and issues that are affecting the people of these municipalities.

Joint advocacy meetings with Minister Frydenberg – Minister for Energy, Murray Darling Basin Association, Chief Executive Officer Philp Glyde and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Water Resources, Barnaby Joyce have been arranged.

MRGC hopes that further meetings with Minister Nash, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Communications, Minister Chester, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister Ciobo, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Opposition – Tony Burke (Water) and Anthony Albanese (Infrastructure & Regional Development) will be confirmed.

It is suggested that Council send the Mayor, Cr Les McPhee and the Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden to provide effective representation for the Swan Hill Rural City Council.

Consultation

During Murray River Group of Councils meetings in 2016 an advocacy document has been created to guide the regional approach to be taken when meeting Ministers and Shadow Ministers on a regional basis. This document has been communicated to all member Councils and each municipality has taken ownership of a part of the plan. The focus for 2017 will be to advocate for support for irrigated agriculture and to protect our communities from the negative outcomes of the Basin Plan.

Financial Implications

Accommodation and travel costs.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective partnerships and relationships with key stakeholders and staff.

Options

Council can choose to change the number of representatives attending the conference.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Authorise the travel of the Mayor – Cr Les McPhee and The Chief Executive Officer – Mr John McLinden to represent Council in Canberra from 11 September 2017 to 13 September 2017.**
- 2. Request the Chief Executive Officer – Mr John McLinden submit a report to Council upon return.**

SECTION C – DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION

C.17.11 SIGN & SEAL REPORT

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil.

Declarations of Interest:

John McLinden - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The following documents and agreements have been signed and sealed by the Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer on the respective dates. Those actions require the ratification of the Council.

Discussion

During the course of any month Council is required to sign and seal a range of documents arising from decisions made on a previous occasion(s). Examples include sale of land, entering into funding arrangements for Council programs etc.

As the decision to enter into these agreements has already been made, these documents are signed and sealed when received, with Council ratifying the signing and sealing at the next Council meeting.

Consultation

Not applicable

Financial Implications

Not applicable

Social Implications

Not applicable

Economic Implications

Not applicable

Environmental Implications

Not applicable

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable

DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION

15 August 2017

Background

During the course of any month Council is required to sign and seal a range of documents arising from decisions made on a previous occasion(s). Examples include sale of land, entering into funding arrangements for Council programs etc.

As the decision to enter into these agreements has already been made, these documents are signed and sealed when received, with Council ratifying the signing and sealing at the next Council meeting.

Issues

The following documents were signed and sealed since the last Council meeting:

No.	Document Type	Document Description	Date signed/ sealed
826	Deed of Renewal Lease – Saleyards Canteen	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and M.G.Henderson and P.M.Henderson.	23-6-17
827	Transfer of Land – Tower Hill, Stage 9B – Transfer of Lot 343 Volume 11855 Folio 925	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and J.L.McInnes.	23-6-17
828	Section 173 Agreement for ongoing ownership and maintenance of private infrastructure in Council’s Road Reserve (Lot 2, Plan of subdivision 642703H-CT1273/8800 land)	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Camera Family Nominees Pty Ltd.	23-6-17
829	Section 173 Agreement – for ongoing ownership and maintenance of Private Infrastructure in Council’s Road Reserve (Lot 1, TP417 Lot 101641496 Land)	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Camera Family Nominees Pty Ltd.	23-6-17
830	Transfer of Land – Tower Hill Stage 9B – transfer of Lot 329 Volume 11855 Folio 911	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and M.C.Kim and H.O.Baek.	23-6-17
831	Section 173 Agreement for Planning Permit 2015/160 – 12 Lot subdivision. Land Volume 9020 Folio 475 and Volume 9020 Folio 476	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council, WM Land Pty Ltd, Goulburn-Murray Rural Water Corporation and Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water Corporation.	27-6-17

DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION

15 August 2017

832	Deed 120 Karinie Street, Swan Hill Saleyards Redevelopment	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water Corporation.	27-6-17
833	Sale of Land – Taverner Street, Ultima – Transfer of Land Volume 10743 Folio 680 and Volume 10745 Folio 434	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and J.Hiensch.	27-6-17
834	Section 173 Agreement: 19-39 Fisher Road Nurrung – Native Vegetation Offsets	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Chislett Developments Pty Ltd.	01-08-17
835	173 Agreement – part of 46 Butterworth Street, Swan Hill.	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and M.B.Boulton & L.P.Brown and Lower Murray Urban & Rural Water Corporation.	08-08-17
836	173 Agreement – Installing pipes (Fruitmaster) at Kenley properties (ownership and Maintenance)	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Qwil Investments Pty Ltd.	08-08-17

Conclusion

Council authorise the signing and sealing of the above documents.

Recommendation

That Council notes the actions of signing and sealing the documents under delegation as scheduled.

C.17.12 COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES - RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA ITEMS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S15-05-06
Attachments: 1 Councillor - Record of Attendance and Agenda Items

Declarations of Interest:

John McLinden - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The Local Government Act 1989 requires that the details of Councillor Assemblies be reported to Council meetings on a monthly basis.

Discussion

The State Government has amended the Local Government Act 1989 which requires Council to report on Councillor Assemblies.

Whilst Minutes do not have to be recorded, Agenda items and those in attendance must be, and a report presented to Council.

An assembly of Councillors is defined as a meeting that is planned or scheduled at which at least half of the Council and one Officer are in attendance, and where the matters being considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

No formal decisions can be made at an assembly but rather direction can be given that is likely to lead to a formal decision of Council.

Details of the most recent assemblies of Council are attached.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

Options

Council must comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989.

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of the report.

COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

4 July 2017 at 1.00pm

Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA ITEMS

- Hon. Peter Walsh MP
- Channel No.9 Update
- Related Party Disclosures
- KSI 4th Quarter Report
- Planning Permit 2016/49 – Mallee Hay
- Heartbeat Infrastructure
- Membership to the Municipal Association of Victoria 2017/18

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr John Katis
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Ann Young

Apologies

- Cr Gary Norton

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Mazen Aldaghstani, Engineering Projects & Assets Manager
- Helen Morris, Human Resources Manager
- Douglas Wood, Engineer
- Jess Warburton, General Manager Pioneer Settlement
- Ash Free, Financial Accountant
- Trish Ficarra, Public Health and Regulatory Services Coordinator

Other

- Hon Peter Walsh MP, Member for Murray Plains, Leader of the Nationals

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

25 July 2017 at 1.00pm

Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA ITEMS

- Women's Health Loddon Mallee and the focus on prevention of violence
- Asset Management
- Gillespie Street Special Scheme
- Asset Naming Sub committee
- United Nations Youth Conference
- United Nations Youth Conference – Tania Sixsmith
- Pioneer Settlement Discussions
- Robinvale Employment Network

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr John Katis
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Ann Young

Apologies

- Cr Gary Norton

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Ralph Kop, Senior Assets Officer
- Mazen Aldaghstani, Engineering Projects & Assets Manager
- Sandy Guy, Revenue Officer
- Kane Sparks, Youth Support Officer
- Joyline Rovere, Engineering Administration Officer

Other

- Tricia Currie, Women's Health Loddon Mallee
- Tiana Sixsmith, United Nations Youth Conference

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

1 August 2017 at 1.00pm

Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA ITEMS

- Women's Health Loddon Mallee and the focus on prevention of violence
- Asset Management
- Gillespie Street Special Scheme
- Asset Naming Sub committee
- United Nations Youth Conference
- United Nations Youth Conference – Tania Sixmith
- Pioneer Settlement Discussions
- Robinvale Employment Network

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr John Katis
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Gary Norton

Apologies

-

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Clinton Hycker, Rural Access Coordinator
- Fiona Gormann, Community Development and Riverfront Coordinator
- Emma Cramer, Economic & Community Development Manager
- Dallas Free, Works Manager
- Darren Ingram, Community Care Services Manager

Other

-

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
8 August 2017 at 1.00pm
Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

AGENDA ITEMS

- Robinvale Community Plan
- Festival of Motorsport
- Economic Development Strategy
- Swan Hill Pony Club Relocation
- Draft Annual Report
- Cricket Hub
- Up-date on the Robinvale Employment Network Program
- Future of the Pioneer Settlement

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Gary Norton

Apologies

- Cr John Katis

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Fiona Gormann, Community Development and Riverfront Coordinator
- Emma Cramer, Economic & Community Development Manager
- Felicity O'Rourke, Community Planning Officer

Other

-

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

SECTION D – NOTICES OF MOTION

SECTION E – URGENT ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN AGENDA

SECTION F – TO CONSIDER & ORDER ON COUNCILLOR REPORTS

SECTION G – IN CAMERA ITEMS

Recommendation

That Council close the meeting to the public on the grounds that the following report includes contractual matters

B.17.81 IN CAMERA CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORT