



# MINUTES

## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 21 March 2017

Held at the Swan Hill Town  
Hall, Council Chambers  
53-57 McCallum St, Swan Hill  
Commenced at 6.00pm

**COUNCIL:**

Cr LT McPhee – Mayor

Cr JN Katis  
Cr GW Norton  
Cr C Jeffery  
Cr L Johnson  
Cr B Moar  
Cr A Young

Confirmed 18 April 2017

Chairperson.....

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## **SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

- **Open**

Mayor, Cr Les McPhee assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 6pm.

- **Acknowledgement of Country**

Mayor, Cr Les McPhee read the Acknowledgement of Country.

- **Prayer**

Cr Moar read the prayer.

- **Apologies**

Nil

### **Recommendations**

**That the apologies be accepted.**

- **Confirmation of Minutes**

- 1) Ordinary Meeting held on 21 February 2017
- 2) Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 21 February 2017

### **28/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Katis**

**That the minutes be confirmed.**

**SECONDED Cr Jeffery**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

- **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Cr Norton with item B17.29 INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS TRAVEL as he is named in that report.

Cr Johnson with item B17.29 INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS TRAVEL as she is named in that report.

Cr Young with item B17.29 INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS TRAVEL as she is named in that report.

Cr McPhee with item B17.29 INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS TRAVEL as he is named in that report.

The Mayor Cr McPhee then explained to the Gallery that this was an item that relates to Councillors attendance at the Australian Local Government Association Conference in Canberra in June. Bearing in mind that we have four Councillors with a conflict of interest and with leave of the Council we will deal with that report in two sections. This is because if all four Councillors leave the chambers we will no longer have a quorum, so when we get to this report it will be dealt with in two sections so we maintain a quorum at all times.

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

Nil

- **Public Question Time**

Mr David Rosaia submitted a public question time form but as he was not present in the gallery the question was not read out but a written response will be provided.

## **SECTION B – REPORTS**

### **B.17.23 POLICY REVIEW – COMMUNITY CARE POLICIES**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Community & Cultural Services  
**File Number:** S02-25-03  
**Attachments:**  
1 POL/Human605  
2 POL/Human607  
3 POL/Human608  
4 POL/Human606

#### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

#### **Summary**

This report outlines a series of reviewed Community Care Services Policies for consideration, and includes a Policy recommended for removal.

#### **Discussion**

The reviewed Policies relate to Council's Community Care Services, formerly Home and Community Care (HACC), but now significantly funded as the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP). These Policies are:

Policy Number POL/Human605  
Policy Title Community Care Services Department – Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACCPYP) and Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) Services

- This policy acknowledges that Council will provide Home and Community Care services funded by the Commonwealth and State governments to community members who meet eligibility criteria of the target group.

Policy Number POL/Human607  
Policy Title Community Care Services Department – Provision of Brokered Services

- This policy acknowledges that council will provide a range of brokered services to various care agencies dependant on availability of resources and capacity to deliver the services that may not otherwise be delivered to the community.

Policy Number POL/Human608  
Policy Title Community Care Services Department – Service Standards

- This policy ensures that delivery of service will meet funding body and legislative requirements.

Policy Number           POL/Human606  
Policy Title               Service via Loddon Mallee Local Government Consortium  
Arrangement

- This policy is no longer required following the transition of aged care packages. Swan Hill Rural City Council will remain a member of the Loddon Mallee Local Government consortium operating under a memorandum of understanding that provides a framework for council's roles and responsibilities within the consortium.

Minor changes to relevant legislation and service standards have been incorporated where necessary and the Consortium Policy is no longer relevant following the transition of management of aged care packages in December 2016.

### **Consultation**

No external consultation is required as these are the first level of governance required by funding agreements. The Policies have been reviewed by Manager Community Care Services, and the Executive Leadership Team.

### **Financial Implications**

The Brokered Works Policy, Community Care Services Department – Provision of Brokered Services, has been modified to reflect that annual fees are established through Council's annual review of Fees and Charges through the budget process.

### **Social Implications**

These Policies are required to formalise the link between Council's strategic role in community services, and assist in ensuring the services are delivered to the appropriate standards.

### **Economic Implications**

Not applicable to this report.

### **Environmental Implications**

Not applicable to this report.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Not applicable to this report.

## **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Community Wellbeing*** - Community services that are efficient and responsive to needs.

### **Options**

- 1. Adopt the reviewed Policies as presented, and remove the Policy to be discontinued, or,**
- 2. Make changes to any of the Policies presented and adopt them, and remove the Policy to be discontinued.**

### **Recommendations**

**That Council:**

- 1. Adopt the following reviewed Policies:**

Policy Number	POL/Human605
Policy Title	Community Care Services Department – Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACCPYP) and Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) Services

Policy Number	POL/Human607
Policy Title	Community Care Services Department – Provision of Brokered Services

Policy Number	POL/Human608
Policy Title	Community Care Services Department – Service Standards

- 2. Discontinue the following Policy: POL/Human606 - Service via Loddon Mallee Local Government Consortium Arrangement.**

**29/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Young**

**That Council:**

**1. Adopt the following reviewed Policies:**

Policy Number	POL/Human605
Policy Title	Community Care Services Department – Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACCPYP) and Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) Services

Policy Number	POL/Human607
Policy Title	Community Care Services Department – Provision of Brokered Services

Policy Number	POL/Human608
Policy Title	Community Care Services Department – Service Standards

**2. Discontinue the following Policy: POL/Human606 - Service via Loddon Mallee Local Government Consortium Arrangement.**

**SECONDED Cr Johnson**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**



**POLICY TITLE**      **COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT – HOME & COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM FOR YOUNGER PEOPLE (HACCPYP) AND COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM (CHSP) SERVICES**

**POLICY NUMBER**    **POL/HUMAN605**

**PURPOSE**

Council acknowledges delivery of Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACCPYP) and Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) funding through the Community Care Services program.

**SCOPE**

All Community Care Services staff are responsible for the implementation of Service Standards as detailed in their position descriptions.

**POLICY**

Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACCPYP) and Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) funding arrangements with Council will see its Community Care Services staff provide care, in home and community-based settings to frail aged people and younger people with disabilities and their carers who meet eligibility criteria of the target group.

**RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS**

Community Care Services Department – Service Standards POL/HUMAN608

**RELATED LEGISLATION**

- Aged Care Act (Commonwealth) 1997 and associated Principles
- Home & Community Care Act (Commonwealth) 1985
- Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014
- Health Records Act 2001
- Freedom of Information Act 1982
- Occupational Health & Safety Act 2004
- Community Care Common Standards

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mayor**                      **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY TITLE**            **COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT – PROVISION OF BROKERED SERVICES**

**POLICY NUMBER**    **POL/HUMAN607**

### **PURPOSE**

Council's Community Care Services provides a range of services via sub contract arrangements for various Care agencies.

This Policy acknowledges the opportunities brokered works provides, such as:

- Additional hours of work for part time workers
- Utilising staff trained with specific skills (Personal Care)
- Delivering services to the local community that may not be delivered if this department's staff is not able to do so.

### **SCOPE**

All Community Care Services staff are responsible for the implementation of service standards as detailed in their position descriptions.

### **POLICY**

The delivery of brokered works will be dependent on the availability of staff and resources and Council's Community Care Services' capacity to deliver services that meet standards of service delivery in a manner that is safe for staff and clients.

Charges for services will be assessed annually and determined during the budget process.

### **RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS**

Community Care Services –Service Standards – POL/HUMAN608

### **RELATED LEGISLATION**

Aged Care Act (Commonwealth) 1997 and associated Principles

Home & Community Care Act (Commonwealth) 1985

Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014

Health Records Act 2001

Freedom of Information Act 1982

Occupational Health & Safety Act 2004

Community Care Common Standards

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mayor**                      **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY TITLE**            **COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT – SERVICE STANDARDS**

**POLICY NUMBER**    **POL/HUMAN608**

**PURPOSE**

Council’s Community Care Services provides a range of funded and brokered services that are required to be delivered within a framework of quality.

**SCOPE**

All Community Care Services staff are responsible for the implementation of service standards as detailed in their position descriptions.

**POLICY**

Community Care Services program standards of service delivery will meet funding body and legislative requirements.

Staff will ensure that directives, procedures, tools/forms and protocol development within the various service delivery components are documented and in place to meet requirements.

**RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS**

Community Care Services – Provision of Brokered Services – POL/HUMAN607

**RELATED LEGISLATION**

Aged Care Act (Commonwealth) 1997 and associated Principles

Home & Community Care Act (Commonwealth) 1985

Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014

Health Records Act 2001

Freedom of Information Act 1982

Occupational Health & Safety Act 2004

Community Care Common Standards

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mayor**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY TITLE SERVICES VIA LODDON MALLEE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSORTIUM ARRANGEMENT**

**POLICY NUMBER POL/HUMAN606**

**PURPOSE**

Council acknowledges that to enhance, maintain and expand services to their community members, strategic alliances may need to be implemented.

**APPLICATION**

Designated Council staff will work with the Loddon Mallee Local Government Consortium as detailed in their position descriptions.

**POLICY**

Council acknowledges:

- The strategic alliance of Council’s Community Care Department with the Loddon Mallee Local Government Consortium, a coalition of all ten (10) local government aged & disability services within the Loddon Mallee region, resulting in additional services to community members.
- This Council’s key role in the management of the Consortium’s Commonwealth funded, Packaged Care Programs.

**RELATED POLICIES**

Community Care Services Department – Service Standards POL/HUMAN608

**RELATED LEGISLATION**

- Aged Care Act 1997 and associated Principles
- Common Community Care Standards (HACC & Packaged Care)
- Privacy Act 1988
- Health Information
- Occupational Health & Safety Act 1982
- Workers Compensation Act 1958
- Best Value

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mayor** **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## B.17.24 MONTHLY PLANNING AND BUILDING FIGURES

**Responsible Officer:** Director Development & Planning  
**File Number:** 13-05-01  
**Attachments:** Nil.

### Declarations of Interest:

Adam McSwain - 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 February 2017.

### Discussion

#### Planning

Type	2017		2016	
	No. of Feb	No. Of YTD	No. Of Feb	No. Of YTD
Planning Permit Applications Received	4	166	11	175
Approvals under delegation	17	143	17	158
Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit	1	5	0	1
Notice of Decision to refuse a Planning Permit	0	0	0	3
Application Lapsed or Withdrawn	1	8	0	2
VCAT upheld Council decision	0	5	0	1
VCAT set aside Council decision	0	0	0	0
Total number of decisions	18	153	17	163

#### Monthly decision breakdown by town

	Approved Feb 2017	Approved YTD	Refused Feb 2017	Refused YTD
<b>Swan Hill</b>	4	53	0	0
<b>Robinvale</b>	8	46	0	0
<b>Lake Boga</b>	0	7	0	0
<b>Nyah</b>	0	5	0	0
<b>Nyah West</b>	0	1	0	0

**Building  
February – Comparisons**

TYPE	2017		2016	
	No.	VALUE	No.	VALUE
Dwelling	5	1,294,228	4	2,374,436
Dwelling additions	10	136,467	5	419,640
Unit Developments	0*(0)	0	0*(0)	0
Shops	4	205,000	0	0
Offices	1	500,000	0	0
Warehouses	0	0	0	0
Factories	1	1,276,144	0	0
Public Buildings	1	40,000	1	800,624
OutBuildings	5	154,300	8	150,995
Other	4	447,600	7	110,566
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>\$4,053,739</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>\$3,856,261</b>

\*( ) denotes total number of Dwelling Units

New Dwellings			
2017		2016	
Swan Hill	4	Swan Hill	6
Boundary Bend	1	Robinvale	2
		Lake Boga	1

**Year to Date – Comparisons**

TYPE	1/01/2017 to 28/2/2017		1/01/2016 to 28/2/2016	
	NO.OF	VALUE	NO.OF	VALUE
Dwelling	7	1,907,111	9	3,937,763
Dwelling additions	18	1,250,576	9	622,440
Unit Developments	0*(0)	0	1*(2)	410,000
Shops	4	205,000	0	0
Offices (1)	2	520,000	0	0
Warehouses	2	530,000	0	0
Factories (2)	1	1,276,144	1	1,686,300
Public Buildings	1	40,000	4	866,954
OutBuildings	9	223,291	10	166,295
Other	7	540,300	11	184,566
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>\$6,492,422</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>\$7,874,318</b>

\*( ) denotes total number of Dwelling Units

(1) The majority of the 2017 'Offices' value relates to an Office development valued at \$500,000 at 18 Beveridge Street, Swan Hill.

- (2) The 2017 'Factories' value relates to Extensions to the Swan Hill Abattoirs valued at \$1,276,144.

**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*** - A prosperous, growing and diverse local and regional economy.

**Options**

Not applicable

**Recommendation**

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

**30/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Norton**

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

**SECONDED Cr Katis**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**REPORTS**

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21 March 2017

The Mayor Cr McPhee then declared that he would vacate the Chair to debate the next report item B.17.25 DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPLICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN OVERLAY – SCHEDULE 1 FOR GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE, SWAN HILL. The Mayor had also spoken to the Deputy Mayor Cr Young who said she would also like to debate the item, so the Mayor Cr McPhee then nominated Cr Norton to take the Chair to which all Councillors agreed.

The Mayor Cr McPhee vacated the Chair at 6.10pm and Cr Norton Chaired the meeting for the next item.



**B.17.25 DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPLICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN OVERLAY – SCHEDULE 1 FOR GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE, SWAN HILL**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Development and Planning  
**File Number:** 2015/123  
**Attachments:** 1 Werril Street Plan

**Declarations of Interest:**

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

**Summary**

This report seeks a Council resolution to refuse a Development Plan as required by the Development Plan Overlay, Schedule 1 for General Residential Zone land in Swan Hill.

This application has been referred to Council as it is recommended to be refused.

**Discussion**

Background

The applicant began with a six-lot proposal, following discussions with officers the proposal was modified to a five-lot proposal which Council refused. The applicant then submitted an application to VCAT to challenge the refusal of the five-lot subdivision. This VCAT hearing is yet to take place. Recently Officers advertised a proposed 12 lot subdivision of the same site, and following that were contacted by the applicant wanting to return to the original six lot subdivision.

The 12 lot subdivision had taken on-board some of Council's previous concerns, particularly with regards to removal of battle axe lots. The twelve (12) lot proposal was advertised to surrounding property owners and ten (10) objections were received, all of these objections spoke in support of the original six (6) lot proposal. Based on the overwhelming support for the six (6) lot proposal, the applicant has decided to go back to the original proposal and submit that as the final plan to be considered by Council.

Location and existing conditions

The subject site is located on the northern side of Werril Street, Swan Hill adjacent an existing low density residential area to the west and general residential area to the north, east and south.

The subject land is located within the General Residential Zone (GRZ), which is affected by the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 1 (DPO1).

The locality of the land in relation to the existing residential area is shown in Figure 1 below.

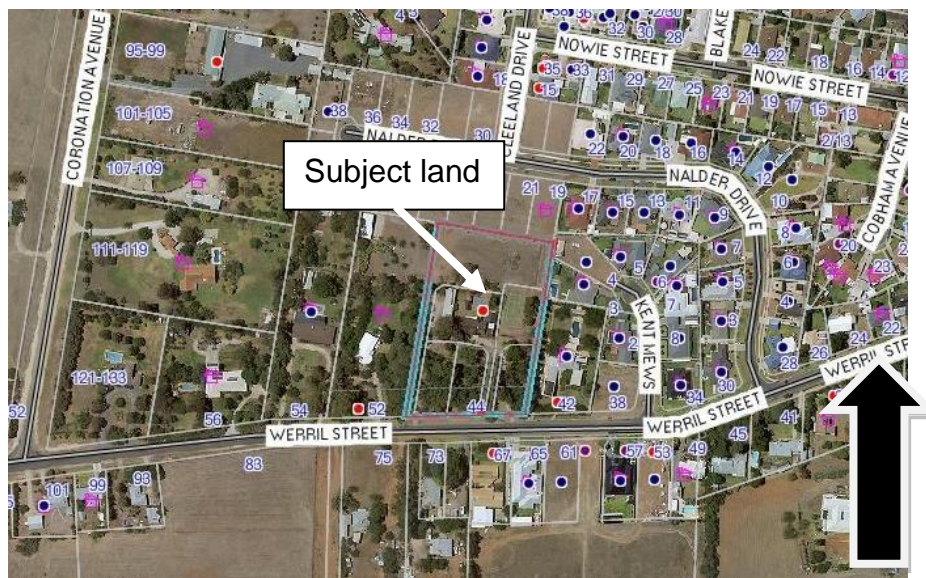


Figure 1

### Proposal

The proposal includes the following:

- A development plan showing the existing and proposed six (6) lot layout and associated road works in Werril Street.

### Purpose of the zone and overlays

The purpose of the General Residential Zone is:

- *To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.*
- *To encourage development that respects the neighbourhood character of the area.*
- *To implement neighbourhood character policy and adopted neighbourhood character guidelines.*
- *To provide a diversity of housing types and moderate housing growth in locations offering good access to services and transport.*

- *To allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.*

The purpose of the Development Plan Overlay is:

- *To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.*
- *To identify areas which require the form and conditions of future use and development to be shown on a development plan before a permit can be granted to use or develop the land.*
- *To exempt an application from notice and review if it is generally in accordance with a development plan.*

A permit to subdivide the land is required under the above zone and overlay provisions. However, under the Development Plan Overlay (DPO) a permit must not be granted to use or subdivide land, construct a building or construct or carry out works until a development plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

The application before Council is only for the adoption of the development plan pursuant to the requirements under the Development Plan Overlay (DPO) and the schedule to the overlay, Schedule 1 (DPO1). The planning scheme requirements applicable to this application is that of the schedule to the overlay.

The purpose of a DPO is to guide future development of land and allow a co-ordinated process of land release. The DPO is typically used to:

- Co-ordinate proposed use and development, before a permit under the zone can be granted;
- Provide certainty about the nature of the proposed use or development; and
- Remove notice requirements and third-party review rights from the planning permit applications for proposals that are generally in accordance with the development plan.

The preparation and adoption of a development plan for this area is necessary to provide guidance for the future development of the subject land. The provision of a development plan is a mandatory requirement for the administration of a Development Plan Overlay. Further development and subdivision of the subject land would be subject to the requirements of the relevant provisions of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme.

The proposed Development Plan, Ref. No. 14 1580, Version 5, dated 17 October 2014, has been prepared in accordance with the requirements for a development plan, as described in the schedule to the overlay (DPO1).

#### Requirements for a development plan

*The development plan for this land must describe and assess:*

- *Site assessment and response, including natural features, slope, orientation, views, drainage lines, native vegetation, and impact on neighbouring and nearby land.*

The proposed subdivision plan submitted with the development plan application shows the natural features of the land including existing easements, buildings and vegetation. The proposed lot layout has been designed around these existing features in order to retain the existing dwelling and as much vegetation as possible.

- *Proposed lot layout and density, including building envelopes if appropriate.*

The proposed development plan shows lot layout and density, but does not include building envelopes as the lots are large enough to accommodate a rectangle of 10m by 15m.

- *Internal road layout and external road access, including future road linkages, street lighting, and proposed road surfacing and standards.*

No internal road is proposed. All lots will have access to Werril Street.

- *All servicing, including water, sewerage, drainage and stormwater, electricity and telecommunications.*

All the required services would be provided as part of the subdivision of the land. A drainage report was also submitted addressing relevant drainage requirements. Council's Engineering Department has given in principal support for the proposed development plan subject to conditions to be included on the planning permit.

- *Existing and future open space, including linkages to and between areas of open space.*

The provision of open space is not practical as part of this proposal. A requirement of a monetary contribution will be imposed on the applicant as part of the subdivision of land.

- *Landscaping, existing native vegetation and streetscape treatment.*

The subject land contains many large trees. The applicant has stated that he wants to retain as many as possible in the front setback of the lots fronting Werril Street. No native vegetation is present on the land.

- *The stages, if any, in which the land is to be subdivided and developed.*

One stage is proposed.

The requirements for a development plan as set out in Schedule 1 of the DPO have been addressed in the application submitted by the applicant.

#### Subdivision Planning Permit

Further to the development plan application, a planning permit application to subdivide the land into six (6) lots has also been received. This subdivision application is considered to be in accordance with the proposed development plan and if the development plan is approved, the subdivision application would be exempted from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act. This means that the planning permit application, following the approval of the Development Plan, is exempt from being advertised to surrounding landowners and, therefore, is not subject to any appeals to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

The proposed subdivision plan, as part of the original subdivision planning permit application, has been discussed previously at a Council assembly.

#### State and Local Planning Policy

There are no specific State and local planning policies applicable to the adoption of a development plan.

#### **Consultation**

Please note that Council is not required to advertise such applications, as there are no statutory public notification requirements in the planning scheme associated with development plan applications. However, due to the nature of this particular application it was decided to refer and advertise as usual.

Referrals

Referrals/Notice	Advice/Response/Conditions
External Referrals	<p>Lower Murray Water- Consent subject to conditions on the planning permit.</p> <p>Powercor – Consent subject to conditions on the planning permit.</p> <p>Country Fire Authority – Consent subject to conditions on the planning permit.</p>

Internal Council Notices	Advice/Response/Conditions
Engineering	No objection subject to conditions on the permit
Building	No requirements
Environment	No requirements

Public Notification

The original and amended proposals were advertised to surrounding land owners and occupiers as well as displaying a sign on the property and placing an advertisement in The Guardian newspaper.

Following notification of the original plan, two objections were received against the proposed layout affecting the property at No. 44 Werril Street, Swan Hill. The objectors' main concerns are summarized as follows:

- The affect of the subdivision on the neighbourhood character and streetscape.

Following notification of the amended plan (12 lot proposal), ten (10) objections were received against the proposed layout (including the two original objectors). The objectors' main concerns are summarized as follows:

- They are concerned that the new proposal will lead to inappropriate development of the site causing amenity issues, and also not respecting the neighbourhood character in terms of lot size and future dwellings potentially being located to close to the street.
- The proposal will lead to an increase in the level of traffic along Werril Street.

- There will be an increase in noise to adjoining properties and a reduction in privacy of adjoining properties due to too many properties backing on to a single property.

### Response to objections

When the original two objections were put to the permit applicant, the applicant responded by saying that the land is zoned general residential, which is capable of being subdivided into much smaller lots and that they are proposing a “transitional zone” between the higher density established residential development to the east, and the low density residential properties to the west.

The applicant’s response to the ten (10) recent objections was to revert back to the original six (6) lot development plan proposal, given the overwhelming support it received.

### Assessment

The proposed development plan showing the creation of six (6) additional lots is not supported for the following reasons:

- Creation of too many battle axe lots. Battle axe lots do not address the street network and it creates hidden properties with poor surveillance from the street;
- The proposed Development Plan is not complying with Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria. The Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria facilitate the planning and design of safer urban environments for all Victorian communities.

The guidelines have been developed to help planners and designers apply design principles that will improve the safety of the built environment, minimise the opportunity for crime, and promote safe, accessible and liveable places.

Well designed and maintained urban environments are essential for improved safety in the community.

The Safer Design Guidelines aim to:

- increase community usage of public places, in the daytime and evening.
- achieve connection and integration of streets and public places.
- reduce opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour.
- improve the quality of life for the community by improving perceptions of public places.
- create more liveable and sustainable environments.

The Safer Design Guidelines are listed under the 'policy guidelines' in the State Planning Policy Framework of the Victorian Planning Provisions (Clauses 11.01-2, 15.01-2 and 15.01-4), and must be considered in planning decisions. Planning and responsible authorities must have regard to the guidelines when assessing the design and built form of new development.

- The proposed Development Plan showing the creation of six (6) additional lots is not in keeping with the existing neighbourhood character of the surrounding land within the General Residential Zone.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications to Council.

### **Social Implications**

Battle axe lots do not address the street network and creates hidden properties with poor surveillance from the street. Not complying with Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria.

### **Economic Implications**

In-fill development provides positive economic benefit to Swan Hill and the region.

### **Environmental Implications**

Trees to be removed are non-native.

### **Risk Management Implications**

There are no known risk management implications

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Economic Growth*** - A prosperous, growing and diverse local and regional economy.

### **Options**

- 1) That Council resolve to adopt the Development Plan (DPO1)
- 2) That Council resolve to refuse to adopt the Development Plan (DPO1)



### **Recommendation**

**That Council refuse to adopt the proposed Development Plan for 44 Werril Street Swan Hill.**

Grounds of refusal:

- The proposed Development Plan does not comply with the Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria.
- The proposed Development Plan showing the creation of six (6) additional lots is not in keeping with the existing neighbourhood character of the surrounding land within the General Residential Zone.

### **31/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McPhee**

**That Council refuse to adopt the proposed Development Plan for 44 Werril Street Swan Hill.**

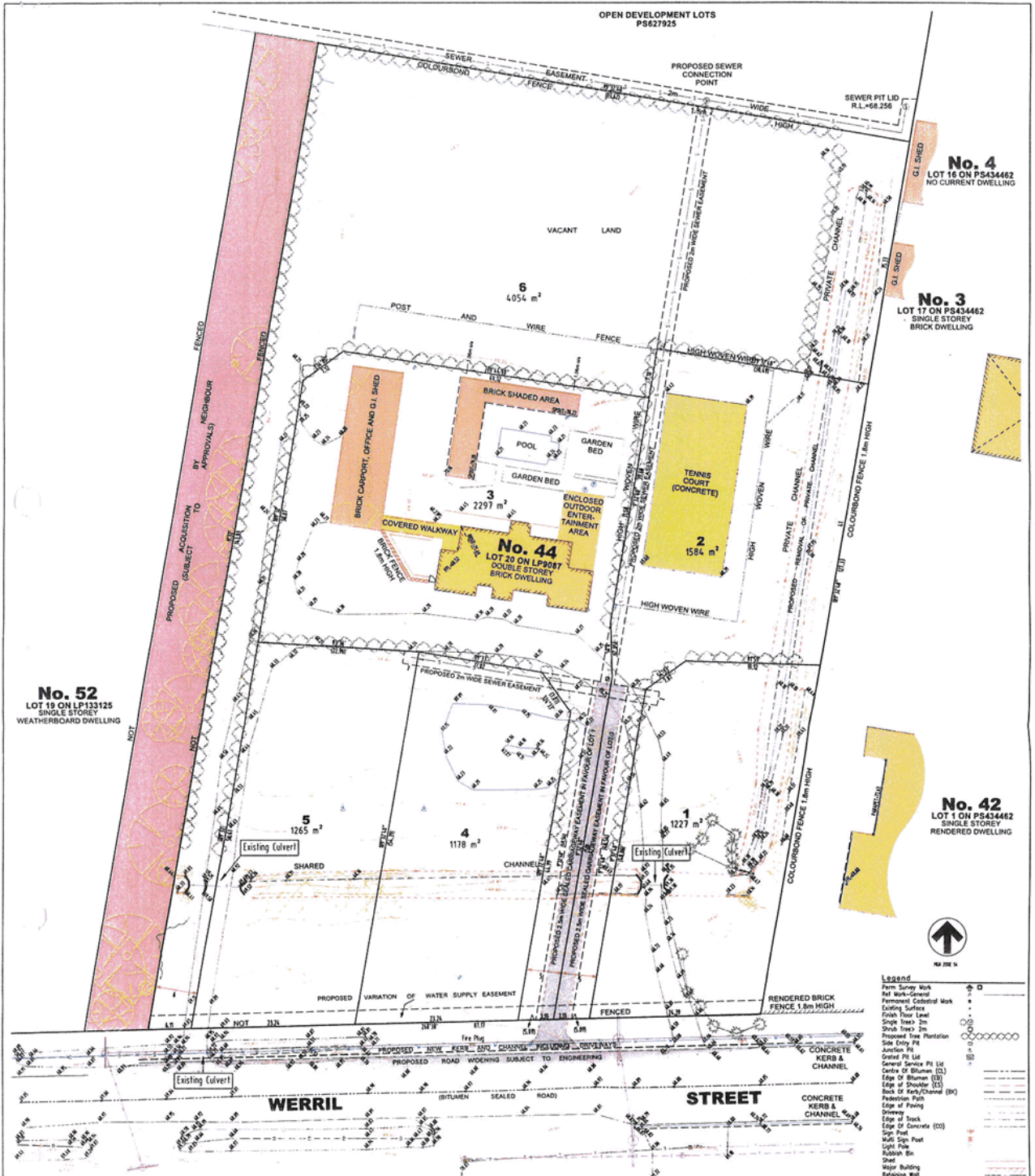
Grounds of refusal:

- The proposed Development Plan does not comply with the Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria.
- The proposed Development Plan showing the creation of six (6) additional lots is not in keeping with the existing neighbourhood character of the surrounding land within the General Residential Zone.

**SECONDED Cr Moar**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

Cr Norton then vacated the Chair and the Mayor Cr McPhee assumed the Chair at 6.27pm.



**Legend**

- Perm Survey Mark
- Ref Work-General
- Permanent Coloured Work
- Existing Surface
- Finish Floor Level
- Single Trees 2m
- Shrub Trees 2m
- Proposed Tree Plantation
- Site Entry Pt
- Junction Pt
- General Service Pit Lid
- Centre of Blotum (CB)
- Edge of Shoulder (ES)
- Back of Kerb/Channel (BK)
- Pedestrian Path
- Edge of Footing
- Driveway
- Edge of Trunk
- Edge of Concrete (CC)
- Sign Post
- Wall Sign Post
- Light Pole
- Rubbish Bin
- Shed
- Major Building
- Retaining Wall
- Bottom of Bank (BB)
- Top of Bank (TB)
- Steep Slope / Bank
- Change of Grade (CG)
- Apex
- Parapet
- Ridge Line (RIDGE)
- Spooling (SPOOL)
- Whistle
- Electricity Pt / Box & cable
- Electricity Pole & Overhead
- Telecommunications
- Sewerage Pt
- Stop Valve
- Septic Tank
- Fire Plug / Hydrant
- Man Hole
- Water Meter / Main
- Water Tap/Connection
- Gate
- Fence
- Easement
- Photo Identification Point

**WARNING**

**BEWARE OF UNDERGROUND SERVICES**

THE LOCATION OF UNDERGROUND SERVICES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY AND THEIR EXACT POSITION SHOULD BE PROVEN ON SITE

**JOB TITLE**  
**PLAN OF PROPOSED SUBDIVISION - OPTION 1**  
**44 WERRIL STREET, SWAN HILL**

SURVEY DATE	CLIENT	SHEET NUMBER	SURVEYOR REF	VERSION
17 / 10 / 2014	CRAG PERRYMAN	1 of 1	14 1580	5

**TITLE REFERENCES**

PARISH	CASTLE DONNINGTON
ORON ALLOTMENT	
SECTION	
PLAN REFERENCE	UP987 (DOT 20)

**NOTES**

- DATE OF PLAN 10/02/2015
- LEGALS SHOWN THIS ARE TO AND IN PM 2412 F
- ORON INTERVALS 50 METRES SHOW ORANGE
- SURVEY CONDUCTED USING TOTAL STATION & RIN GNSS

**SCALE OF METRES**

1:250



LICENSED SURVEYORS, TOWN PLANNING & LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS

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 Geelong, VIC 3220  
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 WWW.NORTHERNLANDSOLUTIONS.COM.AU

**DATUM DETAILS:**  
 HEIGHT DATUM: AUSTRALIAN HEIGHT DATUM VIDE CASTLE DONNINGTON PM 38

DESIGNED	COBBER	DRAWN	R.J. WARDLE
REVISION	N/A	DATE	W.J. PYE
SHEET NUMBER	W.J. PYE	APPROVED	W.J. PYE

## **B.17.26 DRAFT SUSTAINABLE LIVING STRATEGY**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Development and Planning  
**File Number:** S22-04-03-07  
**Attachments:** 1 Sustainable Living Strategy Draft

### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

### **Summary**

This report is for Council to consider endorsing the Draft Sustainable Living Strategy for public consultation.

### **Discussion**

The existing Sustainable Living Strategy 2010-14 has expired. A review of the existing strategy was conducted and presented to Council and Council's Executive Leadership Team. As a result of the discussions around the existing strategy it was decided to rewrite the Sustainable Living Strategy (hereafter referred to as the Strategy) to improve its ease of use, relevancy and to take into account advances in knowledge in the sustainability field.

The aim of the strategy is to provide clear strategic direction to guide land use planning and encourage sustainable development that will enhance sustainability values. The strategy aims to enable Council to facilitate and partner with the community to implement strategic actions to achieve sustainable communities through mitigation and adaption projects that are designed to meet local needs and challenges.

There are five strategic objectives of the strategy, these are;

- To protect and enhance the biodiversity of the region,
- Achieve water security, conservation and quality,
- Implement energy conservation and to facilitate local renewable energy generation,
- Achieve resource recovery and waste reduction,
- To facilitate the building of sustainable and liveable communities.

### **Consultation**

The rewrite of the Strategy has been supported by internal consultation with the Executive Leadership Team and with selected departmental representatives from Planning, Building, Economic Development and Engineering. Much of the work as detailed within the strategy is based on previous community consultation for the existing Sustainable Living Strategy 2010-14.

It is recommended that the draft Strategy be placed on public display for at least 28 days to allow time for additional community input. It is expected this will be achieved through attending community progress association meetings to discuss the strategy and providing copies at the Splatt St Office, the Swan Hill Library and the Robinvale Resource Centre for general public review accompanied with a media release and information on Facebook and Council's website.

### **Financial Implications**

It is expected that projects to be implemented may require in-kind funding, in-kind officer time and external funding to successfully complete them. All projects will aim where possible to have the overall effect of reducing Councils financial burden in providing services.

### **Social Implications**

The Strategy will enable Council to meet its corporate responsibility to appropriately manage our natural and built environment. The Strategy will allow Council to lead by example to facilitate projects that achieve sustainable environmental, social and economic wellbeing within the community.

### **Economic Implications**

The Strategy aims to encourage more external and internal investment in renewable energy production within the region.

### **Environmental Implications**

It is not expected reviewing the Strategy or implementing the Strategy will harm the environment. It is expected that the environment will benefit from its implementation.

### **Risk Management Implications**

It is important that the community is afforded an appropriate opportunity to participate in the development of this strategy. Providing an additional opportunity for consultation will help to ensure improved project outcomes.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Governance and Leadership*** - Positive community engagement and inclusiveness.

**Options**

That Council endorse the Strategy or request amendments.

**Recommendation**

**That Council endorse the Draft Sustainable Living Strategy for public consultation from 24 March 2017 to 28 April 2017.**

**32/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Katis**

**That Council endorse the Draft Sustainable Living Strategy for public consultation from 24 March 2017 to 28 April 2017.**

**SECONDED Cr Jeffery**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**



# Draft Sustainable Living Strategy

2017 - 2027



## Foreword

Swan Hill Rural City Council's Sustainable Living Strategy sets out the direction and objectives over the next 10 years (2017-2027), complimented by four-yearly action plans to achieve the municipality's sustainability goals and aspirations.

The strategy focuses on Council promoting the role that the environment plays in increasing the local economy and quality of life.

By providing an overarching framework that brings together existing programs, it also incorporates new advances in environmental management and community driven sustainability solutions, while identifying new issues, gaps and priorities for the community.

Significant challenges that are faced by communities include:

- Substantial restructuring to the agricultural sector
- Impact of the Murray Darling Basin Plan on water allocations through sustainable diversion limits
- Ageing and declining population within small communities and the associated challenges that this places on the provision of services
- Affects of climatic changes, both short and long term, that influence the frequency, duration and intensity of climatic events such as drought, floods and storm events

In facing these challenges, Council is committed to leading by example and encouraging community participation in sustainability programs. This will include facilitating a partnership between Council and the community to develop and implement relevant and timely actions, resulting in the achievement of identified sustainability goals within state, regional and local planning contexts.

To achieve these sustainability goals a high importance will be placed on developing and maintaining valuable and lasting partnerships with all communities and key strategic stakeholders in order to achieve each key strategic objective through its identified actions.

The community will play an important role in the evaluation of actions achieved by providing important feedback through existing community planning groups and the development of Community Action Plans.

## Traditional Owner Acknowledgement

The Swan Hill Rural City Council would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays respects to their elders, past and present. The Council recognises that the traditional custodians of the land experience a close cultural, spiritual, physical, social, historical and economic relationship with the land and waters that make up their country.

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## Introduction

One of the important roles Council undertakes on behalf of the community is to plan for and encourage the development of sustainable communities, and to address the economic, social and environmental challenges they face.

The previous Sustainable Living Strategy 2010-14 was developed in consultation with the community as part of Council's response to the challenges communities face in achieving their goal of sustainability.

A review of the previous strategy highlighted the need to incorporate advances in knowledge of current and impending impacts and challenges communities encounter that affect their ability to be sustainable. It also required more measureable actions that aligned with the Council Plan and other regional and State plans and strategies.

Our natural environment is significant and unique, and plays an important role in supporting the region's economic productivity, social wellbeing and is the setting for a range of recreational activities.

There are many challenges facing rural communities, such as climate change, both short and longer term fluctuations; agricultural sector restructuring in response to domestic and global market forces and financial market volatility; restructuring of water management regimes through sustainable diversion limits imposed by the Murray Darling Basin Authorities Basin Plan; demographic changes expressed through increasing ageing population and overall population decline in many of the outlying communities.

These challenges, while restricting community capacity to achieve sustainability, provide substantial new opportunities for innovation and capacity building.



## Purpose

To define and communicate Council's role in environmental stewardship, which ultimately underpins the municipality's prosperity, social richness and diversity.

## Scope

Limited to Council's operations as a local government organisation, the scope includes things Council has control over, can influence significantly or can advocate for.

## Actions and revisions

The strategy has a time frame of 10 years. Detailed actions are included in this plan and complementary actions will be written in relevant key strategic documents.

Detailed action plans have been developed through internal consultation within Council, with final action plans made publicly available for comment on Council's website and offices as part of the strategic development of the document.

The actions table within this strategy will be reviewed every four years to ensure they continue to meet the objectives of the long to medium term goals, as well as remaining consistent with the Council Plan.

## Strategy development process

### Legislation

Development of this strategy has involved consideration of relevant legislation and planning documents, including the Local Government Act. Other key legislation includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- The *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, which provides the national legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places.
- The *Commonwealth Water Act 2007*, facilitates the management of the waters of the Murray Darling Basin.
- The *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*, which provides the key Victorian legislation for the conservation of threatened species and communities, and for the management of potentially threatening processes such as invasive species.
- The *Victorian Catchment and Land Protection Act 1972*, which establishes the Trust for Nature and enables people to contribute to nature conservation by covenanting land or donating land or money.
- The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, which provides protection for all Aboriginal places, objects and human remains in Victoria.
- The *Victorian Environment Protection Act 1970*, which creates the Environmental Protection Authority to administer the protection of air, water and land quality and noise pollution.
- The *Victorian Building Act 1993*, which provides the regulation of building and building standards in Victoria. The National Construction Code outlines the energy efficiency requirements of buildings.
- The *Climate Change Act 2010* has stipulated a response to climate change with the Victorian Government creating the Victorian Climate Change Action Plan 2013. The plan outlines actions being taken to manage risks and build climate resilience across essential public infrastructure and services. The Plan also recognises that managing risks to Victoria's natural assets and natural resource-based industries is vital for the wellbeing of our communities and health of our economy.

## Strategic plans

A number of key planning documents have informed this Strategy. They include:

- The Murray Darling Authorities Basin Plan 2012, stipulates the management of the waters of the Murray Darling Basin and sets the sustainable diversion limits (SDL) for communities, agriculture and the environment.
- Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Plan 2015-2018.
- Loddon Mallee North Regional Growth Plan (September 2013), which identifies key settlements in our municipality and surrounding areas where growth is to be directed, while avoiding sites of high natural hazards such as bushfire and flood, and protecting natural environment assets.
- The Council Plan, which clearly defines the vision for the four year term of the Council and the community
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Economic Development Strategy.
- Swan Hill Rural City Council 10-Year Major Project Plan, which outlines the key projects that Council will provide funding towards.
- Other relevant Council plans include the Health and Wellbeing Plan, Resilience Plan, Active Transport Strategy, Waste Management Strategy.
- Local community-based action plans, which have been developed for townships to articulate their needs and aspirations. These plans provide place-based guidance to Council on a range of issues important to the community.

In addition, strategic plans of relevant regional agencies such the Mallee Catchment Management Authority, North Central Catchment Management Authority, the Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group and Commonwealth and State government departments remain informative and instructive.



## Document evaluation

A review of the existing Sustainable Living Strategy conducted in 2015 identified the following strengths and areas for improvement..

Strengths:

- Strategic actions that were successfully implemented had a positive public benefit and contributed to savings within Council Budget.
- It encouraged community participation in sustainable initiatives.
- It raised awareness of more efficient and sustainable ways of living both within Council and within the community.
- It enabled Swan Hill Rural City Council to lead by example within the municipality.

Areas for improvement:

- There was too much reliance on other organisation contributions.
- Some strategic actions were not measurable.
- There was duplication of reporting requirements between the strategy and other Council plans and strategies.
- There was duplication of strategic actions within the Strategy itself.

## Community engagement

In 2008, Council received support to develop a sustainability strategy from the Victorian Government. This support enabled Council to conduct extensive research and community consultation to identify the key sustainable living issues within the region.

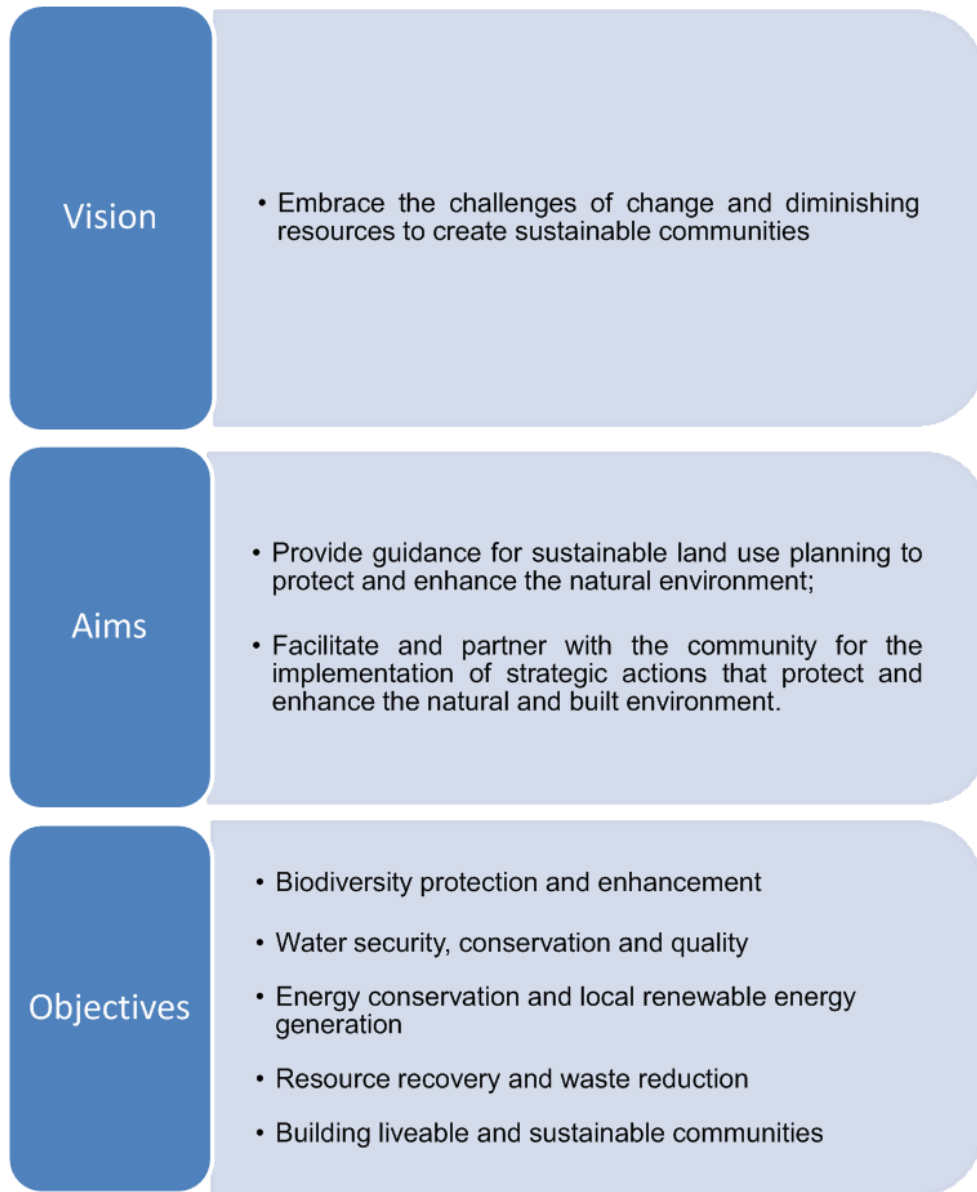
Presentations and workshops were conducted, targeting both rural and urban community groups and schools. Information sessions, forums, questionnaires and media releases were also used to raise awareness and engage communities. Sustainable living questions were included in the community planning consultation process, with over 350 participants in Swan Hill and Robinvale taking part.

Council initiated the community planning process in 2007 to help communities identify their own priorities.

The sustainability priorities identified through this consultation process included:

- Sustainable communities and buildings
- Sustainable energy and fuel use
- Develop partnerships with key stakeholders
- Biodiversity protection
- Water quality, conservation and security
- Waste management

## Strategy



## Objectives

### Objective 1: Biodiversity protection and enhancement

#### Long term goal

Increase the quantity and quality of biodiversity along roadsides.

#### Intermediate outcome

Co-ordinate multi-agency and community efforts to control invasive species by working with Landcare groups, Catchment Management Authorities and other State Government authorities.

#### Evaluation question

To what degree has the quality and quantity of native vegetation critical for habitat improved along municipal roads, in particular those that support the Eastern Central Mallee Priority Corridor? (see Appendices 1 and 2)

#### Key strategic tasks

- Biodiversity linkage protection and enhancement to support the Biodiversity Priority Corridors as identified by the Mallee Catchment Management Authority.
- Improve organisational capacity to protect and enhance biodiversity.

#### Link to community priorities

Community consultation for original Sustainable Living Strategy identified biodiversity protection as a key priority.

#### Council and regional strategic document links

- Council Plan 2017-21 (Draft)
- Loddon Mallee Regional Growth Plan
- Mallee Natural Resource Plan for Climate Change (Draft) 2016
- North Central Climate Change Adaption and Mitigation Plan 2015
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Resilience Action Strategy 2012-2015
- Remnant Native Vegetation Investigation (VEAC 2011)



## Objective 2: Water security, conservation and quality

### Long term goal

Exceed Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) minimum requirements for stormwater discharge quality and significantly increase the re-use of stormwater for domestic and green space use.

### Intermediate outcome

Meet EPA’s minimum requirements for stormwater discharge.

### Evaluation question

Do we meet the EPA’s minimum requirements for stormwater discharge and has the percentage of recycled stormwater increased for domestic and green space use?

### Link to community priorities

Community consultation for original Sustainable Living Strategy identified biodiversity protection and water quality, conservation and security as key priorities.

### Council and regional strategic document link

- Council Plan 2017-21 (Draft)
- Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Plan 2015-2018
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Resilience Action Strategy 2012-2015
- Murray Darling Authorities Basin Plan 2012 (*Commonwealth Water Act 2007*)

### Key strategic tasks

- Manage stormwater and associated infrastructure effectively.
- Support the community to effectively adapt to changes in water management, quality and availability



## Objective 3: Energy conservation and local renewable energy generation

### Long term goal

The municipality will produce enough locally generated electricity through solar or other renewable energy sources to meet all its needs by 2050.

### Intermediate outcome

Facilitate the establishment of one or more solar farms and solar gardens with a minimum total combined electricity output of 600kW in the next four years.

### Evaluation question

How many kW hours are being generated locally from solar and other renewable sources and what is the net economic benefit of this production to the community?

### Link to community priorities

Community Plans of Swan Hill, Robinvale, Lake Boga, Manangatang, Ultima, Nyah and Nyah West express a desire for local renewable energy projects. Community consultation for the original Sustainable Living Strategy identified sustainable energy and fuel use as a key priority. Sustainability Victoria ran a community workshop in Swan Hill in 2015 and identified community owned renewable energy on the community's top three priorities.

#### Key strategic tasks

- › Facilitate renewable energy projects
- › Decrease greenhouse emissions through energy efficiencies
- › Facilitate community efforts to adapt to climate change
- › Facilitate and achieve a sustainable built environment

#### Council and regional strategic document links

- Council Plan 2017-21 (Draft)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Resilience Action Strategy 2012-2015
- Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Plan 2015-2018





## Objective 4: Resource recovery and waste reduction

### Long term goal

Reduce the percentage of all waste collected entering landfill from 2015 levels of 70 per cent to 50 per cent by the year 2030.

### Intermediate outcome

Reduce the percentage of all waste collected entering landfill from 2015 levels of 70 per cent to 65 per cent by the year 2020.

### Evaluation question

Have we found innovative solutions for waste products that are currently either not recyclable or difficult to recycle? What is the percentage of current waste streams that can be recycled using existing programs? Have we found suitable cost effective mechanisms to divert green waste from landfill sites and for its processing into other useable products such as compost?

### Link to community priorities

Community consultation for original Sustainable Living Strategy identified waste management and resource recovery as key priorities.

### Council and regional strategic document links

- Council Plan 2017-21(Draft)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Waste Management Strategy 2015-2020
- Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Plan 2015-2018

### Key strategic tasks

- › Strategic resource recovery and waste management
- › Rehabilitate and revegetate closed landfill sites



## Objective 5: Building liveable and sustainable communities

### Long term goal

Achieve self sustaining communities through increasing their liveability, including health and wellbeing, by enhancing their economic, social and environmental capacity.

### Intermediate outcome

Utilise the Transition Town Toolkit and other resources to prepare and develop community plans for enhancing the liveability, health and wellbeing of communities and to identify specific threats to each community's sustainability.

### Evaluation question

How are our towns and communities becoming more economically, socially and environmentally sustainable when measured against agreed criteria within community plans and Council plans and strategies?

### Link to community priorities

Community consultation for original Sustainable Living Strategy identified sustainable communities and buildings as a key priority.

#### Key strategic tasks

- Support community sustainability and improve organisational sustainability
- Provide and manage public spaces in such a way to promote safe use and healthy living

#### Council and regional strategic document link

- Council Plan 2017-21 (Draft)
- Public Health Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Resilience Action Strategy 2012-2015
- Active Transport Strategy
- Municipal Emergency Management Plan
- Swan Hill Heatwave response sub-plan
- Municipal Strategic Statement
- Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Plan 2015-2018



## Implementation

### Action plan for the next four years - 2017 to 2021.

#### Objective 1: Biodiversity protection and enhancement

1.1 Key Strategic Task			
Biodiversity linkages protection and enhancement to support Biodiversity Priority Corridors			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Coordinated and strategic control of invasive species along road sides within and adjacent to Biodiversity Priority Corridors	Liaise with the Mallee Catchment Management Authority and Landcare groups to undertake control activities of the European Rabbit, cactus species, African Boxthorn, Buffel Grass and other identified invasive species including emerging pests and weeds to protect the Central Murray Priority Corridor.	NRM*	Ongoing
	Review the Swan Hill Rural City Council Strategic Linkages Management Plan and implement actions identified within the plan.	NRM*	Second Year
	Develop a working relationship with North Central Catchment Management Authority to reactivate and support Landcare groups along the Lower Murray River Corridor.	NRM*	Ongoing
	Upload rabbit control data to Rabbit Scan website for monitoring and community education purposes to encourage its use throughout the community.	NRM*	Ongoing
1.2 Key Strategic Task			
Improve organisational capacity to protect and enhance biodiversity			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Demonstrate leadership in protecting and enhancing the municipalities biodiversity for present and future generations	Support Council staff to understand management issues and actions for biodiversity protection through the preparation of brochures and keeping the Council website updated.	NRM*	First Year
	Support Planning Officers to identify native vegetation in investigations into illegal vegetation clearance and prepare Revegetation Plans to rehabilitate sites.	NRM*, Planning	Ongoing
	Regularly review and update plans and policies in relation to land, water and biodiversity. Prepare revegetation guidelines for native vegetation regeneration planning and implementation for roadsides.	NRM* Engineering	First Year
*NRM – Natural Resource Management Department			

## Objective 2: Water Security, Conservation and Quality

2.1 Key Strategic Task			
Manage stormwater and its associated infrastructure effectively			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Protect public health, prevent the deterioration of water quality and reduce the incidence of water pollution and litter entering our waterways	Support the incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles within new developments when and where possible.	Engineering, Planning	Ongoing
	Demonstrate leadership by applying sustainable water management practices within Council operations when and where possible.	Engineering, All departments	Ongoing
	Regularly review and update relevant plans and policies in relation to sustainable water use and stormwater.	Engineering	First Year
	Investigate innovative water conservation, quality and harvesting techniques and opportunities to implement them.	Engineering, NRM*	Second Year
2.2 Key Strategic Task			
Support the community to effectively adapt to changes in water management, quality and availability			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Encourage the conservation of water throughout the community	Encourage and support individual and community activities that deliver best practice stormwater management and sustainable water use.	Engineering, NRM*	Ongoing
	Develop and maintain partnerships that enhance regional outcomes in relation to sustainable water use and stormwater	Engineering	Ongoing
	Support the community to adapt to the implementation of Sustainable Diversion Limits imposed by the Murray Darling Basin Plan	Engineering, NRM*	Ongoing
*NRM – Natural Resource Management Department			

### Objective 3: Energy Conservation and Local Renewable Energy Generation

3.1 Key Strategic Task			
Facilitate renewable energy projects			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Facilitate the investigation of community owned solar farm	Successfully complete the Victorian Government funded Virtual Renewable Power Station Project with joint partners Moira Shire Council.	NRM*	First Year
	Investigate funding opportunities for further research into the viability of a community owned solar farm within the municipality and conduct a market scan to gauge industry interest in underwriting the implementation of a community owned solar garden.	NRM* EDU**	Second Year
Support appropriate industry investment into distributed renewable energy projects	Promote the municipality as an attractive area for investment in renewable energy facilities.	EDU**, Planning	Ongoing
3.2 Key Strategic Task			
Decrease greenhouse emissions through energy efficiencies			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Lead by example in achieving energy efficiencies	Participate in opportunities that improve climate variability and change, management capacity and energy efficiency outcomes.	NRM*, Building Maintenance and Property	Ongoing
	Regularly review and update relevant plans and policies in relation to climate variability and change, and energy efficiency.	NRM*, Building Maintenance and Property	Ongoing
	Develop appropriate and accurate mechanism to measure greenhouse gas emissions	NRM*	Second Year
3.3 Key Strategic Task			
Facilitate community efforts to adapt to climate change			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Work with stakeholders to develop a coordinated and proactive approach to climate variability adaptation and mitigation	Develop and maintain stakeholder relationships that increase external funding and resource opportunities for climate adaptation and mitigation activities.	NRM* EDU**	Second Year
	Develop and maintain partnerships that enhance regional outcomes in relation to climate variability and energy efficiency.	NRM*	Ongoing
3.4 Key Strategic Task			
Encourage and facilitate a sustainable built environment			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Encourage and facilitate the construction of energy efficient buildings	Continually improve the energy efficiency of Council buildings and their impact on the environment.	Building Maintenance	Ongoing
	Promote the design and construction of buildings that exceed the minimum mandatory energy efficiency and sustainability standards.	NRM*, Building (planning)	First Year
*NRM – Natural Resource Management Department			
**EDU – Economic Development Unit			

## Objective 4: Resource Recovery and Waste Reduction

4.1 Key Strategic Task			
Strategic resource recovery and waste management			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Improve the effectiveness of the resource recovery, recycling and reuse program	Implement Council's Waste Management Strategy	Engineering	Ongoing
	Support Regulatory Services department in the management of illegal dumping of waste within road reserves.	Engineering, NRM*	Ongoing
	Support Waste Management department to implement waste recovery actions and programs, and research new strategies for future reduction of waste entering landfill, including difficult to recycle waste such as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polystyrene foam</li> <li>• Agricultural irrigation poly</li> <li>• Agricultural waste products (grain, fertiliser and stock feed bags)</li> <li>• Domestic and commercial green waste such as food, lawn clippings, and other sources of organic material</li> </ul>	Engineering, NRM*	First Year
4.2 Key Strategic Task			
Rehabilitate and revegetate closed landfill sites			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Successfully rehabilitate closed landfill sites to enhance biodiversity	Support Waste Management department to rehabilitate closed landfill sites within the municipality through revegetation using native species endemic to the area that are shallow rooted, such as grasses and small shrubs.	NRM* Engineering	Ongoing
*NRM – Natural Resource Management			

## Objective 5: Building Liveable and Sustainable Communities

5.1 Key Strategic Task			
Support community and organisational sustainability			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Engage and empower the community in environmental sustainability.	Support the preparation of community plans using Transition Towns Tool Kit and other relevant resources to assist communities to adapt to change and achieve a low carbon economy.	EDU**, NRM*	First Year
	Develop and maintain partnerships that enhance regional outcomes in environmental sustainability.	NRM*, EDU**	Ongoing
Display leadership in environmental and sustainability decision making, enabling Council to model the behaviour it expects and encourages from the community.	Ensure that Council's environmental and sustainability achievements are reported and communicated internally and externally.	NRM*	As required
	Develop a cross departmental approach to sustainability and assist staff in the development of policy, programs and Council reports.	NRM*	As required
	Regularly review and update relevant plans and policies in relation to environmental sustainability.	NRM*	Ongoing
5.2 Key Strategic Task			
Provide and manage public spaces in such a way to promote safe use and healthy living			
Goals	Actions	Who	When
Facilitate the safety of the public who use parks and open spaces	Where appropriate incorporate design principles and construction methods that increase public safety in their use of public spaces	Engineering, Planning, Engineering Works	Ongoing
	Implement relevant SHRCC asset management plans		
Provide opportunities for diverse cultural and recreational activities within public spaces	Support Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the associated Active Transport Strategy.	All departments	Ongoing
	Support advocacy for the inclusion of Healthy by Design principles and Safer by Design principles within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme.	Planning	Second Year
	Be guided by the Infrastructure Design Manual and other relevant council strategies and master plans that relate to reserves, playgrounds and parks in designing public spaces and associated infrastructure.	Planning, Engineering	Ongoing
*NRM – Natural Resource Management Department			
**EDU – Economic Development Unit			

## Appendix 1: Literature Review

- AECOM Australia Pty Ltd (2010) '*Mildura Rural City Council Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2010-2015*'. Mildura Rural City Council.
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## Appendix 1: Biodiversity corridors

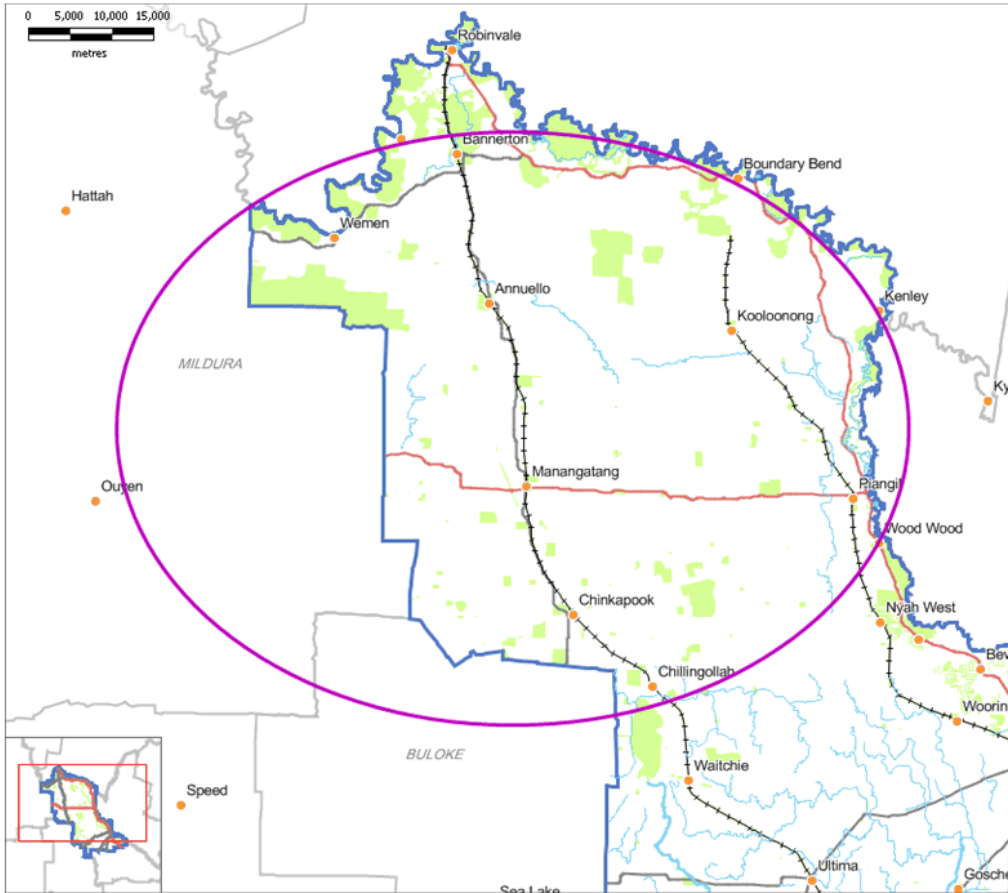


Figure 3. Biodiversity corridor – Eastern Central Mallee as identified within the consultation draft Mallee Natural Resource Management Plan for Climate Change February 2016

## Appendix 2: Strategic linkages

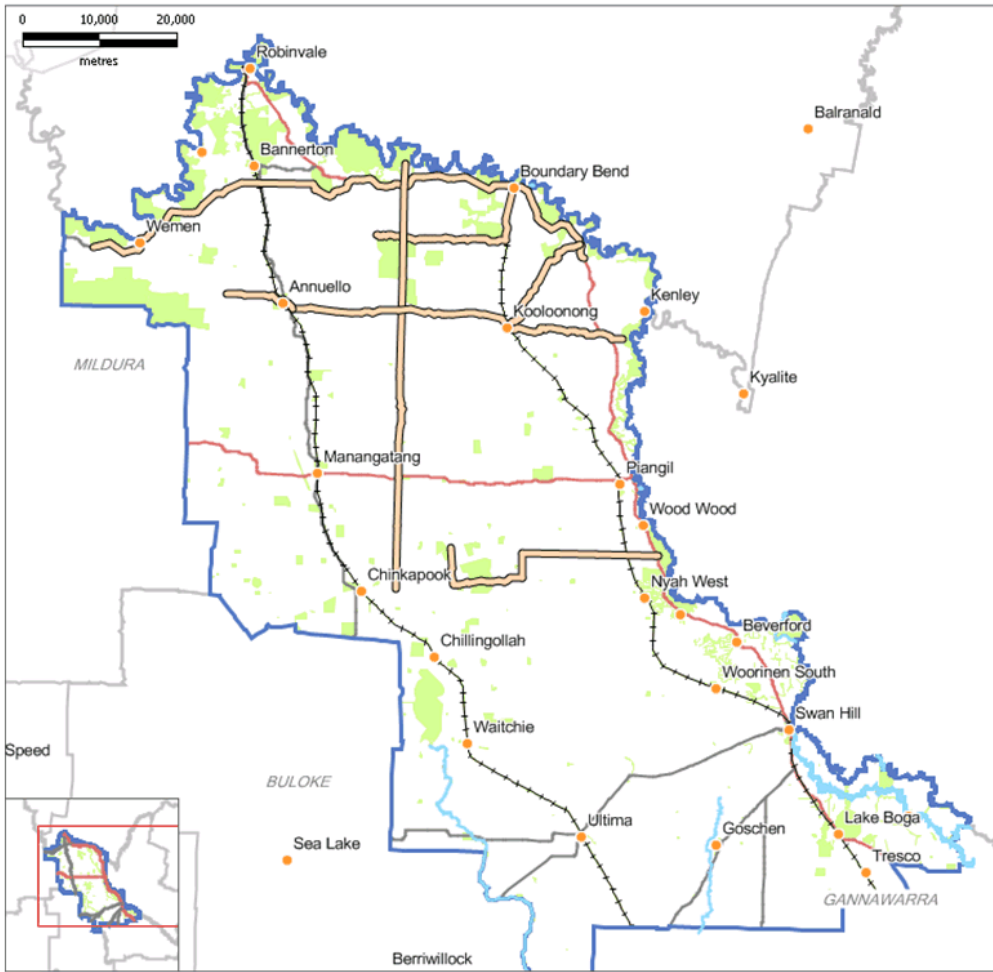


Figure 4: Strategic linkages that support the Eastern Central Mallee Corridor

## **B.17.27 ROAD NETWORK ACCESS FOR B-DOUBLE VEHICLES**

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Director Infrastructure
<b>File Number:</b>	PMT-VH-02
<b>Attachments:</b>	1 Current Approved Roads 2 Road Network Map (Proposed B Double Routes)

### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

### **Summary**

This report seeks Council's approval to gazette the identified rural roads within our municipality for B-Double truck access.

### **Discussion**

#### Background

In 2013, a new federal regulator known as the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) was established. This was part of a national push for productivity and reform in the agricultural and transport sectors. The challenge identified was to plan and deliver one consistent heavy vehicle network, across the whole country.

According to the Heavy Vehicle National Law 2014, Local Government Councils are the managers of the local road network. This requires them to manage access to their local road network and to work with the local produce and transport sector to identify routes that are suitable for the transport of their produce.

This report relates to rural roads only. A further more detailed examination is required to consider extending access to the urban road network where there is a higher risk to road users and pedestrians.

#### Discussion

Currently a 19m long truck (small semi-trailer) of up to a gross limit of 50 tonne can travel on all roads throughout Victoria without requiring a permit. All other vehicles larger than this require a permit to travel on Council's roads; unless the road has been gazetted for the particular vehicle combination.

Transport companies can apply through the NHVR for permits to use the road network for any vehicles above a standard truck size. This new legislation requires Council to review all requests for permits within 28 days. It also outlines the condition under which Council may consider refusing a permit.

Currently Council has a response time of approximately 5 days for responding to permit applications. Industry finds this process time consuming and unproductive. Typically they request and require same day responses. There is evidence that truck drivers will take the risk of driving on roads without a permit, to save time.

Currently 16% (563km) of Council's roads are approved and gazetted for B-Double access (refer to attachment 1 – *Current Approved Roads*). A review has recently been completed to determine if more rural roads are suitable for use by B-Double trucks. This review of the rural road network considered the following:

- Road surface type
- Road surface condition
- Classification (access or collector)
- Private assets in the local road and or structures (considering water authority assets)
- Vegetation
- Safety concerns in relation to other road users

From this review, it has been determined that there are additional rural roads that Council may consider to Gazette for B-Double access (refer to attachment 2). This equates to an estimated additional 2000km which will bring the approved B-Double access on Council's rural roads to approximately 2500km.

When considering applications, Council can either approve, approve with conditions or refuse an application.

### Issues

#### 1. GMID (Goulburn Murray Irrigation District)

Goulburn Murray Water has structures and assets throughout the rural road network in the GMID region from Moira through to Swan Hill. These structures have limited capacity which restricts access on roads, in some cases. These roads have not been included.

Swan Hill is currently taking part in a project with the impacted municipalities, Goulburn Murray Water and VicRoads identifying, classifying and prioritising improvement opportunities to enable access to the roads.

#### 2. A-Double, Over dimensional, Special Purpose and Higher Mass Vehicles

This report does not relate to these types of vehicles. It is recommended that these requests will still be dealt with through the NHVR (National Heavy Vehicle Regulator) application process.

### 3. Gazetted Process

Upon approval, these roads will be gazetted as outlined. Should further roads be identified, they will be assessed by officers for Council's consideration through a similar process.

Should concerns be raised for any of these roads identified, they may be removed from the approved gazette list through a similar process.

### **Consultation**

Key stakeholders have been consulted including transport operators, Council staff and relevant utilities. No issues have been raised although it is suggested that a notice be placed in both local newspapers following approval, to make road users aware of the changed traffic conditions.

### **Financial Implications**

Officers will consider any changes to the road network as part of the review of the Road Management Plan.

Transport operators will have a reduced number of permit applications and fees.

### **Social Implications**

Local communities may believe there is an impact due to unrestricted access of trucks to local roads. These trucks can already access these roads via a permit application process.

### **Economic Implications**

Facilitating quick access for B-Doubles will benefit transport companies, support local farming business and ultimately will have positive flow-on effects for the economy throughout the municipality.

### **Environmental Implications**

Additional tree clearance may be required on roads to facilitate use by B-Double trucks.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Nil.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Economic Growth*** - A prosperous, growing and diverse local and regional economy.

### **Options**

- 1) Approve the gazetting of the roads identified in this report for B-Double access.  
This is the recommended option.
  
- 2) Do not approve the gazetting of the roads as identified.  
This is not the recommended option

### **Recommendation**

**That Council approves the gazetting of the roads identified within this report and mapped in attachment 2 as roads that are open and suitable for B-Double truck access.**

### **33/17 Motion**

#### **MOVED Cr Norton**

**That Council approves the gazetting of the roads identified within this report and mapped in attachment 2 as roads that are open and suitable for B-Double truck access.**

#### **SECONDED Cr Moar**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

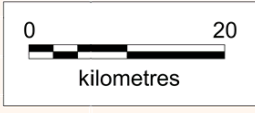
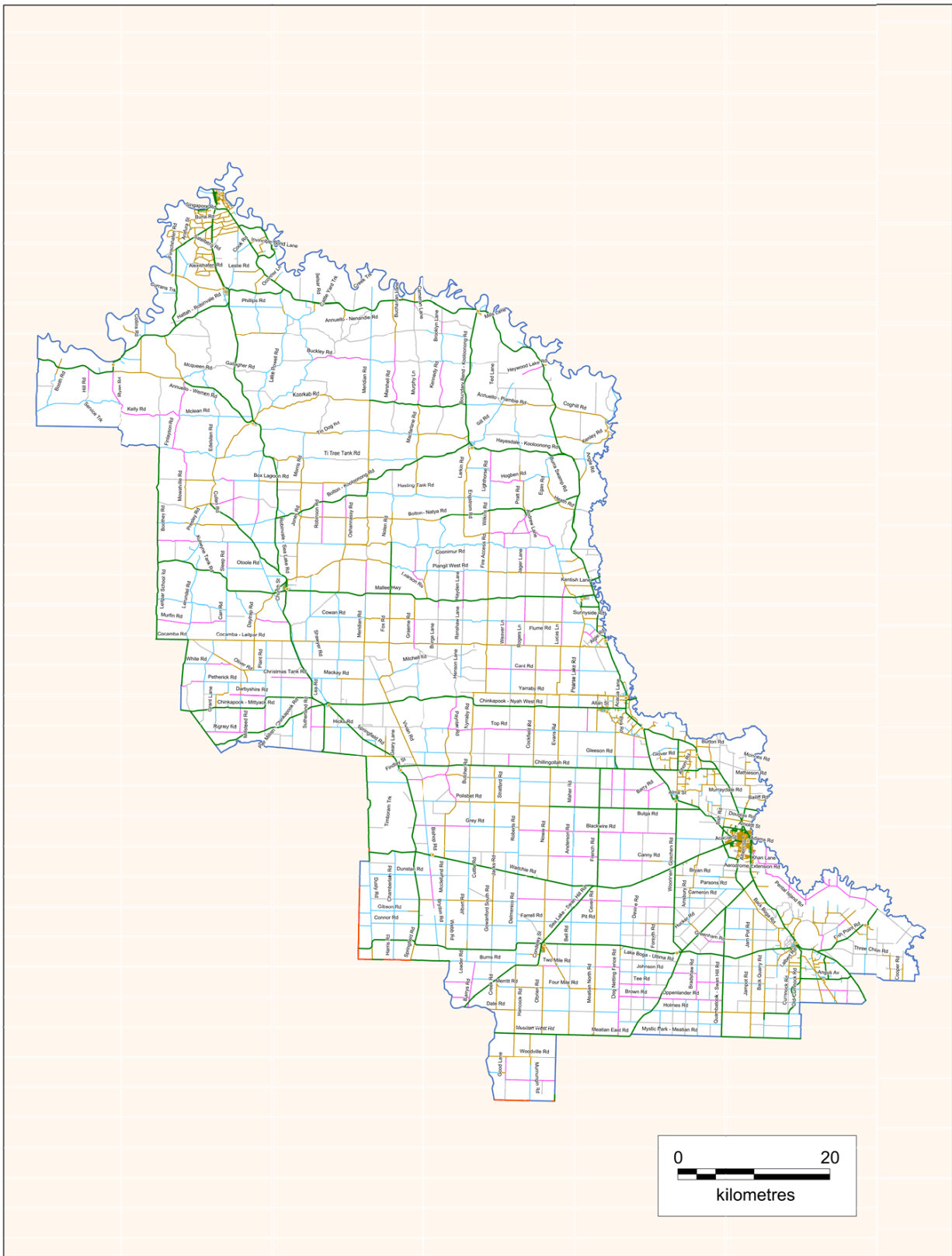
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### SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL PROPERTY MAP







**SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL ROADS WITH VICMAP B-DOUBLE ROUTES OVERPRINT**

SHRCC roads are classified by Proposed B-Double Category. Roads with GMW bridge load limit under 62 tonnes excluded.



- Legend**
- Existing B-Double Route
    - Approved
    - Conditionally Approved
  - Proposed B-Double Route
    - Approved
    - Approved - condition apply
    - Restricted
    - Other road
    - Town
  - Municipal boundary

**B-Double Category (Proposed Only)**

B-Double Category	Total Length (km)
Approved	1,822.68
Approved - condition apply	1,136.12
Restricted	403.09



Date: 01/03/2017  
This report and its contents are the property of the Council and are not to be distributed outside the Council's internal use. The Council is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this report. The Council is not responsible for any damage or loss of any kind arising from the use of this report.

## **B.17.28 REVIEW OF SWAN HILL DRAG STRIP PAVEMENT**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Infrastructure  
**File Number:** S11-27-05  
**Attachments:** 1 Head to Head Consulting Engineering Report

### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

### **Summary**

This report seeks Council ratification in relation to the funding provided to repair defects in the drag strip surface at Chisholm Reserve.

### **Discussion**

In 2013, Council were approached by Rural Development Victoria (RDV) informing them that funding was available to construct a drag strip at Chisholm Reserve in Swan Hill. Swan Hill was identified as a good location for this track due to the strong support of the local motor clubs.

In 2014 Council, under the guidance of RDV, applied for funding to construct a drag strip at Chisholm Reserve. Funding was secured as set out in the table blow.

### Funding Sources

Regional & Rural Development Victoria (RDV)	\$1,000,000
Department Economic Development & Job Transport Resources (DEDJTR)	\$1,000,000
Council	\$450,000
The Swan Hill Drag Racing Club (in-kind contribution and operational maintenance )	\$219,800

Works commenced on the drag strip late 2014 and were completed in April 2016.

The Drag Strip is 1060 m long and 18.5 metre wide Drag Strip comprising of 310m reinforced concrete pavement followed by a 600m long section of thin asphalt pavement (shown in Figure 1). Cast in-situ concrete safety barriers had been installed on both sides of the Drag Strip.



Figure 1: View of drag strip looking south from the start line

Council worked closely with the Australian National Drag Racing Association (ANDRA) throughout the duration of this project. Due to the inherent risks in drag racing, there are very strict guidelines and specifications in relation to the surface tolerances of the finished concrete surface. This surface tolerance is to reduce the likelihood of accidents during the use of the drag strip.

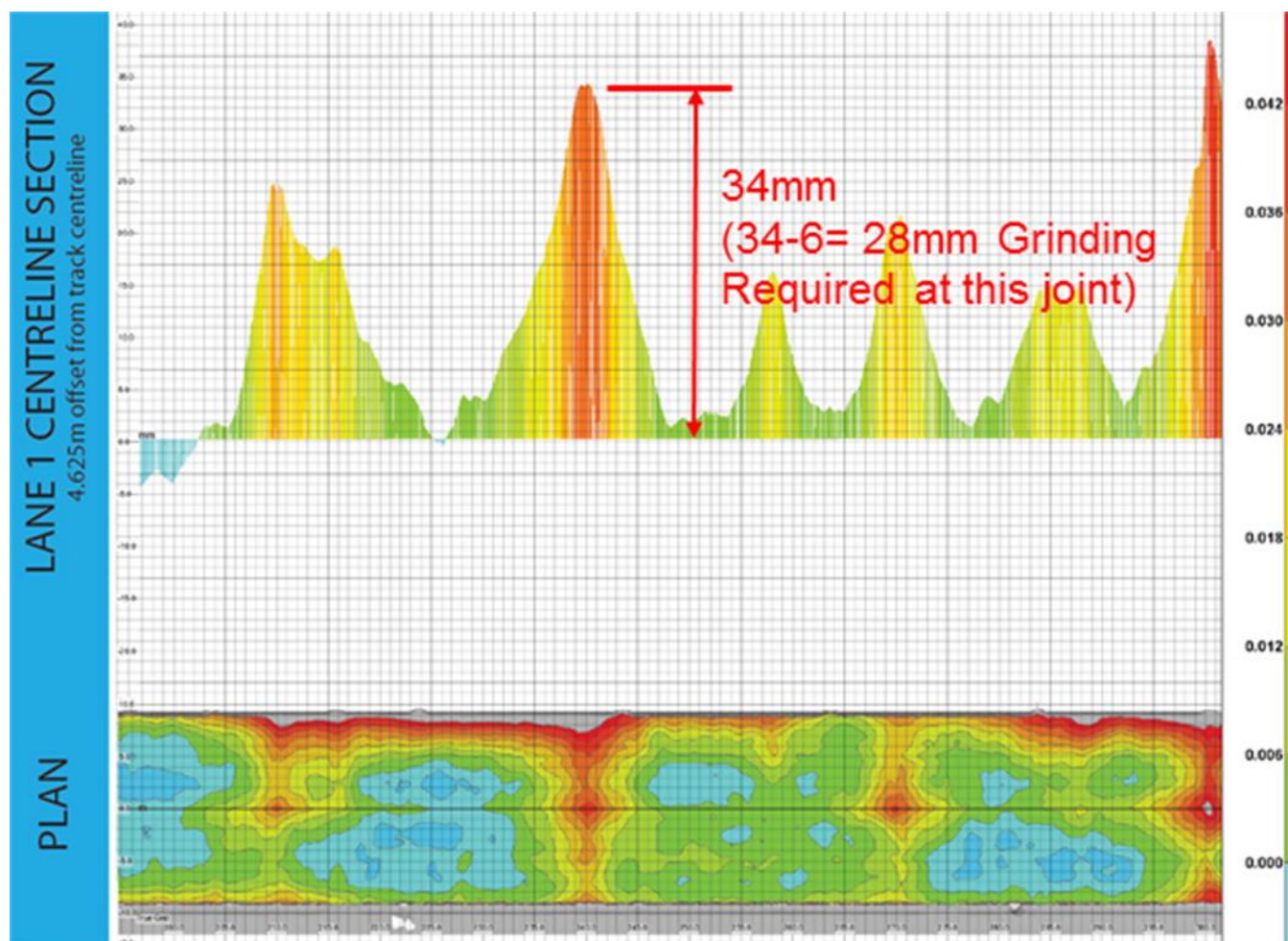
In March 2016, a survey and inspection of the drag strip was carried out by council and ANDRA. This survey identified some minor remedial works that needed to be carried out. Some grinding works were carried out at this time and ANDRA approved the finished surface.

In November 2016, the Swan Hill Drag Racing Club (SHDRC) identified further concerns about the lipping at expansion joints and some issues with the asphalt surface profile. Officers met with an ANDRA official and members of the SHDRC to discuss options to resolve the concerns identified. It was agreed that further grinding works would be carried out at the specified areas of concern. SHDRC members completed these works and ANDRA approved the proposed official opening and all day racing event for November 2016.

On the day of the official opening event in November 2016, drag racers voiced concerns about the finished surface of the drag strip. They identified that the concrete surface appeared to have lipped at each joint along the strip.

On 15 December 2016, Council engaged Lester Franks to laser survey and measure the surface levels across the concrete and asphalt pavement and identified the following:

- Upward curling at the expansion joints and outside edges of the concrete pavement.
- Overall central depression in some of the slab groups.



**Survey Report: Ch 200-300m of Concrete Pavement**

### Concrete Movement

As concrete cures, it generates heat due to the chemical reaction that takes place as part of the setting process. This temperature change will generate movement which is typically controlled by introducing reinforcement.

Joints are built within a concrete slab to enable some movement both during construction as well as long term due to seasonal temperature changes.

From a review of the survey it appears that the concrete slab has moved (lipped) more than anticipated which has created issues on the finished concrete surface.

Council engaged Head to Head International Consulting as an independent engineering body to review the pavement design, performance and to identify options to enable the drag strip to commence racing again.

The Head to Head report identified both short term and long term solutions. The short term solution will remove the current surface defects; the long term solution will reduce the likelihood of this happening again by removing water from the proximity of the slab which would undermine it in the future.

The independent engineering assessment recommended the following works:

#### Short Term Solution

- Diamond Grind the complete concrete surface
- Profile and lay new asphalt over depression areas within the racing length

#### Long Term Solution

- Ensure appropriate Drainage management through:
  - a) Sealing Joints
  - b) Sealing Shoulders where needed ( Eastern side)

### **Consultation**

Council Engineers have been working with and consulting both the SHDRC and ANDRA regarding their requirements and standards throughout the design and construction phases. Officers have also actively engaged with SHDRC and ANDRA throughout this review process. Council have been briefed on this issue at a briefing session.

### **Financial Implications**

#### Procurement Issues

Under Council's procurement plan process, Council should go to tender for a project of this scale and complexity.

This work to the drag strip can be deemed as "Emergency" works and as such, under Section 186 (5)(a) of the Local Government Act, allows Council to enter into a contract to perform the works. The recommendation/resolution could direct officers to

engage the contractor based on the fact the works have been deemed to be an emergency.

Council have spoken to 3 contractors through this process, but have identified that only 1 contractor has expertise to complete the works, as set out within the consultant's report. As such, officers have been in direct contract with this contractor. The contractor will attend the site in March with the intent of commencing grinding work in April 2014. All other works bar the grinding work will be awarded through a tender process.

The following table details the projected cost of recommended works necessary for the Swan Hill Drag Strip:

Works Recommended	Works Detail	Costs
Concrete Grinding	Concrete Pavement Grinding	\$275,000 Quotation received
	Concrete Pavement Polishing	\$38,000
Asphalt Repair	Remove and relay depressed section	\$24,500
Drainage	Seal Joints and Cracks	\$15,000
	Backfill and seal adjacent east wall	\$38,000
	Wall Slot and Beaching works	\$16,000
Survey and Engineering Assessment		\$30,000 Committed
Survey on Completion of Works		\$15,000
Contingency (approx 10%)		\$48,500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>

### Social Implications

Providing a functional facility will encourage the community to attend more racing events on a national level throughout the year, ultimately promoting a new point of interest within the Swan Hill Municipality and adding value to its lifestyle.

### **Economic Implications**

Providing functional facility would allow the SHDRC and ANDRA to host national drag racing events. This will ultimately promote Swan Hill as an inviting place to live, which will boost the local economy.

### **Environmental Implications**

Nil.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Not progressing with the recommended work will:

- Compromise the structural integrity of the slab and may result in further movement
- Affect Council's reputation

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Economic Growth*** - A prosperous, growing and diverse local and regional economy.

### **Options**

1. That Council ratify the funding for the recommended necessary works to ensure the Drag strip functionality and compliance
2. That Council does not ratify the funding for works on the Drag Strip.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council:**

1. Ratify the appointment of SEOVIC to undertake the slab grinding works as set out in the Head to Head consulting report.
2. Approve the allocation of \$500,000 for remedial works to the Swan Hill Drag Strip to be funded from:
  - Cash surplus \$230,000
  - Funds held in reserve \$270,000

**34/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Katis**

**That Council:**

- 1. Ratify the appointment of SEOVIC to undertake the slab grinding works as set out in the Head to Head consulting report.**
- 2. Approve the allocation of \$500,000 for remedial works to the Swan Hill Drag Strip to be funded from:**
  - Cash surplus                      \$230,000**
  - Funds held in reserve        \$270,000**
- 3. Note that the works as identified within this report be deemed as emergency work under section 186(5)(a) of the Local Government Act.**

**SECONDED Cr Norton**

Cr Jeffery moved an amendment.

**35/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Jeffery**

**That the Motion be amended to include the following:**

- 4. The CEO, Mr John McLinden get a quote from legal services about what it would cost if Council did decide to pursue legal action.**

**The amendment was not seconded and so LAPSED**

**The original motion was then put and CARRIED.**

The Mayor Cr McPhee along with Cr Norton, Cr Johnson and Cr Young having declared a conflict of interest in the next item and as stated at the start of the meeting that this report would be broken in two separate motions to maintain a quorum. With the first part of the report being the approval for the Mayor and CEO to travel interstate.

The Mayor Cr McPhee vacated the Chair and the Deputy Mayor Cr Young assumed the Chair at 7.06pm



# **Attachment**

- Head to Head Consulting Engineering Report

## **B.17.29 INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS TRAVEL**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer  
**File Number:** 22-69-03  
**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 at the ALGA Conference in Canberra by the Mayor, Chief Executive Officer and three other Councillors.

### **Discussion**

The annual ALGA Conference in Canberra is the only opportunity that Local Government has to bring all Mayors; CEO's and key decision makers together at the one event.

At previous events Swan Hill Rural City Council has taken the opportunity to meet with Federal Ministers and Shadow Ministers to communicate the major projects and issues that are affecting the people of the municipality. Joint advocacy meetings with the Murray River Group of Councils have been extremely effective on topics such as the Basin Plan.

It is suggested that Council send Councillors McPhee, Norton, Young and Johnson and the CEO as its delegation to ensure that maximum benefit can be gained from the 3 days.

This delegation of the Mayor, Councils MAV delegate and two other recently elected Councillors will provide for effective representation of Swan Hill Rural City Council at the conference.

### **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 are associated with attending this conference.

### **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 and efficient utilisation of resources.

### **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, Cr Gary Norton, Cr Lea Johnson, Cr Ann Young and The Chief Executive Officer – Mr John McLinden to represent Council at the ALGA Conference in Canberra from 19 June 2017 to 22 June 2017.**
- 2. Request all participants to submit reports to Council upon return from the conference.**

Cr Moar moved a motion that Council:

**That Council:**

- 1. Authorise the travel of the Mayor – Cr Les McPhee and The Chief Executive Officer – Mr John McLinden to represent Council at the ALGA Conference in Canberra from 19 June 2017 to 22 June 2017.**
- 2. Request all participants to submit reports to Council upon return from the conference.**

Cr Katis asked to make an amendment to the motion that Council:

- 1. Authorise the travel of the Mayor – Cr Les McPhee, Cr Lea Johnson and The Chief Executive Officer – Mr John McLinden to represent Council at the ALGA Conference in Canberra from 19 June 2017 to 22 June 2017.**
- 2. Request all participants to submit reports to Council upon return from the conference.**

The amendment to the motion was not supported, so Cr Katis withdrew his amendment and seconded the original motion put by Cr Moar.

Cr Jeffery then requested an amendment to the motion,

**That Council:**

- 1. Authorise the travel of the Mayor – Cr Les McPhee to represent Council at the ALGA Conference in Canberra from 19 June 2017 to 22 June 2017.**
- 2. Request all participants to submit reports to Council upon return from the conference.**

The amendment to the motion was not supported, so Council referred back to the original motion moved by Cr Moar and seconded by Cr Katis.

### **36/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Moar**

**That Council:**

- 1. Authorise the travel of the Mayor – Cr Les McPhee and The Chief Executive Officer – Mr John McLinden to represent Council at the ALGA Conference in Canberra from 19 June 2017 to 22 June 2017.**
- 2. Request all participants to submit reports to Council upon return from the conference.**

**SECONDED Cr Katis**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

The Mayor Cr McPhee then return to the Chambers and re-assumed the Chair at 7.16pm and was informed by the CEO, Mr John McLinden of the Councils decision.

The CEO, Mr John McLinden then continued with the second part of the report/motion which asks:

**That Council:**

- 1. Authorise the travel of the Cr Gary Norton, Cr Lea Johnson and Cr Ann Young to represent Council at the ALGA Conference in Canberra from 19 June 2017 to 22 June 2017.**
- 2. Request all participants to submit reports to Council upon return from the conference.**

Councillor Norton, Johnson and Young vacated the Chambers at 7.17pm for this part of the report due to their conflict of interest.

**37/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Katis**

**That Council**

- 1. Authorise the travel of Cr Lea Johnson to represent Council at the ALGA Conference in Canberra from 19 June 2017 to 22 June 2017.**
- 2. Request all participants to submit reports to Council upon return from the conference.**

**SECONDED Cr Jeffery**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

Councillor Norton, Johnson and Young returned to the Chambers at 7.21pm and were informed of the decision.

**B.17.30 PROPOSED MOTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA STATE COUNCIL MEETING 12 MAY 2017**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer  
**File Number:** S16-22-08 S03-22-05  
**Attachments:** 1 Motion One  
2 Motion Two  
3 Motion Three

**Declarations of Interest:**

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

**Summary**

The purpose of this report is to propose three State Council Motions sponsored by Swan Hill Rural City Council to be presented for consideration at the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council meeting of 12 May 2017.

**Discussion**

Three matters have been identified as having particular relevance to the Swan Hill Rural City Council community which are also of state wide significance. These matters are:

1. The ability for local communities to have some input into the establishment of speed limits in residential streets in their area.
2. A call for improved funding for regional roads that provide linkages and perform some arterial or connector function.
3. A proposal that suggests a revised model for the construction and ongoing operation and maintenance of levee banks that protect townships from flooding.

Copies of the proposed motions are attached to this report.

**Consultation**

Not applicable for this item.

**Financial Implications**

Not applicable for this item.

**Social Implications**

Not applicable for this item.

### **Economic Implications**

Not applicable for this item.

### **Environmental Implications**

Not applicable for this item.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Not applicable for this item.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Governance and Leadership*** - Positive community engagement and inclusiveness.

### **Options**

1. Council may endorse one or more of the three motions proposed, or
2. Council may suggest amendments to one or more of the motions.
3. Council may resolve to not support any motions to the MAV State Council meeting of 12 May.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council:**

1. **Council endorse and authorise the submission of the three mentioned motions to the MAV Sate Council meeting of 12 May.**
2. **Council seek support of the Murray River Group of Councils and also Councils within the Northwest Municipalities group for the three motions proposed.**

### **38/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Norton**

**That Council:**

1. **Council endorse and authorise the submission of the three mentioned motions to the MAV Sate Council meeting of 12 May.**
2. **Council seek support of the Murray River Group of Councils and also Councils within the Northwest Municipalities group for the three motions proposed.**

**SECONDED Cr Katis**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

## MAV State Council Meeting – 12 May 2017

To submit a motion for consideration by State Council on 12 May 2017, please complete this form and email to ***State Council, no later than 14 April 2017***. Please note, motions received by **6 April** (early motions) will be distributed to all MAV representatives on **7 April**. Submitters may amend their own motions up to 5pm on **21 April 2017**.

### MOTION

[INSERT NAME OF MOTION]

**Submitted by:** *[Swan Hill Rural City Council]\**

### MOTION:

Swan Hill Rural City Council calls upon the Municipal Association of Victoria to engage with VicRoads in the design of a process for the establishment and review of speed limits within residential areas that includes an appropriate level of the local community consultation that provides avenues for local residents to have input into the decision-making process.

### RATIONALE:

Municipalities right across Victoria are constantly approached by community members and community groups concerned about speeding traffic, within residential streets. Under current legislation councils may submit proposals for reductions of speed zones to VicRoads but the ultimate decision makers in respect of these matters right across the State of Victoria rests with VicRoads.

When assessing applications for revised speed limits VicRoads uses a rigorous criteria which is aimed at ensuring uniformity across the state. The achievement of uniformity is supported by Council as it is important that drivers no matter where they are can find some correlation between the driving environment and the posted speed limit. This clearly contributes to road safety.

The process often leaves local residents feeling voiceless and un-empowered with no capacity to have a meaningful input into the speed limit setting process upon the streets and suburbs in which they live and which their children play.

Council calls upon the MAV to engage with VicRoads to establish a revised mechanism for the establishment or review of speed limits within residential areas that provides a formal process for local residents to be engaged in the process.



## MAV State Council Meeting – 12 May 2017

To submit a motion for consideration by State Council on 12 May 2017, please complete this form and email to **State Council**, ***no later than 14 April 2017***. Please note, motions received by **6 April** (early motions) will be distributed to all MAV representatives on **7 April**. Submitters may amend their own motions up to 5pm on **21 April 2017**.

**MOTION**
**[INSERT NAME OF MOTION]**
*Submitted by: [Swan Hill Rural City Council]\**
**MOTION:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria be called upon to lobby the State Government to reintroduce specific funding programs to support the maintenance and upgrade of critical linkage roads throughout Victoria to assist the growth and prosperity of the Victorian agricultural economy.

**RATIONALE:**

The economy of Rural Victoria depends heavily on its transport network. The need for maintenance and upgrade of the arterial road network and in particular those local roads that provide critical linkages such as roads to market and roads that assist with the horticultural harvest and the grain harvest require increased support.

State funding aimed at assisting the Victorian economy through improved critical road linkages has been available in the past but in recent years seems to be less accessible to rural municipalities.

## MAV State Council Meeting – 12 May 2017

To submit a motion for consideration by State Council on 12 May 2017, please complete this form and email to ***State Council, no later than 14 April 2017***. Please note, motions received by **6 April** (early motions) will be distributed to all MAV representatives on **7 April**. Submitters may amend their own motions up to 5pm on **21 April 2017**.

### MOTION

**[INSERT NAME OF MOTION]**

**Submitted by:** *[Swan Hill Rural City Council]\**

### MOTION:

That the Municipal Association of Victoria lobby the State and Federal Governments for an alternative funding model for the construction and ongoing operation and maintenance of levees that protect residential areas. A funding model that sees the Commonwealth and State governments take responsibility for the funding of the construction of levees and that sees local governments and local communities responsible for the funding of the ongoing operation and maintenance of levees should be considered.

### RATIONALE:

The current arrangements for the funding of the construction and the operation and maintenance of levees that protect township areas seems inequitable. For levees that are deemed to be the responsibility of Local Government the funding for their construction can be shared equally between the Commonwealth State and Local Governments but the burden of ongoing operation and maintenance of these levees sits solely with the local municipality.

There is often difficulties in the local community funding their third of the levee construction costs and this can at times lead to the deferral (even indefinitely) of the construction of levees which if had an alternative funding model existed, would protect those towns from inundation.

It is suggested that a more equitable funding model and one which would lead to greater protection of communities throughout Rural Victoria would be for a model that sees the Commonwealth and State Governments responsible for the funding of the construction of the levees with Local Government being held to account to fund the ongoing operation and maintenance of the levees.

In this way any risk to the construction of levees through inadequate local funding could be averted and it would be in the local community's interests to ensure that they do put aside sufficient funds for the ongoing protection of any levee that is constructed around their townships.

## **SECTION C – DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION**

### **C.17.3 COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES - RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA ITEMS**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer  
**File Number:** 22-13-12  
**Attachments:** 1 Councillor Record of Attendance

#### **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*** - Community leadership through effective strategic planning.

**Options**

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

**Recommendation**

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

**39/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Katis**

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

**SECONDED Cr Jeffery**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA**

**28 February 2017 at 1.00pm**

**Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- Karen Fazzani – Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group
- NCCMA
- Chisholm Reserve Drag Strip
- Rural Land Use Strategy
- Active Play Precinct
- Youth Support Program
- Woorinen Clubrooms Project Request for Financial Assistance

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- ALGA Conference Canberra
- Horticulture Tour

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

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

**Apologies**

- Nil

**OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure
- Adam McSwain, Director Development and Planning
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Fiona Gorman Community Planning & Development Officer
- Kane Sparks, Youth Support Co-Ordinator
- Megan Monk Community Recreation & Grants Officer
- Emma Cramer, Economic & Community Development Manager

Other

- Nil

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

## **COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA**

**7 March 2017 at 1.00pm**

**Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

- Councillor Only Session
- How to Guide the Swan Hill Bridge discussion
- ALGA Conference Attendance and requests for Federal MPs
- Planning up-coming projects
- Community Care Policies
- 123 Curlewis Street Rezoning
- South of Werril Street Planning Scheme Amendment
- Road Access B-Double
- Swan Hill Inc. 6 month up-date
- Grow your own
- 44 Werril Street Development Plan

### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- 

### **ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

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

### **Apologies**

- Nil

### **OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure
- Adam McSwain, Director Development and Planning
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Darren Ingram, Community Care Services Manager
- Stefan Louw, Development Manager
- Emma Cramer, Economic & Community Development Manager
- Nathan Keighran, Economic Development & Tourism Project Officer
- Mazen Aldaghstani, Engineering Projects & Assets Manager
- Gaye Cutajar, Technical Officer

Other

- Murray Ray and Julie Wiggins, Swan Hill Inc

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Cr Gary Norton had a direct conflict of interest to “South of Werril Street Planning Scheme Amendment” item as the property discussed abuts Cr Norton’s house.

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA**

**14 March 2017 at 1.00pm**

**Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- MAV State Council Meeting
- Councillor Only Session (CEO performance review)
- Councillor input into the Draft Council Plan and Key Strategic Initiatives
- Chisholm Reserve Tour

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- 

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

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

**Apologies**

- Cr John Katis

**OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Oliver McNulty, Director Infrastructure
- Adam McSwain, Director Development and Planning
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Helen Morris, Human Resources Manager

Other

- Ian Couper

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

#### **C.17.4 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**

21 March 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
800	Tower Hill Stage 9A – Transfer of lots 311 and 319	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Hinton Building Pty Ltd	21/2/17
801	Section 173 Agreement – 282 Malaya Road, Robinvale	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Albys Farms Pty Ltd	28/2/17
802	Deed of Renewal Wemen Public Hall	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Wemen Progress Association	28/2/17
803	Deed of Renewal Meatian Hall	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Meatian	28/2/17
804	S5 Delegations	Swan Hill Rural City Council to CEO	28/2/17
805	S6 Delegations	Swan Hill Rural City Council to Staff	28/2/17
806	Sub Lease – Lake Boga Bowling Club Inc. and Lake Boga Men's Shed Inc.	Swan Hill Rural City Council and Lake Boga Bowling Club Inc. and Lake Boga Men's Shed Inc.	14/3/17
807	Section 173 Agreement with Bright Light Agribusiness	Swan Hill Rural City Council and Bright Light Agribusiness Pty Ltd	14/3/17

**Conclusion**

Council authorise the signing and sealing of the above documents.

**Recommendation**

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

**40/17 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Katis**

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

**SECONDED Cr Johnson**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**SECTION D – NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

**SECTION E – URGENT ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN AGENDA**

Nil

**SECTION F – TO CONSIDER & ORDER ON COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

**Cr Young**

Opening of the Art Gallery Exhibition  
Robinvale/Euston Vision Dinner  
Food and Wine weekend  
Woorinen Progress Association meeting  
Business Breakfast

**Cr Moar**

Swan Hill Residents and Ratepayers Association  
Livestock Agents  
Agribusiness Committee  
Robinvale/Euston Vision Dinner

**Cr Katis**

Robinvale workforce Development Strategy Presentation  
Robinvale/Euston Vision Dinner  
Local Law No.2 presentation

**Cr Norton**

Manangatang Improvement Group Meeting  
North West Municipalities meeting  
Robinvale/Euston Vision Dinner  
Boundary Bend Progress Association meeting  
MAV board induction day

**Cr Johnson**

Robinvale/Euston Vision Dinner  
Chapman Street tender meeting  
Food and Wine Festival  
Swan Hill Residents and Ratepayers Association  
TAFE awards presentation  
Local Aboriginal network meeting  
Afternoon tea gathering with Deputy PM Barnaby Joyce  
Lake Boga Flying Boat Repair Depot 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations and Dinner Show  
Swan Hill Inc meeting

**Cr Jeffery**

Robinvale/Euston Vision Dinner  
Suni-TAFE graduation Awards night  
Alan Garden Committee of Management

Local Aboriginal network meeting  
Visit to Chisholm Reserve  
Swan Hill Indoor Sports & Recreation Committee of Management  
Lake Boga Flying Boat Repair Depot 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Afternoon tea gathering with Deputy PM Barnaby Joyce  
Worked with Robinvale Fire Brigade, Council Officers and VicRoads to get a slip-lane upgrade for Bromley Road up-grade

**Cr McPhee**

Citizenship ceremony  
Rail Freight Alliance meeting and AGM  
Woorinen Primary School captain badges  
3SH radio interview  
Mayor/CEO meeting  
Municipal Event Support Scheme meeting  
Lake Boga Land and on water Committee meeting  
Meeting with WIN TV reporter Lucy Hinton  
Murray River Group of Councils dinner and meeting  
Municipal Energy Management Planning Committee meeting  
Catalina Committee of management meeting  
Mayor/CEO meeting  
TAFE graduation at Town Hall  
NBN photo launch  
Food and Wine Festival opening night cruise  
Mayor/CEO meeting

**SECTION G – IN CAMERA ITEMS**

Nil

The Mayor officially wished Mr Adam McSwain all the best, this being his last Council Meeting as a Director here. The Mayor stated that Adam has taken the position at Edwards River Council as the General Manger.

The Mayor also added that it is often said that someone's loss is someone else's gain, which is definitely the case in this instance. In the 18 months of being at Swan Hill Rural City Council you have made a big impact on the organization and done a terrific job and we are very sad to see you go but, understand that this a move up for you, so congratulations and we wish you all the best.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.33pm