



MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 23 June 2020

Held Swan Hill Town Hall
Commenced at 2:00 PM

COUNCIL:

Cr B Moar – Mayor

Cr A Young
Cr LT McPhee
Cr J Benham
Cr C Jeffery
Cr L Johnson
Cr N McKay

Confirmed 21 July 2020

Chairperson.....

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SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- **Open**

Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 2pm.

- **Acknowledgement of Country**

Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar read the Acknowledgement of Country.

- **Prayer**

Cr Les McPhee read the prayer.

- **Apologies**

Nil

Recommendations

That the apologies be accepted.

- **Confirmation of Minutes**

- 1) Ordinary Meeting held on 19 May 2020

46/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That the minutes be confirmed.

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED

- **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Cr Lea Johnson declared an indirect Conflict of Interest for In Camera item B.20.36 due to her employment with real estate agent LJHooker.

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

Nil

47/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That standing orders be suspended at 2.02pm.

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

- **Public Question Time**

Question 1 - Elizabeth Millar

Do the increasing number of corporate, private and pilot training aircraft (eg AeroDynamic, Pearsons – AAA and Oxford) who are using our airport as a training ground, pay Council for landings and “touch and goes”?

The Chief Executive Officer Mr John McLinden thanked Ms Miller for her question and replied:

Council does not have any arrangements in place for charging usage fees at either of the Swan Hill or Robinvale Aerodromes. Council is monitoring the usage of both aerodromes and will be considering the question of the ongoing operation of an capital investment into the Swan Hill Aerodrome in particular in the near future.

The Swan Hill Aerodrome has until recently been an aerodrome of low utilisation and the administrative burden and capital costs in capturing airport usage and then collecting airport usage fees has not stacked up. Council will review usage in the coming months.

Question 2 – Elizabeth Hocking

What did the CEO, Mr McLinden, mean in his interview on ABC radio in relation to the flight school by "the door is not closed"? Can Council assure us that it will not continue to pursue an international flight school for Swan Hill?

The Chief Executive Officer Mr John McLinden thanked Elizabeth Hocking for her question and replied:

The Australian Aviation Alliance has withdrawn from discussions with Council in relation to the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome. There is no intention to recommence these negotiations as there are significant commercial differences between the two entities. At today's Council meeting, you'll see in the agenda that Councillor McKay has moved a notice of motion that Council withdraw its offer to enter into a heads of agreement with Australian Aviation Alliance ABN 29637519781 to negotiate the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome.

This motion, if carried later in today's meeting effectively ends any discussions between the Swan Hill Rural City Council and the Australian Aviation Alliance with respect to the establishment of a flight school at Swan Hill.

There is no intention at this time to recommence those negotiations, nor is there any basis for which Council could re-enter those negotiations. That is not to say that, Council or any future Council could not pursue similar opportunities in future.

Question 3 – Margaret Serra

Will Council commit to holding a full public consultation process before signing a lease with a potential flying school?

The Chief Executive Officer Mr John McLinden thanked Ms Serra for her question and replied:

Council is not progressing with a lease with the Australian Aviation Alliance. The Australian Aviation Alliance have advised Council that they have withdrawn from negotiations and Councillor McKay at this meeting has a notice of motion that Council withdraw its offer to enter into a heads of agreement with Australian Aviation Alliance ABN 29637519781 to negotiate the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome. I will not pre-empt the outcome of Council deliberations on that notice of motion.

Council's discussions with the Australian Aviation Alliance have effectively ceased and so no public consultation is required at this time.

Question 4 – Margaret Serra

Will Council commit to obtaining an independent cost – benefit analysis and environmental impact study before signing a lease with any proposed flying school?

Margaret Serra, thank you for question.

As Council is not proceeding with negotiations and discussions with the Australian Aviation Alliance in relation to the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome no further work will be done on the cost benefit analysis or environmental impacts of such a proposal. Council had engaged suitable consulting resources to assist it with the development of a report detailing the costs and benefits of this proposal, but given the negotiations have now concluded, I've decided it is prudent to save the cost involved in undertaking such a study, and so, this work has been cancelled.

No work had been done on the environmental impacts of the establishment of a flight school and this work would have been undertaken as negotiations developed, but

again as negotiations have now ceased no further work will be done in relation to this matter.

Question 5a - Shaye Strugnell

Regarding conflict of interest : If a Councillor had a family member who owned land adjoining the airport , would it be a pecuniary conflict of interest for that Councillor to be present for a discussion about a business that could lead to airport expansion and purchase of that land?

Question 5b - Shaye Strugnell

What would be the penalty if that was not declared?

The Chief Executive Officer Mr John McLinden thanked Shaye Strugnell for the question and replied:

The answer to your question is a complex one.

The Victorian Local Government Act was amended a number of years ago to provide a very prescriptive definition of conflict-of-interest. The conflict-of-interest provisions are quite detailed and define specifically the classes of interests that are to be considered as a conflict-of-interest and also provide definitions as to what the term family member means. And so under the circumstances that you describe in your question for a conflict-of-interest to arise it would be necessary for the family member to be sufficiently close to the Councillor to fit the definition of family member. This would include mother, father, brother, sister, et cetera it would not include cousins.

Secondly, the Councillor would need to know that that family member owned the land in question, which could reasonably be expected to be the case in respect of close family members. It is not usual for an individual to know all of the financial interests of their cousins or more distantly related family and further for a conflict-of-interest to arise there would be need to be a direct connection between the matters being discussed and the potential for an airport expansion and a likelihood of increasing the value of the land in question. A distant future potential would not pass the test for a conflict-of-interest.

If a conflict-of-interest is proven the penalty for such a conflict available to either the Councillor conduct panel or a magistrate are prescribed in the Local Government Act, but are quite broad in nature. They range from counselling to suspension from office to criminal charges, depending on the nature of the conflict.

Question 6 – Kaye Mitchell

“Aviation Projects” was engaged by Swan Hill Rural City Council to facilitate a workshop to discuss Swan Hill and Robinvale Aerodromes, especially in relation to the benefits of completing a master plan. It is unclear as to what, if any, community engagement was involved in this workshop and if the community was even considered to be a stakeholder. Question: What progress, in any, has Council made in developing master plans for Swan Hill

and Robinvale Aerodromes and how does Council propose to engage these communities in developing plans?

The Chief Executive Officer Mr John McLinden thanked Ms Mitchell for her question and replied:

Council completed a Swan Hill Aerodrome Master Plan in 2010, but has not done any long-term planning for the Robinvale aerodrome. In the last 12 months, Council has reviewed the Swan Hill Aerodrome Master Plan and has been working towards gathering together sufficient funds to undertake the infrastructure upgrades necessary to maintain the aerodrome in an operational condition. Council consulted with aerodrome users in January of this year and has since developed up a suite of projects which include runway strengthening, strengthening of taxiways and works to provide for additional hanger facilities, amongst other improvements to the aerodrome. These works will be discussed with Council within the next few weeks and will then be discussed with aerodrome users and the broader Swan Hill Community.

Question 7 - Dr Jacquie Kelly

Does Council acknowledge that the Avgas fuel used by some small planes, such as Cessnas, contains lead and is a threat to human health? What measures would be put in place to ensure no damage from lead emissions if an industrial scale pilot training school was established? Would Council refer any business development application or lease proposal for a mass pilot school to a 3rd party referral authority like the Health Department to ensure the threat of lead contamination was considered?

The Chief Executive Officer Mr John McLinden thanked Dr Kelly for her question and replied:

I do understand that avgas fuel used by small piston internal combustion engines found in small planes does contain lead. I'm also aware that work has been done to produce unleaded avgas but we are a long way from seeing such a fuel readily available. Airborne lead emissions are a threat to human health and particularly to children. This is the reason petrol in Australia and pretty much across the world has had lead removed from it and vehicle engines running on petrol have been designed to cope with unleaded fuel.

Dr Kelly's question asks about seeking third-party advice before considering a lease to a pilot school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome. As has previously been stated, Council is no longer in discussions for the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome and pending the outcome of the notice of motion contained in today's agenda, I expect that the matter is at a completion. To the bigger question of the impact on health and environment from any use of the airport, it would certainly be prudent for Council to seek advice from all reputable sources of information before making any formal and final decisions on such a venture.

Question 8 - Dr Jacquie Kelly (Save Swan Hill Serenity Action Group Inc)

In the current budget 20/21 Council has allocated \$3.68 million dollars to Airport upgrade, plus recently received another \$1.2 million for its Airport.

- 1. Is this money for both Swan Hill and Robinvale Airports and how will it be divided up?**
- 2. How can the community be assured the multi-million dollar upgrade works planned for Swan Hill airports are not being done to enable a future international pilot training school to set up here?**
- 3. Have AAA or any other entity bought an existing Swan Hill flying school licence? Would Council be informed of such a transaction it had taken place?**
- 4. Does Council see Swan Hill being an „Aviation hub“, with businesses such as an industrial scale pilot training school?**
- 5. If so, does Council consider this compatible with Swan Hill currently being the Murray Mallee food bowl agricultural hub?**

The Chief Executive Officer Mr John McLinden thanked Dr Kelly's for her question which has five parts and replied:

The monies provided in Council's budget and the recent grant from the Regional Airport Fund has been provided for upgrade and improvement of the Swan Hill Aerodrome. The works being proposed for the Swan Hill Aerodrome have not yet been finalised and funding arrangements including the application for the grant remained fluid to ensure the Council can use these funds for the best outcome for the Swan Hill community. None of the works proposed will be to establish a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome. They will be to ensure the ongoing operation of the Aerodrome so that it can service the needs of the Swan Hill community and its economy. Air travel to and from Swan Hill is becoming increasingly important to our business community.

Part three of the question asks about the business activities of the Australian Aviation Alliance. I'm not aware that the Australian Aviation Alliance has purchased any Swan Hill flying school licenses but Council would not usually be advised of those transactions.

Council and the community have over a number of decades invested heavily into the Swan Hill Aerodrome and this Council intends to maintain and improve the assets at that aerodrome. There has been no discussion about an aviation hub and I am unclear as to what that might mean. However, Council does see the Swan Hill Aerodrome as being vital to improve the connectivity of this community with the rest of the region.

48/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Standing Orders be resumed at 2.22pm.

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

SECTION B – REPORTS

B.20.30 SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL YOUTH STRATEGY 2020-2025

Responsible Officer: Director Community & Cultural Services
File Number: S23-01-01
Attachments: 1 Youth Strategy 2020-2025
2 Consultation Report

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

This report presents the draft Youth Strategy 2020-2025 for Council adoption.

Discussion

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2020-2025 will provide overall direction for Council's Youth Support Services program and guide the initiatives, advocacy and support work for young people and their families.

This is the third consecutive Youth Strategy that Council has developed since 2009. Council now has a very valuable and comprehensive local data set spanning a ten-year period which provides significant insight into the health and wellbeing of young people in this region that tracks changes and emerging trends.

Local data reveals the magnitude of some of the challenges and issues that young people aged 12-25 years are facing in their adolescent years across the Swan Hill Rural City Council municipality. The data sheds light on the high levels of vulnerability and complex needs that some young people experience and the importance of Council's sustained efforts towards improving outcomes for young people and their families.

Overall Young People felt a strong sense of belonging and clearly identified the things they liked best about where they lived.

The people

Quiet/peaceful

Facilities e.g. Youth Inc, skate park, library, climate, shopping, cultural diversity,

Small country town feel

Safety/freedom

Open spaces

River/lakes/nature

Everyone knows everyone

Opportunities e.g. work, school, community

Consultation with young people, parents, service providers and community members highlighted the following key priority areas for Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program to focus on over the next five years:

1. Deliver prevention programs and activities
2. Offer activities and events for young people
3. More generalist youth support across the municipality
4. Strengthen youth participation/leadership and youth voice
5. Advocacy and planning
6. Stronger focus on 19-25 year age group
7. Strengthened focus on Manangatang and Robinvale

Consultation

Widespread community consultation was undertaken to inform the development of a five-year Youth Strategy that will consider the needs and aspirations of young people aged 12-25 who live, work or study in the municipality.

In total the engagement and consultation process heard the voices of 1,106 young people, parents, service providers and community members.

Financial Implications

The Youth Support Program is mostly funded by consolidated revenue, and an annual work plan is developed each year in line with the adopted Strategy and addressed during the Budget process.

A significant part of the Program is the State-funded Empower program which is fully-resourced for four years.

Council also receives external financial support for Youth Week activities and FreeZa events.

Social Implications

Council recognises the value young citizens bring to their communities. Effective linking-in with young people also provides valuable information for planning and future decisions.

Economic Implications

Engaged, educated and inspired young people provide positive economic outcomes for the community, and reduce the costs associated with disengagement and unemployment.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable to this report.

Risk Management Implications

Services associated with young people can present risks, particularly with supporting vulnerable youth. This is managed and will continue to be managed by staff involved with the Youth Support Services Program through Council's Risk Management processes.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Community enrichment - Provide services and support initiatives that create a Healthy and Safe Community.

Options

Council may:

1. Adopt the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy as presented, or
2. Make changes to the document prior to adoption.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy as presented.

49/20 Motion

MOVED Cr Johnson

That Council adopt the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy as presented.

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

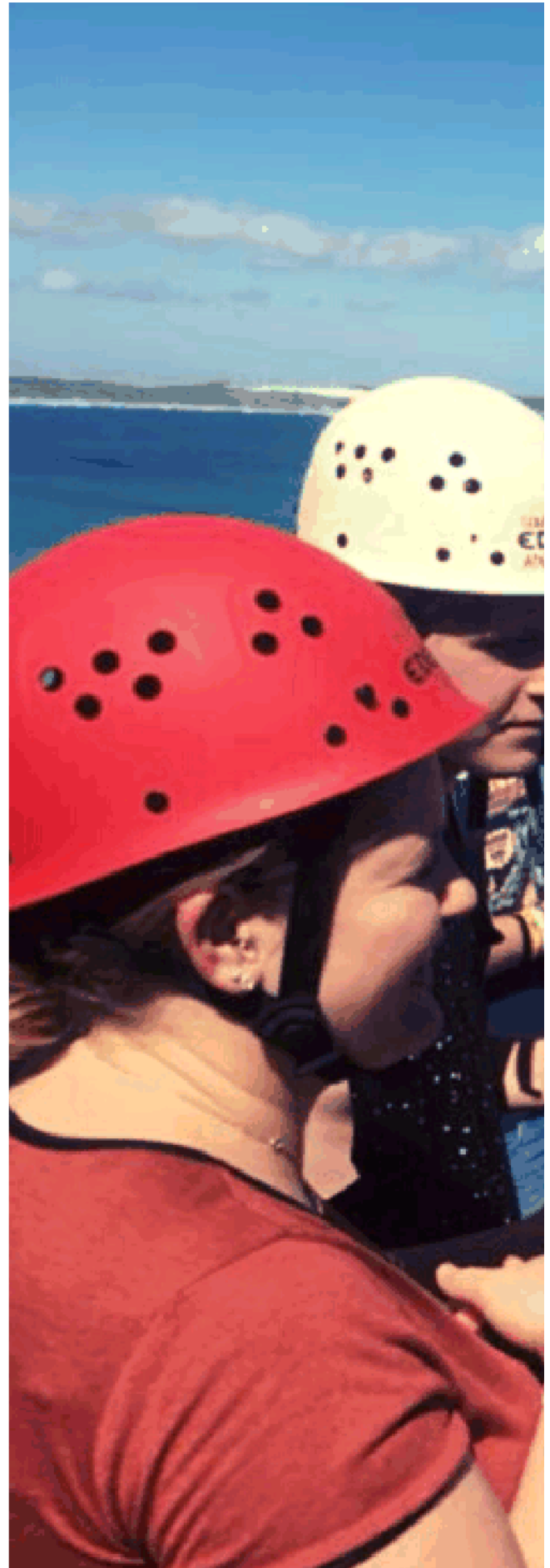


**Swan Hill Rural City Council
Youth Strategy
2020-2025**



"Councils play a key role in the delivery of youth services. They often provide the most immediate experience of being part of a democratic process and provide opportunities for young people to participate in their communities through funding for youth workers and support for youth councils."

The State Government Youth Policy,
Building Stronger Youth Engagement in Victoria



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Swan Hill Rural City Council acknowledges the contribution of the many young people, parents/caregivers, community members, schools and service providers who have played a part in the development of Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2020-2025.

In particular:

- Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Support Program staff
- Novo Youth Council
- Youth Strategy Researchers- Milla Devlin and Mia Rovere
- Swan Hill College
- Swan Hill College FLO Program
- Swan Hill Specialist School
- Robinvale College
- St Mary MacKillop College
- Manangatang P-12 College
- Sunraysia Institute of TAFE

Lastly, a big thank you to all of the young people who willingly gave their time, knowledge and experiences, your input has played a big part in shaping this Strategy.





INTRODUCTION

Swan Hill Rural City Council recognises the immeasurable value that young citizens bring to their communities.

Widespread community consultation was undertaken to inform the development of a five-year Youth Strategy that will consider the needs and aspirations of young people aged 12-25 who live, work or study in the municipality.

In total the engagement and consultation process heard the voices of 1,106 young people, parents, service providers and community members.

The 2020-2025 Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy will provide overall direction for Council's Youth Support Program and guide their programs, initiatives, advocacy and support work for young people and their families.

This is the third consecutive Youth Strategy that Council has developed since 2009. We now have a very valuable and comprehensive local data set spanning a ten year period which provides significant insight into the health and wellbeing of our young people that tracks changes and emerging trends.

Swan Hill Rural City Council remains committed to the safety of all young people. This strategy will strictly adhere to Council's Child Safe Policy and forms a part of Council's work towards meeting Child Safe Standards; particularly standard number seven.

It is hoped that the in-depth Youth Strategy consultation results and trends data (*see Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy Consultation Report*) can also support service providers, schools and community groups in informing their work with young people.

“

"Ensure that every young person feels involved and welcome in their community. No matter what background they come from".

- Young Person-

COUNCIL'S ROLE IN YOUTH SERVICE DELIVERY

The **Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program** is underpinned by a strong focus on youth participation and inclusion ensuring that:

- young people have connection to community
- services and support initiatives create healthy and safe environments; and
- young people across the municipality are able to contribute to decision making and development of policy, programs and initiatives that affect them and their community.

Our service delivery is shaped through a co-design model of practice with a strong focus on preventative health and wellbeing initiatives and addressing the issues that young people have told us are most important to them e.g. bullying, career pathways, respectful relationships, mental health, managing study pressures, body image and alcohol and drug use.

The **Youth Support Program** operates from the Youth Inc hub. The Youth Support Team offer a wide range of services, activities and programs for young people:

Generalist Youth Support Services

- Empower Youth Program
- Service navigation and support
 - Referral pathways
- Early invention programs and initiatives,
 - Information and resources
- Coaching Young People for Success

Youth Participation/Leadership

- Novo Youth Council
- Random Events Committee (Freeza)
- SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Alliance)
- Coaching Young People for Success

Co-Design & Consultation

- LGA wide Youth Survey
- Co-design of programs, initiatives and events with young people
 - Linking youth voice to matters of youth and community importance e.g. Sexy and Safe, Royal Commission into Mental Health, UN's Youth Consultation, Community Planning Process (SHRCC)

Youth Led Activities & Events

- FREEZA- drug and alcohol free events
 - Arts/culture activities
 - Youth Week
 - Mental health week
 - Youth Ball
 - Youth Arts Festival
- Health and wellbeing initiatives

Partnerships & Advocacy

- School partnerships
- Health and community service partnerships
- Victorian Rural Youth Services Group (Yacvic)
- Youth Strategy Advisory Group (State Gov)
 - Advocacy on youth issues
- Southern Mallee Youth Community Development Network (sub regional)
- Swan Hill Youth Network, Health and Wellbeing Network
- Youth Engagement & Participation Training Program

Service demands have grown since the Youth Support Program's inception with local data highlighting growing levels of vulnerability and disadvantage across the Swan Hill LGA. Increasingly, our service is supporting young people and their families impacted by complex factors such as: poverty, family violence, teenage pregnancy, bullying, child protection substantiations, poor literacy and numeracy, youth disengagement, alcohol consumption and increasing multiculturalism.



YOUNG PEOPLE IN 2020

Young people today are navigating a far more complex world than previous generations, with challenges created by the internet, changing social norms, the changing world of work, political instability and most recently the COVID-19 pandemic. They face uncertainty in terms of unemployment and housing security, education, income inequality, climate change and the economy.

Australia has experienced nearly three decades of uninterrupted economic growth; however some Australians are being left further behind. This is especially true at the time of writing this Strategy with the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in widespread unemployment and economic uncertainty in Australia and worldwide. There is growing concern that young people have been (and will continue to be) disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Adding to this there continues to be certain groups of Australians at high risk of experiencing entrenched poverty, deprivation and social exclusion.

Research with young Australians shows that those who experience more severe disadvantage are less able to engage and excel in school and report lower levels of life satisfaction, less positivity about the future and feel less safe than their peers. The link between child poverty and poor educational outcomes highlights that its impact reaches well into the future.

Those who are disproportionately more vulnerable to poverty are sole parents, unemployed people, families relying on social security, Indigenous people and people living with a disability. There is a higher proportion of all of these population groups in rural and remote areas than in major cities (National Rural Health Alliance, 2015).



A snapshot of our local data clearly demonstrates significant levels of disadvantage for some young people across our local government area (see pages 5-6). Some of our young people are not doing as well as they should.

Despite this adversity, our young people continue to have hope and aspiration and the best programs and interventions are those designed with young people for young people.

In response to the changing rural youth landscape our Youth Support Program has developed significantly and now offers a range of services for young people. We remain strongly committed to hearing the voices of young people; especially those experiencing vulnerability and at greater risk of entrenched disadvantage.



“

Adolescence is a time of significant developmental transition that is considered to be second only to infancy in the magnitude of changes that occur.

(Lerner and Villarruel, 1994)

WHY DO WE NEED A YOUTH STRATEGY?

Young people aged 12-25 are a significant group representing 17% of the overall population. Research highlights the substantial changes that occur during adolescence and the crucial transitions to adulthood during this time. It also confirms that successes or difficulties experienced during the transition from school to either education or training are linked to outcomes beyond education and employment, including health outcomes and lifetime earnings (Youth Action and Western Sydney Regional Information and Research Service (WESTIR) 2018).

Local data reveals the magnitude of some of the additional challenges and the higher level of disadvantage that many young people and their families are facing across the Swan Hill Rural City Council municipality:

- *Swan Hill Rural City Council had almost double the amount of child protection substantiations, 2014/2015 (20.7 per 1000 eligible population) compared to Victoria (11.4 per 1000 eligible population).*
- *Almost three times more family violence incidents (28.9 per 1000) compared to Victoria, 2014/2015 (12.4 per 1,000); a ranking of third highest of all LGAs in the state.*
- *There were almost twice as many government housing rentals in the Swan Hill LGA, 2016 (4.6%) compared to Victoria (2.5%).*
- *There was a higher number of health care card holders in the Swan Hill LGA, 2017 (9.1%) compared to Victoria (7.9%).*
- *SEIFA data which measures relative socio-economic disadvantage highlights that the Swan Hill LGA has a higher level of disadvantage (947) compared to Victoria (1010), 2016.*

The data sheds light on the high levels of vulnerability and complex needs that some young people experience and the importance of Swan Hill Rural City Council's sustained efforts towards improving outcomes for young people and their families.

Data sources: ABS Census, PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area, Statistical Data for Victorian Communities www.socialstatistics.com.au, Victoria Health LGA Profiles, Swan Hill 2013 & 2015

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



77.9% of young people in the Swan Hill LGA aged 16 were in full-time secondary education, 2016 (Victoria 86.1%).

Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area October 2013 & February 2019



20.3% of 20-24-year-olds in the Swan Hill LGA had left school before completing year 11, 2016 (Victoria 10.3%).

Source: Statistical Data for Victorian Communities www.socialstatistics.com.au



95.6% of year 9 students in the Swan Hill LGA attained national minimum standards in numeracy (Vic 95.6%) and 90.5% attained national minimum standards in literacy (Vic 93.5%).

Source: Victoria Health LGA Profiles, Swan Hill 2013 & 2015



4.4% of young people in the Swan Hill LGA aged 16 to 24 were receiving an unemployment benefit June 2017, (Victoria 2.5%).

Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area, June 2015 & February 2019

3,489

young people aged
12-25

17%

of the overall
population

Source: 2016 ABS Census

**discrepancies within the Robinvale Census data suggest this figure may be higher



There are a total of 832 (4% of people) in the Swan Hill LGA that identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. The overall Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander population in the Swan Hill LGA has a median age of 21, 2016 ABS Census.



15.6% of the Swan Hill LGA had both parents born overseas (Victoria 38.5%), 2016 ABS Census.



23.3% of families in the Swan Hill LGA were single parent families with children aged less than 15 years (Victoria 18.3%), 2016 ABS Census.



Swan Hill LGA had the highest teenage fertility rate in Victoria 41.9 per 1000 births, 2012 (Victoria 10.4 per 1000).

Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: 2011 & February 2019



27.6% of children in the Swan Hill LGA were in low income, welfare dependant families, 2017 (Victoria 19.3%).

Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019

THE POLICY PICTURE

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2020-2025 aligns with and is informed by local, state, national and international priorities and outcomes.

Local

- Swan Hill Rural City Council Plan
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2017-2021)
- SHRCC Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy
- SHRCC Community Access and Inclusion Strategy (2017-2021)
- SHRCC Economic Development Strategy (2017-2022)
- SHRCC Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan
- SHRCC Creative Strategy (2018-2022)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Child Safe Policy
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategic Plan (2015-2019)
- SHRCC Early-Middle Years Plan (2020-2029)

STATE

- Victorian Child Safe Standards
- Children, Youth and Families Act No.96 of 2005 (Victoria)
- Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015-2019
- Victoria's Vulnerable Children-Our Shared Responsibility (2013-2022)
- Roadmap to Reform Strong Families Safe Children (2016)
- Ending Family Violence-Victoria's Plan for Change (2017)
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act (2008)
- Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Action Plan
- Disability Discrimination Act (1992)/Disability Amendment Act (2012)
- YacVic's Strategic Plan 2020-2022

NATIONAL

- National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
- National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children (2009-2020)
- Jobs for Families Childcare Package

INTERNATIONAL

- Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ratified in Australia in 1990)

WHAT WE HEARD- PRIORITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Consultation with young people, parents, service providers and community members highlighted the following key priority areas for Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program to focus on over the next five years:

DELIVER PREVENTION PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES

The top health/wellbeing concerns for young people overall are: pressures of schoolwork, mental health of themselves, body image and mental health of others. Alarming, since 2015 young peoples concern for their own mental health has doubled. Young people want to work with Council to design/plan a range of prevention programs/activities that are focussed on mental health, bullying, drug and alcohol, social media use, acceptance of diversity, LGBTQI, sexual health, respectful relationships, goal setting/future planning, life skills, body image, managing school pressures, health.

OFFER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Boredom is once again a top five concern for young people. Young people want whole of community events, arts and culture events, festivals, activities for under 18's, activities for 19-25 age group, low cost/no cost events, weekend and holiday activities.

MORE GENERALIST YOUTH SUPPORT ACROSS THE MUNICIPALITY

Young people and service providers/parents and community both shared that they want Council to continue offering generalist youth support for young people and their families e.g. support to access services, counselling, family support, case management, future planning support and strengthening mental health and wellbeing. Young people and service providers, parents and community also highlighted their desire for Swan Hill Rural City Council to offer more generalist youth support for young people and their families in Robinvale and Manangatang.

STRENGTHEN YOUTH PARTICIPATION/LEADERSHIP AND YOUTH VOICE

Young people want more leadership activities and camps, more opportunities to co-design projects and initiatives, diverse representation on youth council, climate action and a strengthened youth voice in decision making for both youth and community matters.

ADVOCACY AND PLANNING

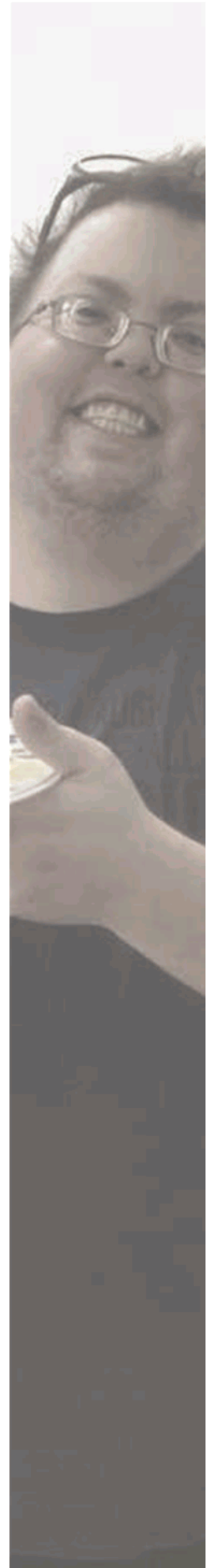
Young people want Council to partner with them to advocate and plan for: local tertiary education options, transport, youth friendly spaces, poverty/disadvantage, crime/community safety, community infrastructure, local shopping, employment/career options, teenage pregnancy and youth access to quality health care services.

STRONGER FOCUS ON 19-25 YEAR AGE GROUP

In 2019 220 young people aged 19-25 completed the youth strategy survey. Young people in this age group had the highest level of concern compared to all age groups for: their own mental health, their body image, the mental health of others, their physical health, money problems and concern about career/employment opportunities for the future. The consultation results confirmed that this transition age is a significant time of need with thoughtful resources and engagement required.

STRENGTHENED FOCUS ON MANANGATANG AND ROBINVALE

Young people, parents and service providers highlighted the need for stronger youth supports based in Robinvale and Manangatang. A desire for a dedicated Youth Worker for Robinvale and Manangatang was captured during consultation. It is envisaged that this worker would offer generalist youth support, prevention activities and programs, youth activities and events and strengthen youth participation and leadership in both communities.





DATA TRENDS

This is the third consecutive Youth Strategy that Council has developed since 2009. Comparisons have been made where possible to reveal data trends spanning this ten year period.

Youth Survey trends of note between 2009-2019:

- Young people shared that they feel safe-very safe in their community; a similar rating of personal safety overall when compared to 2015 results
- Young people are playing less sport
- More young people are using social media
- More young people are volunteering



Young people are MORE personally concerned about:

- In 2019, twice the number of young people are concerned about their own mental health AND the mental health of others compared to 2015
- Pressures of schoolwork concerns continue to grow for young people
- Young people are more concerned about their body image
- Fewer young people feel their school had strongly supported them to explore their hopes, dreams and goals for the future

Young people are LESS personally concerned about:

- Housing/homelessness
- Gambling
- Physical abuse
- Physical bullying
- Family violence
- Sexual abuse
- Racism
- Drugs
- Boredom/nothing
- Cyber bullying



Detailed trend comparisons and full consultation results can be found in the **Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy Consultation Report**.

WHO DID WE HEAR FROM?



Young People

711 young people filled in a survey and 82 young people took part in one of seven focus groups.



Service Providers

16 service providers attended one of two focus groups and 63 filled in a survey.



Parents

78 parents completed a survey.



Community Members

170 community members filled in a survey.



"I love the people and I am surrounded with the land, the environment and my family".
-young person-

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE LIKED BEST ABOUT WHERE THEY LIVED

In line with 2015 Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Survey findings, young people once again shared the high value they place on 'the people' in their communities rating the people (33%) as the thing that they like the most about where they live.

1. The people (33%)
2. Quiet/peaceful (17%)
3. Small country town feel (12%)
4. Safety/freedom (9%)
5. Open spaces (8%)
6. River/lakes/nature (7%)
7. Everyone knows everyone (6%)
8. I don't like anything (6%)
9. Opportunities (6%) e.g. work, school, community
10. Sports (5%)/easy to get around (5%)

“

"The community aspect and the slow-paced lifestyle. I also love that when there are events and things going on, it's often locals who are showcased".
- young person-





“Mental illness is extremely prevalent in the youth of Swan Hill and there needs to be more help, talk and solutions in schools and in our community”.

-young person-

THE ISSUES THAT YOUNG PEOPLE THINK ARE MOST IMPORTANT IN THEIR COMMUNITY/REGION

Young people once again demonstrated their interest in broader community issues (not just youth matters) by highlighting the issues that were most important to them in their community/region:

1. Drug misuse (25%)
2. Boredom/not enough to do in the community (15%)
3. Mental health (13%)
4. Bullying (11%)
5. Crime/community safety (11%)
6. Drought/farming (7%)
7. Climate change/environment (7%)
8. Alcohol misuse (6%)
9. Employment, Local shopping, Access to services/supports (5%)
10. Town pride/littering (5%)

“*We need people to be nicer to one another, less judgement”.*

- young person-

“Our farmers are struggling”.

- young person-





“Better access to generalist youth workers for support and advice. more events and activities which are not associated with the sporting clubs- that are free or low cost”.

-service provider-

“We need more interactive activities that do not include phones”.

-parent-

“Transition to further education and training programs for those who don't want to leave to go to Uni. More apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities. Better linking of services”.

-service provider-



WHAT DO YOU THINK IS NEEDED TO SUPPORT BETTER OUTCOMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12-25 YEARS AND THEIR FAMILIES? PARENTS/SERVICE PROVIDERS/COMMUNITY

The top five things that parents/service providers/community members think is needed to support better outcomes for youth and their families are:

1. **More services/supports (31%)** e.g. generalist youth workers, mental health services, service access information, links to services, a Youth Worker in Robinvale and childcare.
2. **More activities/events (28%)** e.g. low cost/no cost events/activities, social connections, music, school holiday and weekend programs.
3. **Youth friendly spaces (8%)**
4. **Youth voice/youth leadership (8%)**
5. **Access to local tertiary education options (7%)**

OUR KEY FOCUS AREAS

Feedback from young people, parents, service providers and the wider community has informed four key focus areas for the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2020-2025.



FOCUS AREA 1: HEALTHY

15

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WANT

Young people want to have good physical and mental health, strong community connections, a safe and inclusive community and a range of activities and events to get involved in.

The 2019 Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Survey revealed the top five issues that were of personal concern for young people in the past year:

1. Pressures of schoolwork (57%)
2. Mental health of yourself (56%)
3. Body image (52%)
4. Boredom/nothing to do (48%); and
5. Mental health of others (47%)

“Offer support, give knowledge of what services are available. Education around drugs and alcohol. Offering support around general life as a young person. There needs to be more services such as family therapy, individual therapy and more youth workers.”

-young person-



“Cut down on social media as it is draining everybody I feel and taking them away from the real world.”

-young person-

WHAT WE'LL DO

Key Directions

- 1 Deliver health prevention campaigns, activities, projects and programs for young people related to their health and wellbeing needs.
- 2 Promote services that are available to young people and their families.
- 3 Offer a range of low-cost/no-cost activities/events and programs for young people that build their social connections with their peers, families and the wider community.
- 4 Deliver Generalist Youth Services that offer counselling, referrals and wrap around support for young people and their families.
- 5 Support young people to have respectful and safe relationships that build their health and wellbeing.
- 6 Support young people to connect with the digital world in positive and safe ways.
- 7 Plan together with key partners to offer arts and cultural activities and events for young people.
- 8 Promote and develop Youth Inc ensuring that it is a welcoming, safe and inclusive space for all young people.
- 9 Seek resources to employ a full time Generalist Youth Worker for Manangatang and Robinvale.
- 10 Advocate for accessible, affordable, high quality and responsive services, initiatives and supports that meet the needs of young people from the middle years to 25 years of age.

FOCUS AREA 2: PARTICIPATING

16

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WANT

Young people want to have a say in youth and community matters, have opportunities to co-design and get involved in youth and community projects and initiatives and be respected for their diversity.

Young people who completed a survey wanted to strengthen youth participation/leadership and youth voice e.g. leadership activities and camps, diverse representation on youth council, climate action, including youth voice in decision making.

"It's very isolated from the rest of the state; I feel like our region is left out of a lot of important government decisions".
-young person-

"More opportunities to do volunteer work as a teenager - I know that probably sounds silly but I struggled to do volunteer work or get involved in it".
-young person-

"YACVic & Youth Inc have provided me the opportunity to be meaningfully involved in relevant projects involving local issues for young people which gives me a wealth of knowledge & experience".
-young person-

WHAT WE'LL DO

Key Directions

- 1 Inform, consult and involve young people in decisions that affect them and their communities.
- 2 Develop the leadership capacity and skills of young people aged 12-25 across the municipality.
- 3 Co-design and partner with young people on projects, programs and initiatives of importance to them e.g. recreational, social justice, arts/cultural, health and wellbeing.
- 4 Build the capacity of the whole of Council to engage young people in the work that they do.
- 5 Strengthen engagement with young people aged 19-25 years who live, work or study in the Swan Hill municipality.
- 6 Respect, appreciate and include young people from diverse cultures, backgrounds and abilities.
- 7 Enable and promote the safe participation of young people by assisting them to understand their rights, educating them on how they can raise their concerns and involving them in child safe planning.





FOCUS AREA 3: VALUED

"Have our communities look out for young people".
-young person-

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WANT

Young people want to be respected, valued and appreciated for their skills and achievements in their communities. They also want community members of all ages to realise and acknowledge the vital role they play in their communities and the valuable contributions that they make.

"Celebrate and encourage youth to hold events/stand up for what they believe in/participating in local events etc".
-young person-

WHAT WE'LL DO

Key Directions

"Somehow, allow older people to see the value of young people & the knowledge they can bring if they are listened to".
-young person-

- 1** Celebrate, acknowledge, value and promote the achievements of young people across the Swan Hill municipality.
- 2** Offer grants to resource youth-specific projects identified by young people in the municipality.

FOCUS AREA 4: PREPARED

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WANT

Young people want to be confident and ready for their future with skills and experience in the work environment, goal setting, job search, and life skills for independent living.

-7% of survey respondents wanted more education, employment and career opportunities.

-81% of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their family had supported them to explore their hopes, dreams and goals for the future and 52% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their school had supported them to explore their hopes dreams and goals for the future.

-For the overall group of survey respondents work (53%), university (51%) and completing high school (48%) were the top three plans noted. 10% of young people weren't sure of their future plans.

"Provide young people with the skills & education necessary to handle life, relationships and plan for the future".

-young person-

WHAT WE'LL DO

Key Directions

- 1** Support young people to identify and strengthen their resilience, personal goals, networks and personal supports and better plan for their future.
- 2** Support young people to develop their life and employment skills and be work-ready.
- 3** Support advocacy efforts for more traineeships, apprenticeships and youth employment opportunities.

"The Coaching Young People for Success program has helped me".

-young person-



71% of young people who filled in a survey said that they were positive or very positive about their future.



MONITORING, REVIEW & REPORTING

The Youth Strategy is incorporated into the Council Plan (2017-2021) with accompanying responsibilities, resources and timeframes identified.

A corresponding yearly work plan will be developed to guide implementation, review, timeframes, partnerships and resourcing.

NOVO Youth Council will work closely with Council's Youth Services team; advising, guiding and bringing continuous youth voice to the implementation process.

A youth and community friendly yearly report card will be published to share the progression and outcomes of the Youth Strategy 2020-2025 with young people, the youth sector, parents and the wider community.



Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy Consultation Report

2020

“Councils play a key role in the delivery of youth services. They often provide the most immediate experience of being part of a democratic process and provide opportunities for young people to participate in their communities through funding for youth workers and support for youth councils.”

-The State Government Youth Policy, Building Stronger Youth Engagement in Victoria-

Acknowledgement of Country

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

Acknowledgements

Swan Hill Rural City Council acknowledges the contribution of the many young people, parents/caregivers, community members, schools and service providers who have played a part in the development of Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2020-2025.

In particular:

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- Novo Youth Council
- Youth Strategy Researchers- Milla Devlin and Mia Rovere
- Swan Hill College
- Swan Hill College FLO Program
- Swan Hill Specialist School
- Robinvale College
- St Mary MacKillop College
- Manangatang P-12 College
- Sunraysia Institute of TAFE

Lastly, a big thank you to all of the young people who willingly gave their time, knowledge and experiences , your input has played a big part in shaping this Strategy.

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March 2020

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Abbreviations

LGA	Local Government Area
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (Questioning), Intersex
RTO	Registered Training Organisation
SHRCC	Swan Hill Rural City Council
YACVIC	Youth Affairs Council of Victoria

Executive Summary

Swan Hill Rural City Council undertook widespread community consultation to inform the development of a five-year Youth Strategy that will consider the needs and aspirations of young people aged 12-25 who live, work or study in the municipality.

The 2020-2025 Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy will provide overall direction for Council's Youth Coordination Unit and guide their programs, initiatives, advocacy and support work for young people and their families.

Swan Hill Rural City Council recognises the immeasurable value that young citizens bring to their communities. According to the 2016 ABS Census the Swan Hill municipality is home to 3,489 young people aged 12-25 years with this group accounting for approximately 17% of the overall population. Discrepancies within the Robinvale Census data suggest this figure may be higher.

A total of 711 young people in the 12-25 age group completed the 2019 Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Survey; equating to a notable 20% survey response rate for this age group overall across the municipality.

This is the third consecutive Youth Strategy that Council has developed since 2009. We now have a very valuable and comprehensive local data set spanning a ten-year period which provides significant insight into the health and wellbeing of our young people that tracks changes and emerging trends.

Analysis of survey data was conducted comparing genders and age cohort groups to highlight the strengths, needs and aspirations of these distinct groups. In addition, trends over time drawing on 2009 and 2015 surveys have also been highlighted. These comparisons can be found in the succeeding section of this report. It is hoped that these results can inform further research, planning and advocacy efforts across the municipality.

The 2019 Youth Survey captured a diversity of voices:

- ✓ 8% identified as being from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent
- ✓ 4% (or 28 young people) were young parents
- ✓ 6% speak a language other than English at home
- ✓ 8% shared that one or both parents were born overseas; and
- ✓ 4% were born overseas themselves
- ✓ 3% identified as non-binary/gender diverse youth.

The survey also captured the geographic diversity of the shire with respondents from Swan Hill, Robinvale, Lake Boga, Manangatang, Woorinen, Nyah, Nyah West, Piangil and Ultima.

In line with 2015 SHRCC Youth Survey findings, young people once again shared the high value they place on 'the people' in their communities rating the people (33%) as the thing they like the most about where they live. The other **things that young people liked the most about where they lived** were: the peace and quiet (17%), the small country town feel (12%), the safety and freedom (9%), the open spaces (8%), the river/lakes/nature (7%), the fact that everyone knows everyone (6%), the opportunities (6%), sports (5%) and the ease of getting around (5%).

Additionally, there were a number of stand-out results worth highlighting in the Executive Summary:

Overall, young people who filled in a survey shared their top five issues of personal concern over the past year as:

1. Pressures of schoolwork (57%)
2. Mental health of yourself (56%)
3. Body image (52%)

4. Boredom/nothing to do (48%); and
5. Mental health of others (47%)

Importantly, mental health of yourself and others and pressures of schoolwork were a greater concern compared to 2015 results and featured in the top five issues of concern across the overall survey results and for each age and gender cohort.

Parents/community/service provider concerns for young people closely mirrored young people's top five with added concerns around cyber and verbal bullying, drug use and too much time on technology in their top five concerns for young people.

The top five issues of concern *in Robinvale* over the past year were:

1. Pressures of schoolwork (50%)
2. Boredom/nothing to do (48%)
3. Mental health of yourself (40%)
4. Death of a loved one (40%)
5. Body Image (40%)

Young people once again demonstrated their interest in broader community issues (not just youth matters) by highlighting ***the issues that were most important to them in their community/region***: drug misuse, community boredom, mental health, bullying, crime/community safety, drought, climate change/environment, alcohol misuse, employment, shop local, access to services/supports, town pride, education and access to quality healthcare services were of greatest concern.

Eighty-one percent of young people shared that they continue to receive strong family support from their family to explore their hopes, dreams and goals for the future and 52% of young people indicated strong support from schools when planning for their future.

The vast majority of young people who filled in a survey (71%) indicated that they were positive or very positive about their future. Whilst there were no major differences across male and female genders, survey respondents identifying as gender diverse showed a lower level of positivity for their future compared to those identifying as male or female. *Given the small number of gender diverse respondents, caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

Eighty-three percent of young people shared that they felt safe-very safe in their community; a similar rating of personal safety overall when compared to 2015 results.

Young people highlighted what they would like the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Support Program to focus on over the next five years, the strongest areas being:

1. Delivering prevention programs/activities
2. Offering activities and events for young people
3. Advocacy and planning
4. Strengthening youth participation/leadership and youth voice
5. Offering Generalist Youth Support

Parents/community/service provider's top three suggestions for what they would like the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Support Program to focus on over the next five years closely aligned with what young people said:

1. Health/wellbeing prevention focus
2. Youth events/activities
3. Generalist youth support

Young people and parents/community alike also highlighted their strong interest in seeing further development of youth support and activities in the Manangatang and Robinvale communities.

The overall consultation results with young people and key stakeholders have greatly informed Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Strategy and corresponding action plan for the 2020-2025 period with the four key focus areas and key directions being:

Focus Area 1: Healthy

Key Directions

1. Deliver health prevention campaigns, activities, projects and programs for young people related to their health and wellbeing needs.
2. Promote services that are available to young people and their families.
3. Offer a range of low-cost/no-cost activities/events and programs for young people that build their social connections with their peers, families and the wider community.
4. Deliver Generalist Youth Services that offer counselling, referrals and wrap around support for young people and their families.
5. Support young people to have respectful and safe relationships that build their health and wellbeing.
6. Support young people to connect with the digital world in positive and safe ways.
7. Plan together with key partners to offer arts and cultural activities and events for young people.
8. Promote and develop Youth Inc ensuring that it is a welcoming, safe and inclusive space for all young people.
9. Seek resources to employ a full time Generalist Youth Worker for Manangatang and Robinvale.
10. Advocate for accessible, affordable, high quality and responsive services, initiatives and supports that meet the needs of young people from the middle years to 25 years of age.

Focus Area 2: Participating

Key Directions

1. Inform, consult and involve young people in decisions that affect them and their communities.
2. Develop the leadership capacity and skills of young people aged 12-25 across the municipality.
3. Co-design and partner with young people on projects, programs and initiatives of importance to them e.g. recreational, social justice, arts/cultural, health and wellbeing.
4. Build the capacity of the whole of Council to engage young people in the work that they do.
5. Strengthen engagement with young people aged 19-25 years who live, work or study in the Swan Hill municipality.
6. Respect, appreciate and include young people from diverse cultures, backgrounds and abilities.
7. Enable and promote the safe participation of young people by assisting them to understand their rights, educating them on how they can raise their concerns and involving them in child safe planning.

Focus Area 3: Valued

Key Directions

1. Celebrate, acknowledge, value and promote the achievements of young people across the Swan Hill municipality.
2. Offer grants to resource youth-specific projects identified by young people in the municipality.

Focus Area 4: Prepared

Key Directions

1. Support young people to identify and strengthen their resilience, personal goals, networks and personal supports and better plan for their future.
2. Support young people to develop their life and employment skills and be work-ready.
3. Support advocacy efforts for more traineeships, apprenticeships and youth employment opportunities.

An in-depth analysis of results can be found in the succeeding section of this report. It is hoped that this valuable local data can also guide planning, service delivery and advocacy efforts more broadly across all sectors who work closely with young people and their families. This report is intended as a

detailed background companion document for the Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Strategy 2020-2025; a youth and community friendly summary document.

Council's Role in Youth Service Delivery

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program is underpinned by a strong focus on youth participation and inclusion ensuring that:

- young people have connection to community
- services and support initiatives create healthy and safe environments; and
- young people across the municipality are able to contribute to decision making and development of policy, programs and initiatives that affect them and their community.

Our service delivery is shaped through a co-design model of practice with a strong focus on preventative health and wellbeing initiatives and addressing the issues that young people have told us are most important to them e.g. bullying, career pathways, respectful relationships, mental health, managing study pressures, body image and alcohol and drug use.

The Youth Support Program operates from the Youth Inc hub. The Youth Support Team offer a wide range of services, activities and programs for young people:

Generalist Youth Support Services

- Empower Youth Program
- Service navigation and support
- Referral pathways
- Early invention programs and initiatives,
- Information and resources
- Coaching Young People for Success

Youth Participation/Leadership

- Novo Youth Council
- Random Events Committee (Freeza)
- SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Alliance)
- Coaching Young People for Success

Co-Design & Consultation

- LGA wide Youth Survey
- Co-design of programs, initiatives and events with young people
- Linking youth voice to matters of youth and community importance e.g. Sexy and Safe, Royal Commission into Mental Health, UN's Youth Consultation, Community Planning Process (SHRCC)

Youth Led Activities & Events

- FREEZA- drug and alcohol free events
- Arts/culture activities
- Youth Week
- Mental health week
- Youth Ball
- Youth Arts Festival
- Health and wellbeing initiatives

Partnerships & Advocacy

- School partnerships
- Health and community service partnerships
- Victorian Rural Youth Services Group (YACVic)
- Youth Strategy Advisory Group (State Gov)
- Advocacy on youth issues
- Southern Mallee Youth Community Development Network (sub regional)
- Swan Hill Youth Network, Health and Wellbeing Network
- Youth Engagement & Participation Training Program

Service demands have grown since the Youth Support Program's inception with local data highlighting growing levels of vulnerability and disadvantage across the Swan Hill LGA. Increasingly, our service is supporting young people and their families impacted by complex factors such as: poverty, family violence, teenage pregnancy, bullying, child protection substantiations, poor literacy and numeracy, youth disengagement, alcohol consumption and increasing multiculturalism.

Why do we need a Youth Strategy?

Young people aged 12-25 are a significant group representing 17% of the overall population in the Swan Hill Rural City Council municipality. Research highlights the substantial changes that occur during adolescence and the crucial transitions to adulthood during this time. It also confirms that successes or difficulties experienced during the transition from school to either education or training are linked to outcomes beyond education and employment, including health outcomes and lifetime earnings (Youth Action and Western Sydney Regional Information and Research Service (WESTIR) 2018).

Local data reveals the magnitude of some of the additional challenges and the higher level of disadvantage that many young people and their families are facing across the Swan Hill Rural City Council municipality:

- Swan Hill Rural City Council had almost double the amount of child protection substantiations, 2014/2015 (20.7 per 1000 eligible population) compared to Victoria (11.4 per 1000 eligible population).
- Almost three times more family violence incidents (28.9 per 1000) compared to Victoria, 2014/2015 (12.4 per 1,000); a ranking of third highest of all LGAs in the state.
- There were almost twice as many government housing rentals in the Swan Hill LGA, 2016 (4.6%) compared to Victoria (2.5%).
- There was a higher number of health care card holders in the Swan Hill LGA, 2017 (9.1%) compared to Victoria (7.9%).
- SEIFA data which measures relative socio-economic disadvantage highlights that the Swan Hill LGA has a higher level of disadvantage (947) compared to Victoria (1010), 2016.

The data sheds light on the high levels of vulnerability and complex needs that some young people experience and the importance of Swan Hill Rural City Council's sustained efforts towards improving outcomes for young people and their families.

Data sources: ABS Census, PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area, Statistical Data for Victorian Communities www.socialstatistics.com.au, Victoria Health LGA Profiles, Swan Hill 2013 & 2015

Research Methodology

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy consultation process heard from a total of 1106 people:

- ✓ 82 young people attended focus groups
- ✓ 16 service providers attended focus groups
- ✓ 711 young people completed an online survey
- ✓ 297 parents/community/service providers completed an online survey

The Youth Strategy engagement process was inclusive in engaging and hearing the voices of a wide range of stakeholders including:

- Young people aged 12-25
- Parents/caregivers/community members
- Key community groups/organisations
- Council staff
- Key Government departments

To ensure relevance and youth friendliness two youth researchers were employed alongside the project consultant in a co-design capacity.

The youth researcher role involved:

- Assisting with designing and testing research tools e.g. youth survey, roving questions
- Advising on methods for reaching young people and parents
- Promoting the youth survey to young people aged 12-25
- Asking roving questions at key events
- Assisting with analysing and sharing data back to youth; and
- Assisting with presenting data and key findings to Councillors.

A mixed methods approach to consultation was undertaken to engage a diverse range of young people from across the geographic expanse of the Shire. Young people were engaged through an online survey, focus groups and roving interviews.

Surveys were co-designed and tested with young people and promoted via social media and through secondary and TAFE school settings and through community service providers. The design of the Swan Hill Rural City 2019 Youth Survey featured some new questions this year such as an option for gender diverse young people to identify and a question to measure young people's positivity about the future.

Focussed conversation groups were held in secondary schools, TAFE and with service providers in both Swan Hill and Robinvale.

A survey inviting feedback from service providers, parents/caregivers and community was also developed and widely promoted across the municipality.

A summary of consultation findings and a comparison to the previous survey data are detailed in the succeeding section of this report.

The Policy Picture

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2020-2025 aligns with and is informed by local, state, national and international priorities and outcomes.

Local

- Swan Hill Rural City Council Plan
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2017-2021)
- SHRCC Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy
- SHRCC Community Access and Inclusion Strategy (2017-2021)
- SHRCC Economic Development Strategy (2017-2022)
- SHRCC Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan
- SHRCC Creative Strategy (2018-2022)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Child Safe Policy
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategic Plan (2015-2019)
- SHRCC Early-Middle Years Plan (2020-2029)

STATE

- Victorian Child Safe Standards
- Children, Youth and Families Act No.96 of 2005 (Victoria)
- Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015-2019
- Victoria's Vulnerable Children-Our Shared Responsibility (2013-2022)
- Roadmap to Reform Strong Families Safe Children (2016)
- Ending Family Violence-Victoria's Plan for Change (2017)
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act (2008)
- Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Action Plan
- Disability Discrimination Act (1992)/Disability Amendment Act (2012)
- YacVic's Strategic Plan 2020-2022

NATIONAL

- National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
- National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children (2009-2020)
- Jobs for Families Childcare Package

INTERNATIONAL

- Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ratified in Australia in 1990)

Young People in 2020

Young people today are navigating a far more complex world than previous generations, with challenges created by the internet, changing social norms, the changing world of work, political instability and most recently the COVID-19 pandemic. They face uncertainty in terms of unemployment and housing security, education, income inequality, climate change and the economy.

Australia has experienced nearly three decades of uninterrupted economic growth; however, some Australians are being left further behind. This is especially true at the time of writing this Strategy with the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in widespread unemployment and economic uncertainty in Australia and worldwide. There is growing concern that young people have been (and will continue to be) disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Adding to this there continues to be certain groups of Australians at high risk of experiencing entrenched poverty, deprivation and social exclusion.

Research with young Australians shows that those who experience more severe disadvantage are less able to engage and excel in school and report lower levels of life satisfaction, less positivity about the future and feel less safe than their peers. The link between child poverty and poor educational outcomes highlights that its impact reaches well into the future.

Those who are disproportionately more vulnerable to poverty are sole parents, unemployed people, families relying on social security, Indigenous people and people living with a disability. There is a higher proportion of all of these population groups in rural and remote areas than in major cities (National Rural Health Alliance, 2015).

A snapshot of our local data clearly demonstrates significant levels of disadvantage for some young people across our local government area. Some of our young people are not doing as well as they should.

Despite this adversity, our young people continue to have hope and aspiration and the best programs and interventions are those designed with young people for young people.

In response to the changing rural youth landscape our Youth Support Program has developed significantly and now offers a range of services for young people. We remain strongly committed to hearing the voices of young people; especially those experiencing vulnerability and at greater risk of entrenched disadvantage.

Our Young People-Key Stats & Facts






A summary of key data has been drawn together to support an understanding of young people and their families across the Swan Hill municipality.





Based on the 2016 ABS Census of Population and Housing the Swan Hill LGA has a population of **20,584 people**. A total of 832 people (4.0% of the LGA population) identify as **Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander**. Whilst the median age of the ATSI population was 21 years, the median age across the entire LGA population was 40 years (compared to a Victorian median of 37 years).









According to the 2016 ABS Census the Swan Hill municipality is home to **3,489 young people aged 12-25 years** with this group accounting for approximately **17% of the overall population**. Discrepancies within the Robinvale Census data suggest this figure may be higher.

Across the Swan Hill LGA 74.4% of the population were **Australian born** with the next most common countries of birth being India 1.2%, Italy 1.1%, England 0.9%, Vietnam 0.8% and Malaysia 0.8%. http://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/LGA26610?opendocument

The indicators below highlight relevant data over time for young people aged 12-25 and their families.

<p>The teenage fertility rate for women aged 15-19 years, per 1,000 (2008) Swan Hill LGA 33.0 Victoria 10.9</p>		<p>The teenage fertility rate for women aged 15-19 years, per 1,000 (2012) Swan Hill LGA 41.9 Victoria 10.4 Rank amongst Victorian LGAs – 1st</p>
<p>Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: 2011 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases</p>		
<p>Proportion of children who are bullied (Year 7-9) (2012) Swan Hill LGA 23.7% Victoria 19.8%</p>		<p>Proportion of children who are bullied (Year 7-9) (2017) Swan Hill LGA 28.9% Victoria 20.8%</p>
<p>Source: VCAMS https://public.tableau.com/views/10_3_0/VICInd10_3?:embed=y&:display_count=no&:linktarget=self&:tabs=no&:showVizHome=no</p>		
<p>Percentage of students who feel socially connected and get along with their peers (2011) Years 7 to 9 Swan Hill LGA 53.9% Victoria 58.8%</p>		<p>Percentage of students who feel socially connected and get along with their peers (2015) Years 7 to 9 Swan Hill LGA 46.5% Victoria 54.6%</p>
<p>Source: VCAMS https://public.tableau.com/views/33_2_0/VICInd33_2?:embed=y&:display_count=no&:linktarget=self&:tabs=no&:showVizHome=no</p>		
<p>Percentage of year 9 students who attain national minimum standards in numeracy (2011) Swan Hill LGA 92.1% Victoria 95.0%</p>		<p>Percentage of year 9 students who attain national minimum standards in numeracy (2015) Swan Hill LGA 95.6% Victoria 95.6%</p>
<p>Source: Victoria Health LGA Profiles, Swan Hill 2013 & 2015 https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/data/mallee-area-2015</p>		
<p>Percentage of year 9 students who attain national minimum standards in literacy (2011) Swan Hill LGA 91.1% Victoria 93.5%</p>		<p>Percentage of year 9 students who attain national minimum standards in literacy (2015) Swan Hill LGA 90.5% Victoria 93.5%</p>
<p>Source: Victoria Health LGA Profiles, Swan Hill 2013 & 2015 https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/data/mallee-area-2015</p>		

Learning or Earning at ages 15 to 19 (2011) Swan Hill LGA 75.4% Victoria 83.8%	Time trend not provided due to change in indicator parameters	Learning or Earning at ages 15 to 24 (2016) Swan Hill LGA 79.0% Victoria 86.2%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: 2011 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
Full-time participation in secondary school education at age 16 (2011) Swan Hill LGA 82.9% Victoria 81.8%		Full-time participation in secondary school education at age 16 (2016) Swan Hill LGA 77.9% Victoria 86.1%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
School leaver participation in higher education (2013) Swan Hill LGA 22.8% Victoria 35.9%		School leaver participation in higher education (2016) Swan Hill LGA 15.2% Victoria 39.3%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
No data available		People who left school at Year 10 or below, or did not go to school, ASR per 100 (2016) Swan Hill LGA 34.6 Victoria 26.0
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
No data available		20-24-year-olds who left school before completing year 11 (2016) Swan Hill LGA 20.3% Victoria 10.3%
Source: Statistical Data for Victorian Communities www.socialstatistics.com.au		
Young people aged 16 to 24 receiving an unemployment benefit (2014) Swan Hill LGA 5.5% Victoria 3.4%		Young people aged 16 to 24 receiving an unemployment benefit (June 2017) Swan Hill LGA 4.4% Victoria 2.5%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: June 2015 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
Youth mortality: Deaths of persons aged 15 to 24 years, Average annual ASR per 100,000 (2010 to 2014) Swan Hill LGA 44.1 Victoria 32.9		Youth mortality: Deaths of persons aged 15 to 24 years, Average annual ASR per 100,000 (2011 to 2015) Swan Hill LGA # (data withheld) Victoria 31.1
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
Child protection substantiations per 1,000 eligible population (2010/2011) Swan Hill LGA 9.8 Victoria 6.7 Rank amongst Victorian LGAs – 25 th		Child protection substantiations per 1,000 eligible population (2014/2015) Swan Hill LGA 20.7 Victoria 11.4 Rank amongst Victorian LGAs – 6 th
Source: Victoria Health LGA Profiles, Swan Hill 2013 & 2015 https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/data/mallee-area-2015		

Crime where the victim was a child or young person (rate per 1,000, children and young people aged 0-17) (2012/13) Swan Hill LGA 14.7 Victoria 10.1		Crime where the victim was a child or young person (rate per 1,000, children and young people aged 0-17) (2014/15) Swan Hill LGA 12.9 Victoria 9.6
Source: VCAMS https://public.tableau.com/views/12_3_0/VicInd12_3?:embed=y&:display_count=no&:linktarget=_self&:showTabs=n&:showVizHome=no		
Family Violence Incidents per 1,000 (2012/2013) Swan Hill LGA 26.4 Victoria 10.8 Rank amongst Victorian LGAs – 2 nd		Family Violence Incidents per 1,000 (2014/2015) Swan Hill LGA 28.9 Victoria 12.4 Rank amongst Victorian LGAs – 3 rd
Source: Victoria Health LGA Profiles, Swan Hill 2013 & 2015 https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/data/mallee-area-2015		
Single parent families with children aged less than 15 years (2011) Swan Hill LGA 24.0% Victoria 19.6%		Single parent families with children aged less than 15 years (2016) Swan Hill LGA 23.3% Victoria 18.3%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
Jobless families with children aged less than 15 years (2011) Swan Hill LGA 16.5% Victoria 12.3%		Jobless families with children aged less than 15 years (2016) Swan Hill LGA 15.0% Victoria 11.0%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
Children in low income, welfare-dependent families (2011) Swan Hill LGA 25.8% Victoria 20.7%		Children in low income, welfare-dependent families (June 2017) Swan Hill LGA 27.6% Victoria 19.3%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
Health Care Card holders (2011) Swan Hill LGA 10.5% Victoria 8.8%		Health Care Card holders (June 2017) Swan Hill LGA 9.1% Victoria 7.9%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
SEIFA Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage* (2011) Swan Hill LGA 950 Victoria 1010		SEIFA Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage* (2016) Swan Hill LGA 947 Victoria 1010
* Index score (based on Australian score of 1000) Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		
Dwellings rented from the government housing authority (2011) Swan Hill LGA 5.2% Victoria 2.8%		Dwellings rented from the government housing authority (2016) Swan Hill LGA 4.6% Victoria 2.5%
Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: October 2013 & February 2019 http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases		

<p>People with a profound or severe disability (includes people in long-term accommodation), All ages (2011) Swan Hill LGA 5.3% Victoria 4.7%</p>		<p>People with a profound or severe disability (includes people in long-term accommodation), All ages (2016) Swan Hill LGA 6.0% Victoria 5.4%</p>
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Source: PHIDU - The Social Health Atlas of Australia Data by Local Government Area Published: December 2014 & February 2019
<http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/social-health-atlases>

<p>Proportion of adult population with psychological distress, by level - High/Very high K10: 22+ (2014) Swan Hill LGA 8.2% Victoria 12.6%</p>		<p>Proportion of adult population with psychological distress, by level - High/Very high K10: 22+ (2017) Swan Hill LGA 23% Victoria 15%</p>
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Source: Victorian Population Health Surveys (2014 and 2017)
<https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/population-health-systems/health-status-of-victorians/survey-data-and-reports/victorian-population-health-survey/victorian-population-health-survey-2014>
<https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/population-health-systems/health-status-of-victorians/survey-data-and-reports/victorian-population-health-survey/victorian-population-health-survey-2017>

What We Heard- Priorities for Young People

Consultation with young people, parents, service providers and community members highlighted the following key priority areas for Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program to focus on over the next five years; a detailed analysis of consultation data can be found in the succeeding section of this report.

DELIVER PREVENTION PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES

The top health/wellbeing concerns for young people overall were pressures of schoolwork, mental health of themselves, body image and mental health of others. Alarming, since 2015 young people's concern for their own mental health has doubled. Young people want to work with Council to design/plan a range of prevention programs/activities that are focussed on mental health, bullying, drug and alcohol, social media use, acceptance of diversity, LGBTQI, sexual health, respectful relationships, goal setting/future planning, life skills, body image, managing school pressures, health.

OFFER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Boredom was once again a top five concern for young people. Young people want whole of community events, arts and culture events, festivals, activities for under 18's, activities for 19-25 age group, low cost/no cost events, weekend and holiday activities.

MORE GENERALIST YOUTH SUPPORT ACROSS THE MUNICIPALITY

Young people and service providers/parents and community both shared that they wanted Council to continue offering generalist youth support for young people and their families e.g. support to access services, counselling, family support, case management, future planning support and strengthening mental health and wellbeing. Young people and service providers, parents and community also highlighted their desire for Swan Hill Rural City Council to offer more generalist youth support for young people and their families in Robinvale and Manangatang.

STRENGTHEN YOUTH PARTICIPATION/LEADERSHIP AND YOUTH VOICE

Young people wanted more leadership activities and camps, more opportunities to co-design projects and initiatives, diverse representation on youth council, climate action and a strengthened youth voice in decision making for both youth and community matters.

ADVOCACY AND PLANNING

Young people wanted Council to partner with them to advocate and plan for: local tertiary education options, transport, youth friendly spaces, poverty/disadvantage, crime/community safety, community infrastructure, local shopping, employment/career options, teenage pregnancy and youth access to quality health care services.

STRONGER FOCUS ON 19-25 YEAR AGE GROUP

In 2019 220 young people aged 19-25 completed a survey. Young people in this age group had the highest level of concern compared to all age groups for: their own mental health, their body image, the mental health of others, their physical health, money problems and concern about career/employment opportunities for the future. The consultation results confirmed that this transition age is a significant time of need with thoughtful resources and engagement required.

STRENGTHENED FOCUS ON MANANGATANG AND ROBINVALE

Young people, parents and service providers highlighted the need for stronger youth supports based in Robinvale and Manangatang. A desire for a dedicated Youth Worker for Robinvale and Manangatang was captured during consultation. It is envisaged that this worker would offer generalist youth support, prevention activities and programs, youth activities and events and strengthen youth participation and leadership in both communities.

Our Key Focus Areas

Feedback from young people, parents, service providers and the wider community has informed four key focus areas for the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2020-2025.

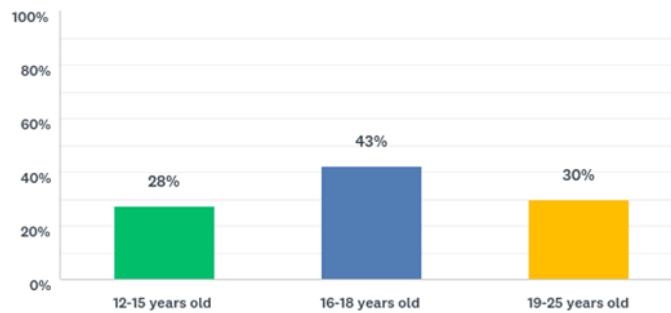


Consultation Results

Youth Survey Results

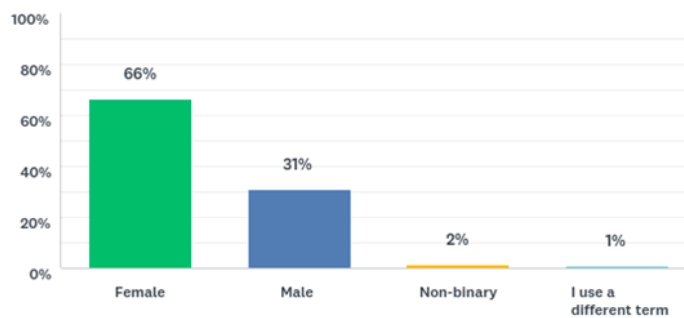
A total of 711 young people filled in an online survey. The results are included in the succeeding section of this report.

Q1 Your age?



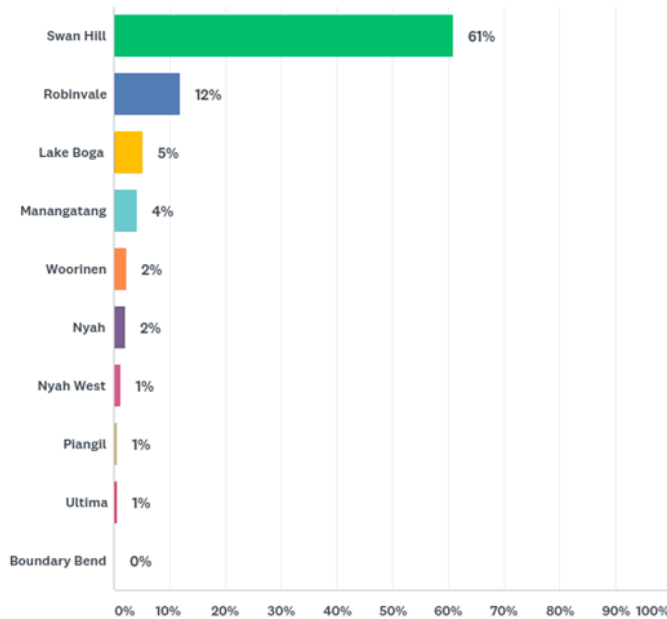
Survey respondents represented an almost equal split across the age groups with sixteen to eighteen-year old's having the highest number of responses (43%) followed by the nineteen to twenty-five age group (30%) and the twelve-fifteen age group (28%). **In Robinvale** the vast majority of respondents were in the twelve-fifteen age group (61%), 24% were aged sixteen to eighteen and the remaining 15% were aged nineteen to twenty-five years of age.

Q2 Your Gender?



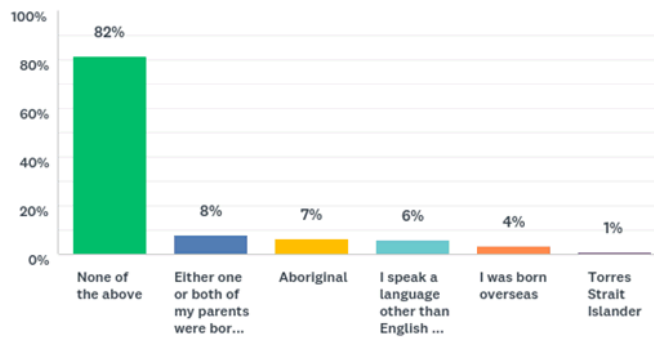
Female respondents (66%) were almost double that of male (31%) and the remaining 3% identified as non-binary or another preferred gender diverse term. **In Robinvale** 62% of respondents were female, 33% were male and 5% identified as non-binary. The 2015 survey results had a higher rate of male respondents (45%) and a lower rate of female respondents (55%). **The 2009 & 2015 youth surveys did not provide an option for young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse to select.**

Q3 Which town do you live in?



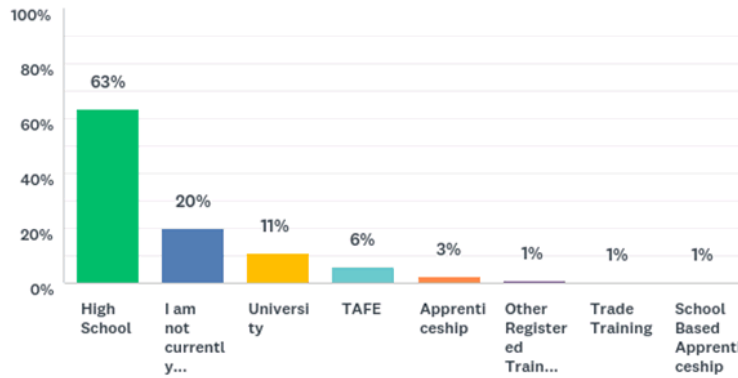
Survey respondents came from a range of localities throughout the municipality. Over half of respondents (61%) lived in the largest centre of Swan Hill followed by Robinvale (12%), Lake Boga (5%) and Manangatang (4%). An equal 2% of respondents lived in Woorinen or Nyah and an equal 1% lived in Nyah West, Piangil and Ultima. **The 2015 youth survey results mirror where young people said they lived in 2019.**

Q4 Cultural background? (tick all that apply)



Respondents identified as coming from a diverse range of cultural backgrounds. 8% of young people who completed a survey identified as being from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. 8% of respondents said that either one or both of their parents were born overseas and 4% said that they were born overseas themselves. 6% shared that they spoke a language other than English in their home. **In Robinvale** 26% of survey respondents identified as being from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, 19% spoke a language other than English at home, 10% shared that either one or both of their parents were born overseas and 4% were born overseas themselves. **The 2009 youth survey had a slightly lower 5% response rate overall from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people compared to 2019. The 2015 youth survey results mirror the cultural background of youth survey respondents in 2019.**

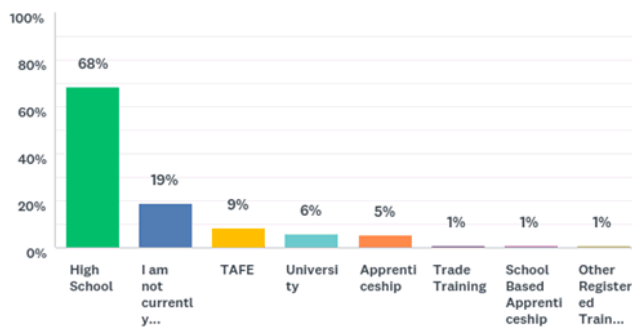
Q5 Are you currently studying?(tick all that apply)



The majority (63%) of young people who filled in a survey were in High School, 20% weren't studying, 11% were in university, 6% were enrolled in TAFE and 3% were doing an apprenticeship. An equal 1% were in other training or doing a school-based apprenticeship.

In Robinvale 75% of respondents were in High School, 21% weren't currently studying, 4% were enrolled in TAFE, 2% were attending university and 1% were doing school-based apprenticeships. An additional 1% were engaged in training at an RTO.

Q5 Male Responses

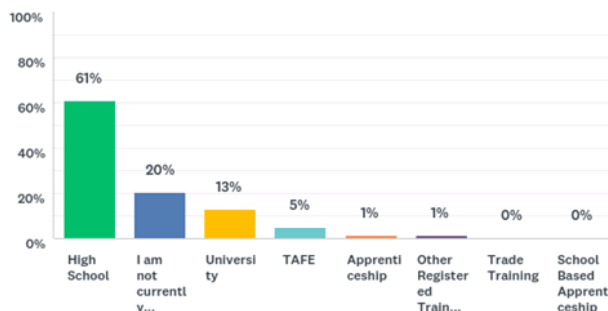


Double the number of non-binary/gender diverse respondents (14%) and female respondents (13%) were attending university compared to males (6%).

Whilst males who filled in a survey had almost double the number attending TAFE (9%) compared to females (5%). Respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse had 0% attending TAFE.

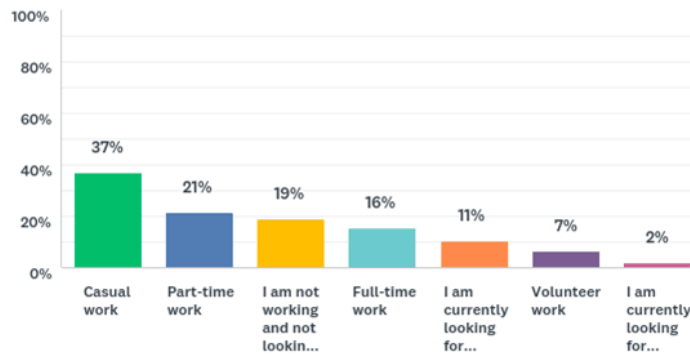
More non-binary/gender diverse respondents (7%) and male respondents (5%) were completing apprenticeships compared to females (1%).

Q5 Female Responses



***Note, due to the small number of respondents for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group (14) caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

Q6 Your current work? (tick all that apply)



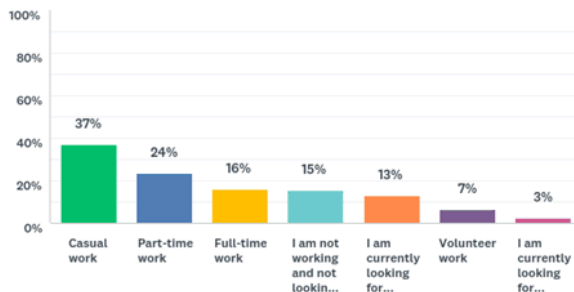
The highest number of respondents were undertaking casual work (37%), 21% were engaged in part-time work, 19% were not working and not looking for work, 16% were working full time, 11% were currently looking for part-time work and 2% were looking for full time work. 7% of young people who filled in a survey shared that they were volunteering.

How does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey results?

- In 2019 a higher number of respondents were working casually (37%) compared to 2009 (30%) and 2015 (25%)
- In 2019 a higher number of respondents were working part-time (21%) compared to 2009 (14%) and 2015 (14%)
- More respondents were working full time in 2019 (16%) compared to 2009(2%) and 2015 (3%)

In Robinvale 4% of young people who filled in a survey were volunteering. 42% of respondents were not working and not looking for work (this would be shaped by the fact that 61% of survey respondents were not old enough to work), 21% were working in casual positions and 19% were looking for part-time work. 13% were working in part-time positions, 8% were working full time and 1% were looking for full time work.

Q6 Female Responses

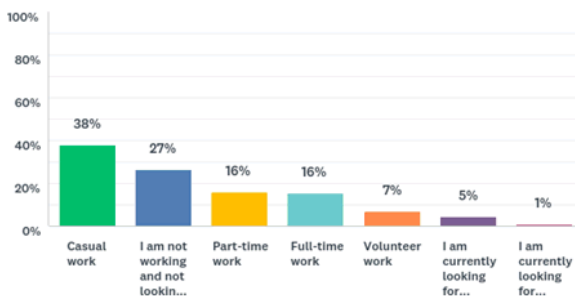


Results across the female, non-binary/gender diverse and male genders compared similarly across most areas.

The greatest difference between genders was that the number of young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse looking for part time work (21%) was highest compared to females looking for part-time work (13%) and males (5%).

A much smaller number of survey respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were engaged in casual work (14%) compared to females (37%) and males (36%).

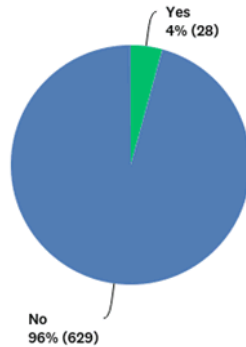
Q6 Male Responses



In addition, a higher number of survey respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse (29%) and female (24%) were working part-time compared to male respondents (16%)

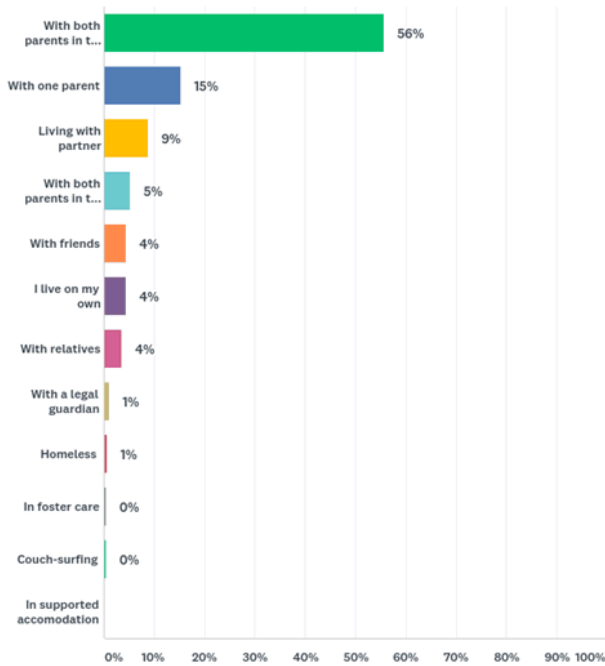
***Note, due to the small number of respondents for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group (14) caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

Q7 Are you a parent/caregiver?



4% of young people who filled in a survey shared that they were a parent/caregiver. That was a total of 28 young people. **In Robinvale** there were 3 survey respondents (4%) who said they were a parent/caregiver. In 2015 twenty young parents filled in a survey and in 2011 nineteen did.

Q8 Who do you live with?

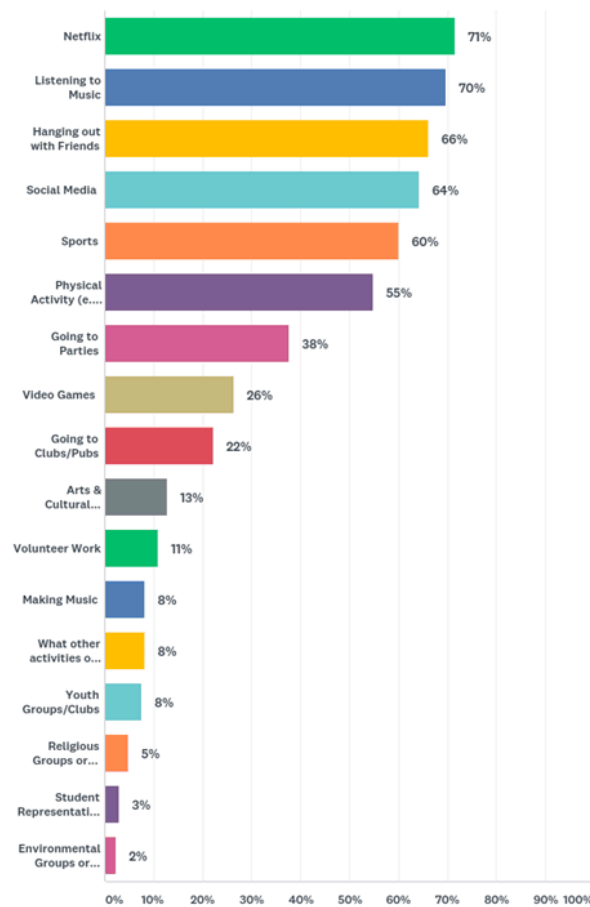


Over half (56%) of survey respondents lived with both parents in the same home. 15% lived with one parent and an additional 5% lived with both parents in two different homes in shared care arrangements. 9% lived with a partner and an equal 4% lived with friends, relatives or on their own. 1% lived with a legal guardian and 1% shared that they were homeless.

Of significance were the number of survey respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse who were experiencing homelessness (29% or 4 young people) compared to 0% for young people identifying as male or female. ****Note, due to the small number of respondents for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group (14) caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.**

In Robinvale 68% of young people lived with both parents in the same home, 10% lived with relatives, 9% lived with one parent and an additional 5% lived with both parents in two different homes in shared care arrangements. 4% lived with a partner, 3% lived on their own and an equal 1% lived with a legal guardian or with friends.

Q9 How do you spend your free time? (tick all that apply)



The top five things that young people who filled in a survey were doing in their spare time were: Netflix (71%), listening to music (70%), hanging out with friends (66%), social media (64%) and sports (60%).

Comparing differences across age groups:

- In the 12-15 age group 13% more young people were playing sports compared to the overall respondents (73%).
- The 16-18-year-old age group results were very similar to the overall results with no major stand-out differences.
- The 19-25-year-old age group had more young people watching Netflix (81%), less listening to music (61%) compared to the overall results and significantly less people in the age group participating in sports (43%).

Males who filled in a survey listed their top five as: sports (70%), music (64%), Netflix (60%), video games (57%) and hanging out with friends (55%).

Females who filled in a survey listed their top five as: Netflix (77%), music (72%), hanging out with friends (71%), social media (71%) and sports (57%).

Gender Diverse/Non-Binary respondents listed their top five as: listening to music (79%), Netflix (64%), social media (57%), hanging out with friends (50%) and arts and cultural activities (43%).

Stand-out differences when comparing across gender groups:

- A higher number of male respondents were involved in sports (70%) compared to females (57%) and non-binary/gender diverse respondents (21%).
- Female respondents were using social media (71%) more frequently than non-binary/gender diverse respondents (57%) and males (49%).
- Female respondents were hanging out with their friends (71%) more often than males (55%) and non-binary/gender diverse respondents (50%).
- Female respondents were watching more Netflix (77%) than non-binary/gender diverse respondents (64%) and males (60%).
- Three to four times more respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were engaged in arts and culture activities in their free time (43%) compared to females (13%) and males (10%).
- Three to four times more non-binary/gender diverse respondents were making music (29%) compared to males (11%) and females (6%).
- Twice as many non-binary/gender diverse respondents were volunteering (21%) compared to male (12%) and female (10%) respondents.

***Note, due to the small number of respondents (14) for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

In Robinvale the top five were the same as the overall results but in slightly different order: listening to music (74%), Netflix (71%), social media (68%), sports (66%) and hanging out with friends (65%).

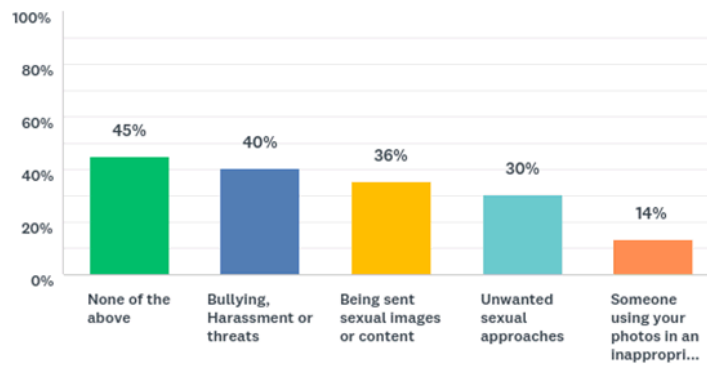
How does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey results?

- In 2019 respondents were playing less sport in their free time (60%) compared to 2009 (72%) and 2015 (72%).
- There was a slight increase in respondents who were volunteering in their free time in 2019 (11%) compared to 2009 (10%) and 2015 (9%).
- In 2019 slightly less respondents were involved in youth clubs and groups (8%) compared to 2015 (12%). In 2009 there were also 8% of respondents involved in youth groups/clubs.
- In 2019 a higher number of respondents were going to pubs/clubs (22%) compared to 2009 (13%) and 2015 (8%) *** there was a higher number of respondents in the 19-25 age group in 2019 compared to 2011 & 2015, this may account for the increase.*
- There were more respondents going to parties in 2009 (43%) compared to 2019 (38%) and 2015 (30%).
- A higher number of respondents in 2019 were using social media in their free time (64%) compared to 2015 (56%). **Social media was not an answer choice in the 2009 survey.**

In 2019 this question had a number of options that were added that weren't available in 2009 or 2015, so therefore cannot be compared over time; the newly added options were:

1. Netflix
2. Listening to music
3. Hanging out with friends
4. Physical activity
5. Video games
6. Making music

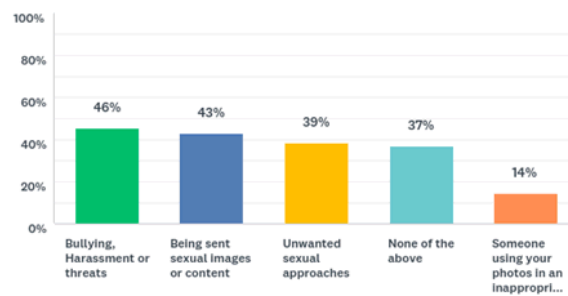
Q10 Have you ever experienced any of the following online? (tick all that apply)



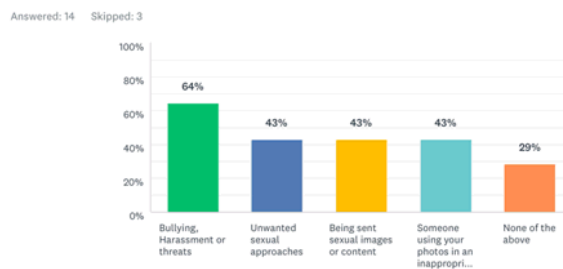
45% of the overall respondents had never faced any online bullying, harassment, threats, inappropriate use of photos or unwanted sexual approaches. 40% had experienced online bullying, harassment or threats, 36% had been sent a sexual image or content, 30% had faced an unwanted sexual approach online and 14% had experienced someone using their photos in an inappropriate way.

- 64% of males hadn't experienced any issues online compared to 37% of female and 29% of non-binary/gender diverse respondents who hadn't.
- Survey respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse experienced the highest amount of bullying, harassment or threats online (64%) compared to females (46%) and males (26%).
- The number of non-binary/gender diverse respondents (43%) and females who had received unwanted sexual approaches online (39%) was almost four times higher than males (11%).
- The number of females and non-binary/gender diverse survey respondents who had been sent sexual images or content (43%) was over two times higher than male respondents (18%).
- Non-binary/gender diverse respondents had experienced three-four times higher rates of someone using their photos in an inappropriate way (43%) compared to female (14%) and male (9%) respondents.

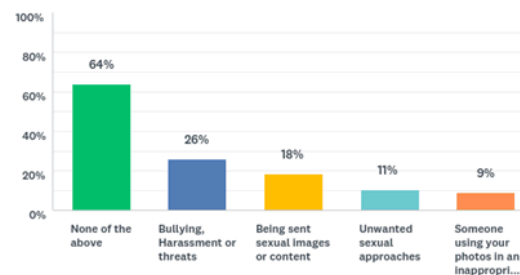
Q10 Female Responses



Non-Binary/Gender Diverse Responses



Q10 Male Responses



***Note, due to the small number of respondents (14) for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

Comparing differences across age groups:

- The 12-15-year-old age group had the highest number of respondents who hadn't experienced any of the noted issues online (58%) compared to 16-18-year old's (44%) and 19-25-year old's (33%)
- Respondents from the 19-25-year-old age group faced the highest percentage of online bullying, harassment and threats (49%) compared to 12-15-year old's (37%) and 16-18-year old's (37%)
- Respondents from the 19-25-year-old age group were sent the most sexual images or content (47%) compared to 16-18-year old's (36%) and 12-15-year old's (22%)
- The 19-25-year-old respondents also had the highest number of unwanted sexual approaches (44%) compared to 16-18-year old's (30%) and 12-15-year old's (16%)
- Inappropriate use of images was the same for the 19-25 and 16-18-year-old groups (15%) and the 12-15-year-old age group was slightly lower (10%).

"Sometimes people share sketchy pictures of me but then I'm like 'well, I guess I let that picture be taken'."

*****This question was not asked in the previous youth surveys so cannot be compared over time.***

Q11. What do you like best about where you live?

The top ten things that young people said they liked best about where they lived were:

1. The people (33%)
2. Quiet/peaceful (17%)
3. Small country town feel (12%)
4. Safety/freedom (9%)
5. Open spaces (8%)
6. River/lakes/nature (7%)
7. Everyone knows everyone (6%)
8. I don't like anything (6%)
9. Opportunities (6%) e.g. work, school, community
10. Sports (5%) / Easy to get around (5%)

Other suggestions mentioned to a lesser extent: activities/events on offer, facilities e.g. Youth Inc, skate park, library, climate, shopping, cultural diversity, home.

"I like that we have a public pool, cinemas and activities ran though out the town".

"I love the people and I am surrounded with the land, the environment and my family".

"It's a small town and everyone knows everyone; it's easy to get around".

"The community aspect and the slow-paced lifestyle. I also love that when there are events and things going on, it's often locals who are showcased".

"The close community and the location right on the river".

"Being with my family. There are lots of Aboriginal people in Robinvale and the river and bush".

"How friendly the town is and the cultural diversity".

"The wide-open spaces and clean air".

How does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey?

Young people's top things they liked about where they lived were very similar in the 2009, 2015 and 2019 youth surveys with **the people** taking out the #1 spot in the 2015 and 2019 surveys. Notably, the number of young people who said they liked **the people** where they live has doubled since 2009.

2009 Youth Survey Results	2015 Youth Survey Results
1. Friends & family (18%)	1. The people (18%)
2. The people (15%)	2. Open Spaces (14%)
3. Small community (13%)	3. Quiet/peaceful (13%)
4. Everyone knows everyone (11%)	4. Small country town (12%)
5. Sport (9%)	5. Easy to get around (8%)- no traffic, easy to walk places

Q12. What don't you like about where you live?

The top ten things that young people said they didn't like about where they lived were:

1. Boredom/nothing to do (36%)
2. Isolation (12%)
3. Poor shopping options (11%)
4. The people (10%)
5. Too small (9%)
6. There is nothing I don't like (8%)
7. Crime/safety (7%)
8. Drugs/alcohol (6%)
9. Mental health (4%)
10. Lack of job opportunities (3%)

Other suggestions mentioned to a lesser extent: poor internet, lack of transportation, weather/nature, lack of support, neighbours.

"Not much to do/no leisure activities for my age group outside of work and sport and study".

"Lack of different/interesting job opportunities".

"The non-stop drama and unnecessary bullying that goes around".

"The small mindedness of many in the community and behaviours and opinions being excused by old fashioned views and country lifestyles".

"It's very isolated from the rest of the state; I feel like our region is left out of a lot of important government decisions".

"There's nothing for people that don't have money we can't do sports coz our parents can't afford it, but we are good at it. Also, there's no youth centre or any space for us to be allowed to hang out".

"Limited GP's difficulty accessing services.

"The main street with all the empty shops".

"The drugs and the struggle to find things to do for up to 25-year old's".

How does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey?

Young people's top things they DIDN'T like about where they lived were similar in both the 2015 and 2019 youth surveys with **boredom/nothing to do** taking out the #1 spot in both surveys.

Notably, the number of young people who said they didn't like that there was nothing to do where they lived has grown by 10% since 2015. Also of note is that isolation had dropped by 8% compared to 2015 results. 2015 Youth Survey results:

1. Nothing to do: 26%
2. Isolation: 20%
3. Poor shopping: 8%
4. Too small: 6%
5. Drugs: 5%
6. Lack of jobs/opportunities: 5%
7. Poor internet: 4%
8. Neighbours: 3%
9. People: 3%

**This question was not asked in the 2009 youth survey.

Q13. What are the two issues that you think are most important in your community/region?

Young people shared the following top ten issues that they thought were most important for their community/region:

1. Drug misuse (25%)
2. Boredom/not enough to do in the community (15%)
3. Mental Health (13%)
4. Bullying (11%)
5. Crime/community safety (11%)
6. Drought/farming (7%)
7. Climate change/environment (7%)
8. Alcohol misuse (6%)
9. Employment, Local Shopping, Access to Services/supports (5%)
10. Town pride/littering (5%)

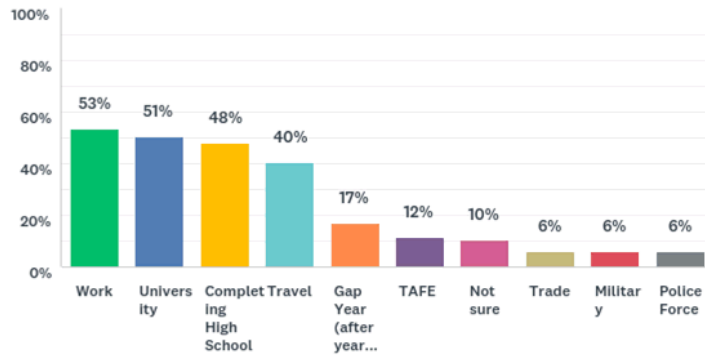
Young people also shared a number of other community issues they thought were important:

- Education	- Housing/homelessness
- Access to quality healthcare services	- Road safety
- Racism	- Sexual health
- Water shortages	- Gender equality
- Strengthening community connections	- Respect for others
- Poverty/disadvantage	- Violence
- Stronger local economy	- Too much time on technology
- Family violence	

- "Mental illness is extremely prevalent in the youth of Swan Hill and there needs to be more help, talk and solutions in schools and in our community".*
- "We don't have opportunities because we can't afford it".*
- "There is a lack of activities for youth".*
- "There is too much drug abuse".*
- "Our farmers are struggling".*
- "Nobody puts rubbish in the bin, and it is really dirty".*
- "Juvenile crime and drop-out rates seem to be increasing".*
- "We need people to be nicer to one another, less judgement".*
- "We need to support local businesses".*
- "There are limited opportunities for youth".*
- "Social media and technology are taking over our lives".*

How does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey?
 This question was not asked in the 2009 & 2015 surveys.

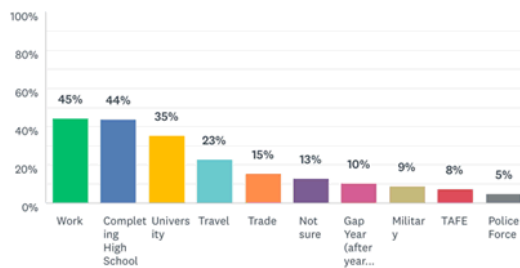
Q14 What are your plans for the future? (tick all that apply)



For the overall group of survey respondents work (53%), university (51%) and completing high school (48%) were the top three plans noted. Travel was also of high interest (40%) followed by gap year (17%), TAFE (12%) and an equal 6% were planning on military, trade or police force options. 10% of young people who filled in a survey weren't sure of their future plans.

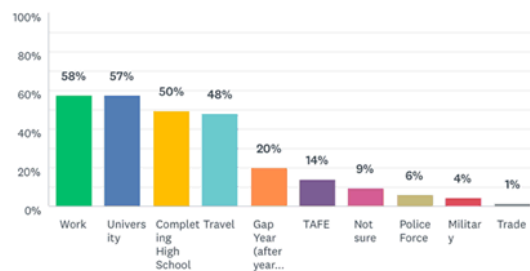
What are your plans for the future? (Male Responses)

Answered: 155 Skipped: 65



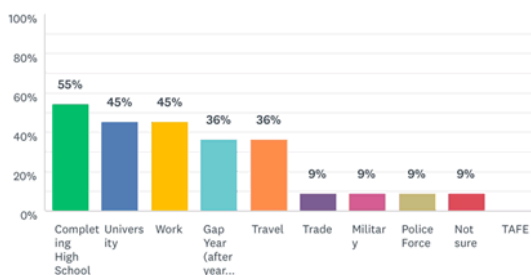
What are your plans for the future? (Female Responses)

Answered: 349 Skipped: 119



What are your plans for the future (Non-Binary/Gender Diverse Responses)

Answered: 11 Skipped: 6



- More males were planning on a trade (15%) compared to non-binary/gender diverse (9%) and females (1%).
- More females were planning on travelling (48%) compared to non-binary/gender diverse (36%) and males (23%).
- More young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse (36%) were planning on a gap year compared to females (20%) and males (10%).
- Almost double the number of females were planning on attending TAFE (14%) compared to males (8%) and 0% of non-binary/gender diverse respondents said they were planning on attending TAFE.
- A higher number of females were planning on attending university (57%) compared to non-binary/gender diverse (45%) and males (35%).
- A higher number of females chose work as a plan (58%) compared to non-binary/gender diverse (45%) and males (45%).
- A slightly higher number of non-binary/gender diverse respondents (55%) were planning on completing high school compared to females (50%) and males (44%).

***Note, due to the small number of respondents (11) for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

Q14. What are your plans for the future?

Comparing differences across age groups:

- 75% of 12-15-year-old survey respondents had said they planned on completing high school; this dropped to 59% with the 16-18-year-old group.
- More 16-18-year-old respondents were planning on attending university (58%) compared to 12-15-year old's (52%) and 19-25-year old's (35%).
- More 16-18-year-old survey respondents (27%) were planning on a gap year compared to the 12-15 (18%) and 19-25 (1%) age groups.
- More respondents from the 16-18-year age group (8%) planned on doing a trade than the 12-15 age group (5%) and the 19-25 age group (4%).

How does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey?

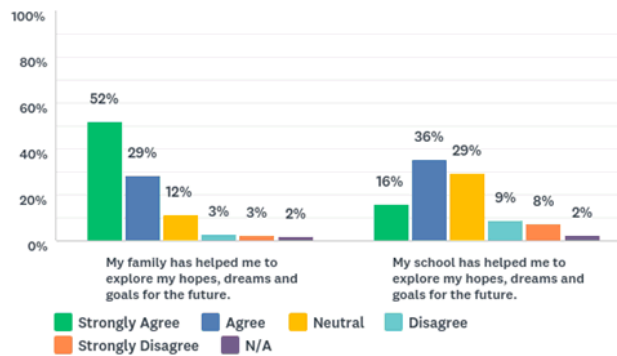
- In 2019 there were slightly fewer respondents planning on going to university (51%) compared to 2015 (54%)
- In 2019 there were more respondents planning on travelling (40%) compared to 2015 (30%)
- In 2019 there were slightly fewer respondents planning on completing a trade (6%) compared to 2015 (9%)
- In 2019 there were more respondents planning on working (53%) compared to 2015 (39%)
- In 2019 there were fewer respondents planning on a gap year (17%) compared to 2015 (27%)
- In 2019 there were fewer respondents planning on entering the military (4%) compared to 2015 (9%)
- In 2019 there were fewer respondents who weren't sure of their plans for the future (10%) compared to 2015 (16%)

**** there was a higher number of respondents in the 19-25 age group in 2019 compared to 2015, this is important to consider when considering comparative differences.*

This question was not asked in the 2009 youth survey so could not be compared.

In 2019 this question had 'police force' added as an option; this wasn't available in 2015, so therefore cannot be compared over time.

Q15 How well have you been supported to explore your hopes, dreams and goals for the future?



81% of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their family had supported them to explore their hopes, dreams and goals for the future and 6% disagreed or strongly disagreed. 52% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their school had supported them to explore their hopes dreams and goals for the future, 30% were neutral and 17% disagreed or strongly disagreed.

In Robinvale: 76% of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their family had supported them to explore their hopes, dreams and goals for the future and 6% disagreed. 32% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their school had supported them to explore their hopes dreams and goals for the future, 41% were neutral and 24% disagreed or strongly disagreed.

"My uncle and aunt try to be there".

"Chances for children offer amazing scholarships".

"My footy coach has helped me".

"Two of my greatest teachers from grade 5/6 to grade 7/8 have supported me".

"Kane Sparks and the team at Youth Inc have been a huge help in getting to where I want to go and are always there to help make my hopes and dreams come true".

"The Navigator program supported me".

"The counsellors at headspace helped me".

"YACVic (Rhiannon Jennings) & Youth Inc (Kane Sparks) by providing me the opportunity to be meaningfully involved in relevant projects involving local issues for young people which gives me a wealth of knowledge & experience".

The Coaching Young People for Success program has helped me".

"A select few teachers, but not the school as a whole. You're just treated as a number at school, not an individual. Especially in regard to your ATAR score".

"My work and my church helped me".

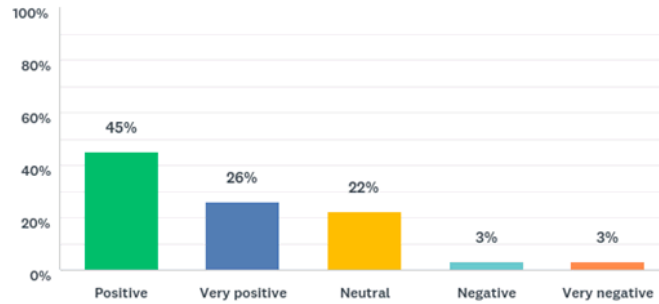
How does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey?

- In 2019 a similar number of survey respondents felt their family had strongly supported them to explore their hopes, dreams and goals for the future (81%) compared to 2015 (82%).
- In 2019 a lesser number of survey respondents felt their school had strongly supported them to explore their hopes, dreams and goals for the future (52%) compared to 2015 (62%).

****This question was not asked in the 2009 youth survey so could not be compared.**

Q16. How positive are you about your future?

Q16 How positive are you about the future?



71% of the overall respondents said that they were positive or very positive about their future, 22% were neutral and 6% were negative or very negative.

In Robinvale: 60% of the overall respondents said that they were positive or very positive about their future, 30% were neutral and 10% were negative or very negative

Comparing differences across genders:

There was no noticeable difference to the overall results when comparing male and female responses.

Respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse had a lower level of positivity (positive/very positive 45%) and a markedly higher level of negativity with 36% saying they felt negative/very negative about the future.

***Note, due to the small number of respondents for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group (11) caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

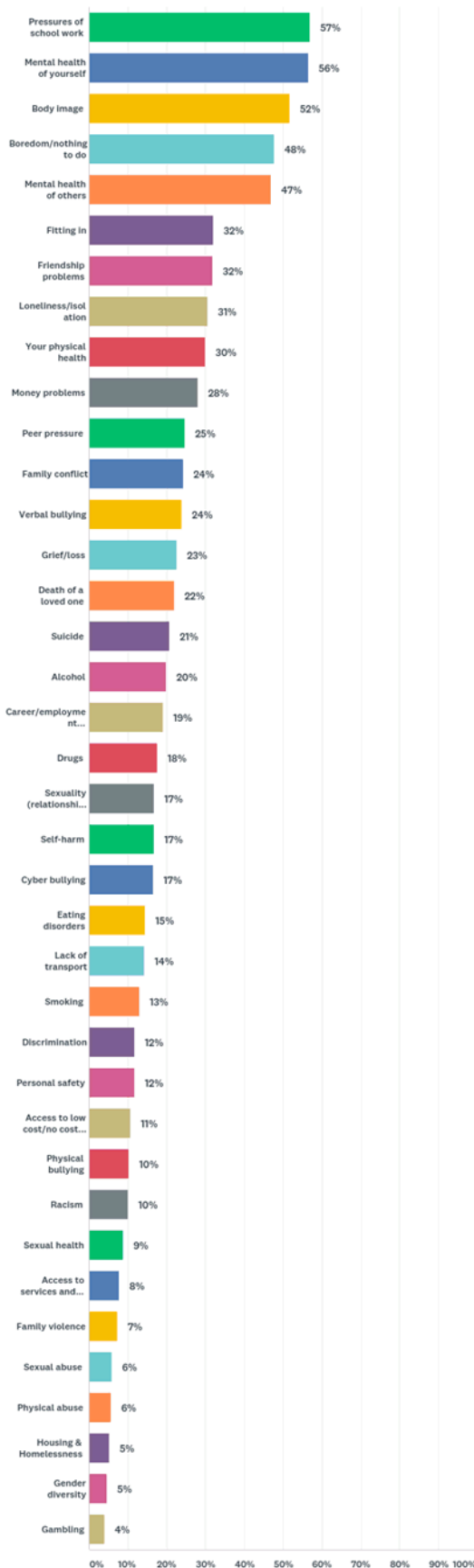
Comparing differences across age groups:

- Respondents from the 19-25-year-old age group had the highest rating of positivity (79%) compared to the 16-18-year-old age group (70%) and the 12-15-year age group (65%)

- Respondents from the youngest age group were the most negative about their future with 12% feeling negative or very negative compared to 19-25-year old's (5%) and 16-18-year old's (4%)

*****This question was not asked in the previous youth surveys so cannot be compared over time.***

Q17 What issues have been of concern to you over the past year? (tick all that apply)



The top five issues of concern *for survey respondents overall* over the past year were:

1. Pressures of schoolwork (57%)
2. Mental health of yourself (56%)
3. Body image (52%)
4. Boredom/nothing to do (48%); and
5. Mental health of others (47%)

The top five issues of concern *in Robinvale* over the past year were:

1. Pressures of schoolwork (50%)
2. Boredom/nothing to do (48%)
3. Mental health of yourself (40%)
4. Death of a loved one (40%)
5. Body Image (40%)

The top five issues of concern *for respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse* over the past year were:

1. Pressures of schoolwork (64%)
2. Mental health of yourself (64%)
3. Body image (64%)
4. Verbal bullying (55%)
5. Mental health of others (55%)
6. Your physical health (55%)
7. Fitting in (55%)
8. Eating disorders (55%)

***Note, due to the small number of respondents (11) for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

The top five issues of concern *for female respondents* over the past year were:

1. Mental health of yourself (63%)
2. Body image (62%)
3. Pressures of schoolwork (61%)
4. Mental health of others (52%)
5. Boredom/nothing to do (51%)

The top five issues of concern *for male respondents* over the past year were:

1. Pressures of schoolwork (47%)
2. Boredom/nothing to do (41%)
3. Mental health of yourself (38%)
4. Mental health of others (34%)
5. Loneliness/isolation (26%)

Q17. What issues have been of concern for you over the past year?**Comparing differences across gender groups:****Mental Health**

Mental health of yourself and others featured in the top five concerns across all gender groups. Respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse and female had similar rates of concern around their own mental health and others compared to those identifying as male. Male respondents had experienced less concern over the past year about their own and others mental health compared to the overall survey respondents and to non-binary/gender diverse and female respondents.

Pressures of School Work

Pressures of schoolwork featured in the top five issues young people were personally concerned about over the past year for the overall survey respondents and across all gender groups. It was the number one issue of concern over the past year for respondents identifying as non-binary/gender diverse and for male respondents. A similar percentage of female respondents were concerned despite it being their number three issue of concern.

Body Image

Body image featured in the top five issues young people were personally concerned about over the past year for the overall survey respondents and across non-binary/ gender diverse and female respondents. 26% of male respondents highlighted concerns about body image in the past year at a rate less than half that of non-binary/ gender diverse and female respondents.

Boredom/Nothing to do

Boredom featured as a top five concern for the overall respondent group (48%), it was also a top five concern for female (51%) and male respondents (41%). Whilst it was not a top five issue of concern for young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse a similar percentage had concern about it in the past year (45%).

Verbal Bullying

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse had a markedly higher rate of concern in the past year about verbal bullying (55%) compared to females (25%) and males (17%).

Physical Health

More young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were concerned about their physical health in the past year (55%) compared to females (35%) and males (15%).

Fitting in

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse had a higher rate of concern about fitting in in the past year (55%) compared to females (35%) and males (22%).

Eating Disorders

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were 4-5 times more concerned in the past year about eating disorders (55%) compared to females (16%) and males (6%).

Loneliness/Isolation

Male respondents identified loneliness/isolation in their top five issues of concern in the past year (26%). Whilst not in their top five, females (32%) and non-binary/gender diverse respondents (27%) had experienced similar levels of concern about loneliness/isolation.

Physical Bullying

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were almost four times more concerned in the past year about physical bullying (36%) compared to males (10%) and females (10%).

Cyber Bullying

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were two-three times more concerned in the past year about cyber bullying (36%) compared to males (11%) and females (18%).

Sexuality (relationships/health/identity)

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were twice as concerned in the past year about sexuality (relationships/health/identity) (36%) as females (17%) and males (14%).

Self-Harm

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were twice as concerned in the past year about self-harm (36%) compared to females (17%) and males (14%).

Grief/Loss

Young people identifying as non-binary/gender diverse were twice as concerned in the past year about grief/loss (36%) compared to male (15%) and females (18%).

***Note, due to the small number of respondents (11) for this question in the non-binary/gender diverse group caution should be used when applying these results for the wider cohort.*

Comparing differences across age groups:

12-15 age group	16-18 age group	19-25 age group
1. Pressures of schoolwork (54%)	1. Pressures of schoolwork (73%)	1. Mental health of yourself (71%)
2. Boredom/nothing to do (54%)	2. Mental health of yourself (57%)	2. Body image (58%)
3. Body Image (47%)	3. Body Image (51%)	3. Mental health of others (56%)
4. Mental health of yourself (42%)	4. Mental health of others (47%)	4. Boredom/nothing to do (50%)
5. Fitting in (39%)	5. Boredom/nothing to do (43%)	5. Money problems (44%)
6. Mental health of others (38%)	6. Loneliness/isolation (34%)	6. Your physical health (35%)
7. Friendship problems (38%)	7. Your physical health (32%)	7. Pressures of schoolwork (34%)
8. Verbal bullying (31%)	8. Fitting in (31%)	8. Career/employment opportunities for the future (32%)
9. Death of a loved one (30%)	9. Friendship problems (31%)	9. Loneliness/isolation (31%)
10. Grief/loss (28%)	10. Peer pressure (28%) Family conflict (28%)	10. Alcohol (27%) Fitting in (27%) Friendship problems (27%)

- Pressures of schoolwork was highest in the 16-18-year-old age group (73%) compared to 12-15 (54%) and 19-25 (34%).
- The 19-25-year-old age group was most concerned about the mental health of themselves (71%), this was higher when compared to the 12-15 (42%) and 16-18 (47%) year old age groups.
- Boredom was of similar concern for the 12-15-year old's (54%), 16-18 (43%) and 19-25 age groups (50%).
- Body image was slightly more of a concern for the 19-25-year-old age group (58%) compared to 12-15 (47%) and 16-18 (51%).
- The 12-15-year-old age group was most concerned about fitting in (39%) compared to 16-18 (31%) and 19-25-year old's (27%).
- Friendship problems were a concern across all age groups with the 12-15 age group being slightly higher (38%) compared to 16-18 (31%) and 19-25-year old's (27%)

Q17. What issues have been of concern for you over the past year?

How do the *OVERALL RESULTS* compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey?

In the 2011 survey the question was shaped differently, making it more difficult to compare over time. The top five issues of concern for young people in 2009 were: drugs, bullying, alcohol, body image and suicide.

In 2019 young people overall were MORE personally concerned about:

- In 2019 almost double the number of young people were concerned about their own mental health (56%) compared to 2015 (24%).
- In 2019 almost double the number of young people were concerned about the mental health of others (47%) compared to 2015 (28%).
- In 2019 more young people were concerned about their body image (52%) compared to 2015 (38%).
- In 2019 more young people were concerned about keeping up with/pressures of schoolwork (57%) compared to 2015 (47%).

In 2019 young people overall were LESS personally concerned about:

- In 2019 concerns about housing/homelessness had dropped significantly (5%) compared to 2015 (13%)
- In 2019 concerns about gambling had dropped significantly (4%) compared to 2015 (11%)
- In 2019 concerns about physical abuse had dropped significantly (6%) compared to 2015 (15%)
- In 2019 concerns about physical bullying had dropped to less than half (10%) compared to 2015 (25%)
- In 2019 concerns about family violence had reduced by more than half (7%) compared to 2015 (17%)
- In 2019 concerns about sexual abuse had halved (6%) compared to 2015 (14%)
- In 2019 concerns about racism had halved (10%) compared to 2015 (21%)
- In 2019 concerns about drugs (18%) had reduced compared to 2015 (27%)
- In 2019 concerns about boredom/nothing to do reduced slightly (48%) compared to 2015 (52%)
- In 2019 concerns about cyber bullying (17%) compared to 2015 (26%)

New options added in 2019 which cannot be compared:

1. Loneliness/isolation
2. Grief/loss
3. Death of a loved one
4. Gender diversity

***Changes of less than 5% were not included in the comparative list.*

Comparing Robinvale results over time

Top 5 Issues of Concern Robinvale 2015	Top 5 Issues of Concern Robinvale 2019
1. Not keeping up with schoolwork (42%)	1. Pressures of schoolwork (50%)
2. Body Image (42%)	2. Boredom/nothing to do (48%)
3. Verbal Bullying (42%)	3. Body image (40%)
4. Racism (36%)	4. Mental health of yourself (40%)
5. Boredom/Nothing to do (36%)	5. Death of a loved one (40%)

Comparing the top five issues:

- 2019 results for Robinvale demonstrated a drop in personal concern about racism (24%) compared to 2015 (36%).
- 2019 results for Robinvale demonstrated a drop in personal concern about verbal bullying (31%) compared to 2015 (42%).
- Young people were as concerned about their own mental health in 2019 (40%) as they were in 2015 (40%).
- In 2019 survey respondents from Robinvale were more concerned about boredom (48%) compared to 2015 (36%).
- Death of a loved one was a top five concern in 2015, this question choice was not available in 2015 so a comparison could not be made over time.

Q17. What issues have been of concern for you over the past year?

Comparing age results: how does this compare to the 2015 Youth Survey?

Comparing the 12-15-year-old age group:

Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2015	Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2019
1. Boredom (50%)	1. Pressures of schoolwork (54%)
2. Not Keeping up with School Work (45%)	2. Boredom/nothing to do (54%)
3. Body Image (34%)	3. Body image (47%)
4. Verbal Bullying (34%)	4. Mental health of yourself (42%)
5. Fitting In (31%)	5. Fitting in (39%)

When comparing the top five issues of concern over the 2015 & 2019 youth surveys for the 12-15-year age group all but one of the concerns had increased over time. Concerns around the mental health or yourself doubled in 2019 (42%) compared to 2015 results (21%). Concerns about body image in 2019 (47%) also increased compared to 2015 (34%).

Pressures of schoolwork, boredom and fitting in all saw slight increases in 2019 compared to 2015 results.

The only concern that experienced a decrease in concern when comparing the top five was verbal bullying. In 2019 verbal bullying dropped in concern slightly in the 12-15-year age group compared to 2015 survey results (34%).

Comparing the 16-18-year-old age group:

Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2015	Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2019
1. Boredom (55%)	1. Pressures of schoolwork (73%)
2. Not Keeping up with School Work (55%)	2. Mental health of yourself (57%)
3. Body Image (43%)	3. Body image (51%)
4. Mental health of others (35%)	4. Mental health of others (47%)
5. Physical health (31%)	5. Boredom/nothing to do (43%)

When comparing the top five issues of concern over the 2015 & 2019 youth surveys for the 16-18-year age group all concerns had increased over time.

- In 2019 physical health concerns had only increased slightly (32%) compared to 2015 results (31%).
- In 2019 concerns for respondents aged 16-18 years own mental health (57%) doubled compared to 2015 results (28%).
- Keeping up with schoolwork/pressures of schoolwork increased in 2019 (73%) in the 16-18 year-age group compared to 2015 (55%).

Mental health of others, boredom and body image results had all increased in concern over time for respondents in the age group.

***Given the small sample size for the 19-25 age group in 2015 (5%) comparisons have not been made to 2019 results in this age group (30%).*

Q17. What issues have been of concern for you over the past year?

Comparing gender results: how does this compare to the 2009 & 2015 Youth Survey?

Comparing female results over time:

Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2009	Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2015	Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2019
1. Bullying (65%)	1. Boredom (54%)	1. Mental health of yourself (63%)
2. Drugs (55%)	2. Not Keeping up with School Work (52%)	2. Body image (62%)
3. Body image (50%)	3. Body Image (48%)	3. Pressures of schoolwork (61%)
4. Alcohol (48%)	4. Friendship problems (34%)	4. Mental health of others (52%)
5. Physical/sexual abuse (45%)	5. Fitting In (34%)	5. Boredom/nothing to do (51%)

When comparing the top five issues of concern for **females** over time the most significant increases were:

- Concerns around their own mental health doubled for females in 2019 (63%) compared to 2015 results (28%).
- Concerns for the mental health of others also increased significantly for females in 2019 (52%) compared to 2015 results (32%).
- Body image concerns have trended upwards since the 2009 youth survey (50%) compared to 2019 (62%)

In 2019 body image, pressures of schoolwork, boredom, friendship problems (39%) and fitting in (35%) all saw slight increases compared to 2015 results.

Concerns about bullying, drugs and alcohol have all trended downwards since 2009. ***Physical abuse and sexual abuse were offered as individualised response choices in 2015 and 2019 so could not be compared to 2009 results.*

Comparing male results over time:

Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2009	Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2015	Top 5 Issues of Concern Youth Survey 2019
1. Drugs (55%)	6. Boredom (49%)	1. Pressures of schoolwork (47%)
2. Alcohol (47%)	7. Not Keeping up with School Work (40%)	2. Boredom/nothing to do (41%)
3. Bullying (45%)	8. Drugs (34%)	3. Mental health of yourself (38%)
4. Suicide (40%)	9. Verbal bullying (31%)	4. Mental health of others (34%)
5. School/study problems (39%)	10. Smoking (26%)	5. Loneliness/isolation (26%)

When comparing the top five issues of concern over the 2009, 2015 & 2019 youth surveys for males a number of issues had decreased over time.

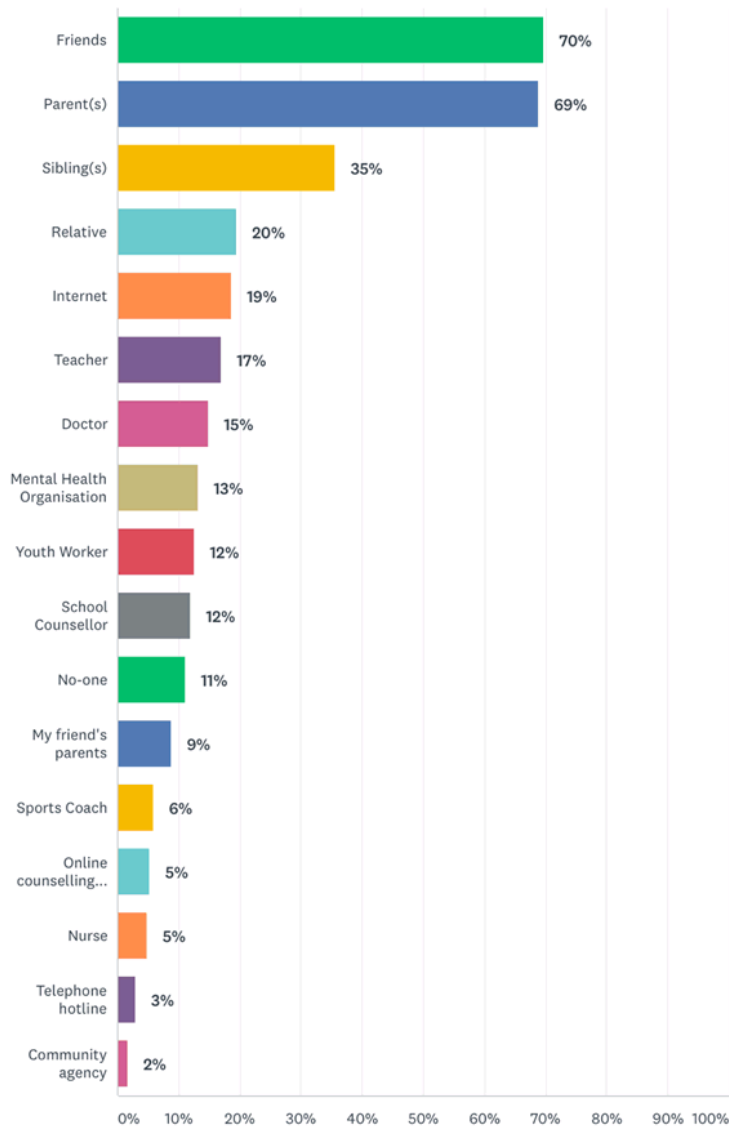
- Personal concern around drugs for males has decreased over time since 2009 to less than half in 2019 (16%) compared to 2009 (45%).
- Personal concern around alcohol has trended downwards since 2009 (47%), 2015 (17%), 2019 (17%).
- Personal concern around suicide has trended downwards since 2009 (40%), 2015 (20%), 2019 (18%).
- In 2019 personal concern around verbal bullying for males had decreased to almost half (17%) compared to 2015 (31%). Bullying was not broken down to verbal or cyber bullying in 2009.
- In 2019 personal concern around smoking for males had decreased to almost half (14%) compared to 2015 (24%). In 2009 smoking was not provided as an answer choice.
- In 2019 personal concern around boredom for males had decreased slightly (41%) compared to 2015 (49%). In 2009 boredom was not provided as an answer choice.

In 2019 pressures of schoolwork had increased slightly (47%) compared to 2015 (40%) and 2009 (39%). Loneliness/isolation featured in the top five issues of concern in 2019, however this was not an answer choice in 2015 or 2009 so cannot be compared.

***There was not an option provided for young people to identify as gender diverse in the 2015 or 2009 youth surveys so results for this cohort could not be compared over time.*

Who would you go to for information, advice and support about your most concerning issue(s)? (tick all that apply)

Answered: 482 Skipped: 229



The top five people/places that young people who filled in a survey would go to for information, advice and support about their most concerning issues were: friends (70%), parents (69%), siblings (35%), relative (20%) and internet (19%).

In 2015, survey respondents highlighted their top five support people/places as: parents (74%), friends (72%), relative (27%), teacher (25%) and internet (25%).

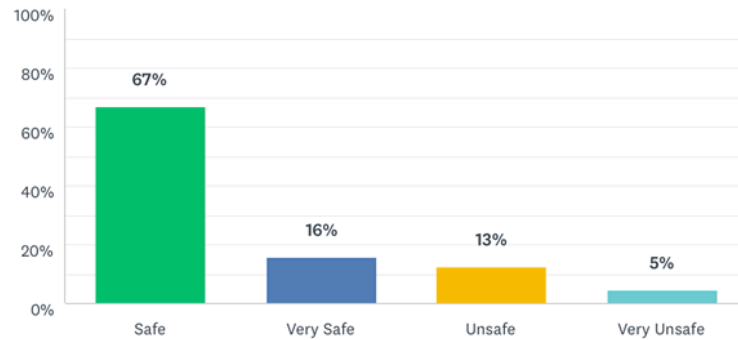
Compared to 2015 results the school counsellor option had the largest decrease (10%), whilst many options stayed the same or decreased slightly. Only one option increased slightly: youth worker.

** sibling and mental health organisation were not an answer option in 2015.

** This question was not asked in 2009 so comparisons could not be made.

How safe do you feel in your community?

Answered: 487 Skipped: 224



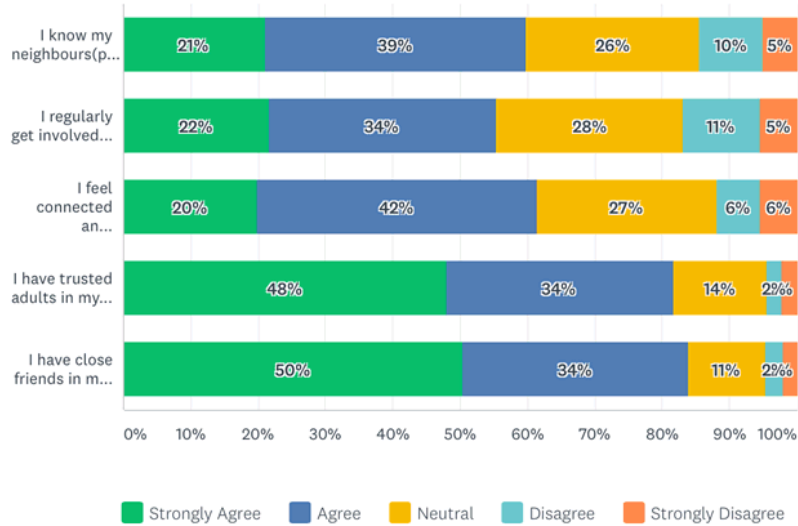
83% of overall survey respondents felt safe or very safe in their community, and a combined 18% felt unsafe or very unsafe. In 2015 75% of the overall respondents felt safe, very safe or extremely safe in their community and 17% felt unsafe to extremely unsafe.

In Robinvale: 69% of survey respondents felt safe or very safe in their community, and a combined 24% felt unsafe or very unsafe. In 2015 70% of respondents in Robinvale felt safe, very safe or extremely safe in their community and 13% felt unsafe to extremely unsafe.

*** This question was not asked in 2009 so comparisons could not be made.*

How connected do you feel to your community?

Answered: 485 Skipped: 226



60% of survey respondents knew and got along with their neighbours well, 66% of young people regularly get involved in community activities, 62% of respondents said that they feel connected and welcome at their school, 82% said they had trusted adults in their lives and 84% said they had close friends in their lives that they can rely on. The 2019 survey results mirrored the 2015 youth survey results overall with exception to a slight decrease in respondents feeling connected and welcome at school.

In Robinvale: 56% of survey respondents knew and got along with their neighbours well, 52% of young people regularly get involved in community activities, 47% of respondents said that they feel connected and welcome at their school, 73% said they have trusted adults in their lives and 89% said they have close friends in their lives that they can rely on.

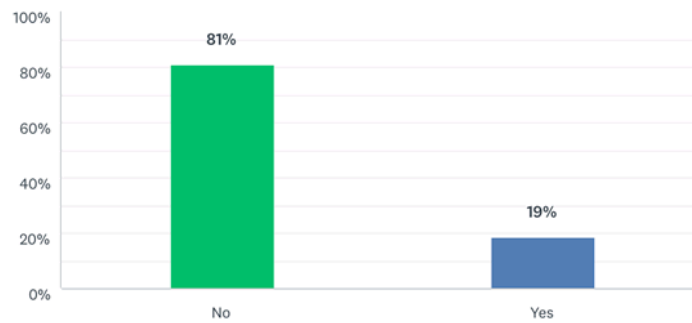
Compared to 2015 survey results the 2019 results for Robinvale differed in some of the community connection areas.

- In 2019 more young people shared that they had close friends in their lives that they could rely on (89%) compared to 2015 (75%).
- In 2019 respondents were slightly more connected with their neighbours (56%) compared to 2015 (52%).
- In 2019 fewer young people were regularly getting involved in community activities (52%) compared to 2015 (62%).
- In 2019 fewer respondents felt strongly connected and welcome at their school (47%) compared to 2015 (71%).
- In 2019 fewer respondents had strong connections with trusted adults in their lives (73%) compared to 2015 (83%).

** This question was not asked in 2009 so comparisons could not be made.

Have you been to the Youth Support Program's building Youth Inc?

Answered: 484 Skipped: 227



19% or 91 young people who had filled in a survey had been to SHRCC Youth Support Program's Youth Inc building, the remaining 81% hadn't been to Youth Inc. Comparatively, in 2015 20% of survey respondents had been to the Youth Inc building and 80% hadn't.

When asked about suggestions for any improvements to the Youth Inc building respondents shared a number of ideas:

- More workers in the office so it is open more
- An updated modern design/décor/renovation for the building
- Art on display
- A new roof/ceiling with no holes
- A good clean
- A study space
- A coffee machine
- Food available
- Regular opening hours with a visible display
- Outdoor seating
- Stronger partnerships with schools to make use of the building more often
- Greater cultural diversity of users
- Larger building that is more central
- More staff on site
- More office spaces
- A lick of paint

*** This question was not asked in 2009 so comparisons could not be made.*

Q22. What would you like to see Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program focus on over the next five years?

Young people suggested a wide range of ideas for what they would like the Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Support Program to focus on over the next five years:

1. **Deliver prevention programs/activities** (32%) e.g. mental health, bullying, drug and alcohol, social media use, acceptance of diversity, LGBTQI, sexual health, respectful relationships, goal setting/future planning, life skills, body image, managing school pressures, health.
2. **Offer activities and events for young people** (23%) e.g. whole of community events, arts and culture events, festivals, activities for under 18's, activities for 19-25 age group, low cost/no cost events, weekend and holiday activities.
3. **Advocacy and planning** (15%) e.g. local tertiary education options, transport, youth friendly spaces, poverty/disadvantage, crime/community safety, community infrastructure, local shopping, employment/career options, teenage pregnancy, youth access to quality health care services.
4. **Strengthen youth participation/leadership and youth voice** (8%) e.g. leadership activities and camps, diverse representation on youth council, climate action, including youth voice in decision making.
5. **Offer Generalist Youth Support** (8%) e.g. support to access services, counselling, family support, future planning support, strengthening mental health and wellbeing.

Additionally, a number of young people also highlighted their desire for Council's Youth Support Program to offer more support, programs and activities in Manangatang and Robinvale.

"Making Swan Hill better for 20- 25-year old's, that in-between age. People that don't have children, but maybe have dogs, want things to do on the weekend with their partner and friends".

"Programs and activities that involve the whole community and give youth and young adults something to do".

"Really focus on events and places for people to go especially teenagers there's not really anywhere for them to "hang out"

"The stress and pressure that schools put on kids".

"Improving youth mental health and wellbeing as well as physical and social as they all connect in a way".

"Robinvale! would be good if we had a youth centre too".

"Helping kids in Robinvale like me. Coz we are aboriginal people don't want to give us a job, we can't play basketball or football or netball coz most our parents can't afford it and they don't want us on their teams anyways. Help us to do something I'm sick of drugs and grog and people dying young all the time in Robinvale it's sad".

"Put in more programs to stop harassment and bullying over sexuality and gender identity".

Q23. If you could improve things for young people where you live what would you do?

Young people suggested a wide range of ideas for the things they would do to improve things for young people where they live:

1. Offer more activities and events for young people (38%)
2. Improve services and supports for young people (15%)
3. Strengthen Inclusion (8%)
4. Provide more education, employment and career opportunities (7%)
5. Offer preventative health and wellbeing programs for young people (6%)
6. Strengthen youth participation and leadership (5%)
7. Improve the mental health of young people (5%)
8. Improve community facilities e.g. footpaths, sport and recreation facilities, roads (4%)

"Cut down social media as it is draining everybody I feel and taking them away from the real world."

"I would implement programs that focus on the attitudes and self-help to build resilience and promotes kindness overall."

"Somehow, allow older people to see the value of young people & the knowledge they can bring if they are listened to. Having our communities look out for young people & provide them with the skills & education necessary to handle life, relationships and plan for the future."

"Give more transport to young people that live out of Swan Hill, provide more mental health organisation choices for young people."

"Education programs, implement safe spaces, provide more activities that promote healthy lifestyles and living, drug addiction programs and education."

"More social activities for older youth there is not much apart from drinking to socialise."

"Offer support, give knowledge of what services are available to support. Education around drugs and alcohol. Offering support around general life as a young person. There need to be more services such as family therapy, individual therapy and more youth workers."

In 2009 the top three things that young people would do to improve things for young people where they live were:

1. Build/improve facilities (35%)
2. Offer more activities/events (31%)
3. Provide more youth programs (11%)

In 2015 the top three things that young people would do to improve things for young people where they live were:

1. Offer more activities and events for young people (32%)
2. Improve services and supports for young people (13%)
3. Improve facilities (e.g. skate-park, parks, and youth friendly spaces) (9%)

Youth Focus Group Results

82 young people took part in focussed group discussions to share their input into the development of the Youth Strategy. Focus groups were held with young people at the following locations:

- Swan Hill Specialist School
- Robinvale P-12 College
- FLO Program Swan Hill College
- Swan Hill College
- Manangatang P-12 College
- Sunraysia TAFE
- St Mary Mackillop College

Q1. What do like best about where you live?

- The natural environment-bush, river
- Peaceful and quiet
- Friends and family
- Friendly community
- Parks/Skatepark
- Sporting clubs/options
- Safe town
- Whole of community events
- Diversity
- Everyone knows each other
- Schools/education
- Access to resources
- L2P program
- Youth Inc
- Speedway
- Basketball courts
- Cinema
- Pioneer settlement
- Shopping/food outlets
- Lake Boga Inflatable water park

Q2. What don't you like about where live?

- Limited employment opportunities
- Not enough focus on non-sport activities
- Cost of living/ expensive to participate in things
- Stigma/judgement
- Lack of volunteers
- Access to doctors is expensive
- Limited transportation options
- Isolation for those living out of town
- Boredom/not enough for young people to do/lack of weekend activities
- Safety (more traffic lights)
- Empty shops in town/limited shopping
- Registration fees for organised sports and activities
- Lack of shade at bus stops

Q3. What are the two issues that you think are most important in your community/region?

- No entertainment
- Mental Health
- Lack of employment options
- Housing/couch surfing/no supported accommodation
- Problem drinking and drugs
- Lack of social skills
- Too much time on technology
- Online bullying
- Growing up too quickly
- Lack of specialists
- Shopping local
- Drought
- Crime/violence
- NBN blackspots

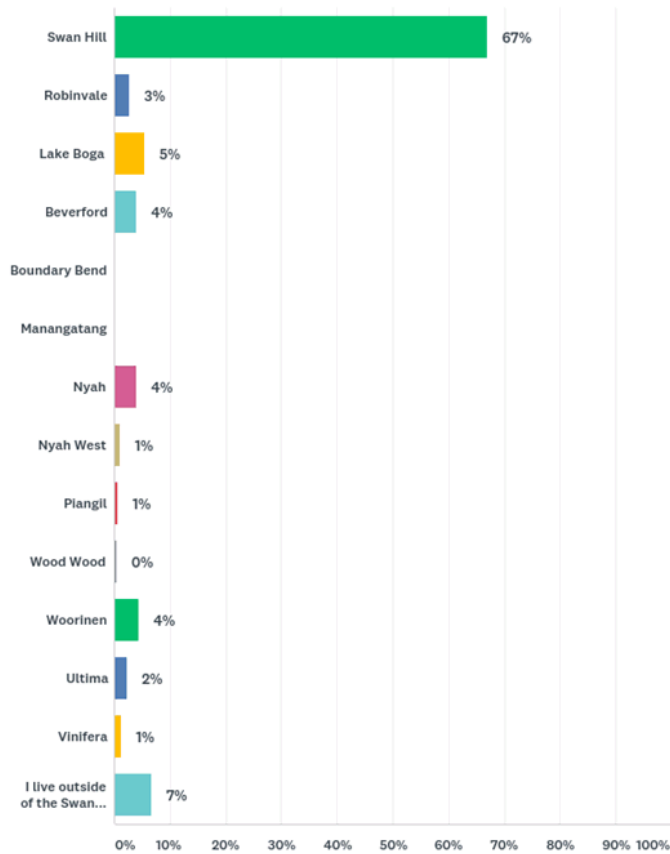
Q4. What do you think is needed to improve things for young people where you live?

- More low cost/no cost events
- Better hospital/improved access to health care services
- Better Counselling services
- Youth Festival
- More activities and events e.g. laser tag, festival, food / gaming festival, slot car racing, go kart racing
- More variety of local shopping/fill empty shops
- Improved public transport
- Safer playgrounds/more youth friendly playgrounds
- More educational options
- Updated outdoor pool and waterslide
- Rock climbing
- Youth Café
- Bike repair station (tire pump etc)
- Arcades
- Plan community events throughout the year
- More information on drugs and alcohol
- Provide transport options to activities for young people

Parent/Caregiver/Service Provider/Community Survey Results

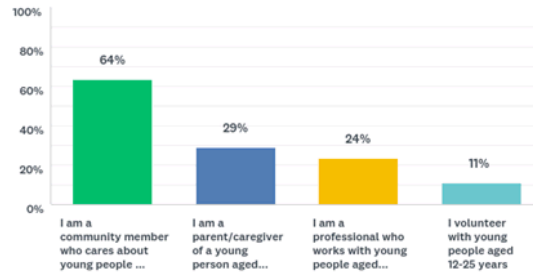
A total of 297 respondents filled in an online survey sharing their thoughts on youth planning for the municipality.

Q1 Where do you live? (your closest major centre)



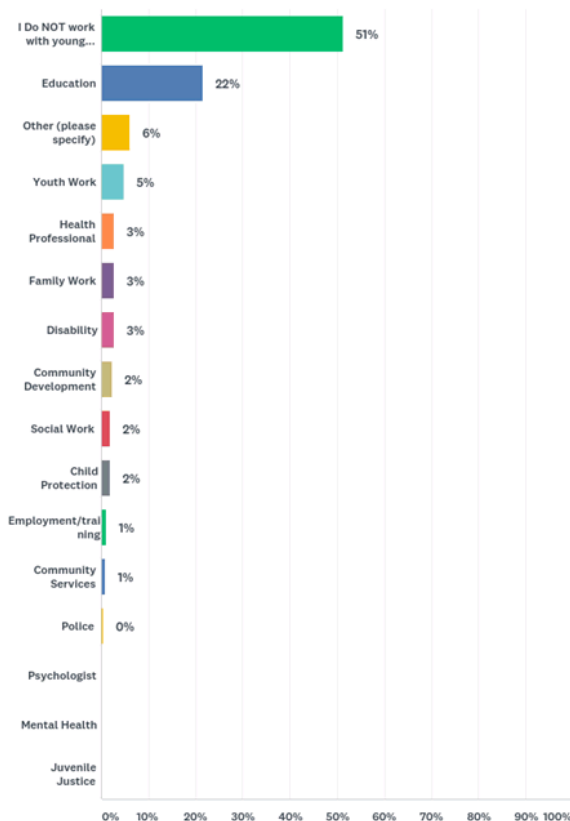
The vast majority of respondents were living in Swan Hill (67%) with the remaining 33% of respondents living in: Robinvale, Lake Boga, Beverford, Nyah, Woorinen, Ultima, Vinifera, Piangil, Nyah West and outside of the Swan Hill municipality.

Q2 What is your current relationship to young people living in the Swan Hill Rural City? (tick all that apply)



64% of respondents were community members who cared about young people in their community, 29% were parents/caregivers, 24% were professionals who work with young people aged 12-25 and the remaining 11% volunteered with young people.

Q3 Your profession when working with young people?



Of those respondents that worked with young people in a professional capacity 22% were from education, 5% were in Youth Work, an equal 3% were health professionals, family workers and disability workers. An equal 2% were doing community development work, social work and child protection work and an equal 1% were in employment/training or community services.

Q4. What do you think makes the Swan Hill municipality a positive place for young people aged 12-25 years?

- **Services/supports (21%):** e.g. Youth Inc, headspace, schools
- **The range of youth activities and events on offer (19%)**
- **The people in the community (17%)**
- **Sport (17%)**
- **Facilities (11%)** e.g. skate park, Youth Inc, sporting facilities
- **The range of opportunities for young people (8%)** e.g. employment, leadership, education
- **The small country town feel (8%)**
- **The rivers/lakes/nature (8%)**
- **The community connections (7%)**
- **Local education (7%)**
- **Youth friendly spaces (5%)** e.g. Youth Inc, Library, main street
- **Feeling of safety (4%)**
- **The outdoor spaces (3%)**
- **Diversity/culture (2%)**

"It's safe, and there's a lot of places to feel safe and get help".

"Youth Inc is inclusive and welcoming. Young leaders for our future. Innovative ideas for our community".

"It is a small town, where we can rely on others".

"They have sporting areas and good schools".

"The community is accepting of everyone".

"New parks going in and lots of new activities".

"We have help such as head space to care for even the slightest of problems".

"It is a great place for learning, and it has great people that will help you".

"It is a safe and friendly community. There are plenty of community and sporting groups for young people to become involved with. Heaps of opportunities to connect closely with educational providers and local businesses".

"Strong sense of community and desire to hear the voices of young people".

"Swan Hill is a caring community that has great education facilities, upcoming new initiatives like skate park and great access to a huge range of sport".

"There is a large number of sporting, performing art, artistic, community opportunities available to young people in this community. They have a large number of services and groups to support them".

nice clubs good schools youth support program safe hang good
 close knit community town engage youth inc dont know spaces learn
 think outdoor spaces support headspace groups
 great programs things know park outdoor skate park kids
 care lots services youth offered place provide

Q5. What do you think is needed in your community and across the Swan Hill municipality to support better outcomes for young people aged 12-25 years and their families?

The top five things that respondents thought was needed to support better outcomes for youth and their families were:

1. **More services/supports (31%)** e.g. childcare, generalist youth workers, mental health services, service access information, links to services and a Youth Worker in Robinvale.
2. **More activities/events (28%)** e.g. low cost/no cost events/activities, social connections, music, school holiday and weekend programs.
3. **Youth friendly spaces (8%)**
4. **Youth voice/youth leadership (8%)**
5. **Access to local Tertiary education options (7%)**

Other suggestions mentioned to a lesser extent: more youth funding/resources, transportation, cultural diversity/awareness, mentoring, more sports, stronger business/industry links, less time on technology, employment opportunities, less alcohol and drugs, family focussed activities, cheaper living and parenting/family support.

“We need more interactive activities that do not include phones”.

“Activities on Saturdays and Sundays at the High School”.

“More programs which do not involve sport/physical activity, ongoing access to mental health services and programs, community events which engage young people”.

“Better, cheaper and more reliable public transport. Better health care support from specialists”.

“Better access to generalist youth workers for support and advice. more events and activities which are not associated with the sporting clubs- that are free or low cost”.

More community involvement and role models interacting with school curriculum”.

“Access to more post-secondary education options. Less casualization of work for young people. More access to mental health services”.

“Robinvale needs help to positively engage youth”.

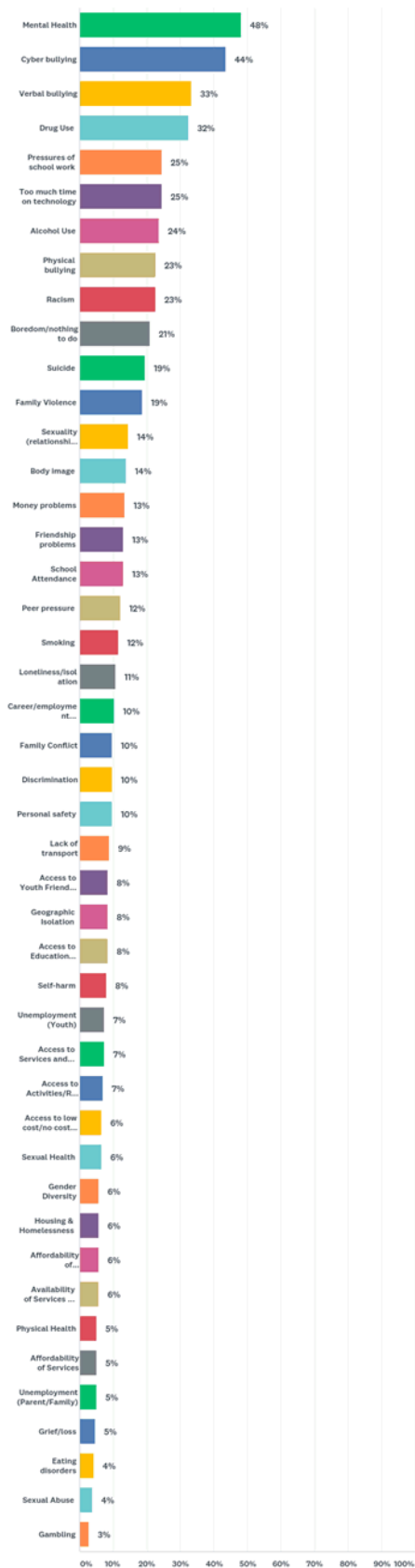
“More education and awareness of the specific needs of diverse populations (LGBTIQA+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and culturally and linguistically diverse young people)”.

“Service access information for young people”.

“Transition to further education and training programs for those who don’t want to leave to go to Uni. More apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities. Better linking of services”.

active club great children know issue make idk involved funding fun
 voice parents eg groups space think area families smaller
 access feel opportunities adults people older
 events Perhaps sport outcomes community
 maybe need community needs youth jobs

Q6 What do you see as the TOP FIVE key issues and challenges facing young people aged 12-25 years and their families living in the Swan Hill municipality?



The top five issues/challenges that respondents noticed in young people aged 12-25 years and their families were:

1. Mental health (48%)
2. Cyber bullying (44%)
3. Verbal bullying (33%)
4. Drug use (32%)
5. Pressures of schoolwork (25%)
6. Too much time on technology (25%)

Comparatively in 2015 parents/community and service providers were asked what the top three issues of concern were that they noticed in young people they were connected to.

The top five overall concerns for parent/community and services providers in 2015 were:

1. Drugs (33%)
2. Mental Health (28%)
3. Alcohol (18%)
4. Low aspirations (16%)
5. Boredom (15%)
6. Family Conflict (15%)

**Too much time on technology was not available as an answer choice in the 2015 survey.

Q7. What would you like to see Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program focus on over the next five years?

1. **Health/wellbeing prevention focus (29%)** e.g. mental health, bullying, building resilience, respectful relationships, online behaviours, drug and alcohol and physical wellbeing.
2. **Youth events/activities (26%)** e.g. arts/culture, low-cost/no-cost events, sport, youth led activities/events.
3. **Generalist youth support (23%)**
4. **Youth voice/leadership (9%)**
5. **Improved facilities (4%)** e.g. Youth Inc, parks
6. **Focus on smaller outlying communities (2%)**
7. **Positive promotion of youth (2%)**

"More community events".

"To help people stop committing suicide; and stop violence".

"Help kids to become more friendly to other youth".

"Give young families help when it is needed".

"I would like to see more youth councillors and more support".

"Helping youth that may be in trouble, or mentally ill".

"A variety of activities that youth can participate in. Sport is fairly well represented but some carnivals, arts activities, youth festivals".

"Keeping kids active and developing healthy lifestyles and learning about making good decisions (e.g. not bullying, taking drugs, crime)".

"More engagement and support for early school leavers and our young offenders".

"Activities that help young people socialise and learn about respectful relationships".

"Continue to build, they have been a great supporter of our organisation and we see first-hand the impact they are making with our youth. Maybe a newer building, same location !!".

"I would like to see the program expand to include additional generalist youth workers who are able to travel out to smaller communities regularly".

"Increase youth activities - keeping young people positively engaged with one another face to face. Assist in promoting educational and career opportunities".

activities develop youth Building help fun
 opportunities things mental health encourage
 kids educating support funding swan hill sure young die
 better students making Increase families age appropriate
 youth support maybe idk dont know events age group health involved skills

Q8. Is there anything else that you would like to add?

- More mental health support
- Address bullying
- More sport
- Create more jobs
- Keep Youth Inc work happening
- Build the capacity of and involve parents more
- More options for childcare
- Keep including youth voice
- Youth enterprise projects
- Seek more funding and resources for Council's youth programs
- Build resilience in youth

"It would be great to have more mental health first aid courses run throughout the year- the council could fund 5-10 people to do the course to deliver to those they work with".

"I am a mum of 3 and have found our community to be a truly great place to bring up kids".

"Teenagers think and talk about suicide so much, they have so much going on with social media and perceived expectations. They can become overwhelmed".

"As a parent I believe Youth Inc creates a much-needed service to our local youth. Maybe there could be some thought and action to make this service more available to a larger number of people/youth".

"Thank you to Kane and his team for all of the hard work they do for young people in the community".

"Swan Hill Youth Inc. do an amazing job with the limited resources and funding. More funding and resource should be allocated to enable them to have a bigger impact".

Service Provider Focus Group Results

A total of 16 service providers took part in focussed discussion groups in Swan Hill and Robinvale. Results have been provided for Swan Hill & Robinvale.

Swan Hill Focus Group Results

Q1. What are the positive things for young people in the Swan Hill municipality?

- Skatepark
- Youth Inc
- Clontarf (SHC)
- FLO program
- Good youth supports available, not many young people slipping through the gaps
- strong relationships between services
- collaborative approaches from services
- supportive youth (in Swan Hill)
- schools are more resourced
- new transition age extended to 24 y/
- Strong school connections with services
- A good range of community events and activities (FReeZA)
- Yarn Safe worker
- More discussion around racism
- MDAS Youth Hub
- Fairfax festival
- Youth are more accepting of each other

Q2. What do you notice as key concerns/issues for young people you work with?

- Unhealthy relationships
- Sexual assault
- Social media use
- Problem drinking and cannabis use
- Access to transport
- Geographical isolation
- Access to services
- Connection to community
- Social isolation
- Housing and homelessness
- Media portrayal of relationships

Q3. What do you think is needed to improve things for young people?

- Relationships between young people and services
- Family therapy
- Family centred work
- Ability to identify mental health issues early
- More generalist youth work (across the municipality)

Q4. What would you like to see the Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program focussing on over the next 5 years?

- Shift community expectation around social media / technology
- Use young people to mend - Culture, acceptance, sexuality, relationships
- Continue to find young people to lead other young people
- Improve leadership in young people
- Acknowledge all young people (diversity, culture, sexuality, disengaged)
- Extend Reach to outlying areas
- Increase support for Manangatang (events, generalist Youth Support)
- Provide after-hours areas for young people to hang out
- Healthy relationships campaign
- Community education
- Community champions for youth

Robinvale Focus Group Results

Q1. What are the positive things for young people in Robinvale?

- Sporting activities
- Youth group (MVAC) (13-17 y/o)
- MVAC Youth Camp (School Holidays)
- Church groups
- Clontarf group
- Robinvale College
- River
- Diversity
- ATSI girls

Q2. What do you notice as key concerns/issues for young people who work with?

- MVAC don't have specific youth funding
- Service commitment to Robinvale- many visiting service providers
- Divide between young people
- Lack of volunteers
- Teen pregnancy
- Problem drinking and drug
- Violence
- Poor safety of community
- Financial pressures
- Cost of living (rent)
- Gambling
- Cost of uniforms etc
- Access to youth resources/funds
- No housing locally
- Overpopulation in houses/crowded living conditions
- Parents social skills
- Racism
- Educating community (parents),
- Lack of cultural identity
- Teen suicide

Q3. What do you think is needed to improve things for young people?

- Youth Space
- Strengthen cultural identity
- Language groups to learn culture and native language
- Relationship skills
- Indigenous arts celebration
- Coordination of a festival/event
- Embrace culture
- Family centred work
- More generalist youth work
- Upskilling for youth work
- More housing
- Community champions for youth
- Youth advocacy

Q4. What would you like to see Swan Hill Rural City Council's Youth Support Program focussing on over the next 5 years?

- Inject funding into Robinvale
- Advocate for housing
- Youth space in Robinvale
- Youth worker presence in Robinvale
- Service mapping for the community to understand what services are funded to be in Robinvale and what services are provided
- Generalist youth workers

"We need good old-fashioned Youth Workers"

Monitoring, Review & Reporting

The Youth Strategy is incorporated into the Council Plan (2017-2021) with accompanying responsibilities, resources and timeframes identified.

A corresponding yearly work plan will be developed to guide implementation, review, timeframes, partnerships and resourcing.

NOVO Youth Council will work closely with Council's Youth Services team; advising, guiding and bringing continuous youth voice to the implementation process.

A youth and community friendly yearly report card will be published to share the progression and outcomes of the Youth Strategy 2020-2025 with young people, the youth sector, parents and the wider community.

B.20.31 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO LOCAL LAW NO. 2 2017

Responsible Officer:	Director Development and Planning
File Number:	S16-06P-01
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Local Law No. 2 (Revised with proposed changes)2 Letter from Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee3 Trading Code of Practice (Revised)

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

Councils use local laws to respond to issues and community needs within a municipality. These local laws complement Council's responsibilities and powers under state laws. The purpose of a local law, like all laws, is to place obligations on individuals and the activities that they wish to, or are, engaged in so as to protect, for example, community assets.

There are a number of legislative limitations placed on local law making and, there are certain principles e.g. the rule of law that they need to be consistent with. If an obligation is not contained in a law then there is no lawful basis for the exercise of power by council. If there is a stipulated process to be followed it then must be followed so as to not infringe the rights of others.

According to local Government Victoria (2010), local laws should firstly be necessary and have the following attributes:

- consistency in language and effect
- compliance with the legislation
- enforceable
- accessible
- efficient
- accountable
- transparent
- current

Importantly, making a local law also means that council has stated its intent to administer its provisions and provide the relevant resources to do so.

Council's Local Law No. 2 (attached) was reviewed and adopted on 16 May 2017. The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to make amendments to

- Clause 53 – Dangerous and Unsightly Land (*page 32 of Local Law No. 2*)
- Clause 55 – Open Air Burning (*page 33 of Local Law No. 2*)
- Clause 79 – Moving of Livestock (*page 79 of Local Law No. 2*).

These amendments will assist Council officers with current and emerging issues. In addition to the clause changes, the definitions have been reviewed for currency and some new definitions added.

Concurrently the Trading Code of Practice was reviewed and updated to reflect the legislative changes to the Tobacco Act 1987 for outdoor dining and drinking. The additional clauses are in line with Local Law No. 2 2017 and the document modernised in line with Council's style guide.

Discussion

The review of Local Law No. 2 has been completed. The review considered;

- the scope of local law provisions and revisions is necessary and relevant to the Swan Hill Rural City Council context
- the provisions are enforceable, so services are effectively delivered, and expectations met
- relevant emerging community issues are identified and included, if relevant, in the local law
- resourcing is commensurate with external and internal service demands

Specific issues arising from the review resulted in the following changes to:

- Dangerous and unsightly land (Clause 53) - to incorporate amended height recommendations for vegetation.
- Open Air Burning (Clause 55) - to ensure adequate enforcement can occur in relation to burn offs in all parts of urban areas in the municipality.
- Droving of Livestock (Clause 79) - to accurately reflect Council's position on cattle droving throughout the municipality to ensure the protection of assets and native vegetation.

These recommendations were used to amend the existing local law into a draft for consultation as part of the requirements of the Act. A number of new definitions have been included and editorial revisions have been made to improve the clarity and readability of the document.

The proposed changes are outlined below:

CLAUSE 53 - DANGEROUS & UNSIGHTLY LAND

During the review, it was identified that the reference to the *Country Fire Authority Act (1958)* is incorrect. The *Country Fire Authority Act (1958)* makes no reference to the height limit of grass and therefore this section requires amending to ensure it is legally enforceable.

It is recommended to amend the height limit to **250mm** for unsightliness and remove the reference to the *Country Fire Authority Act (1958)*. It is considered that 100mm is too short to be classed as unsightly and a height of 250mm is more appropriate.

It should be noted that dry grass 100mm in height during a fire danger period maybe classed as a fire hazard by an Authorised Officer and dealt with accordingly under the *Country Fire Authority Act (1958)* during this period.

CLAUSE 55 - OPEN AIR BURNING

On 18 July 2018, a letter was received from the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (refer attachment 2) in relation to a burn off that had taken place in the industrial estate in Karinie Street Swan Hill. Residents who reported the fire to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) had concerns on the air quality and potential health related issues associated with the illegal burn off.

The CFA has requested Council's assistance with the following areas:

- Enforcing non-compliance of the relevant Local Law in relations to burn offs in both residential and industrial areas of the municipality.
- Communicating the relevant local law to the community by highlighting it on Council's websites and/or other options open to Council.

This clause has been reviewed and changes to Clause 55 - Open Air Burning are recommended. The proposed changes will assist Authorised Officers and the CFA by providing clarity in the assessment and carrying out of enforcement.

The proposed amendments are;

- Including industrial zones within the prohibited burning zone to further prevent the burning of offensive materials. This would allow only properties within a farming zone to burn.
- The inclusion of Fire Restriction Zones on maps (attached) to provide clear visual guidance to residents. These maps will prohibit some properties that have been allowed to burn in the past due to their zoning. An example of this will be a farm located in Robinvale surrounded by residences. Due to these anomalies, Officers are proposing that a permit system be introduced.
- Include ability to grant conditional permits for exceptional circumstances as determined by Authorised Officers.

Current

55 (2) A person must not light or allow to be lit or remain alight any open air burn in any part of the municipal district which is zoned commercial or residential under council's Planning Scheme.

Proposed

Clause 55

- (1) For the purpose of this clause, a person must not light or allow to be lit or remain alight any open air burn in any part of the municipal district which is zoned commercial,

industrial or residential under Council's Planning Scheme.

- (2) Property owners may apply in writing for a conditional permit to burn in a restricted zone. Council officers may grant an exemption depending on the circumstances.
- (3) Subclause (1) shall not apply to –
 - (a) a barbecue while being used for the purpose of cooking food; or
 - (b) a manufactured fireplace being used for the purpose of outdoor heating.
- (4) A person must not, without a permit, burn or cause to burn any offensive materials.
- (5) For the purpose of subclause (3), offensive materials include:
 - (a) any manufactured chemical;
 - (b) any rubber or plastic;
 - (c) any petroleum or oil;
 - (d) any paint or receptacle which contains or which contained paint;
 - (e) food waste, fish or other offensive or noxious matter; or
 - (f) any other material as determined by the Council by resolution from time to time.
- (6) A person must not light a fire in the open air:
 - (a) on any day of total fire ban declared by the Country Fire Authority or
 - (b) during a declared fire danger period under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 without first obtaining a permit from the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer or Country Fire Authority.
- (7) A person must, when directed to do so by a member of an emergency service agency or an Authorised Officer extinguish a fire in the open air.
- (8) Sub-clause (2) does not apply:
 - (a) to rural properties, if the burning is 100 metres or more from a neighbouring residence
 - (b) where a conditional permit has been granted.
- (9) A person must not burn or cause to burn any dead animal carcass except where the burning of a dead animal carcass has been ordered by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.

Fire restriction zones on maps attached.

CLAUSE 79 - MOVING OF LIVESTOCK

On 21 August 2018, Council received correspondence from Gannawarra Shire Council regarding someone wanting to drive approximately 400 head of cattle through both municipalities. A decision was made to not allow the driving due to potential damage to native vegetation, Council assets, risk to horticulture and fences.

As a result of the above decision, a recommendation was made by Councillors to review the current Local Law (Clause 79 – Moving of Livestock on a Road Reserve) so that it accurately reflects Council’s position on cattle droving throughout the municipality.

The following changes to Clause 79 to assist officers in compliance and enforcement with regards to the movement of livestock and issues that may arise in the future are suggested.

Current

Clause 79 (1)

Council may, by resolution, prohibit a road or part of a road within the municipal district from being used for the grazing or moving of livestock.

Clause 79 (2)

Notice of resolutions made by Council shall be available at Council offices.

Proposed

Clause 79

- (1) For the purpose of this clause, a person who owns or is in charge of livestock must not cause or allow the droving or grazing of the livestock on any road without a permit.
- (2) The clause above, does not apply when the person complies wholly with the “Manual for Traffic Control at Stock Crossings” (Vicroads, June 2015) including obtaining all necessary permissions from the relevant road authority.
- (3) A person must not, without a permit install a stock crossing or related sign or other infrastructure on any road.
- (4) Where livestock are being moved regularly between parts of one farm, the following conditions apply.
 - The owner or occupier of the farm where livestock are being regularly moved between two contiguous parts of that farm must move the livestock within the boundary of the farm.
 - Where a farm property is divided by a road, the owner or occupier of the farm must drive the livestock directly across the road at a stock crossing that is approved by council (and, if necessary the local road authority) and avoid moving the livestock along the road.
- (5) A person moving livestock along, across, or on council land or an owner of livestock must at all times observe and comply with any reasonable direction of an Authorised Officer.
- (6) Council may exempt the owner of any farm property from the requirements of this sub-clause (1) upon application in writing and Council may grant an exemption depending on the circumstances.

PROPOSED NEW DEFINITIONS IN LOCAL LAW NO. 2

To ensure that the Local Law No. 2 is clear and concise, new definitions to define the meaning of the “Droving of Livestock” and “Movement of Livestock” as follows are proposed:

droving of livestock Means driving livestock in or through the municipal district or from one location to another for the purpose of changing their grazing area outside the local farming district or for the purposes of sale or relocation after sale but does not include the normal movement of livestock.

movement of livestock Means movement of stock (during daylight hours and not less than 1km per hr) between adjoining or adjacent paddocks or properties as part of normal farming practices.

TRADING CODE OF PRACTICE

The Trading Code of Practice was created in 2008 and the last review was completed in 2013/14. The Trading Code of Practice clearly outlines requirements to permit holders on the rules on putting items on the footpaths. Incorporating this document allows council to enforce the Trading Code of Practice under the Local Law.

The Trading Code of Practice has been reviewed in 2020 and updated to;

- Reflect legislative changes to the Tobacco Act 1987 for outdoor drinking and dining
- Update the clauses to be in line with the Local Law No.2 2017
- Update the formatting to reflect Councils Design and Writing Style Guide
- Make the document more reader friendly and easily understood by permit holders.

The Trading Code of Practice has been reviewed by the Regulatory Services, Public Health, Engineering, Planning and Building departments.

Consultation

Officers from the Country Fire Authority, Councils Municipal Fire Prevention Officer and Deputy Municipal Fire Prevention Officer have all been involved in the development of these changes.

Financial Implications

Minimal costs are required to advertise and complete the amendments to the Local law.

Social Implications

The purpose of Local Law No. 2 is to improve the overall living conditions and amenity of the municipality for residents and visitors by regulating certain behaviours or activities that may cause nuisance to neighbours or the general public.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

- Dangerous and unsightly land
- Emission of offensive material
- Odour and noise and open air burning
- Damage to native vegetation
- Damage to Council assets
- Damage to horticulture
- Damage to fences

Risk Management Implications

Local Law No. 2 regulates specific activities by ratepayers and residents in relation to open air burning and the movements of livestock. This proposed amendment should reduce further risk to the community which may help mitigate illegal activities, damage to property and dangerous behaviour.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Environment - Sound policies and practices that protect and enhance our environment.

Amendment Process –

The new Local Government Act 2020 provisions relating to creating and amending Local Laws do not commence until 1/7/2021, therefore the current provisions within the Local Government Act 1989 still apply.

Local Laws can only be amended in the same way as they are made.

Local Government Act 1989 Sec 119 - Procedure for making a local law applies to the amending of Local Laws.

The Act provides a clear process for preparing a new or amending and existing law
The key steps include:

- Give notice of intention to make or amend a local law
- Allow persons affected to make a submission in relation to the Local law
- Make copies of the Local Law and an explanatory document readily available
- Council to consider submissions received and make changes to the amended Local Law as required.
- After Council resolves to adopt the Local Law or amendment it must again provide notice of the decision and send a copy of the local law to the Minister

Options

1. Amend Local Law No. 2 as described in this report and as attached.
2. Amend Local Law No. 2 with only some of the changes.
3. Not amend Local Law No. 2.

Recommendation

That Council commence the process to amend Local Law No. 2 as attached in accordance with section 119 of the Local Government Act 1989.

50/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McKay

That Council commence the process to amend Local Law No. 2 as attached in accordance with section 119 of the Local Government Act 1989.

SECONDED Cr McPhee

The Motion was put and CARRIED



Community Local Law No. 2



Adopted: 16 May 2017
Gazetted: 1 June 2017
Commenced: 2 June 2017



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Part 1 - Preliminary

1. Local Law

This Community Local Law is a local law made under Part 5 of the *Local Government Act* Part 5 of the Local Government Act 1989.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Local Law is to provide:

- a) the peace, order and good governance of the municipal district;
- b) a safe and healthy environment so that the community can enjoy a quality of life that meets its expectations;
- c) the safe and equitable use and enjoyment of public and municipal places;
- d) the protection and enhancement of the amenity and environment of the municipal district;
- e) the fair and reasonable use and enjoyment of private land;
- f) the uniform and fair application of this Local Law;
- g) to prevent damage to Council property and infrastructure;
- h) manage, regulate and control the keeping of animals and birds; and
- i) regulate, prohibit and control the consumption of alcohol in designated areas within the municipal district.

3. Commencement

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

4. Revocation of Local Law

On the commencement of this Local Law, Community Local Law No 2. 2007 is revoked.

5. Application of Local Law

This Local Law applies throughout the municipal district of the Swan Hill Rural City Council.

6. Definitions

In this Local Law:

Act	means the Local Government Act 1989.
alcohol	means liquor.
authorised officer	means a person appointed by Council under Section 224 of the Act and includes all Police Officers pursuant to Section 224A.
advertising sign	means any portable sign, notice, structure, banner or other similar device used for the purpose of soliciting goods or services or displaying information.
applicant	means a person who applies for a permit under this Local Law.
barbecue	means a device used for all cooking of food outdoors whether constructed or manufactured and whether powered by gas, electricity, liquid or solid fuel, or any combination of them and includes kettles, rotisserie spits, pizza ovens and traditional in-ground fire pit cooking.
building site	means any land prepared for and on which building works are carried out.
building works	includes any activities, events and practices for or in connection with the construction, alteration, demolition or removal of a building.
bulk rubbish container	includes a waste bin, mini-skip, shipping containers and pallet, but does not include a waste bin provided by Council for the purpose of a kerbside waste collection service provided by Council.
busker	is a person who entertains by playing music, dancing, singing, or reciting on the street or in a public place with or without collecting money.
camp	means the encampment of lodging in a caravan, tent or other temporary structure or vehicle not permanently erected on land.
caravan	means and includes a caravan, motor home, bus and any object or structure having the general characteristics of a caravan, including when wheels or axles have been removed or if the caravan is resting directly on the ground or is placed on blocks or other supports.
carriageway	means a portion of a road improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic (but does not include a segregated footway, a shared footway or a bicycle path), and includes any shoulders and areas both at the sides or centre of the carriageway used for the standing or parking of vehicles and, if a road has two or more portions divided by a reservation, means each portion separately.
Council	means Swan Hill Rural City Council.
Council land	means land owned by, vested in, leased by or otherwise occupied by Council or land under its management or control, and includes any building, structure or fence thereon and every Council drain.

code	means a Code of Practice incorporated into and forming part of this Local Law.
domestic birds	means small birds such as canaries, finches, budgerigars and the like kept in a domesticated state or under the control of humans.
drain	means a system for the collection, storage and removal of stormwater developed, managed and/or maintained by Council.
droving of livestock	Means driving livestock in or through the municipal district or from one location to another for the purpose of changing their grazing area outside the local farming district or for the purposes of sale or relocation after sale but does not include the normal movement of livestock.
dwelling	means a building used as a self-contained residence which normally includes a kitchen sink, food preparation facilities , a bath or shower and a closet pan and wash basin, a includes out-buildings and works normal to a dwelling.
event	means a promoted public gathering on Council land owned not including normal business operations including an organised recreational, cultural, commercial or social event or gathering of people.
emergency service	includes the ambulance, fire brigade, police or state emergency service.
farming zone	means the Farming Zone under Council's Planning Scheme.
footpath	means any path that is provided for the use of pedestrians only or that is regularly used by pedestrians and not vehicles, or that is a segregated footway or a shared footway.
green waste	means all types of organic waste produced or accumulated on any land that Council designates as acceptable waste for any green waste collection as described by Council in any newspaper generally circulating in the municipal district.
goods	means merchandise or wares for sale or display.
graffiti	means to write, draw, mark, scratch or otherwise deface property by any means so that the defacement is not readily removable by wiping with a cloth.
grazing	means the holding of livestock in one area for the purpose of them feeding off roadside vegetation.
household waste	means all waste and rubbish produced or accumulated in or about a dwelling but does not include bricks, chemicals, hard waste, trade waste, garden waste, medical waste, furniture, fittings or machinery.
infringement notice	means an infringement notice issued by Council or by an Authorised Officer under this Local Law.
irrigation district	means an area with defined geographic boundaries organised to obtain and distribute water for irrigation of lands within the district.

<i>irrigation water</i>	means an artificial application of water on lands to assist in the growing of crops and pastures and/or to maintain vegetative growth on recreational lands.
<i>land</i>	includes buildings and other structures permanently affixed to land, land covered with water and any estate, interest, easement, servitude, privilege or right in or over land.
<i>livestock</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the Impounding of Livestock Act 1994, namely an animal (including a bird) of any species used in connection with primary production or kept for recreational purposes, other than a dog or cat.
<i>motorised vehicles</i>	includes all mini-bikes, trail bikes, motor bikes, motor cars, four-wheel drive vehicles, motor scooters, go-carts and other vehicles which may be propelled by a motor, electrical motor or by mechanical means.
<i>movement of livestock</i>	Means movement of stock (during daylight hours and not less than 1km per hr) between adjoining or adjacent paddocks or properties as part of normal farming practices.
<i>municipality</i>	means the municipal district of Swan Hill Rural City Council.
<i>municipal place</i>	means land, excluding a road, which is owned, occupied, managed or controlled by Council.
<i>Notice to Comply</i>	means a Notice to Comply issued under this Local Law.
<i>occupier</i>	means the person who is for the time being in charge of the land or premises.
<i>offensive</i>	means in relation to the emission of noise, dust, smoke, ash, odour, waste or other things, which due to its intensity, duration, frequency, or other factor, results in a level of personal discomfort that a reasonable person would not expect to endure, or results in a unreasonable disruption to normal living activity.
<i>park</i>	means a public reserve or part of a public reserve that has been improved by the construction of a playing field, or contains playground equipment, or contains provisions for cooking or other eating facilities or has established and maintained lawns and garden beds.
<i>permit</i>	means a permit issued under this Local Law.
<i>penalty unit</i>	has the same meaning as Section 110(2) of the Sentencing Act 1991.
<i>person</i>	includes an individual, partnership, unincorporated body, association and corporation.
<i>person in charge</i>	in relation to clause 60(5) means the person or persons whether natural or incorporated who has or have management responsibility for building works or a building site and includes the owner of land on which the building works are being carried out or the building site is located.
<i>Planning Scheme</i>	means a planning scheme approved under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 that operates within the municipal district.

<i>poultry</i>	includes any fowl, duck, goose, ostrich, turkey, pheasant, quail, guinea fowl, squab and any other avian species ordinarily consumed as food by humans.
<i>procession</i>	means an organised group of people proceeding along a road or a gathering for a ceremony or function and includes fun runs and bicycle events.
<i>public place</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the Summary Offences Act 1966.
<i>public reserve</i>	means a municipal place which is outdoors and available for recreational purposes.
<i>putrescibles waste</i>	is a solid waste that contains organic matter capable of being decomposed by microorganisms and of such a character and proportion as to cause obnoxious odours and to be capable of attracting or providing food for pests, birds and animals.
<i>mobile garbage bin</i>	means a wheeled mobile garbage bin of the type issued or approved by Council.
<i>residential area</i>	means land within a General Residential Zone, Township Zone and Low Density Residential Zone under Council's Planning Scheme.
<i>road</i>	has the same meaning as defined in the Local Government Act 1989 namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a street; and b) a right of way; and c) any land reserved or proclaimed as a street or road under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 or the Land Act 1958; and d) a public road under the Road Management Act 2004; and e) a passage; and f) a cul de sac; and g) a by-pass; and h) a bridge or ford; and i) a footpath, bicycle path or nature strip; and j) any culvert or kerbing or other land or works forming part of the road.
<i>road reserve</i>	means all of the area of land that is within the boundaries of a road.
<i>rural living zone</i>	means land within Rural living Zone under Council's Planning Scheme.
<i>sell</i>	means to offer negotiate, accept or undertake an exchange of goods and services for consideration and to barter or exchange, to agree to sell, to offer or display for sale, to have or keep goods in possession for the immediate purpose of sale rather than storage, to use any machine or mechanical device for the purpose, and to direct cause or attempt any of these things.
<i>shopping trolley</i>	means a wheeled container supplied by a retailer for enabling a customer to transport goods.

smoke	means to smoke, hold or otherwise have control over an ignited tobacco product, or light a tobacco product.
smoke free area	means an area gazetted by the Victorian State Government, or in, any public reserve or Council land, which has been declared as a 'smoke free' or 'non smoking area' and may have smoke free area signage erected and maintained in accordance with the Tobacco Act 1987.
spruik	means attracting customers by public aural appeals to passerby, with or without sound amplification equipment.
street festival	means an organised recreational, cultural, commercial or social event or gathering of people which is held on a road and includes a procession or party.
street furniture	means tables and chairs, stools and benches, umbrellas, wind frames or similar articles placed on any road or municipal place.
street party	means an organised social gathering of people from one or several adjacent roads that is held on a road.
street tree	any tree or shrub located within a road reserve, Council park or reserve or area controlled or administered by Council.
temporary dwelling	means a building or caravan used for residential purposes prior to and during construction of a dwelling.
vehicle	has the same meaning prescribed to it in the Road Safety Act 1986.
waste	has the meaning as defined in section 4 of the Environment Protection Act 1970: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) any matter whether solid, liquid, gaseous or radio-active which is discharged, emitted or deposited in the environment in such volume, constituency or manner as to cause an alteration in the environment; b) any discarded, rejected, unwanted, surplus or abandoned matter; c) any otherwise discarded, rejected, abandoned, unwanted or surplus matter intended for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. recycling, reprocessing, recovery or purification by a separate operation from that which produced the matter; or ii. sale; and d) any matter prescribed to be waste.
works	includes any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) removal, destruction or lopping of trees b) removal of vegetation c) removal of topsoil d) collection of seed e) collection of firewood f) preparation and construction of fire breaks g) drainage works

h) construct an underpass under a road

7. Administration of this Local Law

Exercise of discretion

- (1) In exercising any discretion under this Local Law Council must have regard to:
 - a) the objectives of this Local Law; and
 - b) any relevant guidelines or standards.
- (2) Council may prepare guidelines for use by Council, Council officers and other persons for the purpose of this Local Law.
- (3) Guidelines prepared by Council must be consistent with the objectives of this Local Law.

8. Exemptions from this Local Law

Nothing in this Local Law prevents a member, officer or employee from the list below from performing any of the duties he or she is lawfully entitled or required to perform while engaged in those duties:

- a) the Commonwealth or State Government;
- b) the Victorian Police;
- c) the Country Fire Brigade;
- d) Ambulance Victoria;
- e) any first aid or emergency service organisation;
- f) any military or civil defence force, or
- g) a public body other than Council

9. Incorporation of documents

- (1) The document titled 'Trading Code of Practice', as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 112 of the Local Government Act 1989.
- (2) The document titled 'Building and Works Code of Practice' as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 112 of the Local Government Act 1989.
- (3) The document titled 'Waste Code of Practice' as made by Council and published from time to time on Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law pursuant to section 112 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Part 2 - Administration

10. Issue of permits

- (1) An application for a permit under this Local Law must be in an approved form and accompanied by the appropriate fee prescribed by Council.
- (2) Council may waive, reduce or alter any fee.
- (3) Council may require an applicant to supply additional information or to give public notice of the application.
- (4) Council may:
 - a) issue a permit, with or without conditions; or
 - b) refuse to issue a permit
- (5) Council may exempt a person from the requirement under this Local Law to obtain a permit.
- (6) Unless specified in the permit, all permits expire one year after date of issue.

11. Conditional permits

- (1) A permit may be subject to conditions, which Council or an Authorised Officer considers to be appropriate in the circumstances including:
 - a) the payment of a fee or charge;
 - b) a time limit to be applied either specifying the duration, commencement or completion date;
 - c) the happening of an event;
 - d) the rectification, remedying or restoration of a situation or circumstance;
 - e) when the applicant is not the owner of the subject property, the consent of the owner is required;
 - f) the granting of some other permit or authorisation which may be required by Council or another statutory or public authority whether under this Local Law or otherwise; and
 - g) the requirements of a Code of Practice incorporated as part of this Local Law.
- (2) The conditions of a permit must be set out in the permit.
- (3) Council or an Authorised Officer may, during the currency of a permit, alter the conditions of a permit if it considers it to be appropriate to do so, after providing the permit holder with an opportunity to make comment on the proposed alteration.
- (4) A person who undertakes an activity for which Council or an Authorised Officer has issued a permit must comply with the conditions of the permit.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

12. Cancellation of permits

- (1) A permit may be cancelled by Council or an Authorised Officer at any time if it is clear that the conditions under which the permit was issued have not been complied with, provided:
 - a) there has been a breach of a condition of the permit
 - b) a Notice to Comply has been served upon the permit holder; and
 - c) the time required under the Notice to Comply has expired.
- (2) Where the permit holder is not the owner of the land and the owner's consent was required to be given to the application for the permit, the owner must be notified of the Notice to Comply.
- (3) Where any permit issued under this Local Law contains conditions, any person who contravenes or fails to comply with a condition is guilty of an offence.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

13. Notice to Comply

- (1) An Authorised Officer may, by serving a written Notice to Comply, make any reasonable direction to a person:
 - a) in respect of any matter under this Local Law; or
 - b) a person's use of a municipal place, Council land or a road; and the person must comply with that direction.
- (2) A Notice to Comply must:
 - a) specify the act, matter or thing which is required to cease or specify the act, matter or thing which is required to be done;
 - b) specify the time within which the person receiving the notice is required to carry out or cease carrying out any such act, matter or thing;
 - c) be signed by an Authorised Officer; and
- (3) The time required by notice to comply served under this Local Law must be reasonable in the circumstances and what will be reasonable will vary depending on the matters to be remedied, but should take into account if applicable:
 - a) the amount of work involved;
 - b) the degree of difficulty;
 - c) the availability of necessary materials or other necessary items;
 - d) climatic conditions;
 - e) the degree of risk or potential risk; and
 - f) any other relevant factor.
- (4) The cost of carrying out the work is recoverable as a debt.

14. Power of Authorised Officer – urgent circumstances

- (1) An Authorised Officer may, in urgent circumstances arising as a result of another person's failure to comply with this Local Law, take action to remove, remedy or rectify a situation without the necessity to serve a Notice to Comply, provided:
 - a) the Authorised Officer considers the circumstances or situation to be sufficiently urgent and that the time involved or difficulties associated with serving a Notice to Comply may place a person, animal, property or thing at risk or in danger;
 - b) the Chief Executive Officer approves of the proposed action;
 - c) details of the circumstances and remedying action are, as soon as possible, forwarded to the person on whose behalf the action was taken; and
 - d) Council is advised as soon as practicable of the action taken.
- (2) The action taken by an Authorised Officer under sub-clause (1) must not extend beyond what is necessary to cause the immediate abatement of the risk or danger involved.

15. Notice to Comply – not a precondition to enforcement proceedings

An Authorised Officer is able to prosecute a person or issue an infringement notice under this Local Law without first serving a Notice to Comply.

16. Impounding

- (1) An Authorised Officer may:
 - a) impound an animal or item in accordance with this Local Law, Council may refuse to release it until the appropriate fee or charge for its release has been paid to Council.
 - b) impound any item that unlawfully encroaches on or obstructs the free use of a road or a municipal place;
 - c) sell, destroy, dispose of or give away the impounded item if the owner of the item has not paid the fee within 14 days of serving of a notice unless having applied for an appeal.
- (2) If an Authorised Officer impounds an item or animal under this Local Law he or she must serve on the owner a notice as soon as possible after the impounding.
- (3) If the identity or whereabouts of the owner of the impounded animal or item is unknown, the Authorised Officer must take reasonable steps to ascertain the identity or whereabouts of that person. Council may proceed to dispose of the impounded animal or item in accordance with sub-clause (1)(c).
- (4) Any proceeds from the disposal of impounded items must be paid to the owner except for the reasonable costs incurred by Council.
- (5) In the event that the owner cannot be identified or located within one year from the date the Notice of Impounding was served any proceeds as described in sub-clause 4 may be retained by Council beneficially.

17. Appeals

- (1) A person may appeal by written submission to Council for a review of an order, direction or notice made in relation to her or him under this Local Law within 14 days of the order, direction or notice being made.
- (2) An appeal will not in any way remove that person's obligation to act in accordance with any order, direction or notices which are applicable under this Local Law.
- (3) Where an appeal is to be heard under this clause the person appealing must do all that is necessary to cooperate in the prompt and speedy hearing of the appeal.

18. Delegation

Council delegates to its Chief Executive Officer and any Authorised Officer the power to:

- a) issue, refuse or revoke a permit;
- b) exempt a person from the requirement to obtain a permit;
- c) issue, sign, revoke, exempt, require or cancel any notice, order or direction;
- d) enforce any matter.

19. Fees

- (1) Council may, from time to time, by resolution determine fees for the purposes of this Local Law.
- (2) In determining the fees, Council may establish a system or structure of fees, including a minimum or maximum fee.
- (3) Council may waive, reduce or alter a fee with or without conditions.

Part 3 - Enforcement

20. Offences

A person is guilty of an offence if the person:

- a) does something which this Local Law prohibits to be done or makes an offence;
- b) fails to do something which this Local Law requires to be done;
- c) engages in activity without a permit where a provision of this Local Law requires that person obtain a permit before engaging in that activity;
- d) fails to comply with a condition of a permit issued under this Local Law; or
- e) fails to comply with a notice to comply or a direction of an Authorised Officer under this Local Law.

21. Infringement notice

- (1) Where an Authorised Officer reasonably believes that a person has committed an offence against this Local Law, the Authorised Officer may issue to that person an infringement notice, in a form approved by Council, as an alternative to a prosecution for the offence.
- (2) A person to whom an infringement notice has been issued must pay to Council the amount specified in the notice within 42 days of being served with the infringement notice.

22. Penalties

- (1) An infringement notice may be issued as an alternative to prosecution in respect of offences against this Local Law. In the event that an infringement notice is issued the infringement notice penalty will be two penalty units unless a specific infringement notice penalty is provided.
- (2) Unless otherwise specified, a person found by a court to be guilty of an offence under this Local Law is subject to the following penalties:
 - a) First offence – not more than 10 penalty units; and
 - b) Second or subsequent offence – not more than 20 penalty units.

Part 4 - Roads

23. Vehicle crossings

- (1) For the purposes of this clause a vehicle crossing is properly constructed if:
- it was constructed by or in accordance with the terms of an approval by Council or a State Road Authority; or
 - Council has approved in writing the method of construction of the particular vehicle crossing; or
 - in accordance with the Infrastructure Design Manual located at <http://www.designmanual.com.au> or other relevant standard applicable at the time of construction.
- (2) The owner of land abutting a road where kerb and channel are constructed, or any other land as determined by Council in accordance with this Local Law, must ensure that each point of vehicular access from a carriageway on a road to his or her land has a properly constructed vehicle crossing.
- Penalty: 5 penalty units**
- (3) Where a properly constructed vehicular crossing exists, a person must not use any other passage or route for vehicular access to the land.
- Penalty: 5 penalty units**
- (4) Where access to land is not via a properly constructed vehicle crossing, Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner of the land to construct a properly constructed vehicle crossing.
- (5) If a point of vehicular access from a carriageway on a road to adjacent land does not have a properly constructed vehicle crossing, Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner of the land.
- (6) In the case of roll-over type kerbing where a specific vehicular crossing point is not constructed, Council may nominate the location at which vehicles are to cross the kerb. Where access to land is not in accordance with the location nominated by Council, Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner of the land.
- (7) A vehicle crossing must allow for free drainage of water by construction of a culvert or by an alternative approved means.

24. Temporary vehicle crossings

- (1) Where it is likely that building works on any land will involve vehicles leaving a road and entering the land, the person responsible for the building works must obtain a permit for the construction of a temporary vehicle crossing which protects the existing road, kerb, drains, footpath and street trees.
- (2) Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on any person who should make application under sub-clause (1) for a temporary vehicle crossing.
- (3) The person responsible for the building works is liable for any damage to the existing road, kerb, drains, footpath and street trees resulting from the building works.

- (4) The permit holder must, within 48 hours of completion of the building works, arrange with Council for an inspection of the site.

25. Redundant vehicle crossings

- (1) Where works on any land involve the relocation or closure of a point of vehicular access, any redundant part of a vehicle crossing must be removed and the kerb, drain, footpath, nature strip or other part of the road reinstated to the satisfaction of Council.
- (2) Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner of any land, requiring the removal of part or all of a vehicle crossing which does not provide an effective point of vehicle access to the land.
- (3) If the removal of all or part of a vehicle crossing or the reinstatement of the road is not carried out in accordance with the Notice to Comply, Council may carry out the work at the full cost of the owner of the land.
- (4) The Notice to Comply may require the reinstatement of any part of the road.

26. Street levels

- (1) A person must not carry out any building or other works on or fence any part of any land immediately abutting a street, road, footpath or public reserve which is inconsistent with the level fixed by Council for the street, road, footpath or public reserve.
- (2) Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply to any person who has not complied with sub-clause (1).
- (3) If the works required in accordance with the Notice to Comply are not complied with Council may carry out the works at the full cost of the owner.
- (4) A person may obtain details of the levels fixed by Council for any street, road, footpath or public reserve by making application to Council.

27. Use of vehicles in a municipal place

- (1) A person must not ride or drive any motor car, motor cycle or other vehicle in any municipal place other than in an area set aside for vehicle parking or any designated roadway.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) A person must not use rollerblades, skateboards, self-propelled scooters or other similar devices on Council land, roads or a public place in a way that:
- other users of Council land, public place or road may have their safety compromised or they could be injured; or
 - damage could be caused to any property on Council land or road or public place.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

Infringement Notice: 1 penalty unit

28. Parked motor vehicles interfering with Council functions

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

Penalty: 5 penalty units

29. Abandoned vehicles

- (1) A person must not, on any road or in a municipal place or parking area vested in or under the control of Council, place any unregistered vehicle or cause to be abandoned any vehicle.
- (2) Where a vehicle is impounded by Council and is not claimed within 28 days by the owner, an Authorised Officer may cause the vehicle to be:
 - a) destroyed;
 - b) given away to community groups or for other community uses, or
 - c) disposed of by auction, public tender or advertised sale.
- (3) Where an impounded vehicle is claimed by its owner:
 - a) proof of ownership of the vehicle must be provided to Council;
 - b) a fee not exceeding the amount that represents the cost to Council of impounding, moving, keeping and releasing the vehicle must be paid to Council; and
 - c) in the event that a claim for a vehicle is made by a person other than the owner, satisfactory evidence must be provided to Council of that person's authority from the owner to take possession of the vehicle.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

30. Repair of vehicles

A person must not perform any work to a vehicle on a road or in a municipal place, except to enable the vehicle to be removed from the road or municipal place.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

31. Motor vehicles

- (1) A person must not park any motor vehicle within a municipal place except:
 - a) in an area set apart for the purpose;
 - b) when and where directed or authorised by Council or an Authorised Officer to do so;
 - c) upon payment of such fees (if any) as may be prescribed and authorised by Council;
- (2) A person must not display a vehicle for sale on a road or on Council land.
- (3) A person must not leave any derelict vehicle on any road, Council land or municipal place whether temporary or permanent.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

32. Trees and plants on roads

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, plant any tree or other vegetation on a road;
- (2) Where any tree or other vegetation is planted on a road without a permit or in contravention of any permit condition the tree or vegetation may be removed by Council.
- (3) A person must not, without a permit, remove or cultivate soil from, damage, remove from or burn vegetation on any roadside reserve.
- (4) A person must not without a permit, collect or remove firewood including trees and fallen branches from a municipal place or roadside reserve.

33. Trees and plants on private property

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

Penalty: 3 penalty units

- (2) The owner or occupier of any land that is situated adjacent to an intersection of two or more roads must not plant or let grow any tree or other vegetation on that land in such manner as to cause an obstruction to the view between vehicles and other road users at the intersection.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

34. Storage of materials on road

A person must not, without a permit, deposit or place any soil, garden waste, prunings, building materials, refuse containers, skip bins, building rubbish, electrical cords, air hoses, shipping containers or other similar obstructions on, upon, across or over any road or footpath.

35. Signs and objects

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

- (a) overhanging a footpath or road used by pedestrians so that it gets in the way of pedestrians or is likely to cause injury or damage to them; or

- (b) extending over any part of the road in such a way that it obstructs the view between vehicles at an intersection; or
- (c) obstructing the view between vehicles and pedestrians where they come close to one another; or
- (d) obscuring a traffic control item from an approaching vehicle or pedestrian; or
- (e) obscuring street lighting; or
- (f) obstructing the view between vehicles and trains at a railway level crossing which does not have gates, booms or flashing lights; or
- (g) otherwise constituting a danger to vehicles or pedestrians or compromising the safe and convenient use of the road.
- (h) constructing or allowing to remain in place a boundary fence near any road intersection which reduces visibility or causes an obstruction and interferes with the safe passage of vehicles or pedestrians.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

36. Removing road signs

A person must not erect or remove a sign that applies a name to a road.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

Infringement Notice: 3 penalty units

37. Property numbers to be displayed

- (1) Council may allot such numbers as are in its opinion necessary to identify each premises in the municipal district.
- (2) If Council has allocated a number to the premises, the owner must mark the premises with the number and must renew or replace the number as often as may be necessary.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (3) The owner of the premises must ensure that the number is of a sufficient size and is placed in such a position as to be clearly readable from the road on which the premises have their frontage.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (4) Council may, from time to time, determine a minimum size and the appropriate design of such numbers.

38. Residential Parking Permit Scheme

- (1) Council may from time to time by resolution, designate any parking area of the municipal district as an area in which a Residential Parking Permit Scheme is in operation.
- (2) Council may at any time by resolution rescind, amend or vary any resolution so made.
- (3) Council must give appropriate public notice of any resolution made under sub-clause (1).
- (4) The person who resides in an area in which a Residential Parking Permit Scheme is in operation may make application in writing for a Residential Parking Permit.

- (5) Council may grant a residential parking permit subject to such conditions as may be determined from time to time.
- (6) A residential parking permit may specify the road or roads or part of the road to which the permit applies.
- (7) The holder of a residential parking permit may park an eligible vehicle in the road or roads as specified in the permit without being required to comply with any parking restrictions as to time indicated by parking signs associated with the road or roads.
- (8) Council may from time to time by resolution, determine a fee to be paid for a residential parking permit.
- (9) Prior to the introduction of a new residential parking permit scheme Council must notify the owner and occupier of every residence in the area advising as to;
 - a) eligibility;
 - b) how to apply;
 - c) the cost of the permit; and
 - d) how the proposed scheme will operate.

Part 5 - Municipal and Public Places

39. Behaviour

(1) General

A person must not, in a municipal place or public place:

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

Infringement Notice: 3 penalty units

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

Infringement Notice: 3 penalty units

- (3) An Authorised Officer may direct a person to leave a municipal place or a public place if they believe on reasonable grounds that the person is behaving in:

- a) an indecent, offensive, threatening or insulting manner; or
- b) using threatening, abusive, obscene, indecent or insulting words.

- (4) Any person who is involved in an activity that is damaging or defacing Council property or assets, or that could reasonably be foreseen to damage Council property or assets, must immediately cease such activity upon being directed to do so by an Authorised Officer. A person to whom such a direction is given must comply with that direction.

- (5) A person must not, without a permit, remove damage or trim any street tree or shrub.

Infringement Notice: 3 penalty units

- (6) A person must not in a wetland, fountain or similar located in a municipal place or public place:

- a) enter, swim, paddle, bath, dive or jump; or
- b) throw or place any liquid, powder substance, stone, rock, stick, paper, dirt, rubbish or other object, substance or thing.

Infringement Notice: 3 penalty units

- (7) A person must not without a permit while in a public reserve;

- a) light any fire other than a portable barbecue or properly constructed fireplace
- b) act contrary to any sign;
- c) play any game with a hard ball except in an area set aside for that purpose;
- d) ride a horse other than on a road or in an area designated for the riding of horses; or
- e) organise any concert, public assembly or public event.

40. Council land management signs

- (1) Council may by a notice or sign prohibit or regulate the use of any Council land or the conduct of a person on that land.
- (2) A person must not erect or remove, interfere or deface any notice or sign except with the authority of Council.
- (3) A person must not act contrary to any notice or sign referred to in sub-clause (1).

Penalty: 3 penalty units

41. Consumption and possession of liquor in a public place

- (1) A person must not, on a road, footpath or public reserve, or in a motor vehicle parked on a road, footpath or public reserve, in a prescribed area during a prescribed period:
 - a) consume any liquor; or
 - b) have in his or her possession or control any liquor other than liquor in a sealed container.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement Notice: 3 penalty units

- (2) Council may by resolution specify an area of the municipal district to be a prescribed area.
- (3) If Council prescribes an area to be a prescribed area, it must:
 - a) publish a notice in a newspaper generally circulating within the municipal district;
 - b) erect signage signifying the prescribed area; and
 - c) ensure that a description of the area is available for inspection at Council's offices during business hours.
- (4) Council may at the time of specifying an area to be a prescribed area specify in relation to that area:
 - a) periods of the year;
 - b) periods of the week; or
 - c) periods of the day, or of specified days; that are to be 'no alcohol' periods.
- (5) If no period is specified in relation to an area, the 'no alcohol' period for that area is all day every day.
- (6) For the purpose of this part, a 'no alcohol' period is a prescribed period.
- (7) This clause does not apply to:
 - a) 'authorised premises' or 'licensed premises' within the meaning of the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998;
 - b) circumstances to which the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 does not apply by virtue of section 7 of that Act; or
 - c) consumption of liquor at an organised event for which a permit has been granted.

42. No smoking in smoke free areas

(1) A person must not smoke a tobacco product in a smoke free area.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

(2) Where an Authorised Officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person is contravening or has contravened sub-clause (1), the Authorised Officer may direct the person to extinguish and then dispose of the tobacco product.

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

Penalty: 10 penalty units

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

(5) When determining whether to designate a smoke free area, Council must have regard to the following factors:

- a) the size of the proposed smoke free area;
- b) the opinions of any person who is the owner or occupier of any part of the proposed smoke free area;
- c) the proximity of the proposed smoke free area to a public place;
- d) the extent and outcome of any public consultation on the proposed smoke free area;
- e) any benefits to the community which would be achieved by Council designating the proposed smoke free area;
- f) any detriment to the community which would be caused by Council designating the proposed smoke free area; and
- g) any other matter Council considers relevant.

(6) Council or an Authorised Officer must erect, or cause to be erected, an acceptable no smoking sign in every designated smoke free area.

43. Public swimming pools

(1) A person must not while attending a public swimming pool:

- a) commit any nuisance;
- b) act to endanger any person;
- c) act to interfere with the quiet enjoyment of the public swimming pool by any person;
- d) destroy, damage or interfere with any Council property;
- e) bring any animal except a guide dog into the public swimming pool site;
- f) enter the public swimming pool site without paying the appropriate fee as determined by Council; or
- g) bring into the public swimming pool site any glass container.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

44. Commercial activity on Council land

Trading Code of Practice

- (1) The Trading Code of Practice:
 - a) has been adopted by Council for the purposes of this Local Law;
 - b) has the objective of providing for the peace, order, well being and safety of people and amenity of public places in the municipality; and
 - c) is available for inspection at Council's offices and service centres during business hours.
- (2) The whole of the Trading Code of Practice is incorporated into and forms part of this Local Law.
- (3) Council may amend the Trading Code of Practice from time to time in accordance with the provisions contained in the Code.
- (4) An amendment does not take effect until notice of Council's decision to amend the Trading Code of Practice is published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
- (5) A person on whom an obligation is imposed by the Trading Code of Practice must ensure that:
 - a) where under the Trading Code of Practice a permit is necessary, that permit is obtained; and
 - b) the Trading Code of Practice is complied with.

45. Trading activities on roads and in a municipal place

- (1) Without a permit a person must not on a road or in a municipal place:
 - a) place any advertising sign, banner or flag;
 - b) display any goods;
 - c) place any outdoor eating furniture or associated facilities;
 - d) place any structure for the purpose of selling or offering to sell any goods or services;
 - e) place goods or services carried out or placed on the person or any other moveable thing do so from land adjacent to a road or a municipal place;
 - f) solicit or collect any waste materials, gifts of money, or subscriptions, or do so from premises to premises adjacent to a road;
 - g) busk;
 - h) hold a street festival or event, other than a funeral.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

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

- (2) A person displaying advertising signs, banners or flags, placing street furniture and/or displaying goods on a road or municipal place must ensure that:
 - a) a permit is applied for and issued prior to display; and
 - b) the Trading Code of Practice is complied with; and

- c) the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 is complied with.
- (3) In considering an application for a permit under sub-clause (1), Council must have regard to the requirements of:
- a) the Trading Code of Practice;
 - b) the Disability Discrimination Act 1992;
 - c) whether permits required by the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008, Food Act 1984 or any other legislation have been obtained;
 - d) whether the activity will disturb, annoy or disrupt adjacent property owners or occupiers;
 - e) whether the activity will be detrimental to the amenity of the area;
 - f) whether the safety of road users or the passage of vehicles will be affected by the placement;
 - g) whether appropriate arrangements can be made for waste water disposal, litter and garbage, lighting; and advertising signs;
 - h) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (4) When an advertising sign, banner, flag or good is placed or displayed contrary to this Local Law or in contravention of any permit conditions, a notice to comply may be issued by an Authorised Officer.
- (5) Failure to comply with a notice to comply may result in the advertising sign, banner, flag or the good being removed by an Authorised Officer and impounded.
- (6) Council may determine a fee that must be paid by the owner of any impounded advertising sign, banner, flag or good before Council releases the impounded item.
- (7) Advertising signs, banners, flags or goods that have been impounded by Council for more than one month may be disposed of by Council by tender or public auction, or may be transferred to the municipal landfill or given away. Where perishable goods have been impounded, Council may dispose of the goods as soon as reasonably appropriate.
- (8) A person must not, without a permit, erect or place on any road, roadside or municipal place, a vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering for sale any goods or services or conducting a raffle or lottery.
- (9) A person must not, without a permit, sell or offer for sale on any road, roadside or municipal place, any goods carried about on a person or animal.
- (10) A person must not, without a permit, engage in spruiking or promoting goods or services or permit another person to engage in spruiking or promoting goods or services on any road or municipal place.
- (11) A person must not, without a permit, give or offer to the public on any road or municipal place, any pamphlet or brochure advertising goods, services or events.

46. Appeals and collections

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, solicit or collect any gifts, money or subscription or authorise or cause another person to solicit or collect any gifts, money or subscription, from house to house or on any road or municipal place.
- (2) A person participating in highway collections approved under the authority of the Road Safety Act 1986 does not require a permit under sub-clause (1).

Penalty: 3 penalty units

- (3) A person must not, without a permit, busk on a road or municipal place.
- (4) An application for a permit to busk must be in a form approved by a Council.
- (5) In determining whether to grant a permit to allow busking Council or an Authorised Officer must take into account:
 - a) the time and days it is proposed to busk;
 - b) the roads or areas in which the busking will take place;
 - c) the impact on pedestrians and traffic;
 - d) the ability to obtain public liability insurance;
 - e) whether the busking is part of the entertainment provided within a street trading area; and
 - f) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (6) Where there has been a failure to comply with sub-clause (1) or a contravention of any conditions of a permit, Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply to the person undertaking the activity or the permit holder.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

47. Approval for events and festivals

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, conduct an event, festival or similar gathering within the municipal district.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) In determining whether to grant a permit to allow an event or festival, Council or an Authorised Officer must take into account the Swan Hill Rural City Council Event Management Guide.
- (3) In determining to grant a permit for an event or festival, Council or an Authorised Officer may take into account:
 - a) whether the event or festival will unreasonably inconvenience road users (including owners and occupiers of properties with vehicular access to the section of road to be closed);
 - b) whether the written permission of the Victoria Police and the relevant State Road Authority has been obtained and their requirements met;
 - c) whether the road can be closed to vehicular traffic, or partly closed to vehicular traffic with safe and effective separation of vehicular traffic from the event or festival patrons and equipment; and
 - d) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (4) In determining whether to grant a permit for a street party, Council or an Authorised Officer must take into account:
 - a) whether the road can be closed to vehicular traffic without detriment to the traffic management of the area, for the duration of the street party;
 - b) whether the owners and occupiers of land with any vehicular access via the section of road to be closed have been advised by letter and given seven days to comment or object;

- c) whether a suitably qualified person on behalf of the applicant has been nominated to erect and remove the barriers which close the road at locations and times specified by an Authorised Officer;
 - d) whether the footpath on at least one side of the road can be kept clear of obstructions; and
 - e) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (5) Where the application is to conduct a street party the application must be made at least 28 days before the street party is to take place.
- (6) Where the application is to conduct a street festival or procession, the application must be made at least 28 days before the street festival or procession is to take place.

48. Placement of clothing bins

A person must not, without a permit, place a clothing bin in a municipal place or on a road.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

49. Bulk rubbish containers

- (1) A rubbish container, rubbish skip, movable structure, device, material or other object may be removed and impounded if in the opinion of an Authorised Officer it is;
- a) causing an obstruction;
 - b) a danger to road users;
 - c) getting in the way of or likely to get in the way of traffic; or
 - d) located on a road reserve without a permit.
- (2) Council may from time to time determine a fee which must be paid before Council is required to release the impounded item.

50. Graffiti

- (1) The owner and occupier of land must not allow any graffiti to remain on any building, wall, fence or other structure erected on his or her land for four weeks after the graffiti has been detected.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) A person must not, without a permit, write, print, stencil, paint, place or affix any letter, figure, device, poster, sign or advertisement upon any Council land or in a public place.
- (3) Where, in the opinion of an Authorised Officer, the provisions of this clause or the conditions of any permit are not being complied with the Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner or occupier of the relevant land or the permit holder.

Infringement notice: 5 penalty units

51. Abandoned shopping trolleys

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

Penalty: 5 Penalty units

- (2) The owner of any shopping trolley left on a road or municipal place in an area not designated for the storage of shopping trolleys will be notified and if not removed, an Authorised Officer may impound.
- (3) Shopping trolleys that have been impounded for three months may be disposed of by Council by tender or public auction or may be transferred to the municipal landfill or be given away.

52. Noise in a municipal place or on a road

- (1) A person must not in a municipal place or on a road:
 - a) spruik; or
 - b) emit, or allow to be emitted, any other noise which causes or is calculated to cause interference with a person's use or enjoyment of adjacent or nearby premises.

Penalty: 3 Penalty units

- (2) An Authorised Officer may direct a person playing amplified music in a public place (including in a road or public reserve or in a motor vehicle on a road or public reserve) to cease playing such music if the music is audible 20 metres or more from the source.
- (3) A person to whom such a direction is given must comply with that direction

Infringement Notice: 3 penalty units

- (4) This clause does not apply to a person who has the permission of Council or the owner of the public place to play the amplified music.

Part 6 - Environment

53. Dangerous and unsightly land

- (1) The owner and occupier of land must not allow or permit the land or grassed area of a road abutting the land to be kept in a manner that:
- a) constitutes a fire hazard;
 - b) is unsightly or detrimental to the general amenity of the neighbourhood including but not limited by the appearance of:
 - stored unregistered motor vehicles;
 - machinery or any parts of them;
 - scrap metal;
 - second-hand timber or building materials;
 - waste paper;
 - rags;
 - bottles;
 - overgrown vegetation;
 - grass or weeds in excess of 250mm in height; or
 - Is kept free of graffiti

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) A Notice to Comply may be served on the owner or occupier of the land where an Authorised Officer is of the opinion that the condition of the land is unsightly, dangerous or detrimental to the general amenity of the surrounding area.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

54. The emission of offensive material, odour and noise

- (1) Any person who, in the opinion of an Authorised Officer, is causing a nuisance to any person by burning any material must immediately extinguish the fire upon being directed to do so by such Authorised Officer.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

Infringement notice: 3 penalty units

- (2) A person must not burn or cause to burn any offensive materials including without limitation any substance which contains any:
- a) manufactured chemical;
 - b) rubber or plastic;
 - c) petroleum or oil, other than in a properly constructed and operating heating appliance;
 - d) paint or bin which contains or which contained paint;
 - e) food waste, fish or other offensive or noxious matter; or
 - f) other material which emits dense or offensive smoke.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (3) A person must not cause or allow the emission of any dust, grit, ashes, fumes or other material created by any chemical, mechanical or manual process from any land owned or occupied by that person to such an extent that it may be offensive to another person not within the boundaries of such land.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (4) A person must not cause or allow the emission of any noise caused by any chemical, mechanical or manual process from land owned or occupied by that person to such an extent that it is offensive.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

55. Open air burning

- (1) For the purpose of this clause, a person must not light or allow to be lit or remain alight any open air burn in any part of the municipal district which is zoned commercial, industrial or residential under Council's Planning Scheme.
- (2) Property owners may apply in writing for a conditional permit to burn in a restricted zone. Council officers may grant an exemption depending on the circumstances.
- (3) Subclause (1) shall not apply to –
- a) a barbecue while being used for the purpose of cooking food; or
 - b) a manufactured fireplace being used for the purpose of outdoor heating.
- (4) A person must not, without a permit, burn or cause to burn any offensive materials.
- (5) For the purpose of subclause (3), offensive materials include:
- a) any manufactured chemical;
 - b) any rubber or plastic;
 - c) any petroleum or oil;
 - d) any paint or receptacle which contains or which contained paint;
 - e) food waste, fish or other offensive or noxious matter; or
 - f) any other material as determined by the Council by resolution from time to time.
- (6) A person must not light a fire in the open air:
- a) on any day of total fire ban declared by the Country Fire Authority or
 - b) during a declared fire danger period under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 without first obtaining a permit from the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer or Country Fire Authority.
- (7) A person must, when directed to do so by a member of an emergency service agency or an Authorised Officer extinguish a fire in the open air.
- (8) Sub-clause (2) does not apply:
- a) to rural properties, if the burning is 100 metres or more from a neighboring residence;
 - b) Where a conditional permit has been granted.

- (9) A person must not burn or cause to burn any dead animal carcass except where the burning of a dead animal carcass has been ordered by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.

Fire restriction zone maps in Schedule 12.

56. Application

This part shall not apply to a;

- a) structure or device licensed under the provisions of the Environment Protection Act 1970;
- b) structure or device located on a commercial or industrial premises subject to control under of the Environment Protection Act 1970;
- c) person engaged in fuel reduction burning pursuant to section 11(2) of the Summary Offences Act 1966; or
- d) person performing any act in order to comply with the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 or any regulations made under it.

57. Caravans and camping on Council land

- (1) A person must not without a permit, camp on Council managed land or a public place in a tent, caravan or other temporary or makeshift structure unless within a Caravan Park registered under the Residential Tenancies (Caravan and Parks and Movable Dwellings Registrations and Standards) Regulations 2010 or an area determined by Council to be available for camping purposes.

Penalty: 5 Penalty units

- (2) In determining whether to grant a permit to allow a person to camp, Council must take into account:
- a) the location of the land;
 - b) the planning scheme zone of the land;
 - c) the suitability of the land to camp;
 - d) the number of tents or other structures to be located on the land;
 - e) the length of time the tents and other structures will be erected on the land;
 - f) the availability of sanitary facilities to the land;
 - g) the likely damage to be caused; and
 - h) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.

58. Caravans and camping on private property

- (1) The owner and occupier of land in a residential area must not park or allow more than one caravan on the land without first obtaining a permit from Council.

Penalty: 5 Penalty units

- (2) A person may use a caravan on privately owned land without a permit for sleeping purposes for seven nights in a six month period.
- (3) In determining whether to grant a permit Council must have regard to:
- a) any relevant standards, guidelines or codes;

- b) whether a building permit for a dwelling has been granted in respect to the land;
- c) the adequacy of the standard of habitation on the site;
- d) the means by which effluent from the camp or facilities is to be treated and the method of disposal;
- e) whether any rent or charge is being paid by any person occupying the land for the camp to any person in respect of the occupation;
- f) whether the establishment of a camp will have any effect on the amenity of the area on which it is situated; and
- g) any other matter relevant the circumstances associated with the application.

59. Temporary dwellings

- (1) A person must not establish, erect or occupy a temporary dwelling.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) Nothing in sub-clause (1) prevents a person who has obtained a permit from Council for establishing, erecting or occupying a temporary dwelling in association with the construction of a permanent detached dwelling.
- (3) A permit issued pursuant to sub-clause (2) operates from the date of issue and expires on the expiry date stipulated in the permit or, if no expiry date is stipulated, after 12 months.
- (4) A person must not, after the issue of an occupancy permit for a permanent dwelling or the expiration of a permit for the temporary dwelling, occupy the temporary dwelling.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

60. Building and Works Code of Practice

- (1) The Building and Works Code of Practice:
- a) has been adopted by Council for the purposes of this Local Law;
 - b) has the objective of providing an environment where activity on and related to building sites and building works complement the safety and amenity of the public and the community; and
 - c) is available for inspection at Council's offices and service centres during business hours.
- (2) The whole of the Building and Works Code of Practice is incorporated into and forms part of this Local Law.
- (3) Council may amend the Building and Works Code of Practice from time to time in accordance with the provisions contained in the Building and Works Code of Practice.
- (4) An amendment does not take effect until notice of Council's decision to amend the Building and Works Code of Practice is published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
- (5) The person in charge of building works or a building site must ensure that:
- a) a permit is obtained prior to commencing, or allowing to be commenced, any such building works; and
 - b) the Building and Works Code of Practice is complied with.

- (6) In considering an application for a permit under sub-clause (5a), Council must have regard to the requirements of the Building and Works Code of Practice.

61. Drainage tappings

A person must not, without a permit, tap into any Council drain.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

62. Damage to watercourses

A person must not, without a permit, destroy damage or interfere with a ditch, creek or drain or other watercourse on any Council Land.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

63. Interference with drains

A person must not, without a permit, interfere with, obstruct or alter any Council drain.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

64. Discharge of water prohibited

A person must not, without a permit, cause or permit:

- a) the direct or indirect flow of any irrigation water onto any Council land;
- b) the discharge of any water onto any Council land;
- c) the discharge of any water onto any land (including land of that person) so as to cause or permit such water to discharge onto Council land; or
- d) any substance other than storm water to be discharged into the storm water system.

65. Control of sprinklers

- (1) The owner of land in an irrigation district must ensure that any irrigation sprinkler heads on the land are fitted with either half circle sprinkler heads or standard sprinkler heads fitted with adequate solid metal guards so as to prevent the discharge of irrigation water onto the adjacent road or footpath.

66. Regulation of household waste by Council operated services

- (1) A person must not place out for collection any household waste, recycling and/or garden organics unless it is contained within an approved waste mobile garbage bin in accordance with the Waste Code of Practice which:
- a) has been adopted by Council for the purposes of this Local Law; and
 - b) has the objective of providing an environment where activity related to waste, recycling and green waste compliment the safety, amenity of the community; and
 - c) is available for inspection at Council's offices and service centres during business hours.

- (2) Council may amend the Waste Code of Practice from time to time in accordance with the provisions contained in the Code.
- (3) An amendment does not take effect until notice of Council's decision to amend the Waste Code of Practice is published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
- (4) A person must not place household waste into municipal bins located in a park, road or municipal place.

67. Domestic waste collection

The occupier of land for which Council provides a domestic waste collection service must ensure that the Waste Code of Practice is complied with.

68. Recycling

- (1) Where Council has notified occupiers of land of a recycling collection service referable to that land, the person who uses the recycling collection service must comply with the requirements stipulated in that notification in relation to:
 - a) the type of material allowable;
 - b) the date and time of collection;
 - c) the manner in which the material must be left; and
 - d) the placement of the material on the road or footpath.
- (2) A person must not deposit any putrescible material, garden waste, food scraps, items of clothing or anything other than prescribed material in a mobile garbage bin specifically provided for the recycling of domestic waste.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (3) For the purposes of this clause, prescribed material may be approved by a Council resolution and published from time to time in a newspaper generally circulated within the municipal district.

69. Transportation of waste

A person must not convey or cause to be conveyed in any vehicle on any road any manure, dead animals or remains, offal, bones, hides, skins, offensive matter, waste, rubbish or other waste matter unless the vehicle is constructed, fitted, loaded and covered so that:

- a) no leakage occurs or other material is dropped or deposited on any road, Council land or adjacent area from the vehicle; and
- b) the possibility of escape of offensive odours is reduced.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

70. Depositing of waste at a municipal landfill or transfer station

- (1) A person using a municipal landfill or transfer station must deposit waste in accordance with any directions of any attendant of such facility or any signs erected at the facility and must pay the appropriate fee as set by any Council resolution from time to time.
- (2) Council may, by resolution, require persons to be registered with Council before being able to use a municipal landfill or transfer station.
- (3) Council may, by resolution, prohibit categories of waste from being deposited at a municipal landfill or transfer station.
- (4) A person must not deposit any waste which is prohibited at such facility.

Part 7 - Animals

71. Keeping animals in the municipal district

(1) A person must not, without a permit keep or allow to be kept a greater number of animals than set out in the following table:

Type of Animal	Maximum allowed in residential area	Farming zone properties under 0.5 hectare and All Rural living zone properties	Farming Zone properties equal to or greater than 0.5 hectare
Dogs (includes working dogs)	2	2	5
Cats	2	2	2
Poultry	10	40	No maximum limit
Turkeys and geese	0	0	30
Roosters	0	0	20
Domestic birds (includes pigeons)	30	30	100
Ferrets	2	4	10
Guinea pigs	6	6	10
Domestic rabbits	2	6	10
Domestic mice	6	10	10
Pigs	0	0	6
Horses, donkeys, mules, sheep and goats	0	2	No maximum limit
Camels	0	0	No maximum limit
Cattle	0	1	No maximum limit
Ostriches, emus and peacocks	0	0	No maximum limit
Any other livestock or agricultural animal	0	0	No maximum limit

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- a) For the purpose of calculating the maximum number of dogs or cats kept, any progeny may be lawfully kept, without a permit, for 12 weeks after birth;
 - b) The table does not apply where a planning permit has been obtained for land used for the purposes of animal boarding, breeding, keeping or training;
 - c) All cats and dogs, including working dogs must be registered with Council under the Domestic Animals Act 1994;
 - d) Any zone outside of the table requires a permit to keep animals.
- (2) In determining whether to grant a permit for the keeping of animals where the number exceeds that which is set out in the table to sub-clause (1), Council must take into account:
- a) the zoning of the land;
 - b) the proximity of the area to adjoining properties;
 - c) the amenity of the area to that of adjoining properties;
 - d) the type and additional numbers of animals to be kept;
 - e) the area of land available for keeping the animals;
 - f) the likely effects on adjoining owners or occupiers;
 - g) whether the animals are being temporarily homed under an approved community foster care network;
 - h) the adequacy of animal shelters;
 - i) whether the animals have been desexed; and
 - j) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.

72. Adequate fencing to prevent the escape of animals

The owner and occupier of land on which an animal is kept must ensure that the land is adequately fenced so as to prevent the escape of the animal from their land.

Infringement notice: 3 penalty units

73. Effective fencing for livestock

- (1) The owner and occupier of land must not use or permit the use of the land for the grazing or keeping of livestock unless it is adequately fenced for the purpose of preventing the livestock straying from their land onto any road or Council land.

Infringement notice: 3 penalty units

- (2) If an Authorised Officer is of the opinion that land used for the grazing or keeping of livestock is not adequately fenced then, in addition to any penalty that may be imposed, the Authorised Officer may issue a Notice to Comply directing the owner or occupier of the land to do any or all of the following:

- a) install, repair, replace or modify fences and gates;
- b) remove any livestock from the land; and
- c) not to permit the grazing and keeping of livestock until required works have been completed.

74. Domestic animal nuisance to neighbours

The owner and occupier of land must ensure that any animal or bird kept on the land does not cause a nuisance to surrounding or neighbouring landowners.

Penalty: 2 Penalty units

- (1) The owner and occupier of any land where any animal or bird is kept must ensure that all animal and bird litter and waste and rubbish associated with the keeping of the animal or bird are disposed of in such a manner so as not to create any nuisance.

Penalty: 2 Penalty units

75. Dog excrement

A person in charge of a dog on a road or in a municipal place must:

- a) not permit the excrement of the dog to remain on that road or in that municipal place;
- b) carry a device or article suitable for the removal of any excrement that may be deposited by the dog; and
- c) produce the device or article on the request of an authorised officer.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

76. Leashed areas

All dogs and cats must be on a leash at all times in or on:

- a) all streets and roads within residential areas;
- b) all public reserves, unless specifically designated as an off leash area by Council;
- c) all shopping precincts; and
- d) within 10 metres of all playgrounds and BBQ areas

77. Livestock grazing on a road reserve without a permit

- (1) A person must not, without a permit, allow any livestock to graze on any road or Council land.
- (2) An Authorised Officer may impound any livestock found on any road or Council land in breach of sub-clause (1) and can revoke a permit at any time.

78. Wandering livestock

- (1) A person must not allow any livestock under their ownership, care or control to stray or wander unattended onto any road or on any Council land.

Infringement Notice: 3 Penalty units

79. Moving of livestock on a road reserve

- (1) For the purpose of this clause, a person who owns or is in charge of livestock must not cause or allow the droving or grazing of the livestock on any road without a permit.
- (2) The clause above, does not apply when the person complies wholly with the "Manual for Traffic Control at Stock Crossings" (Vicroads, June 2015) including obtaining all necessary permissions from the relevant road authority.
- (3) A person must not, without a permit install a stock crossing or related sign or other infrastructure on any road.
- (4) Where livestock are being moved regularly between parts of one farm, the following conditions apply.
 - The owner or occupier of the farm where livestock are being regularly moved between two contiguous parts of that farm must move the livestock within the boundary of the farm.
 - Where a farm property is divided by a road, the owner or occupier of the farm must drive the livestock directly across the road at a stock crossing that is approved by council (and, if necessary the local road authority) and avoid moving the livestock along the road.
- (5) A person moving livestock along, across, or on council land or an owner of livestock must at all times observe and comply with any reasonable direction of an Authorised Officer.
- (6) Council may exempt the owner of any farm property from the requirements of this sub-clause (1) upon application in writing and Council may grant an exemption depending on the circumstances.

80. Responsibility of owners or occupiers of farm properties

- (1) The owner and occupier of any farm property to or from which livestock are being moved must ensure that:
 - a) adequate surface treatment measures in accordance with Council's requirements are applied to the road reserve between the carriageway and each property access point;
 - b) a vehicular crossing constructed in accordance with Council's requirements is provided and maintained at points where livestock either enter or exit the farm property.

81. Bees, wasps and fruit flies

- (1) The occupier of any land on which a beehive is kept must not create a nuisance through interfering with the reasonable comfort or convenience of persons who occupy adjacent or nearby land.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

- (2) The owner and occupier of land must destroy English and European wasps nesting on the land and must comply with any direction to do so in writing by an Authorised Officer.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

- (3) For the prevention of fruit fly, each owner and occupier of land;
 - a) who leaves, or allows to remain any fruit on the ground of the land; or
 - b) does not annually prune and maintain any fruit trees on the land;

Is guilty of an offence and must dispose of any fruit that lies on the ground by sealing the fruit in a receptacle or container such as a plastic bag and placing it in a rubbish bin.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

Schedule 1 – Beverford prescribed area

In the township of Beverford the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours of 9pm to 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Murray Valley Highway and School Road.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the northern side of School Road to the first channel reserve.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of the channel reserve to the Murray Valley Highway.

Continue heading in southerly direction parallel to the western side of the Murray Valley Highway to the southern boundary of 1370 Murray Valley Highway, Beverford.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of the Murray Valley Highway to School Road.



Schedule 2 - Lake Boga prescribed area

In the township of Lake Boga the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours of 9pm and 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Murray Valley Highway and Lakeside Drive.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the northern side of Lakeside Drive to Willakool Drive.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the eastern side of Willakool Drive to the property known as 19 Murray Valley Highway, Lake Boga.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western boundary line of above property to Jacaranda Crescent.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the eastern side of Jacaranda Crescent to Murray Valley Highway.

Continue heading in a southerly direction to the property known as 170 Murray Valley Highway, Lake Boga.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the southern boundary of the above property, over the railway reserve to Cumnock Road.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the western side of Cumnock Road to the unnamed road.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the southern side of the unnamed road to the property known as 2-12 Cemetery Road, Lake Boga.

Continue heading parallel to the boundary perimeter of above property to Lalbert Road.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the southern side of Lalbert Road to Dallas Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the western side of Dallas Street to Marraboor Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the northern side of Marraboor Street to Soudan Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the western side of Soudan Street to Kunat Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the northern side of Kunat Street to Station Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the western side of Station Street to Kunat Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the northern side of Kunat Street to Murray Valley Highway.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the western side of Murray Valley Highway to Lakeside Drive.



Schedule 3 - Manangatang prescribed area

In the township of Manangatang the consumption of alcohol is prohibited 24 hours per day.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Wattle Street and Excelsior Street.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to northern side of Excelsior Street to the intersection of Sutton Lane and the unnamed road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of the unnamed road to the Larundel Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Larundel Street and around the perimeter of 19-21 Larundel Street (Manangatang Outdoor Pool) to Hope Street.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Hope Street to Wharton Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction to the southern boundary of 1 Wattle Street (Manangatang Community Centre).

Continue along the southern boundary of the Community Centre to Wattle Street.

Continue in a northerly direction parallel to the western side of Wattle Street, cross over the railway reserve in an easterly direction and around the perimeter of 4105 Mallee Highway (Manangatang P-12 College) to Mallee Highway.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to southern side of Mallee Highway to Sport Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to eastern side of Sport Street to the unnamed road.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to eastern side of the unnamed road to the intersection of Wattle Street and Excelsior Street.



Schedule 4 - Nyah prescribed area

In the township of Nyah the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours of 9pm to 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Stradbroke Avenue and Church Road.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Church Road to River Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of River Street to Stradbroke Avenue.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of Stradbroke Avenue to where the Murray Valley Highway commences.

Cross over Stradbroke Avenue and continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Stradbroke Avenue to Church Road.



Schedule 5 - Nyah West prescribed area

In the township of Nyah West the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours of 9pm to 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Monash Avenue and Bodinnar Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the southern side of Bodinnar Road to Donald Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Donald Street to Mary Street.

Continue in a southerly direction along the eastern boundary of Lot 1 TP865805 to Lot 1 PS342018.

Continue along the northern boundary of Lot 1 PS342018 to Station Street.

Continue heading in a south easterly direction parallel to the western side of Station Street to Birdwood Avenue.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of Birdwood Avenue to Limon Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Limon Street to the unnamed road.

Continue heading in a northerly direction on the eastern side of unnamed road to Railway Avenue.

Continue heading in an easterly direction on the southern side of Railway Avenue to Lauer Crescent.

Continue heading in an easterly direction on the southern side of Lauer Crescent to Monash Avenue.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the northern side of Monash Avenue to the Hansen Lane.

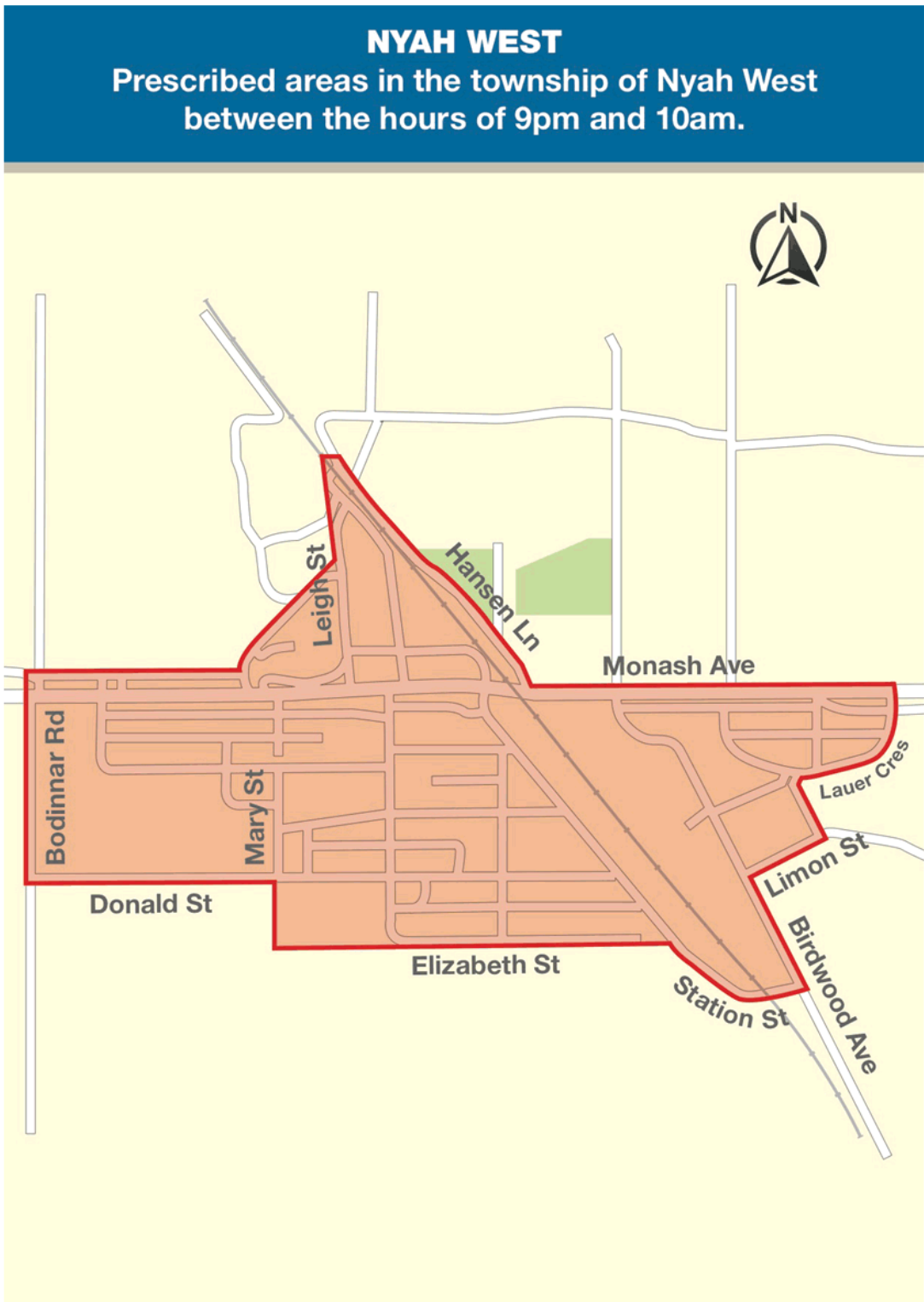
Continue heading in a north westerly direction parallel to the northern side of Hansen Lane which becomes an unnamed road.

Continue heading in a north westerly direction parallel to the northern side of the unnamed road to Leigh Street.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Leigh Street to the unnamed road.

Continue heading in a south westerly direction parallel to the western side of unnamed road to the Monash Avenue.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel on the northern side of Monash Avenue to Bodinnar Road.



Schedule 6 - Piangil prescribed area

In the township of Piangil the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours of 9pm to 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Murray Street and Hayward Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Hayward Road to the unnamed road.

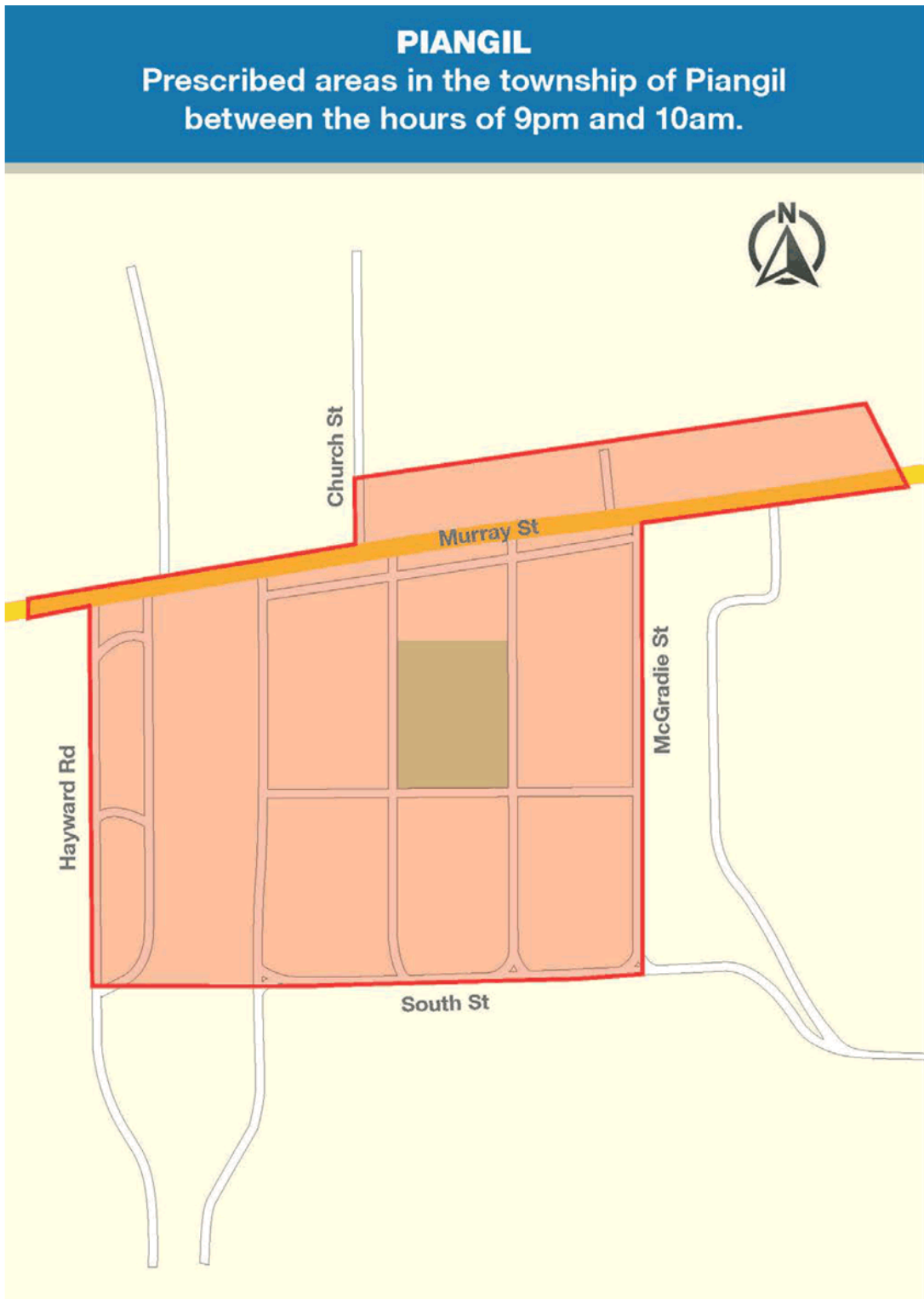
Continue heading in an easterly direction over the railway reserve to South Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of South Street to McGradie Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of McGradie Street to Murray Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Murray Street to the intersecting point opposite 26 Murray Street, Piangil.

Cross over Murray Street to the southern boundary of the above property and continue in an easterly direction back to where Murray Street becomes the Mallee Highway.



Schedule 7 - Robinvale prescribed area

In the township of Robinvale the consumption of alcohol is prohibited 24 hours per day.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of McLennan Drive and Murray Valley Highway

Continue heading in southerly direction parallel to the western side of Murray Valley Highway to Bromley Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Bromley Road to Moore Street.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Moore Street to the unnamed road.

Continue in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of the unnamed road, over the railway reserve to the Murray Valley Highway.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of the Murray Valley Highway to Robinvale-Sea Lake Road.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of the Murray Valley Highway to Smythe Road.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Smythe Road to the unnamed road.

Continue heading a north easterly direction parallel to the eastern side of the unnamed road to the edge of the southern bank of the Murray River.

Continue heading in a north easterly direction on the southern side of the Murray River, then heading in a westerly direction to the bridge on the Murray Valley Highway.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of the Murray Valley Highway to McLennan Drive.



Schedule 8 - Swan Hill prescribed area

In the township of Swan Hill the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours 9pm to 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Karinie Street and Nyah Road.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the northern side of Karinie Street to Bish Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Bish Road to Woorinen Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to southern side of Woorinen Road to Memorial Drive.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Memorial Drive to the intersection of Memorial Drive, Dead Horse Lane and Sea Lake–Swan Hill Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Dead Horse Lane to Werril Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Werril Street to Murray Valley Highway.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Murray Valley Highway to the northern boundary of 5563 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill

Cross the Murray Valley Highway and over the railway reserve to the northern boundary of 5536B Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern boundary of the above property, to the western bank of the Little Murray River.

Continue heading in a northerly direction along the western bank of the Little Murray River to the junction of the Little Murray River and the Murray River.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the western bank of the Murray River to the intersection of Milloo Street and the unnamed road.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the northern side of the unnamed road to the intersection of River Road and Arnoldt Street.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the northern side of Arnoldt Street and along the rear boundary of 2-8 King Street (the Grain Shed) to Curlewis Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction around the roundabout and along the Murray Valley Highway to Saleyards Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Salesyards Road to the intersecting point of commencement Karinie Street and Nyah Road.



Schedule 9 - Swan Hill Central Business District prescribed area

In the township of Swan Hill CBD the consumption of alcohol is prohibited 24 hours per day.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Curlewis Street and Nyah Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Nyah Road to Stradbroke Avenue.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Stradbroke Avenue to Chapman Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Chapman Street to Nyah Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Nyah Road to Pye Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Pye Street to Splatt Street.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Splatt Street to Rutherford Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Rutherford Street to Beveridge Street.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Beveridge Street to Gray Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Gray Street over Campbell Street and the railway reserve to Monash Drive.

Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the western side of Monash Drive to McCallum Street.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the southern side of McCallum Street to Curlewis Street.

Continue heading on a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of Curlewis Street to Nyah Road.



Schedule 10 - Ultima prescribed area

In the township of Ultima the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours of 9pm to 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Sea Lake-Swan Hill Road and David Street.

Continue heading in a southerly direction down to Culgoa–Ultima Road.

Continue heading along Culgoa-Ultima Road in a southerly direction to the Ultima Recreation Reserve and continue around the whole perimeter of the Recreation Reserve and back to Culgoa-Ultima Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction along Culgoa-Ultima Road to Taverner Street.

Continue heading in an easterly direction along Taverner Street to Dillon Street.

Continue heading in a northerly direction along the eastern side of Dillon Street to Vernon Street.

Continue in an easterly direction along Vernon Street until it becomes Ultima-Meatian Road and then over the railway reserve.

Stop at Ultima-Meatian Road before the bend and then head north along the eastern side of the railway reserve to the intersection of Lake Boga-Ultima Road and David Street.

Continue along David Street and back to Sea Lake-Swan Hill Road.



Schedule 11 – Woorinen South prescribed area

In the township of Woorinen South the consumption of alcohol is prohibited between the hours of 9pm to 10am.

The areas of land (including the whole road reserve and any crown land of which Swan Hill Rural City Council is the committee of management) or any public reserve within the land bounded by the intersection of Palmer Street and Harvey Road.

Continue heading in a westerly direction parallel to the northern side of Harvey Road to Woorinen-Vinifera Road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction parallel to the western side of Woorinen-Vinifera Road to the unnamed road.

Continue heading in a southerly direction along the unnamed road and over the railway reserve.

Continue in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of the unnamed road to Woorinen-Goschen Road.

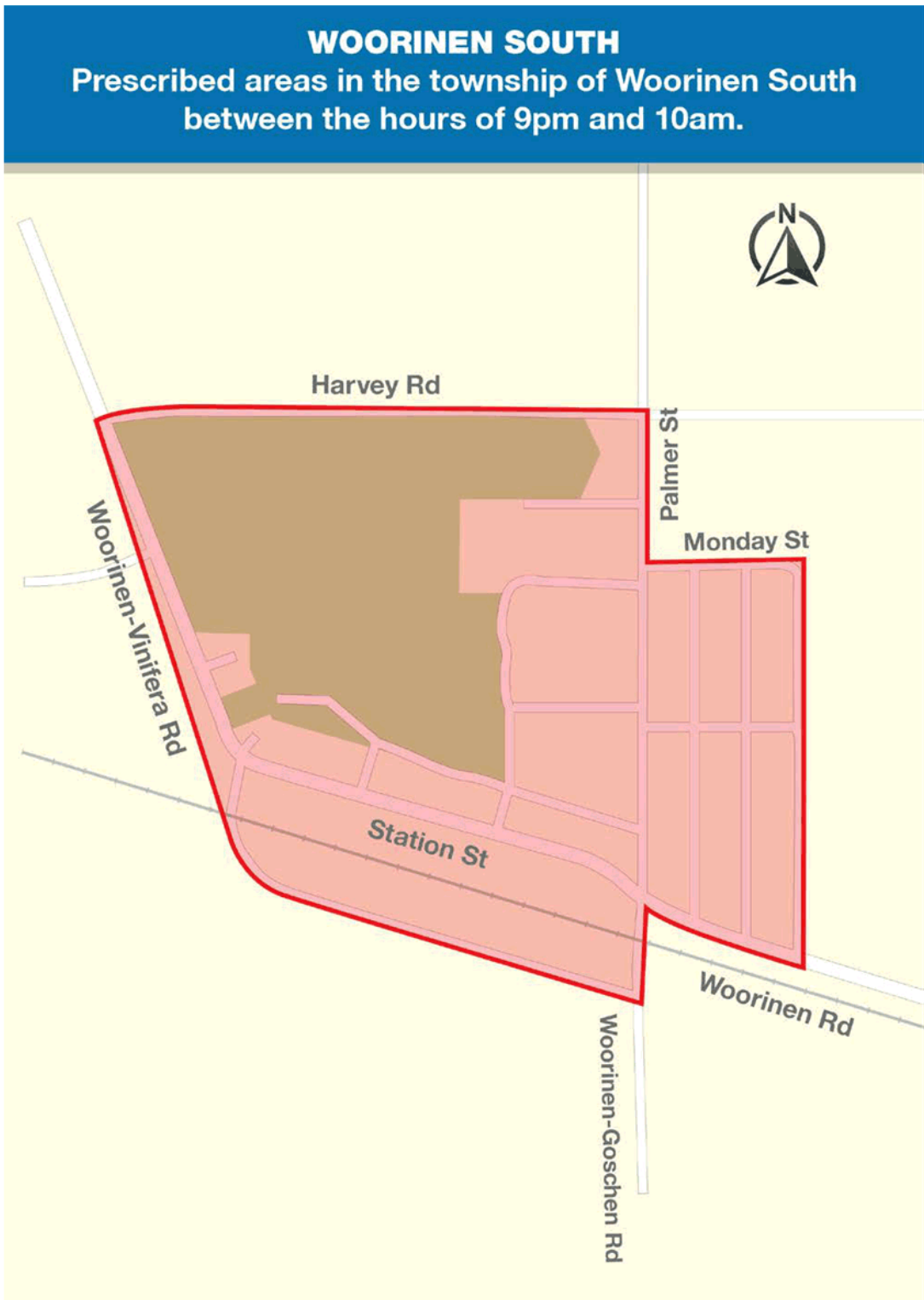
Continue heading in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of Woorinen-Goschen Road to Woorinen Road.

Continue heading in an easterly direction parallel to the southern side of Woorinen Road to the unnamed laneway.

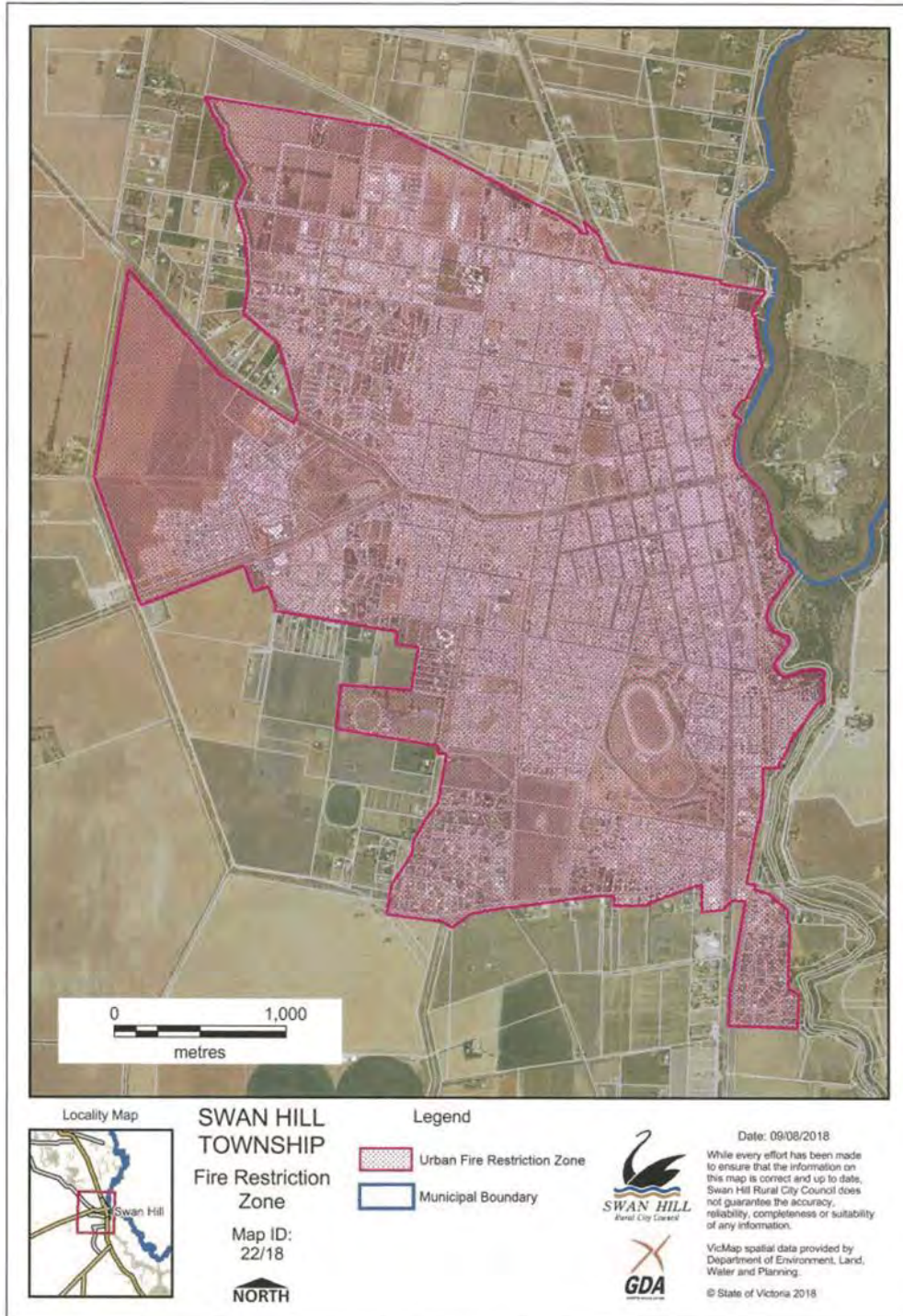
Continue in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of the unnamed laneway to Monday Street.

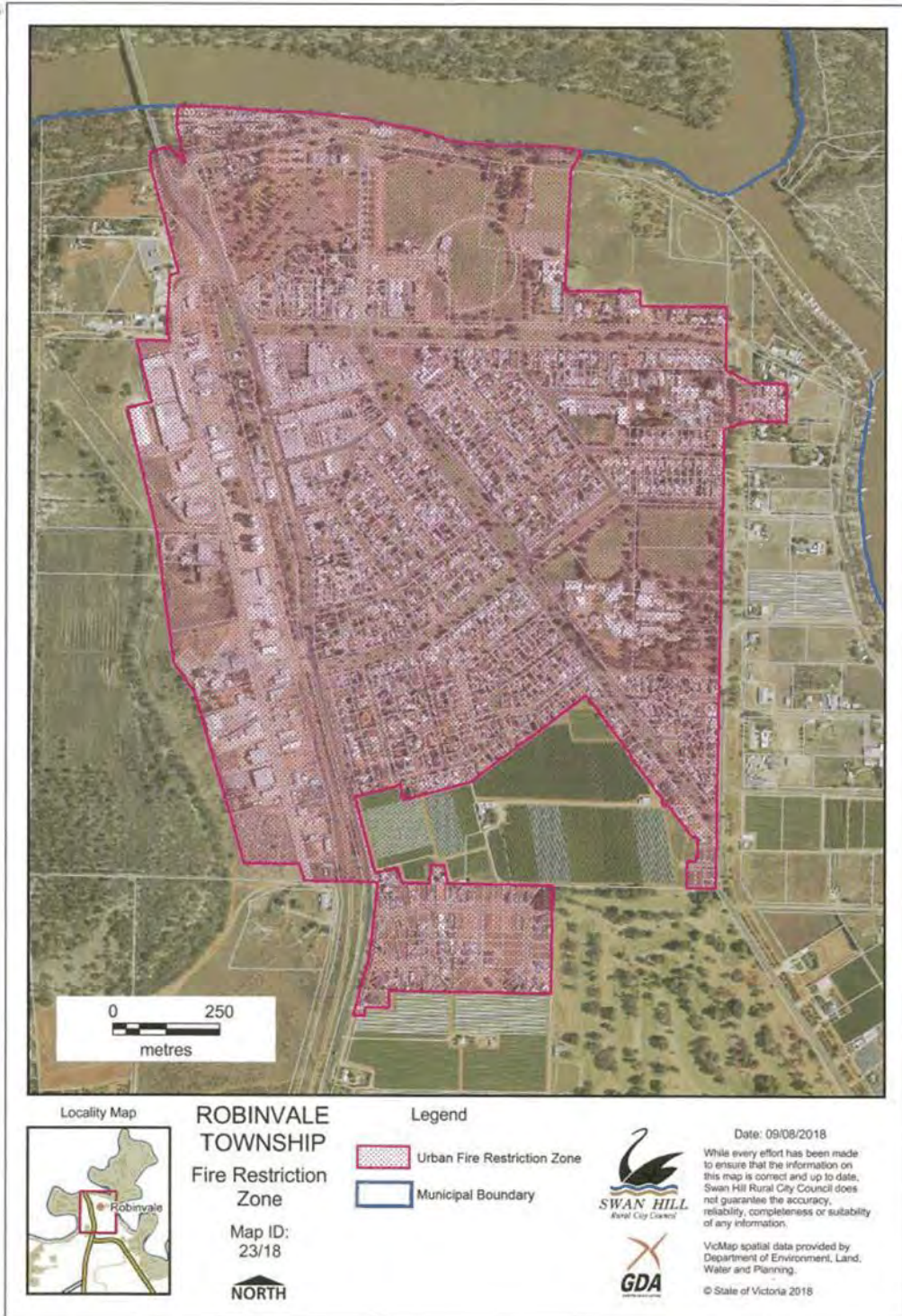
Continue in a westerly direction parallel to the northern side of Monday Street to Palmer Street.

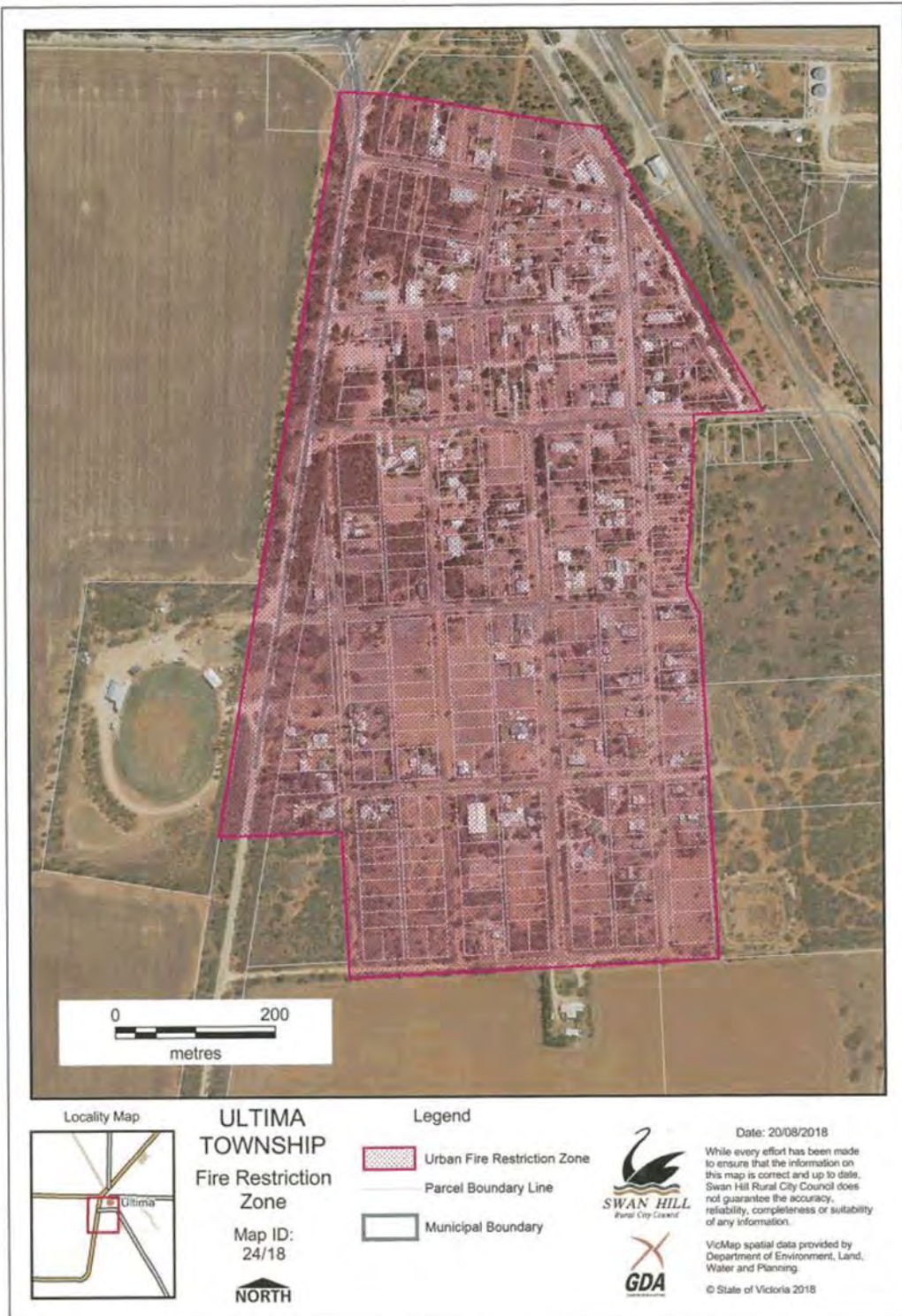
Continue in a northerly direction parallel to the eastern side of Palmer Street to Harvey Road.



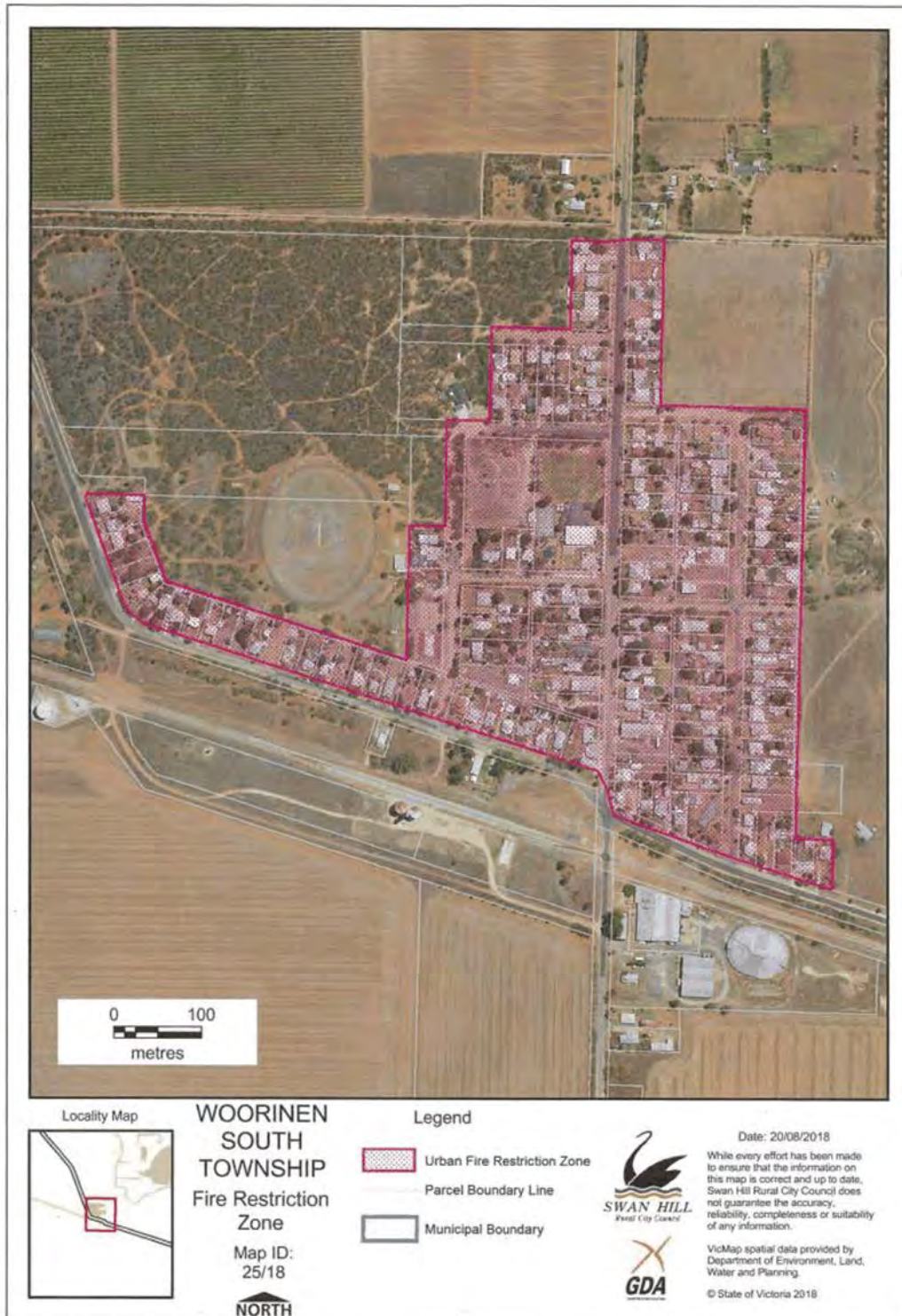
Schedule 12 – Fire Restriction Zone Maps

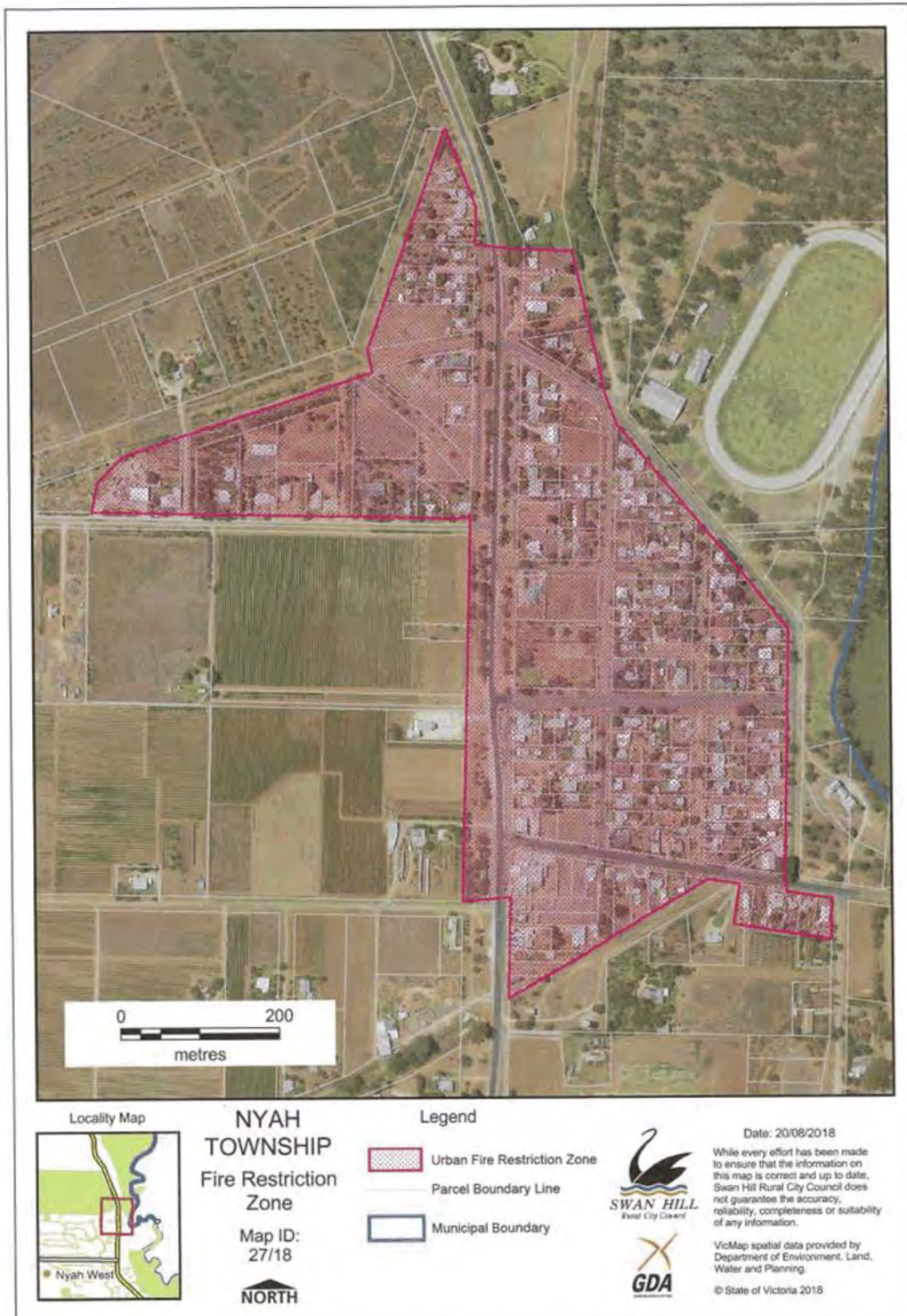


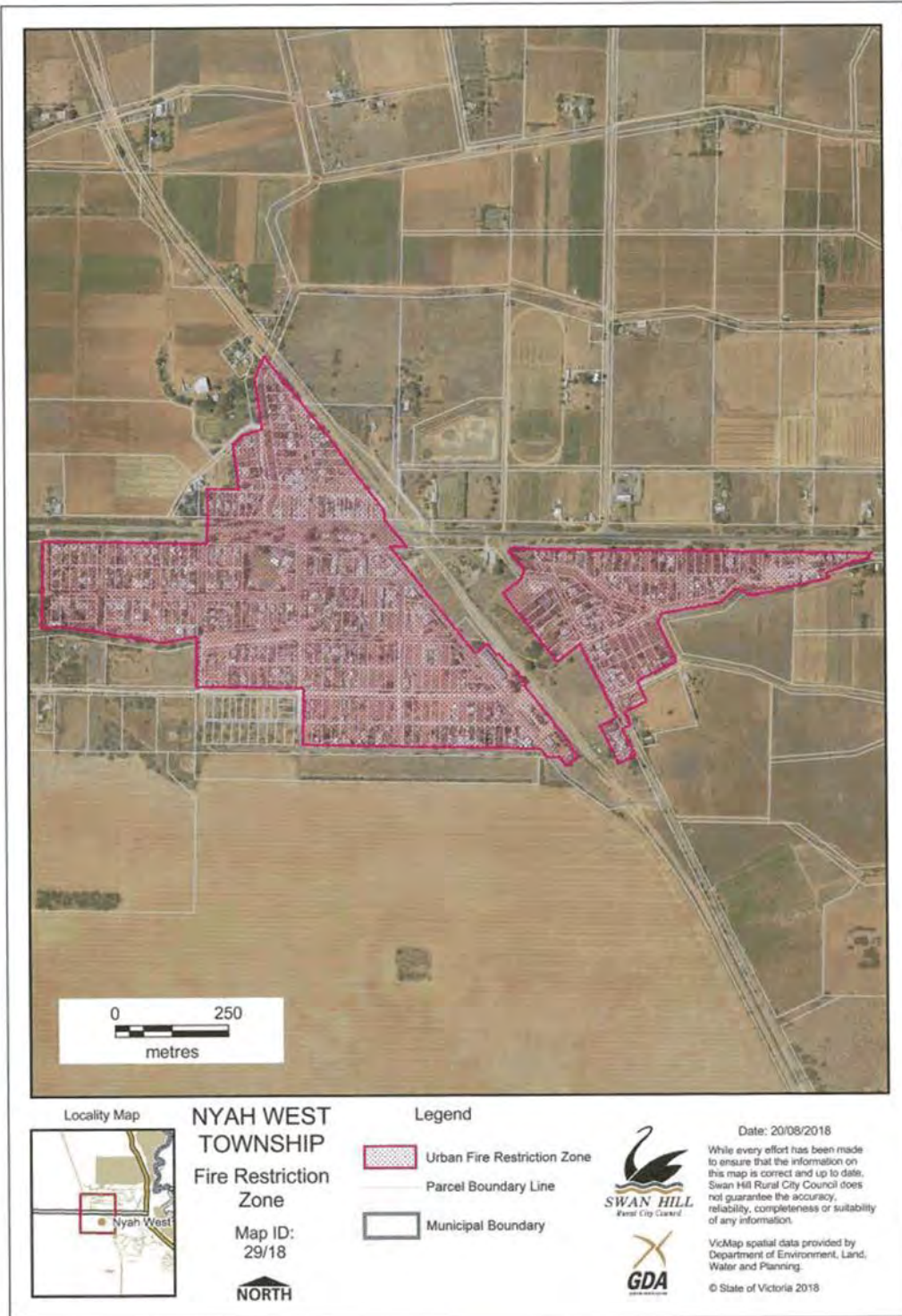


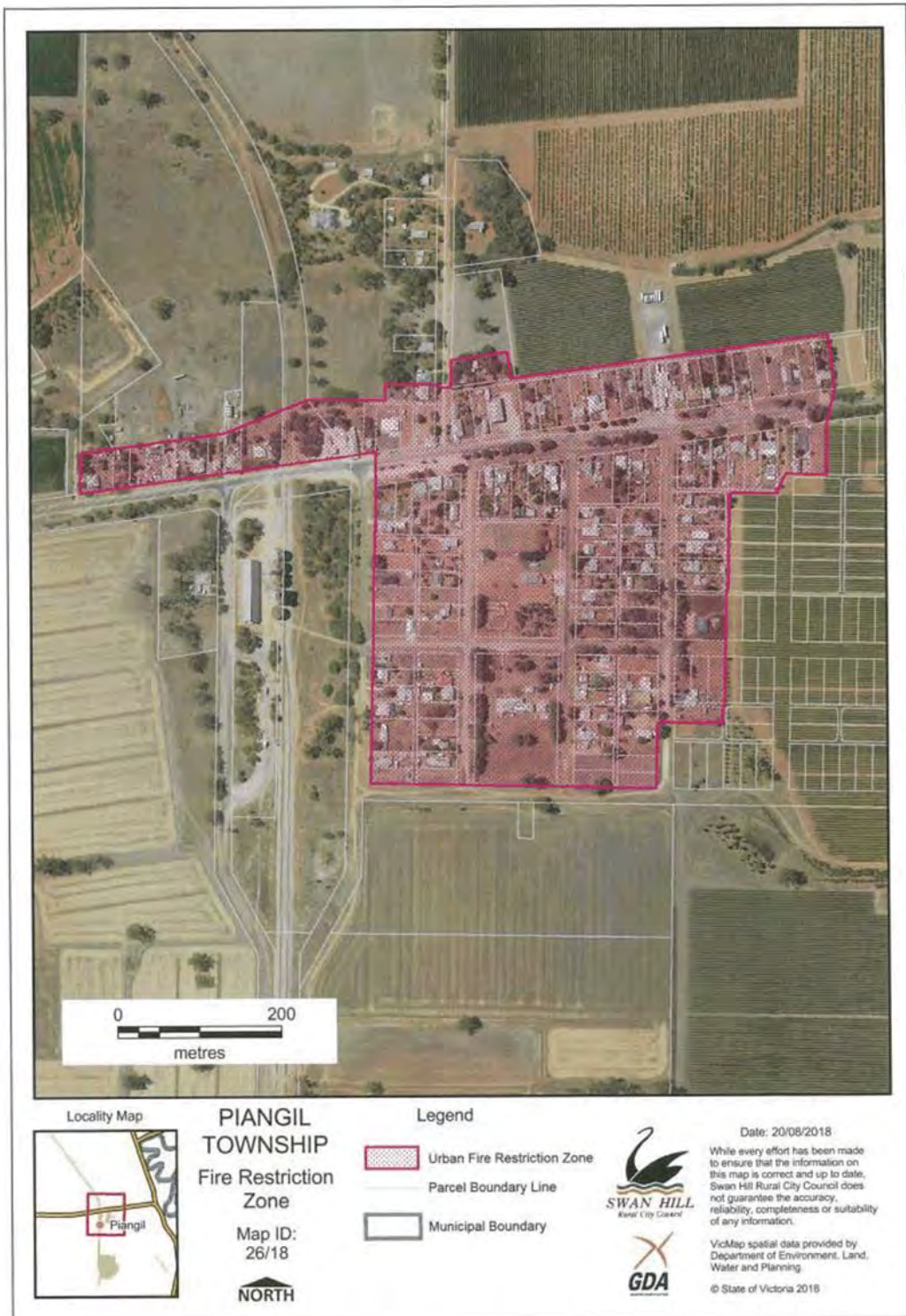


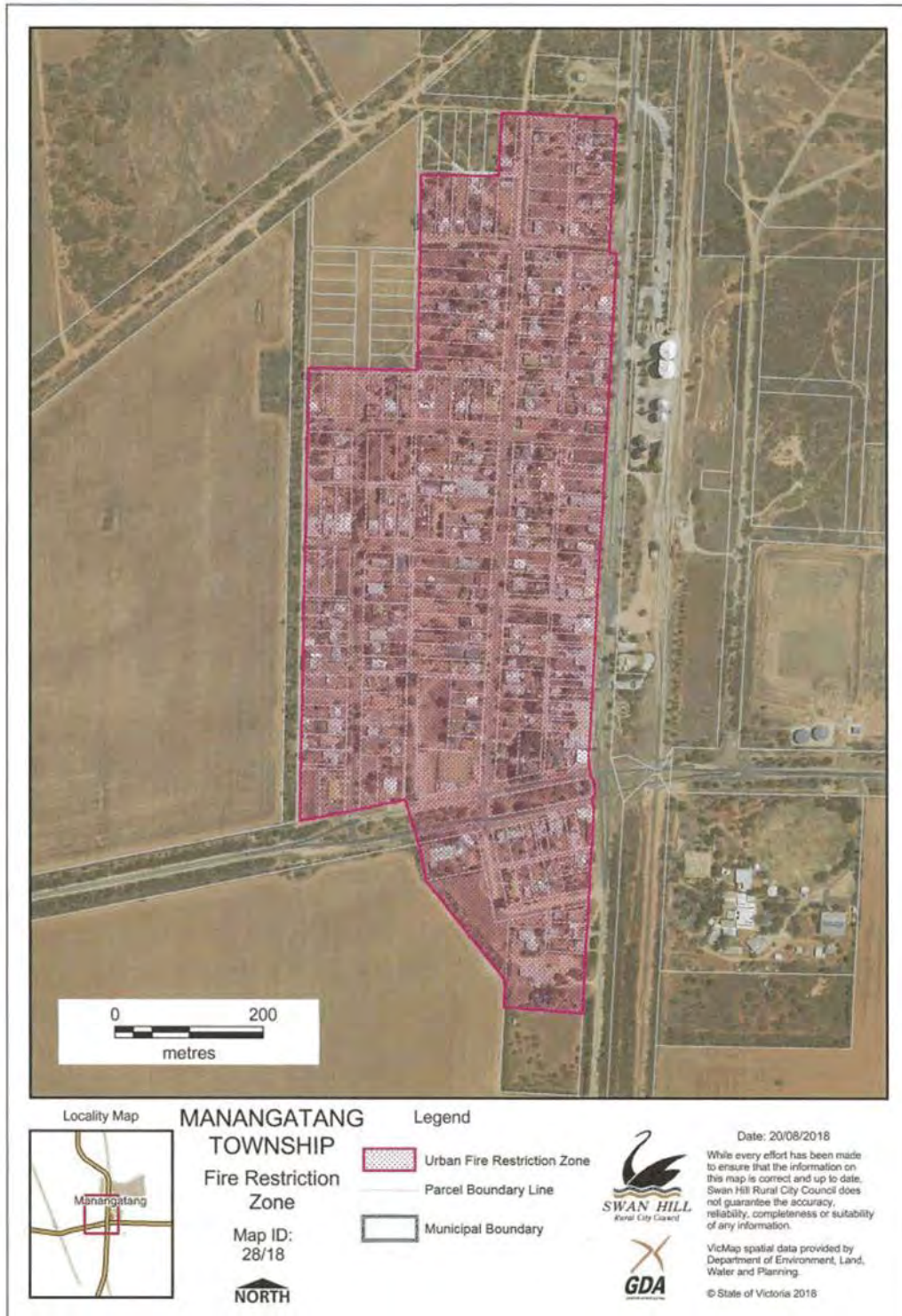












REF: 2031/18/
SB/CS

18 July 2018

Mr John McLinden
Chief Executive Officer
Swan Hill Rural City Council
PO Box 488
SWAN HILL VIC 3585

26 JUL 2018	513-20-02
CEO DDP	
SPO-DR	



Dear John

MEMPC – BURNING OFF OUTSIDE FIRE DANGER PERIOD

At the recent meeting of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC), the matter was raised regarding burning off outside the Fire Danger Period (FDP), in relation to a recent burn in the industrial estate (Karinie Street) in Swan Hill.

This illegal burn caused particular concern to residents in the area who reported the fire and the air quality health issues associated with it to the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

CFA Operations Manager, John Bigham has advised that he will ensure that local brigades are made aware of requirements when attending burn offs in the industrial and residential areas to ensure compliance with Council’s laws and the safety of the community.

The MEMPC resolved to write to Council seeking its assistance with this matter in the following areas;

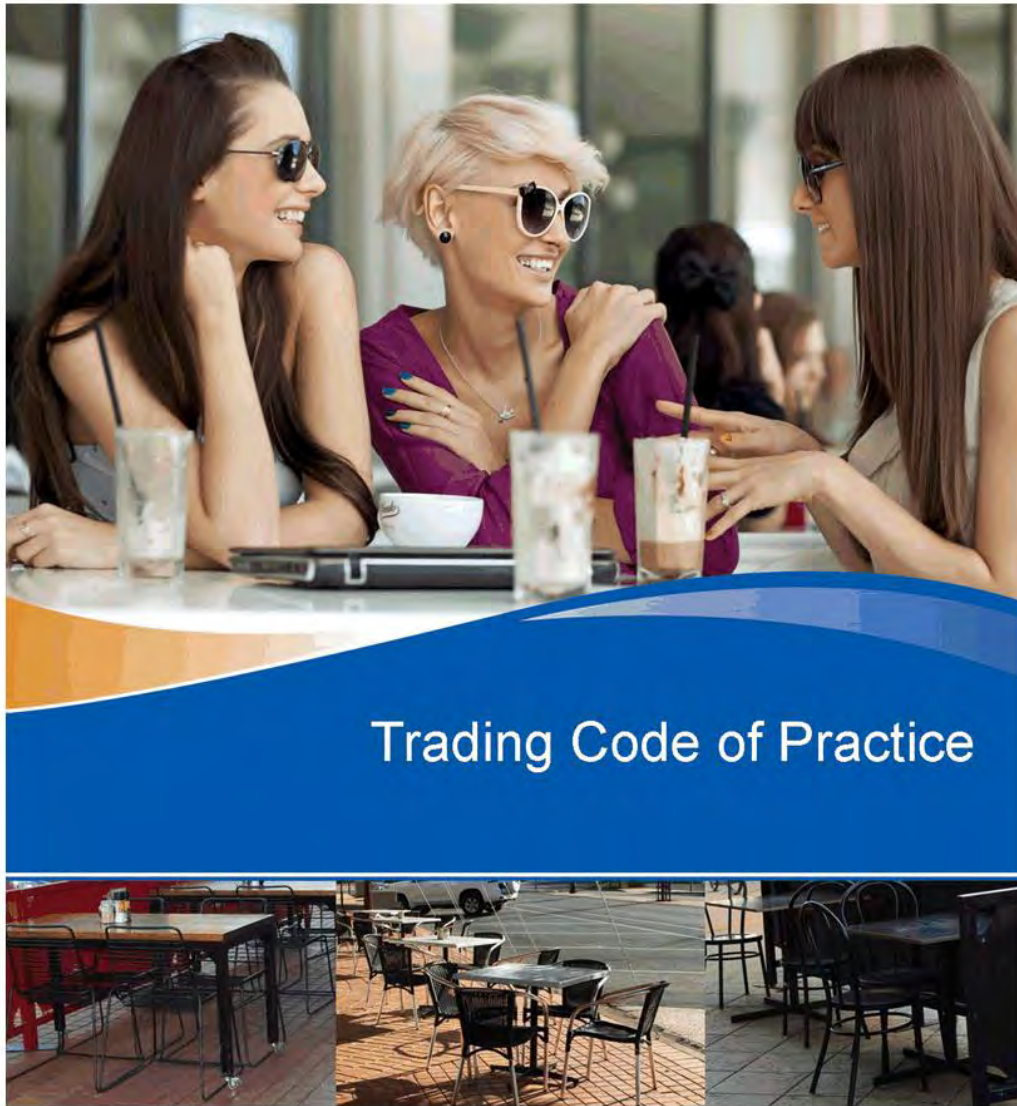
- Enforcing non-compliance of the relevant Local Law in relation to burns offs in both residential and industrial areas of the municipality.
- Communicating the relevant local law to the community by highlighting it on Councils websites and/or other options open to council.

It is hoped that with a combined effort that this issue can be mitigated and the safety and health of our community is assured.

Yours sincerely

Les McPhee
Chairperson
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee

45 Splatt Street SWAN HILL VIC 3585
 PO Box 488 SWAN HILL VIC 3585
 DX30166 Swan Hill
 Telephone: (03) 5036 2333 Fax: (03) 5036 2340
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 ABN 97435620016



Trading Code of Practice

Adopted: XX
Gazetted: XX
Commenced: XX



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1. Introduction

Swan Hill Rural City Council is committed to supporting the continuing growth of local businesses as well as enhancing the street life and village shopping experience.

Council's aim is to provide a balance between ensuring the safety of the community and managing the use of public footpaths for commercial activity.

1.1 Background

Footpath trading involves the use of public footpaths for commercial purposes. The footpath is provided for the use of pedestrians and is the area between the property boundary and the kerbside of a road.

Commercial purposes typically include the placement of advertising signs, displays of goods, tables, chairs and ancillary items such as umbrellas, heaters, planter boxes, screens and blinds.

While the trading activities on the footpath referred to are important parts of the retail environment, the primary purpose of footpaths is to provide for safe pedestrian access. Footpath trading activities must be regulated to ensure that access and safety can be maintained. In considering the options that may be available for footpath trading, it is important to recognise that any commercial use of a public space is not a right but a privilege. Permits may only be granted where access, community safety and amenity of the streetscape can be ensured.

Council has a legal obligation in accordance with the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992 to provide a safe and unobstructed footpath environment for pedestrians, regardless of their mobility levels.

The Trading Code of Practice ('the Code') has been developed to regulate all commercial activity on our footpaths by providing for a continuous accessible path of travel from the building or property line.

The Code has been designed to ensure the shopping experience remains as enjoyable as possible for all who live, work and invest in the municipality. The Code provides guidance to traders on how they may use the public footpaths in an equitable and safe way.

1.2 Are there any changes to the existing Trading Code of Practice?

There are some changes to the existing Code. From 1 August 2017, changes to the Tobacco Act 1987, now mean that smoking is banned in outdoor dining areas in Victoria. Other changes are in line and incorporated with Council's Community Local Law No. 2 (2017).

1.3 Council's obligations

Council has an obligation to regulate and control activities and events on Council land to ensure no detriment is caused to the amenity of the neighborhood or cause a nuisance to a person.

Council has developed the Code to ensure that all persons who require a permit before carrying out an activity or event on Council land understand the minimum acceptable standards under which they operate.

1.4 Objectives of the Trading Code of Practice

The objectives of this Code are:

- a) to maintain clear, safe and unobstructed access for pedestrians of all abilities on the municipality's footpaths, and;
- b) to encourage consistent footpath trading activities which contribute positively to the amenity, vibrancy and viability of commercial areas, and;
- c) to provide clear guidance for the consideration of applications for permits made pursuant to Council's Local Laws or the Planning Scheme (as applicable), for the placement of items associated with trading on footpaths within the municipality.

1.5 Scope of the Trading Code of Practice

The Code extends to all individuals and businesses seeking to utilise footpaths for commercial or other purposes within the Swan Hill municipality. Commercial purposes typically include the placement of:

Furniture type/ Trading category	Description
Moveable or temporary advertising signs	Moveable boards, placards, A-frame signs
Flags	Portable upright banners, advertising flags
Real estate signs	Any temporary signs relating to the sale, lease, or auction of real estate (includes directional/indicators/auction/inspection signs, property advertising boards, etc, but does not include signs outside the real estate business)
Goods for display	Tables, shelving, clothes racks, or other furniture items displaying goods (includes fundraising stalls/activities)
Tables and seats	Outdoor dining facilities
Dividing screens/barriers	Café screens, outdoor barriers

Furniture Type / Trading Category	Description
Umbrellas	Centre-post style umbrella, cantilever style umbrella
Heaters	Free-standing portable gas heaters
Outdoor planters	Pot plants, planter boxes, etc.
Fundraising stalls	A site temporarily set up to raise money for a community group, charity or not-for-profit organisation
Mobile traders	A trader who sets up a van, vehicle, stall or similar structure for the purpose of trading on a Council land or road.

This Code should be read in conjunction with Council's Community Local Law No. 2 (2017).

1.6 Related Legislation

The following legislation must be considered by Council with respect to footpath trading;

- Local Government Act 1989 (Victoria)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Community Local Law No. 2 (2017)
- Liquor Reform Act 1998
- Road Management Act 2004
- Road Safety Act 2017 (Victoria)
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Commonwealth)
- Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Victoria)
- Tobacco Act 1987 (Victoria)
- Food Act 1984 (Victoria)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Planning Scheme

1.7 How to contact us:

If you have any queries regarding this Code or wish to arrange an appointment with an Authorised Officer to attend your business please contact Regulatory Services on (03) 5036 2346.

2. Definitions

Any word or phrase defined in Community Local Law No. 2 (2017) has the same meaning in this Code.

Advertising sign means a board, notice, banner or similar device used for the purposes of soliciting sales, notifying people where goods and services may be obtained, advising or directing people to an event or festival or promoting elections or political campaigns.

Amenity means a desirable or useful feature or facility of a building or place.

Authorised Officer means a Council officer appointed under section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Council means Swan Hill Rural City Council.

Council land means land owned, occupied, or vested in the Council or in respect of which Council has the care and management and includes roadsides, parks and reserves and footpaths within Swan Hill Rural City Council.

Footpath zones includes pedestrian zone, trading zone and kerbside zone as defined in this Policy.

Kerbside zone is the area between the face of the kerb and the trading zone.

Local Law means Swan Hill Rural City Council Community Local Law No. 2 (2017).

Mobile trading any vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or other similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering goods or services for sale, including any food and or drink (excluding alcoholic beverages).

Median strip means a dividing strip designed or developed to separate vehicles travelling in opposite directions;

Walkway zone is the area of the footpath that is measured from the property boundary and is for the exclusive use of pedestrians.

Permit in relation to a use or activity, means a permit issued under the Local Law which authorises that use or activity.

Public place means a reserve, public highway, mall, road, street, bridge, footway, footpath, court, alley, passage or thoroughfare, notwithstanding that it may be formed on private property and any other place to which the public may resort.

Road has the same meaning as the Local Government Act 1989 and applies to roads for which the Council has responsibility under the Road Management Act 2004 but does not include a State road under the Road Management Act unless a provision in the Local Law is expressly applied to a State road.

Trading zone is the area that the Council may permit for a trading use or activity. It is the area left between the walkway zone and kerbside zone after these clearances are accounted for.

Trading means:

- Selling or offering or exposing or promoting the sale, supply, exchange or hire of any goods, merchandise, commodity, article, thing or service; or
- Advertising for the purposes of soliciting sales, notifying people where goods and services may be obtained, or advertising or directing people to an event or festival; or
- A fundraising stall or activity operating to raise money for a community group, charity or not-for-profit organisation (excluding highway collections).

Trader means any person, business or organisation that carries out trading activities.

3. Footpath Use and activities

3.1 Footpath Zones

In order to provide for clear and unobstructed access for pedestrians, three footpath zones are defined within the width of the footpath:

a) Walkway zone

The zone immediately adjacent to the building or property line and is the zone primarily used to facilitate pedestrian access and travel and includes pedestrian crossings and kerb crossings.

Walkway zone requirements:

Footpath width:	Walkway zone requirements:
2.5m – 3.5m	Minimum 1.8m
3.5m or greater	Minimum 2.0m (2.5m Heritage Areas)

In footpaths with an overall width greater than 3.5 metres, the walkway zone must be a minimum of 2 metres.

In any areas affected by the heritage overlay under the Swan Hill Planning Scheme the walkway zone must be a minimum of 2.5 metres. In footpaths with an overall width between 2.5 – 3.5 metres, the walkway must be a minimum of 1.8 metres.

b) Trading activity zone

The area of the footpath where goods, café furniture and ancillary items may be placed. It is the area between the walkway zone and kerbside zone and is the only area of the footpath where goods, café furniture and ancillary items may be placed.

A set back of 0.5 metres on either side is required from each property boundary to ensure a 1 metre access point between premises.

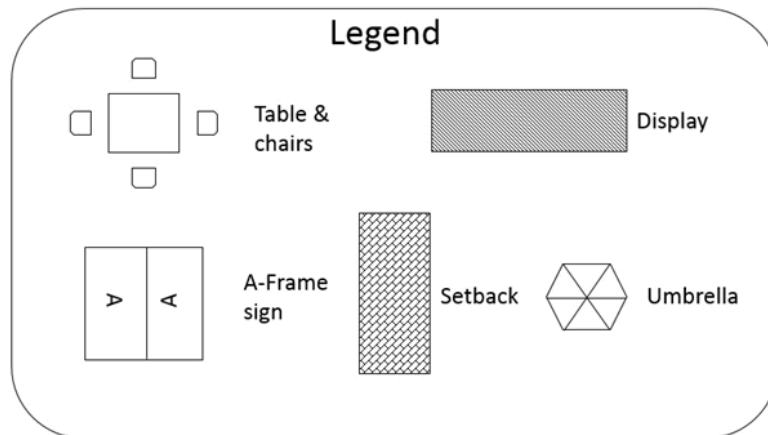
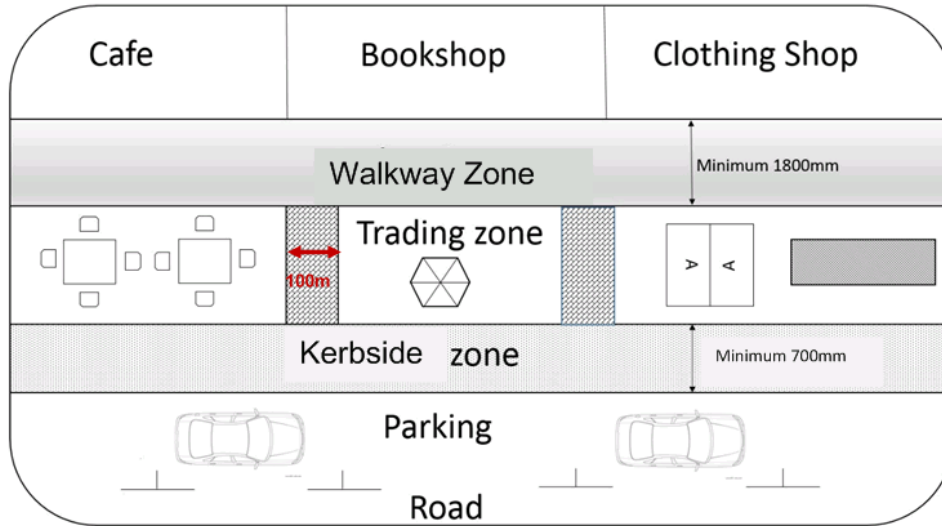
c) Kerbside zone

The area that extends from the kerb-line or kerb invert and allows for vehicle overhang and access to and from parked vehicles.

In footpaths with an overall width between 2.5 - 3.5 metres, the kerbside zone extends for a minimum of 0.7 metres from the rear of the kerb. Where there is a disabled parking bay the setback from the kerb must be a minimum of 1.5 metres. Where there is a loading zone the setback from the kerb must be at least 0.7 metres.

Kerbside zone requirements:

Kerbside zone adjacent to:	Kerbside zone requirements:
Footpaths with overall width 2.5 – 3.5m	Minimum 0.7m
Disabled parking bay	Minimum 1.5m
Loading zone	Minimum 1.5m



4. Permit Requirements

4.1 Who requires a permit?

A person displaying advertising signs, banners, flags or goods or whom places street furniture or ancillary items on a road or municipal place must ensure that:

- a) A permit is applied for and issued prior to display
- b) The Code is complied with and
- c) The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 is complied with.

4.2 Why is a footpath trading permit required?

Obtaining a permit provides a formal administrative mechanism for which traders and Council are able to document and demonstrate compliance with the Code.

Permits expire on 30 June of each year.

4.3 How do I apply for and/or renew a footpath trading permit?

It is imperative you read through the Code if you are a local business trader interested in using the footpath for commercial activity.

When applying for and/or renewing a footpath trading permit, consideration must be given to the type of activity you intend to carry out.

For both new permits and permit renewals you must complete an application form, attach any relevant documentation and submit to Council accompanied by the appropriate fee.

The cost of a footpath trading permit will depend on type of footpath trading permit being sought. Current permit costs will be consistent with the annual fee structure as approved and adopted by Council each year.

All Council fees and charges, including footpath trading permit fees, are subject to an annual review as part of Council's fees and charges review process.

4.4 Insurance requirements

All traders must ensure that they hold and maintain throughout the duration of the permit, in the name of the trader, a policy of insurance to the minimum value of \$20,000,000 against liability for possible personal injury, whether at common law or by virtue of any statute or liability for property damage which may arise or could be held to arise from any act allowed by the permit.

Please note: the insurance value is subject to change dependent on advice from Council's risk insurers or as directed by legislation.

The trader must provide proof of the insurance policy (i.e. a Certificate of Currency) to Council when applying for a permit or upon payment of the annual fee, and also at any time during the duration of the permit at the request of Council or an Authorised Officer .

4.5 Assessment process

In considering an application for a permit to place items on the footpath, an Authorised Officer will take the following into account, in addition to the conditions specified in Council's Local Law and this Code:

- a) the width of the footpath;
- b) the location of existing trees, street furniture or other public infrastructure;
- c) proximity to major roads, disabled parking bays, loading zones, clearways and angle parking;
- d) the likely number of pedestrians at particular times of day; and
- e) the location of nearby residences;
- f) if the vision and access of drivers, cyclists or pedestrians is obstructed which may create a hazardous situation;
- g) if there is likely to be detriment to the amenity of the area;

An Authorised Officer may cancel or amend a permit at any time if any permit conditions are not been complied with and/or there has been a failure to comply with a Notice to Comply served in accordance with Council's Local Laws; or

h)

Footpath trading will only be permitted until 11pm each day unless stated otherwise in the permit. The amenity, safety or access of nearby residences must not be affected.

5. Specific requirements for footpath trading activities

5.1 Advertising signs on Council land

The trader or any other person who has been permitted by Council to place an advertising sign on Council land must ensure that the advertising sign:

- a) is at least 600mm high and at least 400mm wide;
- b) no more than 1000mm high (measured from the ground) and 800mm wide;
- c) is portable and self-supporting and not attached to or leaned against any poles, trees, balustrades etc. Access to seats and other public facilities such as bins and ticket machines should not be obstructed.; and
- d) is placed within the trading activity zone and not on carriageways, median strips or in parking areas.
- e) is not situated where it obstructs the vision of a driver, or causes any other traffic hazard.
- f) is of such material and construction to minimise the risk of being blown over or causing injury to any person.
- g) does not contain flashing lights or animations.
- h) does not spin or move around (excluding appropriately secured advertising flags).
- i) is maintained by the applicant to the satisfaction of Council.
- j) is only displayed during the applicant's normal hours of trade.

Permission may be granted to allow the placement of an advertising sign outside a premises not occupied by the trader. Any application must be accompanied by written permission from the proprietor of that business which fronts the Council land on which the items are intended to be placed. In this instance public liability insurance must be extended to include this situation of risk. In some cases, permission may not be granted depending on circumstances as determined by the Authorised Officer.

The maximum number of signs permitted per premises is two.

Any trader placing an advertising sign on Council land must affix the permit label issued by Council to the front window or door of their business in a prominent position.

5.2 Display of goods on Council land

A trader must:

- a. only display goods in the trading activity zone, to provide a consistent and unobstructed walkway.
- b. only place goods, items and furniture on the footpath during the normal hours of trade, unless otherwise stated in the permit.
- c. ensure display stands and tables are in good stable condition, and be able to withstand adverse weather conditions and to not create a risk for pedestrians, property and passing traffic. Stands and tables should be aesthetically pleasing and not in a worn or decrepit state.
- d. ensure that stands and tables do not cause any damage to the footpath;
- e. ensure that stands and tables do not exceed a height of 1.5 metres, a length of 1.5 metres and a width of 0.75 metres.
- f. ensure that goods have a contrasting colour to their background to assist the vision impaired.
- g. ensure displays do not overhang either the kerb or walkway.
- h. ensure that a building permit is obtained for full-length shop awnings.
- i. displayed goods do not impede access to a loading zone or disabled parking bay.
- j. displayed goods do not cause any difficulty to pedestrians and people exiting or accessing parked vehicles, the footpath or any other Council asset, such as bins, seating and ticket machines..

5.3 Outdoor dining facilities on Council land

Café furniture and ancillary items are only permitted at premises which are registered under the Food Act 1984 to serve food and/or beverages, unless otherwise permitted by an Authorised Officer.

The trader is responsible for the conduct of patrons at tables and chairs in the outdoor dining area and must:

- a. ensure that patrons do not move tables and chairs and obstruct the footpath;
- b. ensure that patrons do not allow pets, prams, walking frames or other items to obstruct the footpath; and
- c. not serve, cause or allow patrons to be served food or beverages whilst they are standing on the footpath, except for take away sales.
- d. ensure there is a clearance of 0.5 metres between each premises to allow pedestrian access points from the footpath to the parking bay and/or road.
- e. ensure access points of 1.0 metre wide are provided at every six angled parking bays. This applies to tables, bollards, ropes, chains, barrier screens or anything similar that would ordinarily obstruct movement of pedestrians.
- f. ensure that staff providing table service give all pedestrians passing priority over their own movements into and out of the outdoor dining area.
- g. maintain the outdoor dining area in a tidy manner. A permit may be cancelled or suspended if instances of littering or ongoing untidiness are noted.
- h. ensure that any item which is placed on the footpath is stable and of good design to prevent damage to the footpath.
- i. ensure that any tables and chairs have a contrasting colour to their background to assist the vision impaired.
- j. reimburse Council for any reinstatement works as a result of damage to footpaths caused by chairs, tables or the like.

A trader who proposes to serve alcohol on the footpath must have their Liquor License "licensed area" endorsed to include the footpath. The trader must also apply to Council for an additional permit to be allowed to serve alcohol in a public place.

5.4 Tobacco Act 1897

From 1 August 2017, changes to the Tobacco Act 1987 means that smoking is banned in all commercial outdoor dining areas in Victoria. The introduction of smoke-free outdoor dining now means there are two types of outdoor areas for dining and drinking activities.

An outdoor area can be either:

- An outdoor dining area, or
- An outdoor drinking area.

Outdoor drinking areas:

Outdoor drinking areas include the following places if predominantly used for the consumption of drinks.

- A balcony or veranda
- A courtyard
- A rooftop
- A marquee
- A street or footpath
- Any similar outdoor area

Drinks can include both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks such as coffee.

Outdoor drinking areas within 4 metres of outdoor dining areas

To support smoke-free outdoor dining, from 1 August 2017, smoking is banned in an outdoor drinking area if any part of that area is within 4 metres of an outdoor dining area, unless separated by a wall at least 2.1 metres high.

This means that if any part of an outdoor drinking area is within 4 metres of an outdoor dining area at the same or neighbouring venue, the business owner or manager of an outdoor drinking area will need to ensure the outdoor drinking area is smoke-free, or separate the two areas by a 4 metre buffer zone, or a wall at least 2.1 metres high.

A neighbouring venue is a different venue that is located immediately next to your venue.

Customers can eat only snacks in outdoor drinking areas. A snack is a pre-packaged shelf-stable food that is sealed in the container or package in which the manufacturer intended it to be sold and does not require any preparation prior to serving. Shelf-stable food means food that can be stored safely for long periods (months), at room temperature.

Snacks also include uncut and unpeeled fruit. Examples of snacks include pre-packaged potato crisps, nuts and chocolate bars.

Pre-packaged sandwiches and hot chips are not snacks.

Signage

Venues must display acceptable 'No Smoking' signage to indicate smoke-free areas.

The signs must be displayed so they are visible to customers when entering, or within the outdoor drinking area. Signs can be obtained by contacting Council, or ordered free of charge from the Tobacco Reforms website.

5.4 Heritage areas

Advertising signage must be kept in line with the heritage nature of the area and be in a style that is neat and professional, as approved by Council.

5.5 Ancillary items

Ancillary items include, but are not limited to, umbrellas, enclosures, heaters and pot plants.

Unless approved by an Authorised Officer, ancillary items are only allowed in conjunction with café furniture, and only for premises that are registered to serve food and/or beverages under the Food Act 1984.

5.6 Outdoor speakers / amplification equipment

A trader must not use any sound amplification equipment or jukeboxes in the outdoor dining area unless authorised by Council.

Fixed speakers that a proprietor of a business proposes to install to a building or veranda require a planning permit. Where these items are fitted without permission, an Authorised Officer may direct the proprietor to remove the items.

5.7 Noise emission

A trader must take all necessary steps to ensure that no noise or other disturbance emanates from the outdoor dining area which creates a nuisance to others or causes detriment to the amenity of the area.

5.8 Heaters

Outdoor heaters should, wherever possible, be affixed to the awnings or verandas in order to be located off the footpath. A planning permit is required to undertake this activity.

Free standing patio heaters which have a base on the footpath can be used; however it must be a certified gas appliance with a maker's warranty. This is to be included as an ancillary item on your permit and covered by the traders' public liability insurance.

A trader must ensure that any outdoor gas heater used in conjunction with their permit complies with any safety standards specified by the Energy Safe Victoria.

5.9 Umbrellas

The trader must ensure that any umbrella is placed only in the trading activity zone.

Any umbrella used must be no higher than 2.2 metres and must not protrude over the kerb. During inclement weather, water from large umbrellas should be discharged in areas outside the pedestrians' walking path.

Umbrellas should be secured to the footpath by a lock-in device. Lock-in devices will only be approved when the device lies flush with the footpath when the umbrellas are not displayed.

Approval for a lock-in device will be given upon special application to Council's Building Department.

Umbrella plans and specifications are required to be lodged with Council prior to any umbrella being placed with a lock-in device.

If a lock-in device is fitted without prior Council approval, an Authorised Officer must require that the lock-in device is removed and the footpath is reinstated to its original condition. Traders are responsible for any damage will be invoiced for any repairs.

Where a lock-in device is not used, any umbrella must be secured to the satisfaction of Council's Engineering Services Department.

5.10 Barrier screens

For safety reasons a trader must ensure that screens or screening devices are used when there are tables and chairs.

There are several types of screens approved by Council:

- a. Temporary canvas screens – the type commonly provided by coffee companies;
- b. High barrier screens – made of safety glass or heavy duty opaque plastic and fitted to the footpath with a locking device; and
- c. Full-length awnings/blinds attached from veranda to the footpath – (building permit required).

5.11 Temporary canvas screens

A trader must ensure that any temporary canvas screen is placed only in trading activity zone. A set back of 0.5 metres is required from each property boundary to ensure a 1 metre access point between premises.

Temporary canvas barrier screens must be placed so that the screens are stable and secured or weighted to prevent being moved by patrons or weather conditions. Barriers must be removed from the trading activity zone at the close of business each day.

5.12 High barrier screens

High barrier screens can be used but are not limited to opaque/clear fitted, with a lock-in device to the footpath

A trader must gain approval to install high barrier screens by application to Council's Engineering Services Department. Any engineering design must comply with all relevant Australian Standards and the trader must provide an assessment for all proposed structures in relation to their safety and impact on Council assets before they will be considered for approval.

Guidelines for specifications will be available upon request. Screens must be fitted to the footpath with a lock-in device, but be removable if required and have side portions that fold back or are removable. Side portions must be removed during non-trading hours to facilitate street cleaning vehicles.

A set back of 0.5 metres is required from each property boundary to ensure a 1 metre access point between premises. This will apply even if there are currently no food premises adjacent, to avoid the need to reposition the lock-in device in the event that another food premises opens next door.

High barrier screens must be at least 1.5 metres in height, be transparent and constructed of safety glass or heavy-duty plastic. Each screen must have writing or symbols between 1.0 and 1.5 metres from the footpath to provide a visual guide to pedestrians.

High barrier screens must not be used as an opportunity for advertising.

Only the name of the business or an appropriate design may be used on the screens.

Products, specials or sales may not be displayed on the screens.

If a lock-in device is fitted without prior Council approval and required specifications are not met, an Authorised Officer will require that the lock-in device is removed and the footpath is reinstated to its original condition. The trader must comply with that requirement.

If a premises changes hands and the future trader will not be using the screens, the current or future trader will be deemed responsible for reinstating the footpath to its original condition, to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer.

Any permit for a structure on the corner (intersection) must comply with the relevant building regulations - not higher than 1.2m within 9m from building line – and must be assessed by the Council's Engineers to ensure that it will not cause any safety concerns.

5.13 Full length verandah awnings / blinds

A trader must ensure that any veranda awning or blinds are fitted in accordance with direction and approval from Council. Any permits required? Building/Planning

5.14 Ancillary items owned by business remaining on the footpath on a semi permanent basis

Semi-permanent café furniture that is fixed with lock in devices will be allowed subject to Council approval.

Lock-in screen and umbrellas, plans and specifications must be lodged with Councils Engineering Department for approval.

Painting lines or placing markers on the footpath in the business precinct to clearly indicate the footpath trading zone is prohibited, except as specified below.

Council reserves the right to place markers along the footpath when deemed necessary to ensure appropriate minimum pedestrian corridors are maintained at all times. Premises that breach the minimum required clearance may have the footpath marked as part of enforcement action.

5.15 Permanent fixtures on the footpath

Bike racks, benches, bins, pedestrian crossings, fire hydrants, other emergency assets, parking meter/ticket machines, traffic signal boxes, public transport shelters and other permanent fixtures placed on the footpath are public assets and have priority over commercial interests.

A minimum clearance of 1 metre or greater, if deemed appropriate by an Authorised Officer, will be required on either side of any asset permanently affixed to the footpath.

Failure to maintain this clearance will constitute a breach of permit and may result in infringement penalties and/or possible cancellation of the permit, in accordance with Section 12 of the Community Local Law No 2.

Items must not be placed directly in front of parking meters/ticket machines and the walkway zone.

Rubbish bins, parking meters and any other Council assets will not be relocated at the request of traders as part of their trading activities unless approved by Council. Traders should take this into account when selecting a site. Any request must be in writing and submitted to Councils Engineering Department. The request must include a plan showing the site of the proposed relocation and a letter signed by the trader outside whose premises the Council asset exists. Council may charge traders for the cost of relocation of public assets.

6. Enforcement provisions

Council Authorised Officers will check compliance with this Code and with the conditions of relevant permits on a regular basis.

Upon detection of a non-compliance, an Authorised Officer will take action in accordance with Council's Local Laws or the Planning Scheme, as applicable.

Enforcement action may include:

- a. a verbal direction to comply
- b. a written notice to comply
- c. an infringement notice and the
- d. Authorised Officer may impound the items on the footpath that do not comply with the Local Laws, this Code or the conditions placed on any permit.

Section 44 - Commercial activity on Council land

1. The Code:
 - a) has been adopted by the Council for the purposes of this Council's Community Local Law No. 2 (2017);
 - b) has the objective of providing for the peace, order, wellbeing and safety of people and the amenity of public places in the municipality; and
 - c) is available for inspection at the Council's offices and service centres during business hours.
2. The whole of the Code is incorporated into and forms part of this Local Law.
3. Council may amend the Code from time to time in accordance with the provisions contained in the Code.
4. An amendment does not take effect until notice of the Council's decision to amend the Code is published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
5. A person on whom an obligation is imposed by the Code must ensure that:
 - a. where under the Code a permit is necessary, that permit is obtained; and
 - b. the Code is complied with.

Section 45 - Trading activities on roads and in a municipal place

1. Without a permit, a person must not trade on a road or in a municipal place and may not:
 - a) place any advertising sign, banner or flag
 - b) display any goods
 - c) place any outdoor dining furniture or associated facilities
 - d) place any structure for the purpose of selling or offering to sell any goods or services
 - e) place goods or services carried out or placed on the person or any other moveable thing do so from land adjacent to a road or a municipal place
 - f) solicit or collect any waste materials, gifts of money, subscriptions, or do so from premises to premises adjacent to a road
 - g) busk
 - h) hold a street festival or event, other than a funeral.

Penalty: 3 Penalty units

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

2. A person displaying advertising signs, banners or flags, placing street furniture and/or displaying goods on a road or municipal place must ensure that:
 - a) A permit is applied for and issued prior to display; and
 - b) The Code is complied with; and
 - c) The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 is complied with.

3. In considering an application for a permit under sub-clause (1), Council must have regard to the requirements of:
 - a) The Code
 - b) The Disability Discrimination Act 1992
 - c) Permits required by the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008, Food Act 1984 or any other legislation have been obtained
 - d) The activity will disturb, annoy or disrupt adjacent property owners or occupiers
 - e) The activity will be detrimental to the amenity of the area
 - f) The safety of road users or the passage of vehicles will be affected by the placement
 - g) Waste water disposal, litter and garbage, lighting and advertising signs
 - h) Any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
4. When an advertising sign, banner flag or good is placed or displayed contrary to this Local Law or in contravention of any permit conditions, a Notice to Comply may be issued by an Authorised Officer.
5. Failure to comply with a Notice to Comply may result in the advertising sign, banner, flag or the good being removed by an Authorised Officer and impounded.
6. Council may determine a fee that must be paid by the owner of any impounded advertising sign, banner, flag or good before the Council releases the impounded item.
7. Advertising signs, banners, flags or goods that have been impounded by Council for more than one month may be disposed of by Council by tender or public auction, or may be transferred to the municipal landfill or given away. Where perishable goods have been impounded, the Council may dispose of the goods as soon as reasonably appropriate.
8. A person must not, without a permit, erect or place on any road, roadside or municipal place, a vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering for sale any goods or service or conducting a raffle or lottery.
9. A person must not, without a permit, sell or offer for sale on any road, roadside or municipal place, any goods carried about on a person or animal.
10. A person must not without a permit, engage in spruiking or promoting goods or services or permit another person to engage in spruiking or promoting goods or service on any road or municipal place.
11. A person must not without a permit, give or offer to the public on any road or municipal place, any pamphlet or brochure advertising goods, services or events

B.20.32 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS PROGRAM

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S17-02-02
Attachments: Nil

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

In response to COVID 19 pandemic, the State Government has announced a \$68 million Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program, aimed to stimulate the local economy and support new sport and active recreation participation outcomes.

This report summarises a number of projects that meet set funding criteria for Council to consider and pursue further.

Discussion

The State Government, through Sports Recreation Victoria, has released a new funding program aimed to support local economies and participation outcomes through the construction and/or upgrade of significant community sport and active recreation infrastructure. This is expected to be a one off grant opportunity.

Eligible applicants can submit up to three (3) applications and must be between \$1 million and \$10 million, with a minimum 10 % financial contribution.

Key criteria include:

- Provide local economic stimulus benefits
- Demonstrate sport and active recreation participation outcomes
- Improve inclusion and diversity by disadvantage and under-representatives
- Local support and be able to commence within 6 months

Projects also need to be supported by documentation, detailed plans and costing that is no longer than 12 months old.

The following viable activities have been package as one project, due to their similar nature and outcomes.

Project 1: Indoor Recreation and Leisure Centre Redevelopment

Activities include:

- Swan Hill Leisure Centre: New Group Fitness Centre
- Swan Hill Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: High Ball Court Expansion
- Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre: Upgrade facility

TOTAL COST: \$3M+

Project 2: Shared Trails

Activities include:

- Swan Hill to Lake Boga Active Trail

TOTAL COST: \$2.6M

Project 3: Regional Hub and Essential Facility Upgrade

Activities include:

- Swan Hill Showground Regional Hub (Swan Hill Football Netball Club proposal / driven project)
- Robinvale Netball Changerooms
- Lake Boga Netball Changerooms

TOTAL COST: \$4.5M

Funding Requirements

Project 1 and 3 meet all the following key funding criteria:

- Provide significant economic activity
- Sport & active recreation participation outcomes
- Improve inclusion
- Local support
- Commence 6 months
- Council commitment 10%
- Landholder consent

Project 2 is not fully scoped and approvals are not in place making it ineligible at this time.

The opportunity to submit both Project 1 and 3 will enhance Council's ability to obtain this one off grant, support diverse range of user groups and maximise Council's available resources.

Consultation

These projects have been identified as priorities to implement in both the Recreation Reserve Masterplan 2018 and Recreation Implementation Plan 2019. Both these plans were driven by key user groups and were endorsed by Council.

Financial Implications

Council's 10 year Major Project Plan 2020-29 has allocated the necessary funding to support the projects tabled in this report (projects 1 and 3).

Project 1 Indoor Recreation and Leisure Centre Redevelopment

- Swan Hill Leisure Centre Group Fitness Centre \$250,000(2020/21)
- Swan Hill Indoor Sports and Recreation Centre: \$100,000 (2021/22)

Project 3: Regional Hub and Essential Facility Upgrade

- Swan Hill Showgrounds: \$40,000 (2019/20) carried forward to (2020/21)
- Lake Boga Netball Changeroom \$100,000 (2019/20) carried forward to (2020/21)

The Swan Hill Football Netball Club has offered to contribute \$200,000 while Lake Boga Football Netball Club has committed \$30,000 towards the netball changeroom project.

Opportunities currently exist to utilise Federal Government funding under Building Better Regions Fund Round 4 for matching funding - Project 1:\$250,000 Swan Hill Leisure Centre Group Fitness and Project 2:\$100,000 Lake Boga Netball Changeroom.

Social Implications

These projects will contribute to increase the region's liveability, upgrade public infrastructure, improve the physical activity and provide new sport and leisure activities to the community.

Economic Implications

The projects will employ local contractors and generate economic activities through increased visitation to the region.

Environmental Implications

N/A

Risk Management Implications

- Completing the projects within budget and on time
- Meeting community / user groups expectations
- Satisfy funding agreement conditions and requirements

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

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

Options

That Council:

- 1) Submit two separate funding applications (Project 1 and Project 3)

Indoor Recreation & Leisure Centre Redevelopment (Project 1); consisting of:

- Swan Hill Leisure Centre: New Group Fitness Centre
- Swan Hill Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: High Ball Court Expansion
- Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre: Upgrade facility

Regional Hub and Essential Facility Upgrade (Project 3) consisting of:

- Swan Hill Showground Regional Hub
- Robinvale Netball Changerooms
- Lake Boga Netball Changerooms

2) Submit one funding application only

Indoor Recreation & Leisure Centre Redevelopment (Project 1); consisting of:

- Swan Hill Leisure Centre: New Group Fitness Centre
- Swan Hill Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: High Ball Court Expansion
- Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre: Upgrade facility

3) Do not submit a funding application

Recommendations

That Council:

Submit two separate funding applications (Project 1 and Project 3)

Indoor Recreation and Leisure Centre Redevelopment (Project 1); consisting of:

- **Swan Hill Leisure Centre: New Group Fitness Centre**
- **Swan Hill Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion**
- **Robinvale Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion**
- **Robinvale Leisure Centre: High Ball Court Expansion**
- **Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre: Upgrade facility**

Regional Hub and Essential Facility Upgrade (Project 3) consisting of:

- **Swan Hill Showground Regional Hub**
- **Robinvale Netball Changerooms**
- **Lake Boga Netball Changerooms**

51/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council:

Acknowledge the submission of two separate funding applications (Project 1 and Project 3)

Indoor Recreation and Leisure Centre Redevelopment (Project 1); consisting of:

- **Swan Hill Leisure Centre: New Group Fitness Centre**
- **Swan Hill Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion**
- **Robinvale Leisure Centre: Gym Expansion**
- **Robinvale Leisure Centre: High Ball Court Expansion**
- **Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre: Upgrade facility**

Regional Hub and Essential Facility Upgrade (Project 3) consisting of:

- **Swan Hill Showground Regional Hub**
- **Robinvale Netball Changerooms**
- **Lake Boga Netball Changerooms**

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

B.20.33 PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STRATEGY 2020-2030

Responsible Officer:	Director Infrastructure
File Number:	S32-24-03
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 Final Draft2 Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 Reference Information and Design Guidelines3 Submissions and categorisation4 Youth Affairs Council Victoria Submission5 Large submission 16 Large submission 2

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

This report presents the final draft of the Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030. The final draft has incorporated a number of changes that have been made after community consultation through public submissions. The submission period for this draft commenced on 26 February 2020 and concluded on 8 May 2020.

In total 42 Submissions were received. The majority of feedback aligns with the officer's recommendations.

Discussion

The Strategy was drafted with KPIs and Levels of Service resulting in an improvement program suggesting expenditure program of \$2.55M over 10 years. Changes to the levels of service, including classification, type of facility or standard inclusions, the creation of new facilities or keeping in service facilities which have reached the end of their useful life will have an impact on the investment required.

There was a total of 42 submissions received towards the Draft Public Convenience Strategy. Some of these submissions pertained to single items and some referred to many different subjects or facilities. Each of the submissions have been assessed and categorised to provide an overview of their various themes. All submissions, de-personalised, are in attachment 3 and have been categorised for easy referencing.

The main 7 themes received in the submission can be summarised as follows:

Classification Review

There were two requests received to review the classification for the Robinvale Tourist Information Bay toilets from Tier 1 to Tier 2. Both submissions felt that these toilets were as well used as Caix Square.

There was one request to have a larger toilet near the Catalina Museum due to perceived high usage and the Museum not being open all the time. This would require the Classification to be raised from a Tier 3 to a Tier 2.

The classifications of facilities are based on the usage as gauged by the consumables with the following ranges identified

Tier	Consumables range	Strategic Tier
1	9000+	High profile/high usage
2	6000 – 15000	CBD toilet or in a high-profile urban area
3	0 - 6000 0 - 8000	Urban – local park or sporting reserve Rural – local park, sporting reserve or wayside stop
4	Open on demand	

Combining the community feedback with the data leads to the following recommendation:

Facility	Calculated Average	Draft Tier	Recommended Tier
Robinvale Tourist Information Bay	6885	Tier 2	Tier 2
Lake Boga Catalina	10125	Tier 3	Tier 2

The Draft Strategy was updated to change the classification of Lake Boga Catalina Museum park from Tier 3 to Tier 2 and that the improvement program for this facility be amended to include a renewal to a medium sized facility (additional cost \$30k).

Compliments

5 compliments were received relating Council's current facilities, these ranged from compliments regarding the current distribution of facilities, cleanliness and the strategy itself, including Council's commitment to provide disabled facilities and a compliment regarding the in-depth information and detail within the strategy.

Design Guidelines

Council received 3 separate submissions with reference to the provision of gender specific cubicles. The design guidelines recommend the use of gender-neutral facilities that open directly into a public space to afford the best protection from vandalism and undesirable behaviour. The guidelines do give allowance for gender specific cubicles if the design maintains the privacy and security of users. These criteria would only be possible to be fulfilled at medium to large facilities with five or more cubicles.

The Youth Affairs Council Victoria made a lengthy submission regarding the installation of Condom vending machines in our public conveniences (refer to attachment 4). The submission includes some guidelines, best practice models and some excellent examples of benefits to communities including reduced or prevention of unintended pregnancy and the transmission of STI's.

Condom vending machines are currently provided at McCallum St and Riverside park in Swan Hill as well as Caix square in Robinvale. These are maintained by Swan Hill health and Robinvale Health, respectively. Manangatang Improvement Group have also installed their own vending machine.

Some other potential considerations for the design guidelines include:

- The use of artwork on public conveniences
- Access to public conveniences, in particularly where elderly and disabled required to cross busy roads and the ability of trucks to pull over and re-join traffic.
- Private Public toilets and encourage new business to install public facilities to take the load off Council.

Design Guidelines have been amended to include condom vending machines, use of artwork and access considerations, where practical.

Engagement and Consultation

Two issues were raised during the consultation period specific to engagement. One was in relation to the document itself where a customer felt we should re-arrange the website to show the improvement plan first. A response was sent to explain how the document was developed. It was also emphasised the improvement program, while important is only a small part of the overall strategy.

Another submitter raised that some sporting clubs should have been invited to make submissions. This feedback was received early in the submission period, so the recreation reserve users were added to the communication strategy and directly invited to make submissions or share the strategy.

Improvement Program

The following submissions were received in support of the Improvement Program

- 12 Submissions were received in support of the installation of public conveniences at George Lay Park
- 3 submissions were received in support of the renewal of the Robinvale Boat Ramp Toilets
- 2 submissions were received in support of maintaining access to the McCrae St toilets
- 1 submission each was received in support of the renewal or renovations of
 - The Swan Hill Information Bay toilets
 - McCallum St Toilets

- Swan Hill Riverside Park toilets

There were several submissions regarding specific projects within the improvement program. They are as follows:

Co-locations

- 4 expressing concern regarding the co-location of the Robinvale Riverside Park Rec Reserve facility into the clubroom.
- 2 Submissions expressing concern regarding the co-location of the Robinvale Skate Park toilets into the Leisure Centre

Decommissions

- 2 objections regarding the decommissioning of Lake Boga block 3, however Lake Boga Inc. supports the removal of this block as soon as possible in the hope of discouraging people from stopping and then using nearby vegetation when they find the facility inaccessible. They would like to have the option to trial a portable facility over a summer period (Christmas to Easter) if possible. There were also 2 additional requests from others for more facilities around the Lake Boga foreshore.
- 1 objection regarding the decommissioning of the standalone facility at Piangil as they are hoping to move the V/Line bus stop
- 1 objection regarding the decommissioning of the facility at the Lake Boga Kennel Club as it is going to become the Equestrian centre
- 2 objections to the decommissioning of the Larundel Street toilets in Manangatang due to it being a V/Line bus stop.

Excluding Lake Boga Block 3, none of the proposed decommissions are regarded as urgent and the structures, while presenting duplications, have not reached their end of life. To ensure that the communities are comfortable with the decommissioning and all concerns are addressed, such as moving V/Line bus stops recommendation is to place the decommissions as a long-term priority with a 7-10-year timeline.

Two requests for renovation of Caix Square toilets were received.

New Facilities were requested

- 2 submissions for Wemen (note this is in the improvement program but is subject to VicRoads)
- 1 suggestion for a facility at Beverford (does not fit criteria of 45 minutes between facilities on highways and does not have a Council playground)
- 2 submissions for more facilities around Lake Boga (current facilities meet the criteria of 2.5km along shared pathways)

Two Submissions were received for lighting at Ronald St (Pisasale Park) toilets. The Ronald St public convenience is currently locked at night and there is no power connected.

In response to the submissions the following additional changes have been made to the strategy:

- ✓ Co-location guidelines have been amended to clarify that the facilities, while attached to another building will be accessible externally and not dependent on the main facility being open. It has also been made clear that co-location will be done only in agreement with reserve/facility committees as part of the masterplan process.
- ✓ A priority ranking of short (<3 years), medium (3-7 years) and long (7-10 years) term priority scale has been used in lieu of the recommended years within the improvement program.
- ✓ The decommissioning of Lake Boga Block 3 toilet has been set as a short-term (0-3 year) priority.
- ✓ The decommissioning of the identified in the strategy duplicate facilities at Piangil and Manangatang has been assigned a long-term priority to allow for consultation with town representative groups.
- ✓ The decommissioning of Lake Boga Kennel Club toilet has been removed.
- ✓ A feasibility report regarding the purchase of a portable toilet block that can be used in different locations for busy periods with a short-term priority has been added to the improvement plan
- ✓ Caix Square facility has been scheduled for a renovation as a long-term priority (7-10 years).
- ✓ Lobbying Regional Roads Victoria (RRV) to construct facility at Wemen has been set to a short term priority with an additional option to review the facility at Wemen Public Hall if unsuccessful to influence RRV over the next 3 years.

Levels of Service

Six submissions were received regarding the provision of soap and/or hand drying facilities at Council public conveniences. The provision of soap in all facilities is difficult due to high rates of vandalism. It is something Council is reviewing to identify ways to implement, where practical.

With the current COVID-19 pandemic highlighting the importance of hygiene, the levels of Service have been amended to provide liquid soap dispensers in Tier 1, 2 and 3 facilities and to also include a statement that allows for the adjustments of cleaning schedules during declared pandemics. This change has been bought forward and dispensers are currently being installed.

Two submissions were received regarding baby-change facilities, both related to the Ronald St toilets which are designed to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards and large enough to cater for a baby change table. Baby-change facilities are to be installed in any facilities that are already compliant with this standard.

Consultation

The Draft Public Convenience strategy was advertised through social media, local newspapers and through a series of targeted invitations to disability providers, town representatives via progress and improvement groups, tourism providers, sporting clubs as well as family/children stakeholder groups including schools and childcare providers.

Face-to-face meetings regarding the Draft Strategy were conducted in Boundary Bend, Robinvale, Manangatang and Woorinen prior to the COVID-19 restrictions being put in place. In the lead up to the closure of the submission period, further invitations to groups to participate in online meetings were sent to the groups, with an online meeting conducted with Lake Boga Inc and a representative from Piangil taking up an option for a one-on-one phone call.

Financial Implications

Increasing the level of Service by changing classifications of facilities or increasing the provision of services for a tier will increase the required maintenance budgets with respect to cleaning, operational costs, including the provision of supplies and also potentially increase the costs of future renewal to reflect an increase in cubicles or provision of hot water, for example.

Changing the improvement program priorities will affect the overall expenditure required over the life of the strategy.

The improvement plan and its priorities will be re-assessed annually as part of the budget submissions process.

The recommended changes following the community consultation will have a modest effect to the proposed 10 year \$2.5Million program with an approximate increase of \$25,000 to the overall cost. Those are:

- Lake Boga Catalina Museum Toilets increase in size +\$30k
- Retain Lake Boga Kennel Club -\$20k
- Caix Square renovation +\$15k

The strategy now prioritises each action in the improvement strategy as short, medium or long term projects.

Social Implications

The better provision of Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant, family friendly facilities will improve the lives and social outlook of residents and visitors while a modern and improved public convenience network will increase community safety and the overall impression of our region.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also highlighted the need for Council to provide hygienic and easy to clean facilities to assist with the prevention of the spread of disease. Council will aim to provide liquid soap dispensers in all tier 1, 2 and 3 facilities.

Economic Implications

A clean, modern, family friendly public convenience network that is available to residents, shoppers and tourists will present the Swan Hill region as a place that is nice to come back to.

Environmental Implications

Sustainable and environmentally friendly considerations have been included in the design guidelines for consideration in any future capital works on public conveniences.

Risk Management Implications

Council currently only has 12 out of 46 facilities as DDA compliant. While there are no requirements for previous constructions to be fully compliant, there is a gap in service and a risk to Councils' reputation if this issue is not addressed.

Modern amenities designed to address crime, vandalism and sustainability also go to address several risks to the public and the reputation of Council. Aging infrastructure is prone to greater maintenance costs occurring in the future as well as more likely to be vandalised or attract anti-social behaviour.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Infrastructure - Infrastructure that appropriately services community needs.

Options

1. Council adopt the Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 as presented.
2. Council adopt the Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 with amendments.
3. Council not adopt the Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Note the submissions received as part of the public consultation; and**
- 2. Adopt the Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 as presented.**

52/20 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council:

- 1. Note the submissions received as part of the public consultation; and**
- 2. Adopt the Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 as presented.**

SECONDED Cr Young

The Motion was put and CARRIED



Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030



Adopted: XX
Commenced: XX



Terms used in this strategy

Australian Standard (AS1428)

AS1428 specifies that new buildings must be capable of providing access to people with disabilities. Particular attention is focused on continuous accessible paths of travel for wheel chair users, access for people with ambulatory disabilities and access for people with sensory disabilities

Changing Places Toilet

Public convenience facilities that cater for people with severe or profound disabilities. These facilities incorporate full sized change tables, tracking hoist systems, large circulation spaces and a centrally placed toilet with room for carers

Co-located facility

An externally accessible public toilet that is attached to or within another building that has a separate purpose.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is based on the principle that proper design and effective use of buildings and public spaces in neighbourhoods can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and an improvement in the quality of life for citizens

Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person, in many areas of public life, including employment, education, getting or using services, renting or buying a house or unit, and accessing public places, because of their disability.

Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD)

An integrated and holistic approach to design that aims to reduce negative environmental impacts and improve the health of building occupants. ESD includes concepts such as the promotion of renewable energy, reducing water use, the inclusion of environmentally friendly building materials and optimising operational practices.

Gender-Neutral

Used to describe a facility that is accessible to all people regardless of gender.

Public Conveniences

Toilet facilities provided for the use of members of the public, or patrons of a facility

Restricted Public Conveniences

Public toilets located with a facility accessible by members of the public. The use of these toilets is ancillary to the main function of the facility and the toilets are not accessible when the facility is closed for e.g. Library or recreation reserve

Private Public Conveniences

Privately owned toilets available to the public e.g. Service stations, supermarkets

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Introduction

Swan Hill Rural City Council provides a good network of public toilets at town areas, wayside rest stops, recreation reserves and parks across the municipality.

This strategy looks at the way Council can provide this service to meet current and future needs of the community in a cost effective way.

The aim of this strategy is:

- To outline the level of public toilet services that Council will provide, based on clear criteria.
- To outline how Council will maintain a network of safe, accessible, clean and environmentally sustainable public toilets.
- To provide a framework for consistent decision making on the provision, renovation maintenance and decommissioning of public toilets.
- To ensure the provision of public toilets is cost effective and meets the levels of service expected of residents and visitors to the region.
- To outline a recommended 10-year plan for existing and new public toilets across the municipality.

When it comes to the provision of public toilets, the following requirements have been identified as important by the general public as well as facility managers:

- efficient and effective supply to meet the needs of the public
- meet DDA compliance requirements
- low maintenance
- safe for users
- easy to clean
- vandal resistant
- suitable location
- environmentally friendly and sustainable

The development of this strategy has included an in depth analysis of the current provision of public conveniences in each town, existing Council strategies, customer requests over the preceding two years, current costs and level of service provisions and current industry standards and trends for public conveniences.

The following document contains the findings and recommendations from this analysis to provide stand-alone strategy to ensure a consistent, equitable and clear understanding of future provisions of public convenience in Swan Hill Rural City Council. Detailed findings and analysis are available in a supplementary document Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 Reference Information and Design Guidelines.

Current services

Council currently provides 46 facilities throughout the municipality. These facilities service a wide variety of uses and requirements within the community including:

- 3 CBD amenities serving shoppers and visitors at large centres
- 6 amenities servicing foreshore areas beside waterways and lakes
- 5 amenities at rural community centres or halls
- 9 amenities servicing playgrounds
- 13 amenities servicing recreation reserves
- 5 wayside stops (on highways)
- 3 amenities servicing the saleyards
- 1 facility servicing the Swan Hill Aerodrome
- 1 Comfort Centres

In addition to these facilities, private public toilets at places like service stations and supermarkets have also been considered within the analysis and recommendations. While these facilities are not Council owned or managed, the provision of freely-available public amenities can be enabled through the building act to ensure that an increase of potential visitors to an area is addressed without further costs to Council. Private toilets that are not available to the general public without membership or payment, such as libraries, the Town Hall, gyms and privately owned cafes are not included.

Costs analysis

There are two main costs elements associated with public toilets – the external cleaning contract and internal costs associated with maintenance by Council staff.

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
Cleaning contract*	\$469,170	\$460,390	\$447,175	\$454,780
Maintenance	\$38,351	\$38,536	\$48,044	\$93,267

* Contract also includes the cleaning of barbecues

In 2018-19 the actual spend on cleaning was \$455k which equates to approximately \$9891 per facility or \$2310 per cubicle per year.

In 2018-2019 there was a large increase in programmed and reactive maintenance across the municipality and a large increase in vandalism in Swan Hill.

Usage

Current usages of Council public conveniences can be estimated based on toilet paper usage at each facility. The analysis allowed for the facilities to be divided in low, medium and high use as follows. To account for busy and quiet months, an average count of toilet paper sheets used per month was calculated.

Low	Medium	High
Swan Hill Aerodrome, Swan Hill	Robinvale Riverside Park Recreation Reserve, Robinvale	Robinvale Caix Square, Robinvale
Alan Garden Reserve Football, Swan Hill	Robinvale skate park/netball court, Robinvale	Robinvale Tourist Information Bay, Robinvale
Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve soccer, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Tourist Information Bay, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve main, Swan Hill
Swan Hill Show CFA N/E, Swan Hill	Gurnett Oval, Swan Hill	McCallum Street, Swan Hill
Swan Hill Show N/W, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Show Society S/W, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Region Information Centre, Swan Hill
Swan Hill saleyards, Swan Hill	Steggall Park, Swan Hill	Riverside Park, Swan Hill
Robinvale Pisasale Park playground, Robinvale	Swan Hill saleyards truck wash, Swan Hill	Lake Boga Catalina Museum Park, Lake Boga
Boundary Bend Memorial Park, Boundary Bend	Lake Boga Block 4, Lake Boga	Jacaranda Crescent, Lake Boga
Woorinen South Community Centre, Woorinen South	Lake Boga Block 5, Lake Boga	Lake Boga wayside stop, Lake Boga
Lake Boga Gray Park, Lake Boga	Larundel Street, Manangatang	
Lake Boga Kennel Club, Lake Boga	Lowan Park, Manangatang	
Lake Boga Recreation Reserve, Lake Boga	Nyah Highway rest stop, Nyah	
	Nyah Recreation Reserve netball north, Nyah	
	Nyah Recreation Reserve south, Nyah	
	Nyah West Memorial Park, Nyah West	
	Piangil	
	Robinvale boat ramp, Robinvale	

DDA compliance

Currently, only 13 of the 46 Council owned public conveniences have disabled facilities of some sort. Of those that are classed as accessible, it was observed that they would not meet current AS1428 accessibility standards. It was observed that some toilets classified as being accessible have:

- Missing grab rails on internal doors
- Missing or incorrect dimensions on grab rails internally
- Inadequate cubicle dimensions
- Hand basins that are not within the cubicle or too far from the toilet
- Incorrect toilet pans and placements
- Poor access from car park to toilet or steep entrances/barriers to toilets
- Inward opening doors

While it is not a requirement that older facilities comply with the AS1428 standard, a program of assessment and improvement of accessibility will be implemented.

Design standards

Modern design standards tend towards facilities that increase public safety, reduce vandalism and easy to maintain and therefore cheaper in the long term. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a design philosophy based on the principle that proper design and effective use of buildings and public spaces lead to reduction of crime and an improvement in the quality of life for citizens.

Currently only 5 of the 46 public conveniences owned and managed by SHRCC are designed to CPTED design principles with the majority of our facilities following traditional out-dated separate gender maze format design.

Customer feedback

Customer and cleaner requests give insight into the community perception of public toilets. The below shows requests received in 2017 and 2018.

	2017	2018
Compliment	0	2
Level of service - cleaning	0	3
Level of service - disabled access	0	1
Level of service - request for new facility*	1	5
Maintenance	89	202
Vandalism	16	28
Total	106	241

* Requests for new facilities were for Wemen (1), George Lay Park Swan Hill (2), Swan Hill Showgrounds poultry shed (2) and a shower facility at Woorinen South Hall.

It was found that 67% of the requests came from the Cleaning Contractor. This indicates that the cleaners are the frontline in identifying issues before the general public is aware or concerned.

Related plans and strategies

Refer to Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 Reference Information and Design Guidelines for full references to public toilets in these strategic documents:

- Council Plan 2017-2021(2018/2019 update)
- Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-21 (CAIS). Please note currently only 13 of the 46 Council owned public conveniences have disabled facilities of some sort. Many of these 13 are not compliant with the current AS1428 design standards
- Community Plans
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2012 (DWMP)
- Playground Asset Management Plan 2008
- Recreation Reserve Master Plans (for Gurnett Oval Swan Hill, Swan Hill Showgrounds, Riverside Park Swan Hill, Lake Boga Recreation Reserve, Nyah Recreation Reserve)
- Sustainable Living Strategy 2017-27

This strategy will be updated in the second year of the Council's term of office to ensure relevance and alignment with community expectations.

Desired levels of service

Classification levels

In order for consistency and equity, public convenience places will be classified to assist with determining the level of service that Council will provide. These classifications are predominately based on usage and the following table shows how these classifications have been applied. Some ranges overlap, and in these cases the overall use and the general public perception will be factored in.

Tier	Consumables range	Strategic Tier
1	9000+	High profile/high usage
2	6000 – 15000	CBD toilet or in a high profile urban area
3	0 - 6000 0 - 8000	Urban – local park or sporting reserve Rural – local park, sporting reserve or wayside stop
4		Open on demand

Distribution - where should there be a public convenience?

In rural areas (population less than 1000) we will provide public toilets as follows:

- towns that have a population of more than 100 and that have a Council-owned playground will be provided one facility
- roadsides – preferably provided and maintained by Regional Roads Victoria or Roadhouses; where required to be provided by Council, one Tier 3 facility, open 24 hours and a maximum of 45 minutes drive from an alternative facility

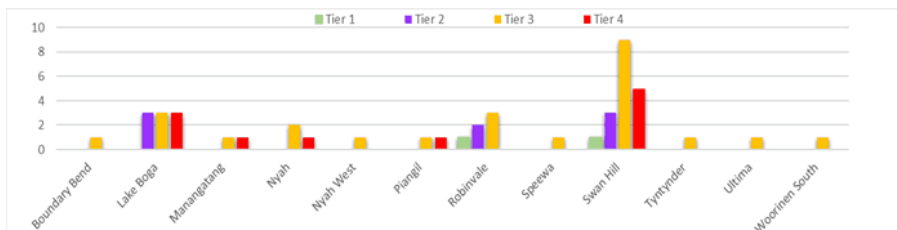
In urban areas (population more than 1000) we will provide public toilets as follows:

- in CBD areas so that people are always within 500m of a publicly available toilet (including private public toilets)
- in all playgrounds classed as ‘regional’ and any newly constructed ‘district’ playgrounds classification as per the relevant Asset Management Plan
- within 2.5km (15-20 minutes’ walk) of a shared pathway, where practical

Recreation Reserves

- recreation reserves where there are currently publicly accessible conveniences separate to the clubrooms; however, it is preferable that these facilities be co-located into clubrooms at their end of life to reduce vandalism and maintenance costs

The classification of each facility will be dependent on the level of usage of the facility or the strategic tier as outlined in the table above. Current usages statistics indicate the following breakdown of tiers per town.



Level of service – what service can communities expect?

The following table outlines the levels of service that can be expected at Council owned or managed toilet facilities. Some of the levels of service have been broken down to peak and general use, reflecting higher use over holiday periods. In the below table, urban refers to towns with populations greater than 1000.

Service		Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
Cleans per week ^{1 3}	General	14	7	2 (Urban) 1 (Rural)	1 or as required
	Peak Period	14	14	14 (Urban) 2 (Rural)	1 or as required
Hot water ²		Yes	Yes	No	No
Liquid soap dispensers		Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Hand dryers ²		Yes	Yes	No	No
Baby change ²		Yes	Yes	If near a playground	No
All abilities ²		Minimum of 2	Minimum of 1	Minimum of 1	N/A
Condom Vending Machines ⁴		Yes – at least one per Urban Area		Yes (Rural x1)	No
Opening hours	Urban	Dawn to dusk or 24 hours	Dawn to dusk or 24 hours	Dawn to dusk or Disabled 24h	On demand
	Rural	24 hours	24 hours	24 hours	On demand
Example of locations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBD areas pop more than 2000 Tourist drawcards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High use recreation reserves Regional playgrounds Large activity areas Other high use areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBD areas in urban areas. Adjacent high use playgrounds Multi use recreation reserves Sports/pavilions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low use facilities on a booking system Low use facilities within 500m of another private or public toilet (i.e. near a clubroom) Scheduled for decommission at end of life

¹ To be implemented only when current cleaning contract has expired and does not preclude reactive cleaning for emergency cleans.

² Only in new builds/renewals designed to CPTED standard (i.e. washbasin in visible area that limits vandalism/theft)

³ Council may adjust cleaning schedules and opening times during declared pandemics with the expectation that Tier 1, 2 and rural based tier 3 facilities will be cleaned more often, while access to other facilities will be limited.

⁴ To be implemented in partnership with health providers and town representative groups.

Recommendations

Identified gaps in service levels

While most public conveniences were found to be in good condition, the following gaps between our current facilities and proposed levels of service were identified. These gaps will be the drivers for future improvements to our facilities.

DDA Compliance

In both the 2011 and 2016 census, 5.4% of council residents identified as needing assistance for daily activities due to a severe or profound disability. The provision of access to public toilets for persons with disabilities is also a requirement of the building code. All new toilets are required to be accessible.

Currently, only 12 of 46 council managed public conveniences have some kind of disabled facilities of some sort, many of which are not fully compliant.

Recommendation 1:

Implement a program of upgrading or retrofitting public conveniences to meet DDA requirements

Recommendation 2:

Consider the provision of at least one Changing Places Toilet in Swan Hill and Robinvale when upgrading the leisure centres.

Distribution

A proximity analysis of public conveniences was carried out for each town. In depth detail of this study can be seen in Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 Reference Information and Design Guidelines.

Provision	Gaps	Potential over-service
Rural Towns – one facility in towns with a playground	None Identified	Manangatang – Larundel St Piangil Public Toilets
Roadsides – 45 minutes between facilities	None Identified	None Identified
Urban – CBD Toilets	None identified currently, however McRae St is a leased building and provisions for access need to be considered at the conclusion of the lease	None Identified
Urban - Playgrounds	Currently no gaps. Review of the current playground hierarchy with the Playground Asset Management Plan is required, particularly in relation to George Lay Park which is currently classified as a Tier 3.	None Identified

Provision	Gaps	Potential over-service
Urban – 2.5km from a facility on Shared Pathways	No gaps identified	Lake Boga Toilet Block 3
Recreation Reserves	No gaps identified	Potential co-location opportunities at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lake Boga ○ Nyah ○ Robinvale ○ Alan Gardner ○ Gurnett Oval ○ Ken Harrison Reserve

Recommendation 3:

Investigate options regarding ongoing use of McCrae St amenities on termination of lease or alternatively plan for construction of a new facility in the south east area of Swan Hill CBD

Recommendation 4:

Review the Playground Asset Management Plan, in particularly playground classification criteria and public convenience provisions.

Recommendation 5:

Consider Co-location of amenities at Recreation Reserves when clubrooms or pavilions are being renovated.

Levels of Service

Prior to the implementation of this strategy, there are no consistent levels of service or classification system for public conveniences. Cleaning, opening hours and services provided are currently inconsistent between towns or building types.

Only 5 out of 46 public conveniences are consistent with CPTED design

Recommendation 6:

Adherence to Design guidelines for the construction of new public conveniences and any significant refurbishment requiring building permits

Improvement program

A number of toilets are now reaching the end of their economic or functional life, this together with increasing public expectations, disability access requirements and an improved awareness of health and safety issues necessitates a programme of capital works including new toilets, renewals or retrofitting of existing toilets as well as the decommissioning of toilets that are no longer required or can't be retrofitted.

The following 10-year improvement plan includes, subject to budget and major projects approvals:

- 15 Renewals (7 Small, 6 Medium and 2 Large)
- 1 Renovation of existing public conveniences
- 7 Co-location of public conveniences into another facility
- 10 Decommissions of public conveniences
- 4 Refurbishments of existing facilities
- 1 New facilities

This equates to \$2.56Million over 10 years or an average of \$256,000 per year.

Refurbish, renovate or renew?

Most of the public conveniences in SHRCC are outdated in their internal configuration but are structurally sound. Redesign of the internal toilet configuration, while retaining most of the existing structure may also reduce landfill waste.

Where toilets are in good condition, DDA compliant and only in need of a freshen up, then a basic refurbishment may be all that is required. A renovation is preferable in the following circumstances:

- the facility is not identified for decommission or co-location with another building
- the existing facility is in a good location
- the cost of renovation is less than 70% of the construction of a new facility
- the structural condition of the building is in good to very good condition
- the reconfiguration of the structure can include a DDA compliant cubicle

If the facility has been identified as required, in a fair to poor condition and the cost- benefit of renovation is cost prohibitive or the facility is unable to be renovated to the required standards, then the building will be identified for replacement. The number of cubicles required will be assessed based on the expected average usage of the facility with consideration into the provision of portable toilets for infrequent, large events.

Upgrade options

The following options are standard costs that will be used in the development of the improvement program. Each of the costs includes the use of stainless steel fittings and fixtures and reuse existing septic or sewer connections. Costs are exclusive of GST.

Basic refurbishment

Minimal work to freshen up. For example new toilets and sinks and paint

Cost: \$1100 per cubicle

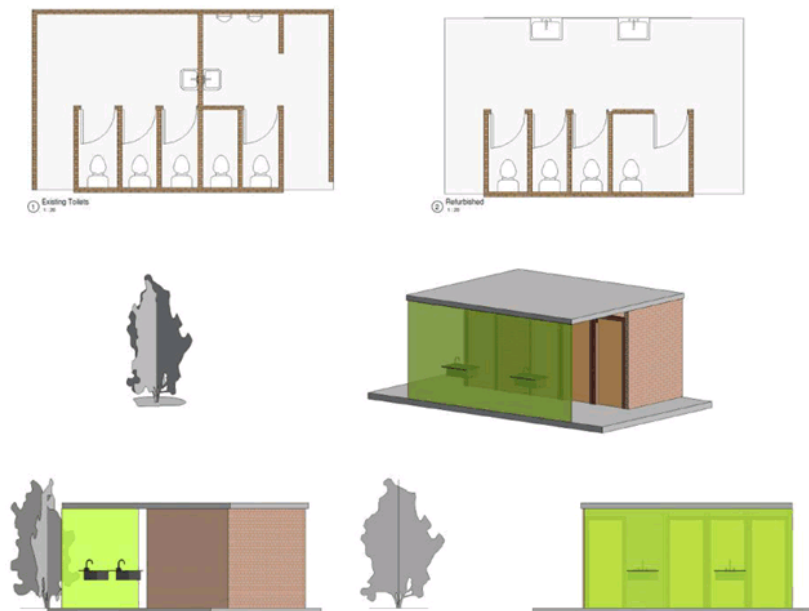
Renovation

Renovation of traditionally designed public toilet blocks with a maze entry, can facilitate the introduction of CPTED design principles into existing toilet blocks.

- a translucent screened approach or hand basin lobby can provide privacy while maintaining some visibility; screens should be lightweight but dark in colour with continuous gaps to the floor
- self contained cubicles opening directly onto public spaces with no lobby
- cubicles opening directly onto active areas with hand basins in public areas

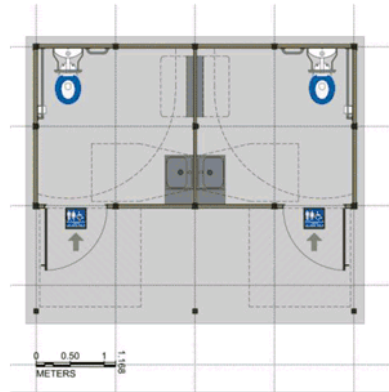
For renovation of traditionally designed public toilet blocks, the maze entry can be removed or replaced to achieve option 1 or 3 above. If the cubicles are large enough Option 2 may be possible. Continuous gaps to the bottom of cubicle walls and doors should be provided along with permeable screens to the area between the top of the door and underside of the roof. This provides security while allowing ventilation and some natural light. Blind corners should be removed through redesign.

Estimated Cost: \$30-70k



Replacement – Small

Two Gender-neutral Cubicles with LH and RH Disabled Facilities
Cost: \$100,000



Replacement – Medium

Up to 5 Gender-neutral Cubicles with LH and RH Disabled Facilities.



Cost \$130,000
\$150,000 with Showers

Replacement – Large

8-10 Gender-neutral Cubicles with LH and RH Disabled Facilities.



Cost \$260000
\$320000 with Showers

Decommission

Estimate based on the demolition, disposal charges and rehabilitation/landscaping

Cost \$20,000.

Portable Convenience Hire

Portable Toilet - hire single cubicle

\$100 one day or first week

\$40 per week thereafter

Portable Toilet - all abilities

\$350 one day or one week

\$140 thereafter

Council will also investigate the feasibility of purchasing a portable all-abilities toilet block that can be used at different locations during busy periods or for events.

Priority

Recommendations are prioritised as follows

- Short Term < 3 years
- Medium Term 3-7 years
- Long Term 7-10 years
- Alternate – other options that may be considered

The budgetary requirements associated with the improvement program can be summarised with the following average annual spend over the life of the strategy.

Priority	Total Approx \$	Average Per Year
Long	\$ 780,000.00	\$ 260,000.00
Medium	\$ 1,265,000.00	\$ 253,000.00
Short	\$ 510,000.00	\$ 170,000.00
Grand Total	\$ 2,555,000.00	

These priorities may be adjusted or bought forward if external funding becomes available.

10 Year Improvement Plan

Asset ID	Township	Amenity Name	Tier	Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
36791	Boundary Bend	Boundary Bend Memorial Park Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION 1: Basic Refurbishment	Medium	\$ 10,000.00
				RECOMMENDATION 2: New Small Facility	Alternate	\$ 100,000.00
				RECOMMENDATION 3: New Small Facility with Shower	Alternate	\$ 130,000.00
36490	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Block 3	4	RECOMMENDATION - Decommission with No Replacement. Retain the concrete slab for re-purposing i.e.: a mosaic concrete surface for a park seat.	Short	\$ 20,000.00
36480	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Block 4	3	RECOMMENDATION 1 - Renovation	Medium	\$ 35,000.00
36480	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Block 4		RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renewal - Small facility, septic works required	Alternate	\$ 130,000.00
36491	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Block 5	3	RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Medium Facility with showers	Long	\$ 150,000.00
36492	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Catalina Museum Park	2	RECOMMENDATION - Renew - Medium Facility (relocate to better location)	Long	\$ 100,000.00
36401	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Gray Park	3	RECOMMENDATION - Renew - Small Facility	Long	\$ 100,000.00
36489	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Jacaranda Crescent	2	RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Large facility including showers.	Medium	\$ 320,000.00
37499	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Kennel Club	4	Nil	Alternate	\$ -
37224	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Recreation Reserve	4	RECOMMENDATION - Co-location with Football/Netball Clubrooms	Short	\$ 30,000.00
36285	Lake Boga	Lake Boga Wayside Stop	2	RECOMMENDATION - Renew - Medium Facility with showers	Medium	\$ 150,000.00
36816	Manangatang	Larundel Street Public Toilets	4	RECOMMENDATION 1 - Decommission and direct users to Watlie St Facility (subject to Vline bustop move)	Long	\$ 20,000.00
				RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renew - small facility	Alternate	\$ 100,000.00
36725	Manangatang	Lowan Park	3	Nil		
37210	Nyah	Nyah Highway Rest stop	3	RECOMMENDATION 1: Basic Refurbishment	Long	\$ 10,000.00

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Asset ID	Township	Amenity Name	Tier	Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
37245	Nyah	Nyah Recreation Reserve Netball North	3	RECOMMENDATION - Co-location with Netball changerooms and incorporate an externally accessible facility.	Long	\$ 30,000.00
37246	Nyah	Nyah Recreation Reserve South	4	RECOMMENDATION - Decommission at end of life	Medium	\$ 20,000.00
36889	Nyah West	Nyah West Memorial Park	3	RECOMMENDATION - New small facility. Combined with Performance stage	Short	\$ 100,000.00
36819	Piנגil	Piנגil Community Centre Toilets	3	Nil		
37852	Piנגil	Piנגil Public Toilets	4	RECOMMENDATION - Decommission at end of life and utilise Piנגil community hubs externally accessible toilet. (subject to consultation with community)	Long	\$ 20,000.00
36502	Robinvale	Robinvale Boat Ramp Toilets	2	RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Medium Facility	Medium	\$ 130,000.00
36276	Robinvale	Robinvale Caix Square Public Toilet	1	RECOMMENDATION 1: Basic Refurbishment	Long	\$ 15,000.00
37346	Robinvale	Robinvale Riverside Park Rec Reserve Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION 1 - Incorporate into Main Sporting Pavilion and remove all walls, fill in plumbing and leave as Shelter RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renewal - Small Facility with shower as it is by a dump point. RECOMMENDATION 3 - Renovation	Long Alternate Alternate	\$ 25,000.00 \$ 100,000.00 \$ 15,000.00
42056	Robinvale	Robinvale Ronald Street Playground Toilets	3	Nil		
37327	Robinvale	Robinvale Skate Park/Netball Court Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION: Co-locate with Leisure Centre development to include one accessible unisex toilet.	Short	\$ 30,000.00
37569	Robinvale	Robinvale Tourist Information Bay	2	RECOMMENDATION - Refurbishment of Shower facility including better ventilation	Short	\$ 10,000.00
37493	Speewa	Speewa Hall Toilets	3	Nil		
36239	Swan Hill	Alan Garden Reserve Football Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION 1 - Renew with Small Facility RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renew with Medium Facility RECOMMENDATION 3 - Decommission at end of life	Long Alternate Alternate	\$ 100,000.00 \$ 130,000.00 \$ 20,000.00

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Asset ID	Township	Amenity Name	Tier	Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
43931	Swan Hill	Millioo St Boat Ramp	3	Nil		
36233	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Aerodrome	4	RECOMMENDATION - Decommission - access to terminal 24/7	Short	\$ 20,000.00
36711	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Cafe on Karinie	3	Nil		
NEW	Swan Hill	George Lay Park	3	RECOMMENDATION - Review Park classification in Playground Asset Management Plan (PAMP) to 'District' park and include the construction, including sewer connections of a new small facility in a future budget	Short	\$ 130,000.00
36963	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Gurnett Oval Toilets	4	RECOMMENDATION - Decommission, co-locate with clubrooms	Short	\$ 40,000.00
36649	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve	3	RECOMMENDATION - Refurbishment	Long	\$ 30,000.00
36645	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve Soccer	4	RECOMMENDATION - Co-locate with new soccer facility	Medium	\$ 20,000.00
36785	Swan Hill	Swan Hill McCallum Comfort Centre	4	Nil		
36786	Swan Hill	Swan Hill McCallum Street Toilets	1	RECOMMENDATION 1 - Refurbishment	Medium	\$ 40,000.00
				RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renewal Large Facility	Alternate	\$ 260,000.00
36453	Swan Hill	Swan Hill McCrae Tourist Information	2	RECOMMENDATION 1 - Ensure toilets continue to be available (lease)	Short	\$ -
				RECOMMENDATION 2 - Rebuild new toilets at a different location. (will require land)	Alternate	\$ 300,000.00
37365	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Riverside Park Toilets	2	RECOMMENDATION - Renewal with Large facility	Medium	\$ 260,000.00
36717	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Sale Yards	4	RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Small facility with sewerage connection	Medium	\$ 130,000.00
36718	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Saleyards Truck Wash Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION 1: Decommission at end of life and redirect to Karinie Toilets.	Long	\$ 20,000.00
				RECOMMEDATION 2 - Combine with Saleyards toilet at better location accessible to trucks drivers	Alternate	\$ -
37483	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Show CFA3 N/E Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION - Co-Location with Leisure Centre	Long	\$ 30,000.00

Asset ID	Township	Amenity Name	Tier	Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
37481	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Show NW3 Men's and Women's Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION - Decommission at end of life	Medium	\$ 20,000.00
37480	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Show Society S/W Toilets	3	RECOMMENDATION - Renewal with lockable Medium facility	Short	\$ 130,000.00
39061	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Steggall Park	3	Nil		
37562	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Tourist Information Bay	2	RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Medium Facility	Medium	\$ 130,000.00
37286	Tyntynder	Tyntynder South Hall Toilets	3	Nil		
37189	Ultima	Ultima Lion's Park	3	RECOMMENDATION - Build Small Facility with Shower	Long	\$ 130,000.00
NEW	Wemen	Wemen	3	Continue to lobby Regional Roads Victoria to provide a facility	Short	
				Review Options at Wemen Public Hall if RRV do not build a facility (next review of strategy)	Alternate	\$ 100,000.00
37314	Woorriren South	Woorriren South Community Centre	3	Nil		
				Feasibility into the purchase of an all ability portable facility	Short	TBA



DRAFT

Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030
Reference Information and Design Guidelines



Adopted: XX

Commenced: XX



Terms used in this strategy

Australian Standard (AS1428)

AS1428 specifies that new buildings must be capable of providing access to people with disabilities. Particular attention is focused on continuous accessible paths of travel for wheelchair users, access for people with ambulatory disabilities and access for people with sensory disabilities.

Changing places toilet

Public toilet facilities that cater for people with severe or profound disabilities. These facilities incorporate full sized change tables, tracking hoist systems, large circulation spaces and a centrally placed toilet with room for carers.

Co-located facility

An externally accessible public toilet that is attached to or within another building that has a separate purpose.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is based on the principle that proper design and effective use of buildings and public spaces in neighbourhoods can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and an improvement in the quality of life for citizens

Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person, in many areas of public life, including employment, education, getting or using services, renting or buying a house or unit, and accessing public places, because of their disability.

Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD)

An integrated and holistic approach to design that aims to reduce negative environmental impacts and improve the health of building occupants. ESD includes concepts such as the promotion of renewable energy, reducing water use, the inclusion of environmentally friendly building materials and optimising operational practices.

Gender-neutral

Used to describe a facility that is accessible to all people regardless of gender.

Public conveniences

Toilet facilities provided for the use of members of the public, or patrons of a facility.

Restricted Public Conveniences

Public toilets located with a facility accessible by members of the public. The use of these toilets is ancillary to the main function of the facility and the toilets are not accessible when the facility is closed e.g. library or recreation reserve.

Private Public Conveniences

Privately owned toilets available to the public e.g. service stations, supermarkets.

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1. Strategic objectives identified from other strategies

While Council has no statutory requirement to provide public toilets (other than in certain public buildings), the adequate provision will assist the Council in meeting its strategic outcomes. There are several relevant Council Plans and strategies that have informed the development of this Strategy.

Council Plan 2017-2021(2018/2019 Update)

The Council Plan outlines five key result areas that will guide decision making over the next term of Council. Of relevance are;

Community Enrichment

1. Help all people find a place in our community.
2. Provide services and support initiatives that create a healthy and safe community.
3. Develop a community with a sense of pride and responsibility/ownership that strives to achieve its aspirations.

Infrastructure

1. Infrastructure that appropriately service community needs.
2. Infrastructure that is provided and appropriately maintained in accordance with agreed standards.
3. A strong focus on asset management systems and planning.

Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-21 (CAIS)

In our municipality, 22 per cent of our population (4,489 people), have a disability. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data from 2011, of the 20,449 people living in our municipality, 5.4 per cent (1,100 people), identified as needing assistance for daily activities due to a severe or profound disability.

Council is committed to ensuring all property maintenance, upgrades and contracts comply with AS1428.1-5 requirements to increase inclusion and participation in the community for people with a disability.

Currently only 12 of the 46 Council owned public conveniences have disabled facilities of some sort. Many of these 12 are not compliant with the current AS1428 design standards.

The CAIS key priority three - Infrastructure states that council will:

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

The following Key Actions have been identified in the CAIS Strategy to address these priorities and will be considered in this strategy:

- request through the budget process that Council commit an annual budget to retro fit existing Council infrastructure that does not meet accessibility standards
- investigate providing toilet facilities at all Council parks and reserves where no facilities are available
- develop a strategic method to ensure that where toilet facilities are available at least one is an accessible, gender-neutral sanitary facility
- progressively update toilets to meet accessible requirements for all Council buildings, including the Swan Hill Regional Library and Swan Hill Town Hall
- provide extra facilities in existing toilets, such as shelving, handrails, etc
- investigate feasibility of a Changing Places Toilet

Community Plans

Each town has developed a Community Plan. New or upgraded public conveniences have been identified as projects in Lake Boga and Nyah, as well as along the Swan Hill Riverfront.

Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2012 (DWMP)

Council is required under the provisions of the State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria) to prepare a DWMP in consultation with the local community and relevant stakeholders. This plan provides the necessary strategies to ensure the existing septic tank systems, and any new installation, are installed, maintained and monitored to protect the health of the community and the surrounding physical environment.

The plan also identifies priority towns for the provision of sewer networks.

Playground Asset Management Plan 2008

The Playground Asset Management Plan defines the level of service that is expected for playgrounds. Playground classifications are Local, District and Regional.

- Regional playgrounds are greater than 3.5ha with high quality facilities and play activities accessible to children and adults with a range of disabilities. They will also have accessible car parking, toilets and shelter.
- District playgrounds are greater than 2ha, visits will be longer than for a Local playground. Toilets, picnic/BBQ facilities and shelter will therefore most likely be required, depending upon the site. Car parking will be required.
- Local playgrounds are smaller than District or Regional and cater for "Local" kids. They generally have no parking or facilities as visitors live nearby and mostly walk to the park. Access for people with disabilities to the site, into the park and to some play equipment is important but full accessibility will not always be achievable or feasible. The level of development, and the target age group will vary from site to site

The levels of Service within the Playground Asset Management Plan specify that public conveniences are to be provided at all Regional playgrounds and any new District playgrounds. The plan has not identified the installation of public convenience facilities at any Local Parks or already existing District parks.

Recreation Master Plans

The following actions regarding public toilets have been identified:

Gurnett Oval

- Remove the public toilets currently located on the eastern side of the reserve (assumes new public toilets are provided in the redeveloped pavilion).

Swan Hill Showgrounds

- Develop a new multifaceted pavilion with externally accessible gender-neutral toilets including an ambulant toilet.
- Assess the merits of installing a 'Changing Place' facility at the Showgrounds reserve.
- Assess the feasibility of relocating the outdoor pool to the Showgrounds Reserve (Aquatics Strategic Plan) and investigate externally accessible public toilets (toilets which can be accessed from outside the pool complex).
- Complete a toilet strategy to determine which toilets should be rationalised or integrated into new or existing facilities (this strategy).

Riverside Park – Robinvale

- Upgrade public toilets in accordance with Council's public toilets strategy. (Cricket and Skate park).
- Explore the feasibility of extending the gym and fitness rooms at the Leisure Centre (and possibility to incorporate externally accessible toilets).
- Invest in the main change rooms as a central change facility for all clubs (rugby/cricket/AFL). Upgrade existing AFL change rooms - construct gender- neutral change/toilet facilities to accommodate the three codes, all genders and all abilities to relevant sporting code and AS. Investigate if a new change facility/extension of existing cricket pavilion is required to meet needs of junior football, junior cricket and rugby participants and umpires. (Opportunity to combine the old cricket toilets into this facility).

Lake Boga Recreation Reserve

- Undertake concept planning and a cost-benefit analysis to explore the best options to renovate the pavilion. Redevelop the pavilion to include an expanded and updated kitchen with a separate canteen, a larger social room and updated home and away change rooms and umpires' rooms as per facility guidelines for Australian Rules football and cricket. Make pavilion DDA compliant. (Opportunity to create externally accessible toilets)

Nyah Recreation Reserve

- Improve the safety of the public toilets by installing sensor security lights to the two existing buildings.
- Upgrade the toilets near the shed and the netball pavilion. Incorporate toilets in the main pavilion or as an extension to the netball pavilion.

Sustainable Living Strategy 2017-27

Swan Hill Rural City Council's Sustainable Living Strategy sets out the direction and objectives over 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. A main point of the document is to lead by example.

Particular reference is made to protect public health, prevent the deterioration of water quality and reduce the incidence of water pollution and litter entering our waterway by the incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles. In addition, demonstrating leadership by applying sustainable water management and innovative water conservation practices.

2. Current Status of Public Convenience's in SHRCC

What we manage at the moment

The Council currently provides 46 different facilities throughout the municipality.

Township	Classification*				Total Facilities	No. Individual Cubicles	No of Shower Cubicles
	1	2	3	4			
Boundary Bend			1		1	3	
Lake Boga		3	3	3	9	41	13
Manangatang			1	1	2	8	1
Nyah			2	1	3	19	
Nyah West			1		1	5	
Piangil			1	1	2	6	1
Robinvale	1	2	3		6	27	3
Speewa			1		1	2	
Swan Hill	1	3	9	5	18	79	4
Tyntynder			1		1	3	
Ultima			1		1	1	
Woorinen South			1		1	3	

*Refer to Section 4 Levels of Service – Classifications for criteria

DDA compliance

The majority of Council provided public toilets do not provide accessibility, and of those that are classed as accessible it was observed that they would not meet current AS1428 accessibility standards. In particular, it was observed that some "accessible" toilets have:

- missing grab rails on internal doors
- missing or incorrect dimensions on grab rails internally
- inadequate cubicle dimensions
- hand basins that are not within the cubicle or too far from the toilet
- incorrect toilet pans and placements
- poor access from car park to toilet or steep entrances/barriers to toilets
- inward opening doors

While it is not a requirement that older facilities comply with the AS1428 standard, a program of assessment and improvement of accessibility requirements will be implemented as part of the improvement program.

Usage

The simplest way to get an understanding of how often a facility is used is to assess the amount of consumables that are used at each facility. The cleaning contractors report back to Council the amount of toilet paper that they replace at each facility per month. Toilet paper usage can be measured in the number of jumbo rolls (500 leafs), interleaf (200 leafs) or average rolls (180 leafs) replaced.

To account for busy and quiet months, an average count of leafs used per month was calculated for each public convenience.

Low	Medium	High
Swan Hill Aerodrome, Swan Hill	Robinvale Riverside Park Rec Reserve Toilets, Robinvale	Robinvale Caix Square Public Toilet, Robinvale
Alan Garden Reserve Football Toilets, Swan Hill	Robinvale Skate Park/Netball Court Toilets, Robinvale	Robinvale Tourist Information Bay, Robinvale
Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve Soccer, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Tourist Information Bay, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve Main, Swan Hill
Swan Hill Show CFA N/E Toilets, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Gurnett Oval Toilets, Swan Hill	Swan Hill McCallum Street Toilets, Swan Hill
Swan Hill Show N/W Men's and Women's Toilets, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Show Society S/W Toilets, Swan Hill	Swan Hill McCrae Tourist Information, Swan Hill
Swan Hill Sale Yards, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Steggall Park, Swan Hill	Swan Hill Riverside Park Toilets, Swan Hill
Robinvale Pisasale Park Playground Toilets, Robinvale	Swan Hill Saleyards Truck Wash Toilets, Swan Hill	Lake Boga Catalina Museum Park, Lake Boga
Boundary Bend Memorial Park Toilets, Boundary Bend	Lake Boga Block 4, Lake Boga	Lake Boga Jacaranda Crescent, Lake Boga
Woorinen South Community Centre, Woorinen South	Lake Boga Block 5, Lake Boga	Lake Boga Wayside Stop, Lake Boga
Lake Boga Gray Park, Lake Boga	Larundel Street Public Toilets, Manangatang	
Lake Boga Kennel Club, Lake Boga	Lowan Park, Manangatang	
Lake Boga Recreation Reserve, Lake Boga	Nyah Highway Rest stop, Nyah	
	Nyah Recreation Reserve Netball North, Nyah	
	Nyah Recreation Reserve South, Nyah	
	Nyah West Memorial Park, Nyah West	
	Piangil Public Toilets, Piangil	
	Robinvale Boat Ramp Toilets, Robinvale	

Note: Based on overall average consumable consumption

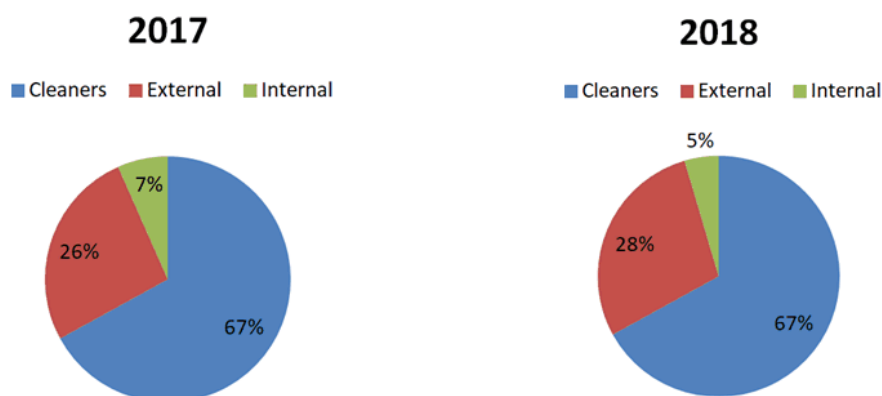
Customer feedback

As part of this strategy, the past two years of SysAid requests were analysed to garner an insight into the public perception of amenities with Swan Hill Rural City Council.

	2017	2018
Compliment	0	2
Level of Service - Cleaning	0	3
Level of service - Disabled access	0	1
Level of Service - Request for new facility*	1	5
Maintenance	89	202
Vandalism	16	28
Total	106	241

Note: Requests for new facilities have been Wemen (1), George Lay Park (2), Poultry shed at Swan Hill Showgrounds (2) and a shower facility at Woorinen South Hall

Further analysis was also carried out with regards to how Council receives requests for notifications of issues for public conveniences. In both 2017 and 2018, it was found that 67% of requests came from the Cleaning contractor. This indicates that the cleaners are the frontline in identifying issues before the general public is aware or concerned.



The following table identifies the top 10 facilities for maintenance and vandalism requests

Facility	Maintenance Requests	Vandalism Requests	Total Requests
McCallum Street	43	7	50
Riverside Park, Swan Hill	26	4	30
Swan Hill Information Centre – McCrae St	25		25
Lake Boga Block 4	16	2	18
Lake Boga Wayside Stop	17	1	18
Larundal St - Managatang	11	1	12
Caix Square- Robinvale	7	4	11
Ken Harrison - Soccer	5	4	9
Pisasale Park - Robinvale	8	1	9
Robinvale Information Centre	5	3	8
Lake Boga Jacaranda	7	1	8

Costs

Cleaning Contract (External)

The cleaning contract provides a \$/month cost for each facility, but this does not take into consideration additional costs such as call outs or maintenance resolved by the contracted company. Also, actual expenditure in the financial system is not broken down to facility level which makes it difficult to calculate the actual cost at each individual public convenience.

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
Cleaning Contract*	\$469,170	\$460,390	\$447,175	\$454,780

Contract also includes the cleaning of BBQ's

In 2018-19 the actual spend on cleaning was \$455k which equates to approximately \$9891 per facility or \$2310 per cubicle per year. This does not account for the fact that some amenities get cleaned more often than others but does give a good impression that reducing the overall number of cubicles will positively impact the cleaning budget.

Operational, Programmed, Reactive and Vandalism Maintenance

The internal expenses for the past four years are summarised below. Internal expenses include labour and materials associated with Council staff performing maintenance on council facilities.

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Operational	\$2,764.95	\$3,483.01	\$6,822.78	\$4,310.97
Lake Boga	\$253.56	\$359.76	\$2,087.42	\$901.56
Manangatang	\$57.90	\$484.46	\$62.32	\$63.56
Nyah	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$31.16	\$104.64
Nyah West	\$57.90	\$59.64	\$31.16	\$31.78
Robinvale	\$86.85	\$89.46	\$364.76	\$95.34
Swan Hill	\$615.31	\$746.18	\$1,595.73	\$1,622.18
Tyntynder	\$148.71	\$153.17	\$160.06	\$163.26
Ultima	\$933.57	\$924.69	\$1,679.01	\$703.21
Woorinen South	\$582.20	\$635.83	\$811.16	\$625.44
Programmed Maintenance	\$ -	\$3,324.52	\$2,700.17	\$15,817.61
Boundary Bend	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,810.00
Lake Boga	\$ -	\$142.70	\$999.05	\$907.60
Swan Hill	\$ -	\$3,181.82	\$1,701.12	\$11,100.01
Reactive Maintenance	\$21,277.01	\$24,580.71	\$27,112.28	\$57,939.78
Boundary Bend	\$530.00	\$745.20	\$415.00	\$7,902.85
Lake Boga	\$5,663.98	\$5,687.57	\$5,633.49	\$13,632.93
Manangatang	\$370.88	\$ -	\$978.11	\$245.12
Nyah	\$1,355.12	\$804.73	\$773.17	\$11,156.50
Nyah West	\$441.57	\$464.22	\$996.92	\$106.89
Piangil	\$618.40	\$473.75	\$292.48	\$882.30
Robinvale	\$259.00	\$1,805.01	\$3,578.59	\$3,118.54
Swan Hill	\$12,038.06	\$14,025.23	\$14,282.02	\$20,669.65
Ultima	\$ -	\$575.00	\$252.50	\$315.00

Vandalism maintenance	\$17,036.85	\$10,997.90	\$13,834.08	\$17,472.88
Lake Boga	\$1,387.31	\$2,814	\$1,793.05	\$1,732.58
Manangatang	\$53.06	\$128.78	\$636.99	\$117.70
Nyah	\$419.42	\$185.41	\$266.09	\$131.61
Nyah West	\$864.05	\$620.86	\$709.69	\$613.84
Robinvale	\$2376.88	\$3039.76	\$4713.73	\$2147.71
Swan Hill	\$11,651.13	\$4,209.44	\$5,574.53	\$12,128.62
Woorinen				
South	\$285.00	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$600.82
Grand Total	\$41,078.81	\$42,386.14	\$50,559.31	\$95,631.24

In 2018-2019 there was a large increase in programmed and reactive maintenance, well as a large increase in vandalism in Swan Hill.

Some of these programmed and reactive cost increases can be attributed to the following:

- reln drain issues at Boundary Bend programmed
- renewal of McCrae St flooring
- Swan Hill Riverside Park plumbing issues due to blockages and old dump point removal
- bollards to protect realm drains at Lake Boga block 5
- servicing of ongoing issues for septic and realm drains at Lake Boga block 4
- water tank and dump point servicing at Nyah West
- \$6k at McCallum St vandalism including graffiti removal and smashed fittings

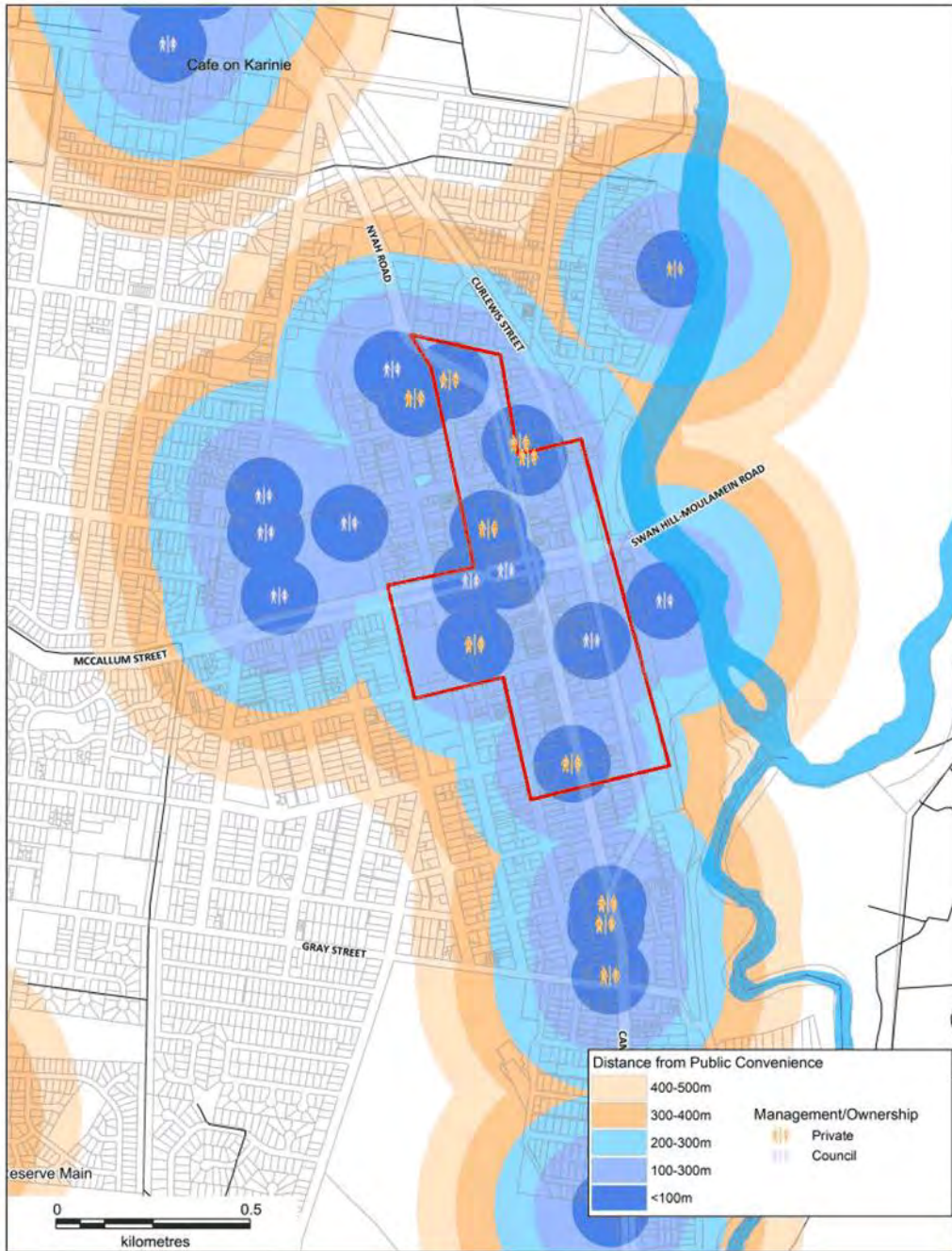
Proximity Analysis

A spatial analysis was carried out for Swan Hill and Robinvale to assess any gaps in access to a public convenience within the CBD areas.

Council facilities and private public conveniences at places such as service stations and supermarkets that are freely available to the public were included in the analysis. The following maps indicate that all areas within the CBD's of Swan Hill and Robinvale currently meet the requirement for all areas to be within 500m of a public convenience.

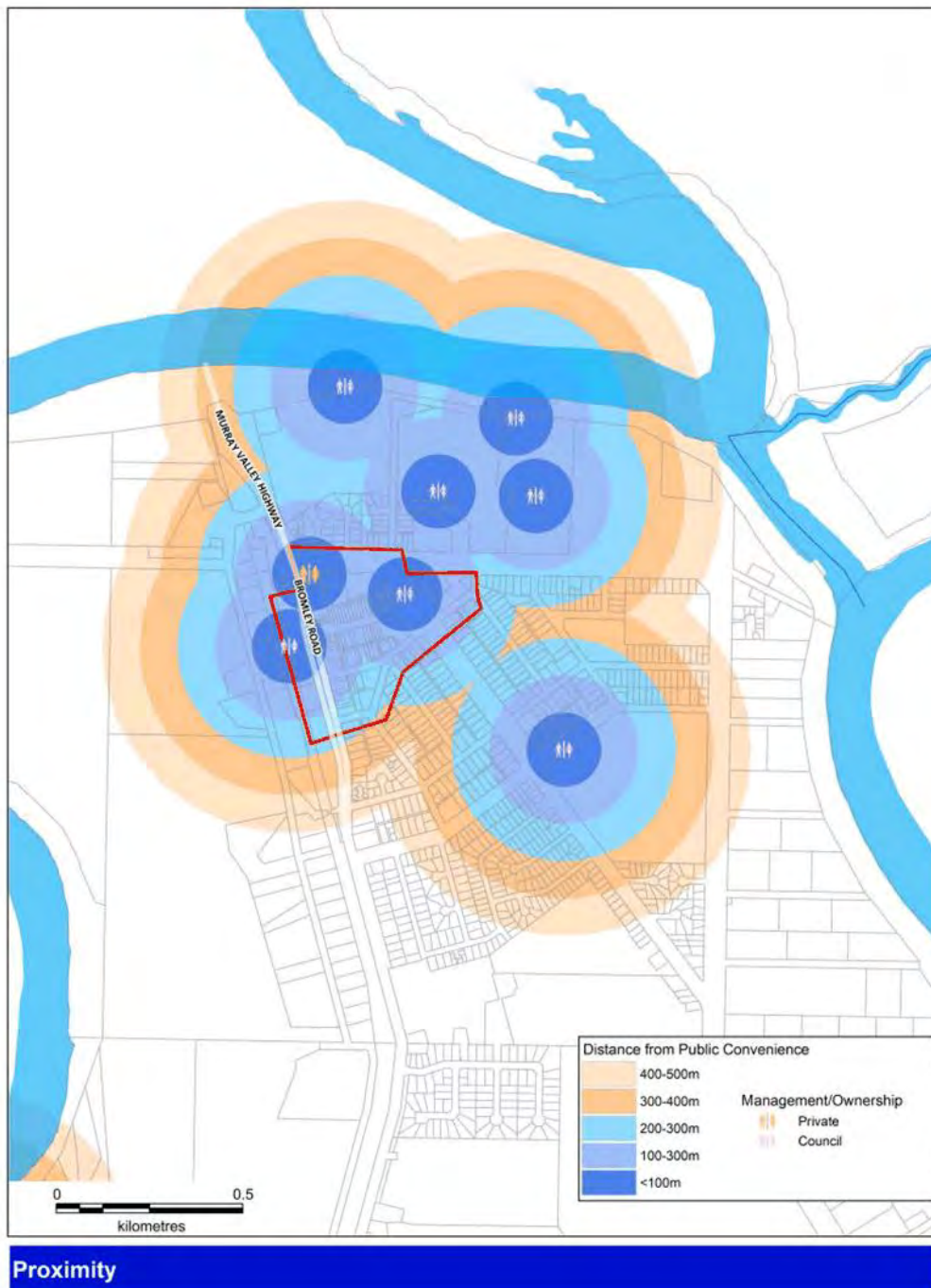
Private conveniences that are not available to the general public off the street without membership or payment, such as libraries, the Town Hall and privately owned cafes have not been considered in the proximity analysis.

Swan Hill Proximity Analysis



Proximity

Robinvale Proximity Analysis



3. Design Guidelines for future construction of Public Conveniences in SHRCC

It has been the experience of authorities over the world, that unless design and location of public amenities are carefully considered, anti-social and management problems can be problematic.

Legislation and design standards also influence the overall layout and function of public conveniences. The majority of Council public conveniences are no longer compliant with these standards as they have been designed in the traditional, separate gender, maze entry design with limited provision for disabled access.

Modern design calls for standard cubicles that face directly towards activity areas with external, communal wash basins and see-through privacy screens, while DDA compliant facilities need to be fully self-contained with wash basins available within the cubicle.

The following section outlines the design guidelines that will be adhered to for the construction of new public conveniences and any significant refurbishment requiring building permits.

Legislation, Acts and design principles

- AS1428.1 and 1428.2 Design for Access and Mobility
- AS.NZS 1158.6 Lighting for Roads and Public Spaces
- Building Code of Australia 2019
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design

Equality

Disabled Access

In both the 2011 and 2016 census, 5.4 per cent of council residents identified as needing assistance for daily activities due to a severe or profound disability. The provision of access to public toilets for persons with disabilities is also a requirement of the building code. All new toilets are required to be accessible.

New constructions shall comply with Australian standards AS1428 to ensure access to the building and fit out of the building are suitable for people with disabilities.

Access should recognise wheelchair users, mothers with prams (double), those with ambulant disabilities as well as those other disabilities such as limitations with visual capacity.

Access to the site from the surrounding area and parking areas must also be considered.

The design of DDA compliant facilities should also anticipate future provisions in access and equality legislation such as further enhancement of standards or the accommodation of mobility scooters.

Ideally in addition to the standards required by AS1428, cubicles should be designed to

allow the entry and manoeuvring of mobility scooters. Scooters should not need to be left unattended as they are often used to carry shopping medical equipment and valuables. Recommended approaches to 'future proofing' cubicles include:

- configure cubicle entry to provide a minimum 1000mm clear opening
- minimum cubicle size of 3000x3000mm to allow circulation space for a large mobility scooter to perform a 180° turn
- avoid using walls for load bearing and bracing. Non-structural walls can be easily moved or openings widened to meet any new requirements.

Changing Places Facility

These facilities are for people with high-need disability and their carers, allowing them to take extended excursions away from their home or place of care. A 'Changing place' facility generally accommodates a WC pan, a motorised hoist and an adjustable motorised change table. As these facilities contain special equipment and are unstaffed, they are not available to the general public and are only accessible via an MLAK (Master Locksmith Access Key) key.

'Changing Places' facilities are being considered as part of the Recreation Reserve Masterplans.

Baby Change Facilities

Baby Change facilities are desirable where there is adequate space within the toilet building and where young children are likely to be present. Key Requirements are as follows:

- gender-neutral accessible
- continuous accessible paths of travel from property entrance or any onsite carparks to the baby change table
- clear, easy to read signage and operating instructions that can easily be read by a person when standing or seated and incorporating raised tactile and Braille elements
- hand basin with lever or sensor operated taps, within reach of the change table
- adequate circulation space for a person using a pram, stroller or wheelchair to move around easily and access all fixtures fittings within the space, for example, baby change table, wash basin and nappy bin (placement near entry point will ensure it is closed prior to vacating)
- space to approach the baby change table from both the front and side
- nappy disposal unit provided in an accessible location

Safety and security

All new and remodelled conveniences will be assessed for safety and security in respect to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles (CPTED).

Improvements to lighting

Toilets would generally benefit from improved levels of natural light. Where this cannot be achieved this should be supplemented with artificial light.

For daytime use, consideration should be given to maximizing natural light by:

- installation of skylights
- elevated screening
- use of clear or translucent roofing materials
- use of metal mesh lobby screens to enhance surveillance and natural light



Photo 1 - Example of the use of Skylights

Lighting should be controlled by proximity sensors to minimise energy use and attractiveness to insects. Exterior lighting including adequate pathway lighting should also be provided and be controlled by proximity sensors where appropriate. All lighting should be mounted high with vandal resistant fittings.

Blue lights

In theory, blue light deters injecting drug users by making it difficult to see veins and injection sites on the body. However, research suggests that its use is not successful in preventing drug use, as drug users often inject in dark conditions. In places where blue light may be successful the problem is often displaced to another location. Blue monochromatic light creates an eerie atmosphere and can create the feeling of being unsafe. It is therefore recommended that the use of blue light in public conveniences be avoided.

For health and safety reasons, Council has installed syringe bins in all our public conveniences. This is a responsible measure to minimize the risk of harm to all members of the community.

Improvements to Public Safety

Visibility

In addition to normal building orientation issues, the most significant factor in public toilet orientation is to ensure that entrances are visible, with good fields of view from active areas. Where vegetation is present around public toilets this should be carefully managed to improve visibility. This will have the added benefit of improving light and airflow to the building and will prolong the life of the asset.

Gender allocation

While the overwhelming preference of users is for single gender facilities, the provision of gender-neutral or unisex facilities that open directly to a public space afford the best protection from vandalism and undesirable behaviour.

There are several reasons why gender-neutral facilities are preferable including:

- space (and construction cost) is minimized
- turnover of available toilets is maximized
- users, especially children, are protected from inappropriate contact with strangers
- caregivers of disabled persons or children may be of opposite gender
- maintenance can be undertaken on individual units without closing the whole facility

Where separate male/female facilities are used, particular attention must be paid to the design, condition and maintenance of partition systems to ensure privacy and security is maintained for users. This approach is supported by CPTED.

Communal hand washing

When designing multiple cubicles that are not intended for disabled access, hand wash facilities are best placed in a communal area outside of the toilet cubicle. Bringing people into one area for hand washing allows for increased casual surveillance, reduced vandalism and assists with turnover in busy amenities.

DDA compliant cubicles will require hand washing facilities to be included in the cubicles.

Urinals

The use of urinals in amenities should be avoided as they require additional screening and lobby space for privacy reasons. The lobby screening provides cover for loitering and the urinals themselves and maintenance and vandalism issues.

Location and proximity to other elements

Gathering points need to be located at a distance to remove the ability for the public to loiter close to the amenities block.

Street furniture such as park benches, noticeboards and BBQ's that may encourage an excuse to gather or loiter need to be positioned far enough back to not block view lines and not promote people gathering near a toilet block that may have harmful intentions.



P Photo 2 - Example of inappropriate positioning of street furniture

The proximity to car parking facilities needs to be considered as they can become loitering spaces whereby people can wait in their cars and watch those entering/exiting amenities.

Access

Public Access to the facilities must be considered for any new constructions to ensure safe access to the site by users, particularly the elderly and disabled.

For wayside stops, or those utilised by long vehicles, consideration should be given where possible for parking and the safe entry of the vehicles back into traffic lanes.

Co-location

Co-location with a parent building enables the management of cleaning and monitoring of the facilities to be coordinated with normal operating hours and the facilities to be locked at other times. Where direct external access is available, casual use outside opening hours can be permitted when desirable. Ultima Public Hall as well as the Piangil and Woorinen South Community Centres have co-located toilets that are externally accessible.

Standalone conveniences at Recreation Reserves should be co-located with clubrooms or leisure centre's if the facilities are to be upgraded. The implementation of co-located facilities will be done with consultation of user groups at each facility and incorporated into Recreation Reserve Masterplans. The requirements for public access outside of usual operation of the main facility will be assessed on a case by case basis and where required at least one externally accessible, unisex, all-ability cubicle will be available during daylight hours to casual users of the reserve.

Sustainability

Swan Hill Rural City Council's Sustainable Living Strategy focuses on Council promoting the role that the environment plays in increasing the local economy and quality of life. A main point that the strategy makes is that Council should lead by example. As such, the following Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principles should be considered for the design of new public conveniences:

- location of Public Conveniences should consider impact on the environment
- water storage tanks should be incorporated into the design with greywater or stormwater collection for flushing; care should be taken that they do not provide hiding or climbing places
- the use of solar power for water heating or lighting should be implemented where practicable and required
- consider the use of recycled materials or materials with low embodied energy but only if they meet other requirements

Signage

Signage and labelling, both with the toilets and directional, should be clear and legible and be in accordance with AS 1428 and AS1742.

In addition to this, a sign or signs should be provided in a conspicuous location with the following information:

- Council Logo
- name of amenities and/or address or council asset id
- contact number to report maintenance issues
- opening Hours where applicable
- location of nearest permanently opened facility if not 24 hours

Maintenance, cleaning and hygiene

Improvements to serviceability

Potential improvements to serviceability mainly relate to ensuring floor surfaces drain freely and are non-porous. All new toilets should have epoxy coated or tiled self-draining floors.

It is also important that areas where dirt and rubbish may accumulate, or insects, birds, rodents or snakes can inhabit are eliminated. Surfaces should be easy to clean and remain stain free, while fixtures should be resistant to graffiti, vandalism and easy to replace if required.

Free standing sanitary disposal bins are supplied in most toilets.

While maintenance is found to be generally sufficient, attention to quickly resolving vandalism such as physical damage and graffiti can assist in the reduction of further vandalism.

Improvements to hand cleaning

The ability to wash hands with soap and dry hands with limited contact with toilet surfaces is an important element of hygiene. Elements that should be considered are:

- liquid soap dispensers/sanitiser
- cold water sensor tap/cold water push tap
- hand dryers
- hot water if also required for showers at the facility

Paper towels are not generally suitable to public toilets because of high cost of servicing and potential for litter and vandalism (particularly fire).

Soap dispensers will be provided across all Council tier 1,2 and 3 facilities.

Ventilation

Effective ventilation systems, whether natural or mechanical, can prevent the bad smells often associated with public toilets.

Finishes, fixtures and fittings

Anti-graffiti exterior/interior finishes and treatments

Council will consider measures to disrupt smooth blank continuous surfaces on exterior walls. Strategies could include the use of multi-coloured murals that relate to the surroundings or multiple materials, colours or textures. Internal door faces should have a protective anti-graffiti coating or stainless-steel finish.

Artwork

Public art can bring a sense of well-being and belonging to a community. It can highlight significant historical, cultural, environmental and social aspects of a region while improving the visual amenity of public spaces.

The use of artwork on public conveniences can be considered in consultation with local community groups and can include any of the following

- Photographs printed onto panels
- Laser cut screening material
- Paintings by local artists

All artwork should be easily maintained, long lasting and be graffiti/vandal proof.

Condom Vending Machines

Condoms are the best form of prevention of transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and prevent unintended pregnancy. Condom Vending Machines (CVMs) are practical, cheap and effective, particularly for young people wanting affordable and anonymous access to condoms.

The provision of condom vending machines in public conveniences will be implemented in consultation with health care providers and town representative groups with an aim to have vending machines available in all rural facilities and at least one Tier 1 or 2 facility in urban areas.

CVMs are available from the Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH) at a retail cost of \$1300 per machine. Condoms are supplied in vending packs with sexual health service information and can be purchased for 75c per two pack. The packs can then be sold from the machine at \$1-\$2. The revenue raised from the sale of the condoms can then be put towards the future maintenance of the machine.

Vending machines should be provided in unisex cubicles, be fitted to be vandal and theft proof as possible and be accessible after hours.

Condom vending machine are currently provided at MacCallum St and Riverside park in Swan Hill as well as Caix square in Robinvale. These are maintained by Swan Hill health and Robinvale Health, respectively. Manangatang Improvement Group have also installed their own vending machine. As per existing arrangements, the ongoing maintenance of CVMs will be the responsibility of the health care providers or an arrangement with local groups.

Floors

Surfaces should be non-slip fully verified tile, epoxy grouted, or broom finished concrete. They should be mid to dark toned to hide dirt and frame. Floor drains with adequate slopes to prevent ponding of water should be provided.

Walls

Surfaces must be impact resistant and easy to clean. Light, bright surfaces will present a cleaner feel to users and create a safer environment.

Plumbing fixtures

All plumbing fixtures and fittings should be selected and managed with whole of life costs and water conservation as a priority. WC should be fabricated from heavy gauge stainless steel with integrated toilet seat to conceal drainage and water supply, prevent vandalism and make cleaning easier. Exposed cisterns should be avoided as they can easily be vandalised. The ideal option is for the cisterns to be located in a service duct.

Provide substantial noggins and internal framing to support wall mounted basins, grab rails and accessories.

Porcelain fixtures should only be used in low risk or staffed facilities. Tapware should be robust and vandal proof with replacements readily available from major manufacturers.

All water supply and drainage pipework should be concealed in secure but accessible ducts if possible.

All fixtures are to comply with AS1428.

4. Public Conveniences on a page.

Information on each public convenience managed by SHRCC has been collated on the following pages.

Information included on each summary include the following where available:

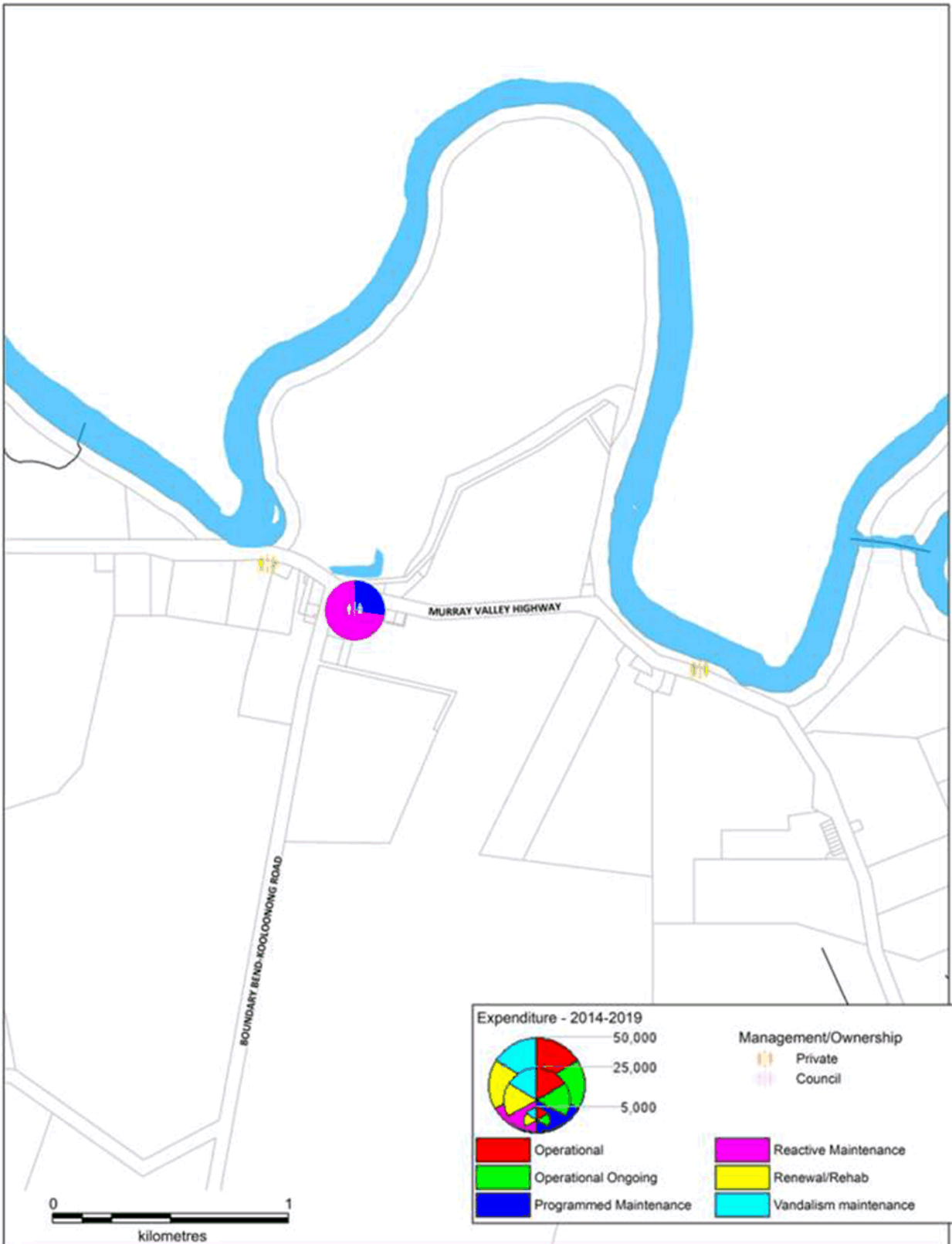
- Name and address of the facility
- Photograph of facility
- Valuation details
- Facility composition
- Maintenance costs
- Sysaid requests summary
- Aerial Photo
- Recommendations

Boundary Bend

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Boundary Bend Memorial Park Toilets	3	725	\$13,728.05	12



Boundary Bend



Expenditure



Boundary Bend

Boundary Bend Memorial Park Toilets

Asset ID 36791

Address Murray Valley Hwy, Boundary Bend

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1940	Valuation	\$64,800.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$38,880.00
Remaining Life	30	Acc Depreciation	\$25,920.00



Number of Cubicles	3	Baby Change	Static/no
Male	1	Hot Water	no
Female	2	Urinal	yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	INTERLE
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	NO
		Av Consum/m	725

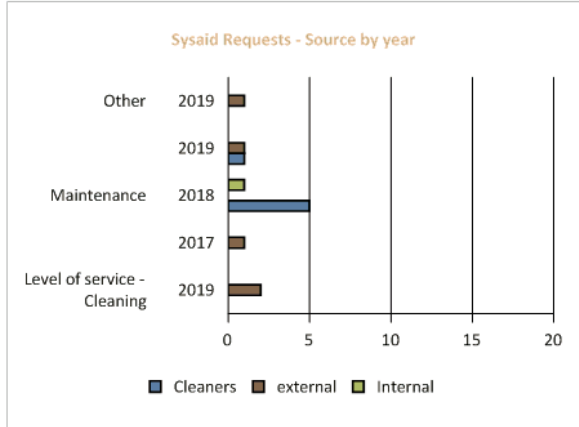
Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

General Comments

Former school site building. Miniature pans and insufficient for Wayside Stop purposes. No plumbed tank water and reliant on river pump and septic. Reln Drain redone recently due to failing,

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Programmed Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,810.00	\$0.00
Reactive Maintenance	\$530.00	\$745.20	\$415.00	\$7,902.85	\$325.00

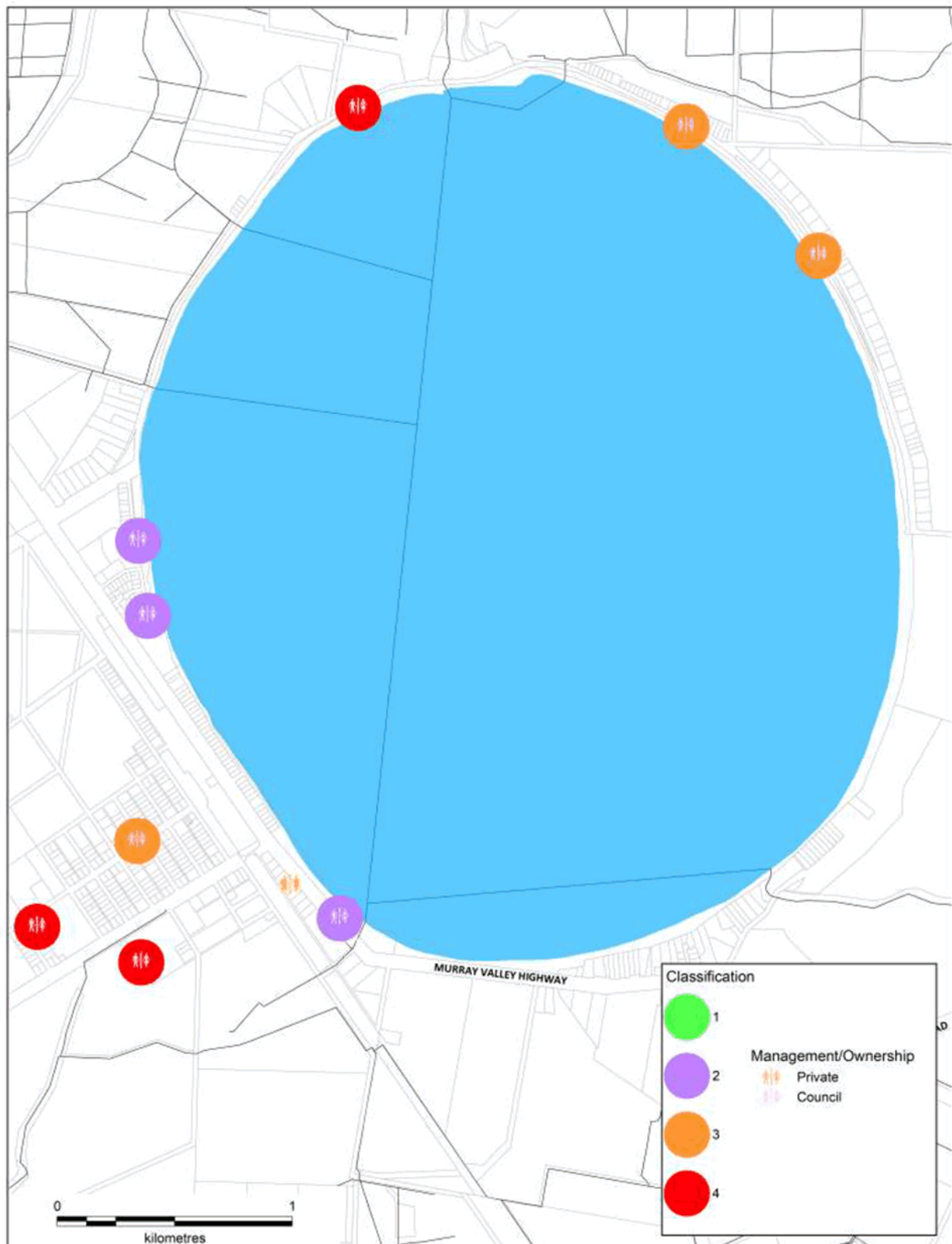


Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1: Basic Refurbishment	Medium	\$10,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 2: New Small Facility	Alternate	\$100,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 3: New Small Facility with Shower	Alternate	\$130,000.00

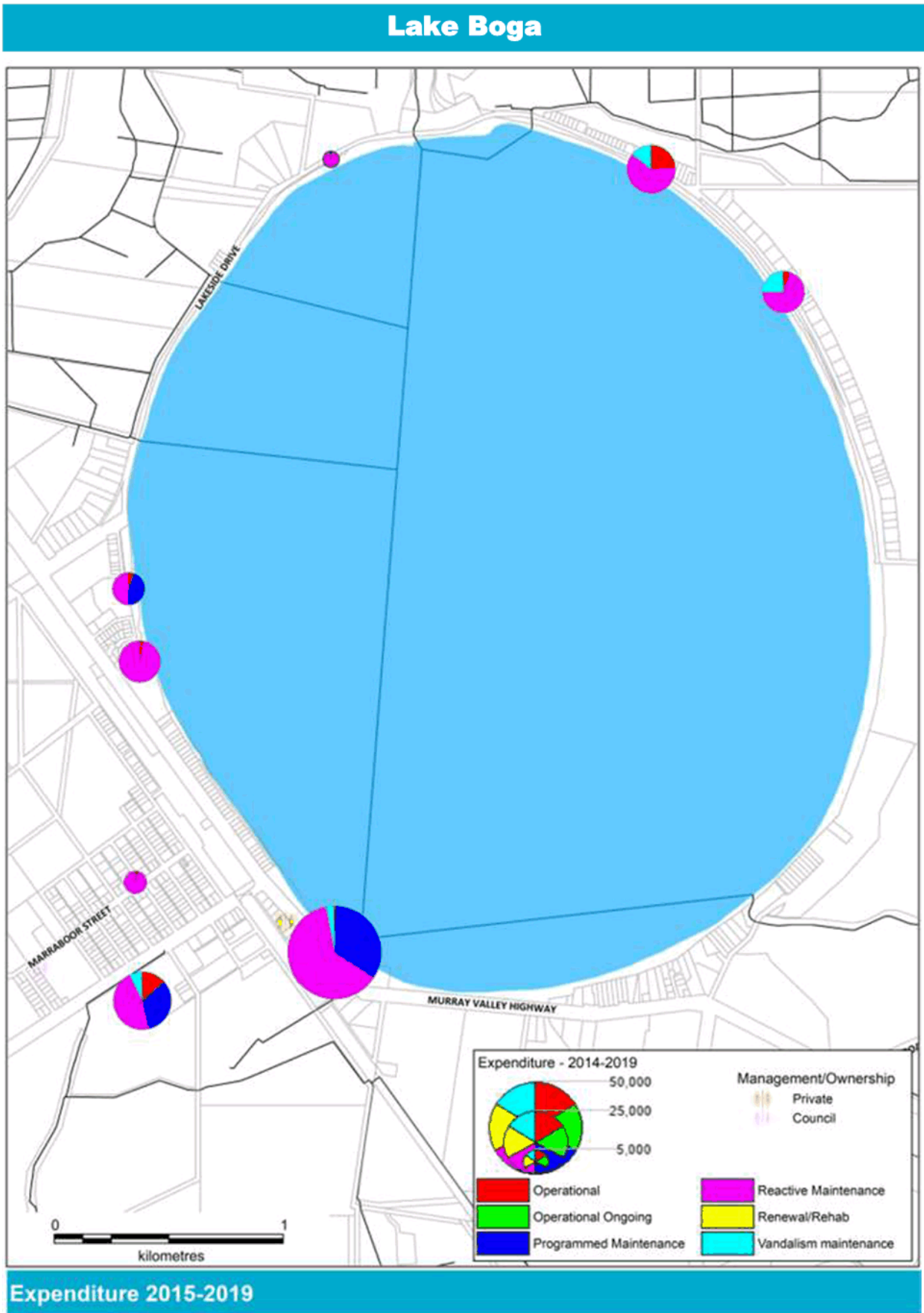
Lake Boga

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Lake Boga Block 3	4	0	\$1,329.90	4
Lake Boga Block 4	3	2125	\$9,958.58	22
Lake Boga Block 5	3	3375	\$7,721.85	9
Lake Boga Catalina Museum Park	2	10125	\$4,608.84	10
Lake Boga Gray Park	3	875	\$2,566.78	9
Lake Boga Jacaranda Crescent	2	11750	\$7,336.23	15
Lake Boga Kennel Club	4	0	\$1,004.35	1
Lake Boga Recreation Reserve	4	375		3
Lake Boga Wayside Stop	2	13375	\$11,349.77	20

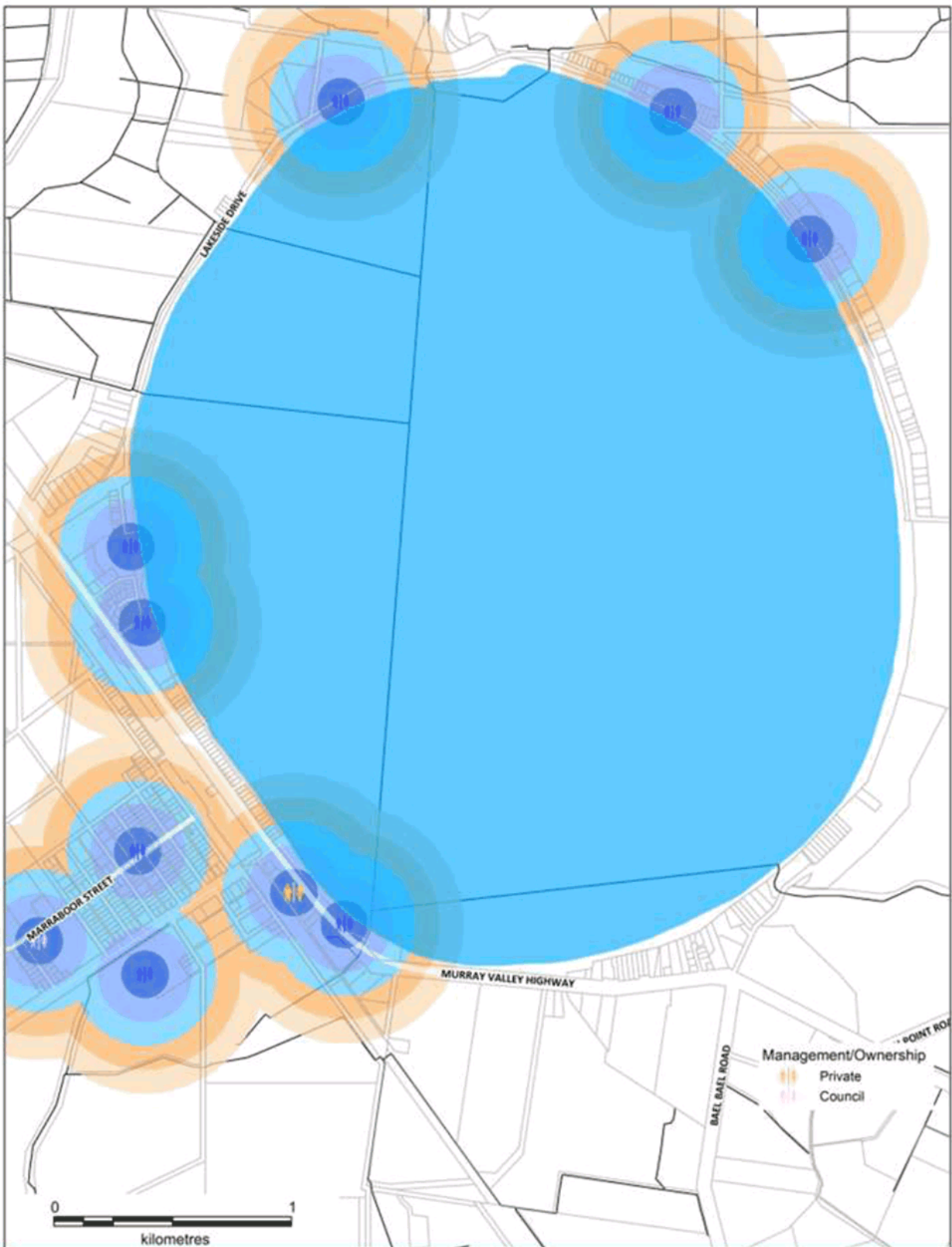
Lake Boga



Classifications



Lake Boga



Proximity Map

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Block 3

Asset ID 36490

Address Lakeside Drive, Lake Boga

Open Hours 24/7

Construction year	1964	Valuation	\$81,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$81,000.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	0

Condition	Usage

General Comments

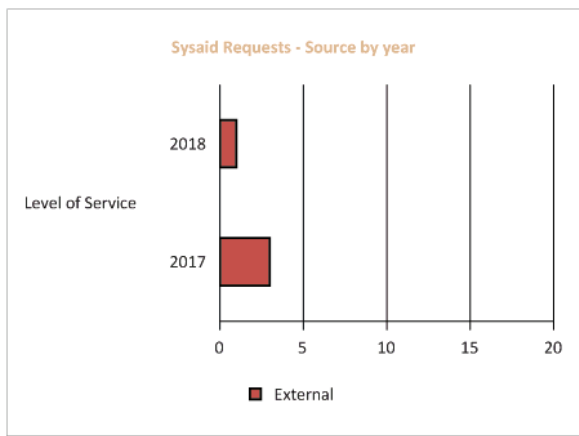
The toilet block, as per the consumables figures, is used the least of the nine public toilets in Lake Boga. In 2014 a chain mesh fence was constructed on the lake side of the building as a precaution to protect passers-by from a potential wall collapse. There was however nothing preventing an inward collapse of the same wall. Along with septic issues and structural concerns, the block was closed to the public in 2016.

The overall building aesthetic is tired and unappealing and the building is not in keeping with any improvements made to other areas of the lake foreshore. The reln drains are struggling to discharge septic waste and given the proximity to the lake, there is a fear of adverse environmental impacts.

Although set along a section of the Lake Boga scenic walking path, the building is possibly excessive to the amenity needs around the Lake's perimeter – the toilet block is 2.779km to the Catalina Park toilet block and 713m to Lake Side Drive block 4. Block 5 is a further 887m south of block 4 but both block 4 and 5 are designated camping areas around the lake.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$1,005.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$324.90	\$0.00



Lake Boga

Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Decommission with No Replacement. Retain the concrete sl	Short	\$20,000.00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Block 4

Asset ID 36480

Address Lakeside Drive, Lake Boga

Open Hours 24/7

Construction year	1964	Valuation	\$108,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$108,000.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	1	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	2125

Condition	Usage
Poor	Medium

General Comments

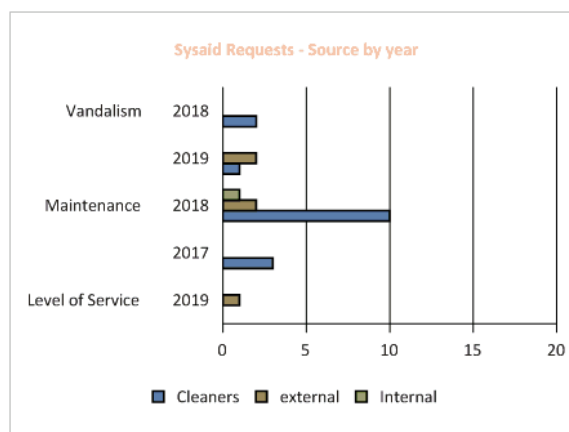
The toilet block is located on Lake Boga Foreshore, 713m south (further around Lake Side Drive) from block 3. The facility is regularly used in high season as per the consumables report. The land around block 4 is a designated camping area, although campers are encouraged to locate around Block 5 in the first instance and will spill out to area 4.

The toilet is a 'cookie cut' of Block 3, was built at the same time and has a similar aesthetics and features. Although functional, the building is cosmetically unappealing and has no hot water. The septic system requires regular attention and is close to end of life.

In 2015 a land capability assessment was carried out for both block 3 & 4

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$304.45	\$1,531.33	\$908.29	\$3,375.50	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$544.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$899.85	\$0.00
Operational	\$38.59	\$0.00	\$1,773.95	\$581.82	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1 - Renovation	Medium	\$35,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renewal - Small facility, septic works required	Alternate	\$130,000.00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Block 5

Asset ID 36491

Address Lakeside Drive, Lake Boga

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1972	Valuation	\$81,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$3,240.00
Remaining Life	2	Acc Depreciation	\$77,760.00



Number of Cubicles	3	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	1	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	4	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	3375

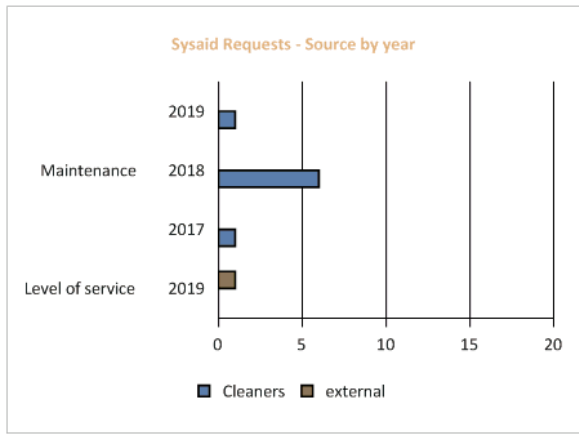
Condition	Usage
Medium	High

General Comments

This building is located another 887 metres further south along Lake Side Drive. The building condition is reasonable given its age. There are showers and a solar hot water service. The facility is sufficient for the needs of those who camp around the lake in the zone 5 camping area. The septic and reln drains in this area are functioning quite well at this time.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$696.42	\$665.52	\$0.00	\$3,996.61	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$462.00	\$108.53	\$1,103.32	\$280.15	\$0.00
Operational	\$38.59	\$119.00	\$124.61	\$127.10	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Medium Facility with showers	Long	\$150,000.00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Catalina Museum Park

Asset ID 36492

Address Wilakool Avenue, Lake Boga

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1964	Valuation	\$81,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$81,000.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	10125

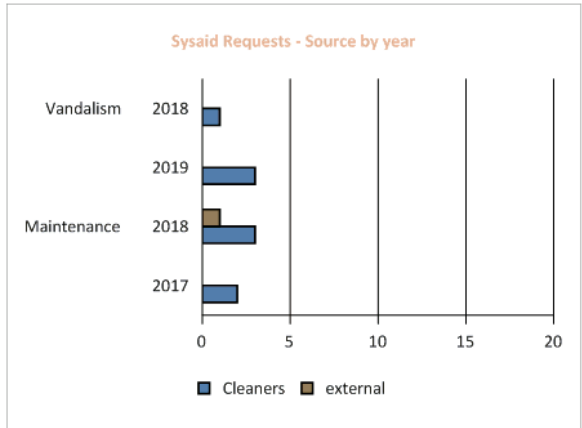
Condition	Usage
Poor	Medium

General Comments

Situated next to the new playground, The toilet block is within the proximity of a walking path and there's a BBQ shelter 150m away. The toilet block is 313m away from the Jacaranda Crescent block and sits in what is a cultural heritage sensitive zone. It sits approximately 30m back from the shoreline and services mainly holiday makers and Lake users. There are toilets located in the nearby Catalina Museum servicing the needs of tourists. There are toilets located very close at the Cafe and museum.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Programmed Maintenance	\$0.00	\$142.70	\$999.05	\$907.60	\$0.00
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$1,204.99	\$625.02	\$486.13	\$0.00
Operational	\$57.88	\$59.62	\$62.30	\$63.55	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renew - Medium Facility (relocate to better location)	Long	\$100,000.00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Gray Park **Asset ID** 36401

Address Marraboor St, Lake Boga Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1996	Valuation	\$162,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$84,240.00
Remaining Life	26	Acc Depreciation	\$77,760.00



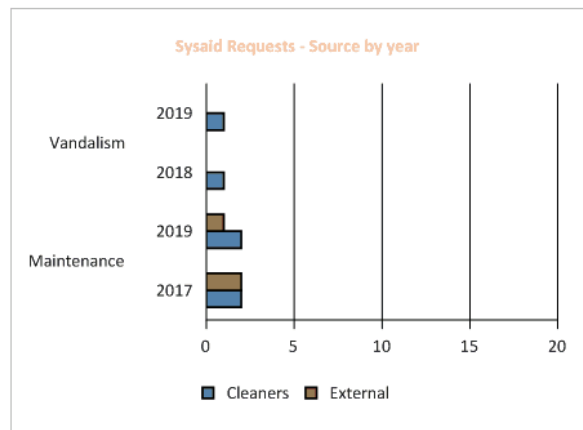
Number of Cubicles	6	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	875

Condition	Usage
Medium	Medium

Basic toilet amenity that services the immediate park and playground area. Close to the main street shops; the block shows no signs of cracking or wear beyond those of interior fixtures. Minor maintenance issues only (seals) with low levels of vandalism. Reasonably low use as per the consumables report.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$259.86	\$160.70	\$144.39	\$1,880.12
Operational	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renew - Small Facility	Long	\$100,000.00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Jacaranda Crescent Asset ID 36489

Address Jacaranda Crescent, Lake Boga Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1962	Valuation	\$162,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$162,000.00



Number of Cubicles	5	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	4	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	11750

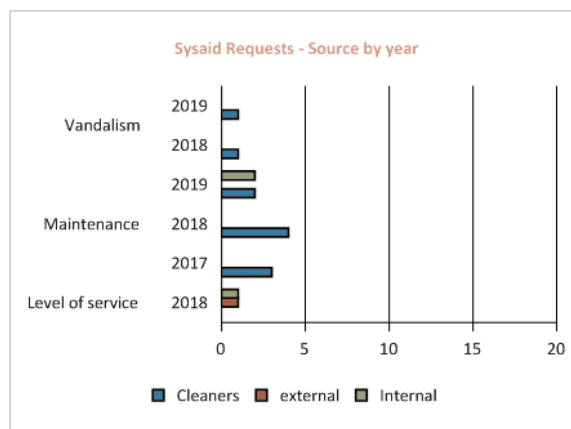
Condition	Usage
Poor	High

General Comments

This amenity is the most popular on the Lake Boga Foreshore. It sits in close proximity to a popular boat ramp, walking path and BBQ shelter. The lawns and foreshore are well maintained along this reserve. The structure has very outdated tap and shower fittings that constantly leak and cannot be repaired without wall removal. Also has a urinal and all the internal fixtures and partitions although function adequately are dated and tired. The building sits on the edge of Council maintained parkland and is about 70m distance from the Lake edge. It doesn't interfere with the outlook from nearby residences and there's plenty of space for caravan and boat trailers to park nearby.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$778.72	\$675.50	\$2,135.21	\$3,503.45	\$0.00
Operational	\$57.88	\$59.62	\$62.30	\$63.55	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Large facility including showers.	Medium	\$320,000.00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Kennel Club Asset ID 37499

Address Cemetery Rd, Lake Boga Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year	1972	Valuation	\$121,500.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$4,860.00
Remaining Life	2	Acc Depreciation	\$116,640.00



Number of Cubicles	5	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	INTERLE
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	0

Condition	Usage
Medium	Low

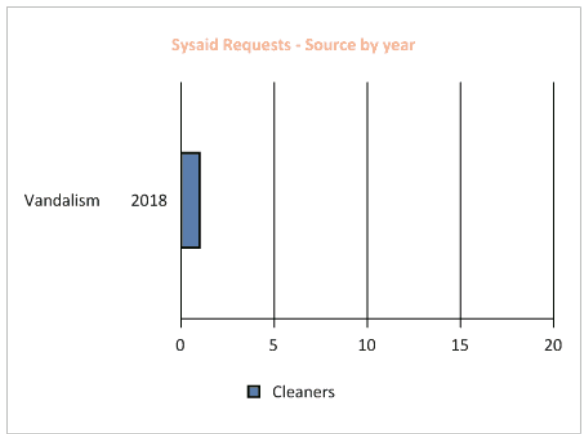
Asset is structurally sound however the fit-out is in poor condition and requires renewal. The toilet block is opened upon request and generally accompanies bookings at the Sporting Complex which are currently infrequent.

There is also the provision of toilets, showers and hot water in the pavilion 20 metres away. The Swan Hill Pony Club has recently expressed an interest in moving their club to Lake Boga and is looking to use the pavilion and accompanying infrastructure, including the toilet block with a view to using it during gymkhana's and events attracting larger numbers of participants.

There is no provision to carry out refurbishment works to the toilet block.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Vandalism maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$653.00	\$351.35	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
Nil	Alternate	\$-00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Recreation Reserve

Asset ID 37224

Address 57 Marraboob St, Lake Boga

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1975	Valuation	\$175,500.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$17,550.00
Remaining Life	5	Acc Depreciation	\$157,950.00



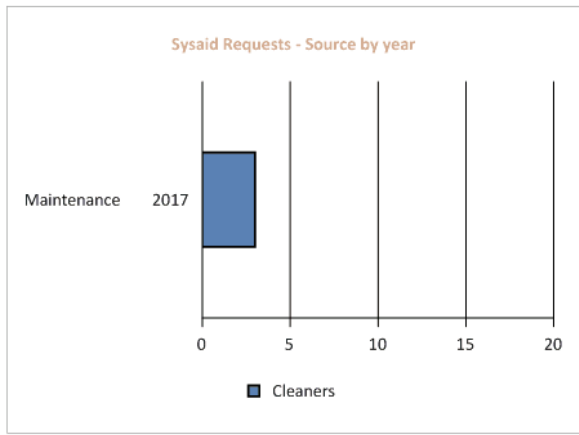
Number of Cubicles	6	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	4	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	375

Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

General Comments

Basic toilet amenity servicing the needs of the sporting users at the Lake Boga Recreation Reserve (cricket, football and netball clubs). Popular mainly on a Saturday during winter, the toilet is open all year round. There are alternate toilets, including all abilities toilets in the main pavilion.

Maintenance costs



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Co-location with Football/Netball Clubrooms	Short	\$30,000.00

Lake Boga

Lake Boga Wayside Stop

Asset ID 36285

Address Murray Valley Highway, Lake Boga

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1975	Valuation	\$108,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$10,800.00
Remaining Life	5	Acc Depreciation	\$97,200.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	5	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	13375

Condition	Usage
Good	High

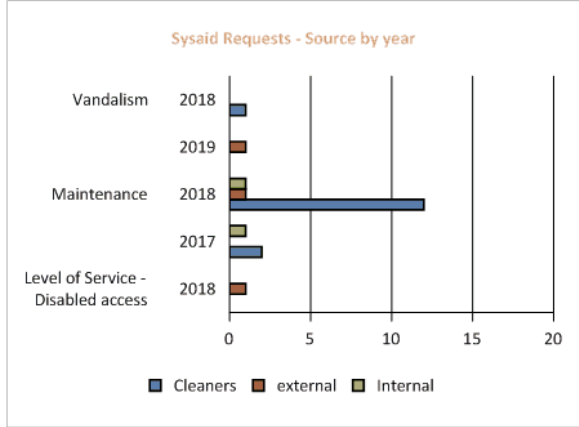
General Comments

The building is subject to heavy all year around use. There is large patronage from car and truck travellers who take advantage of the highway location and easy parking.

The facility also doubles for Caravan Park patrons in the height of holiday season. The facility has tiled floors and showers, timber doors and partitioning. Apart from some cosmetic re-tiling, paintwork, the installation of pathways, and some landscaping there has been no significant refurbishment or re-design to the toilet block since it was constructed.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$2,879.39	\$1,350.37	\$1,804.27	\$1,801.95	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$380.51	\$2,705.12	\$36.73	\$201.23	\$0.00
Operational	\$31.67	\$91.67	\$33.10	\$33.76	\$0.00

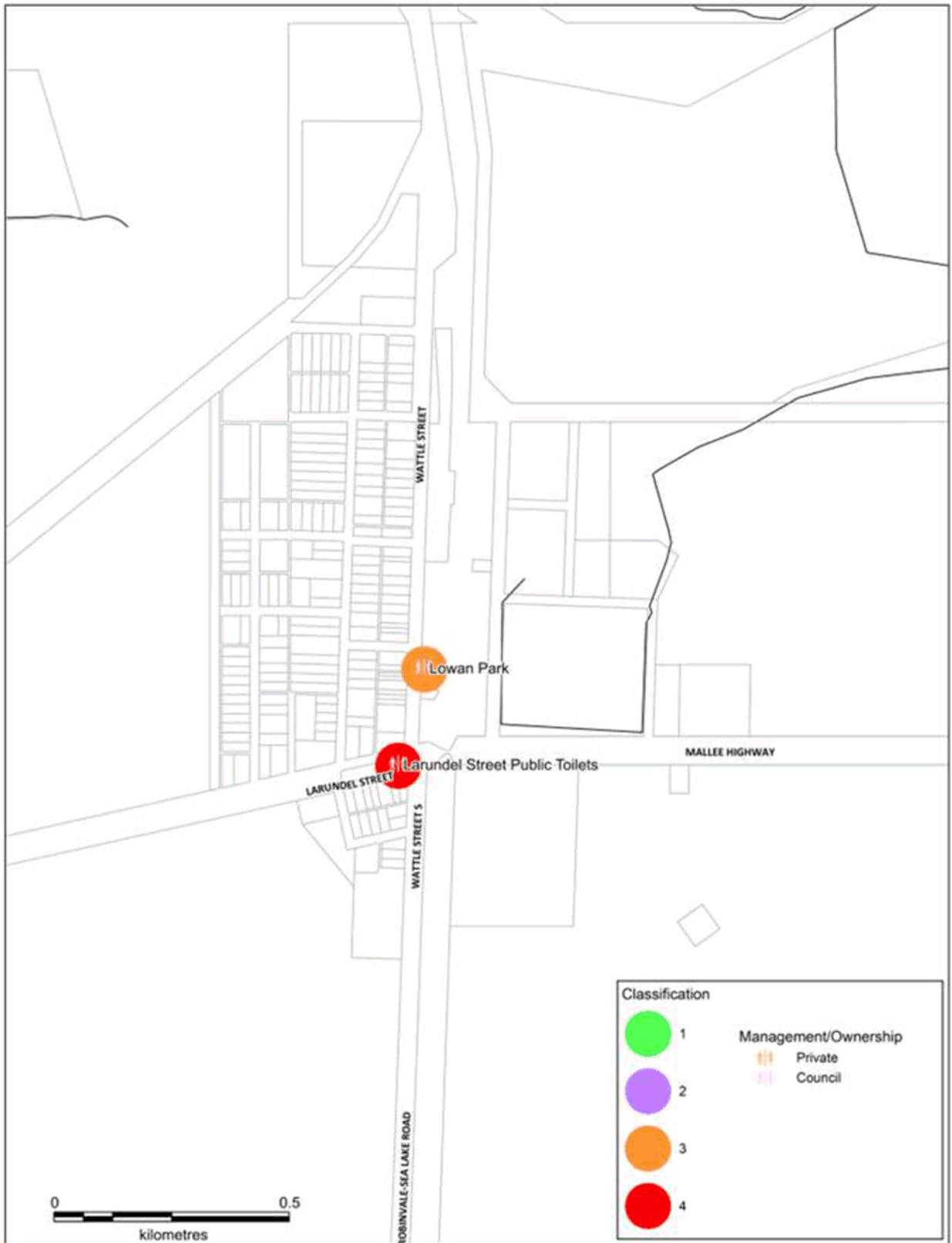


Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renew - Medium Facility with showers	Medium	\$150,000.00

Manangatang

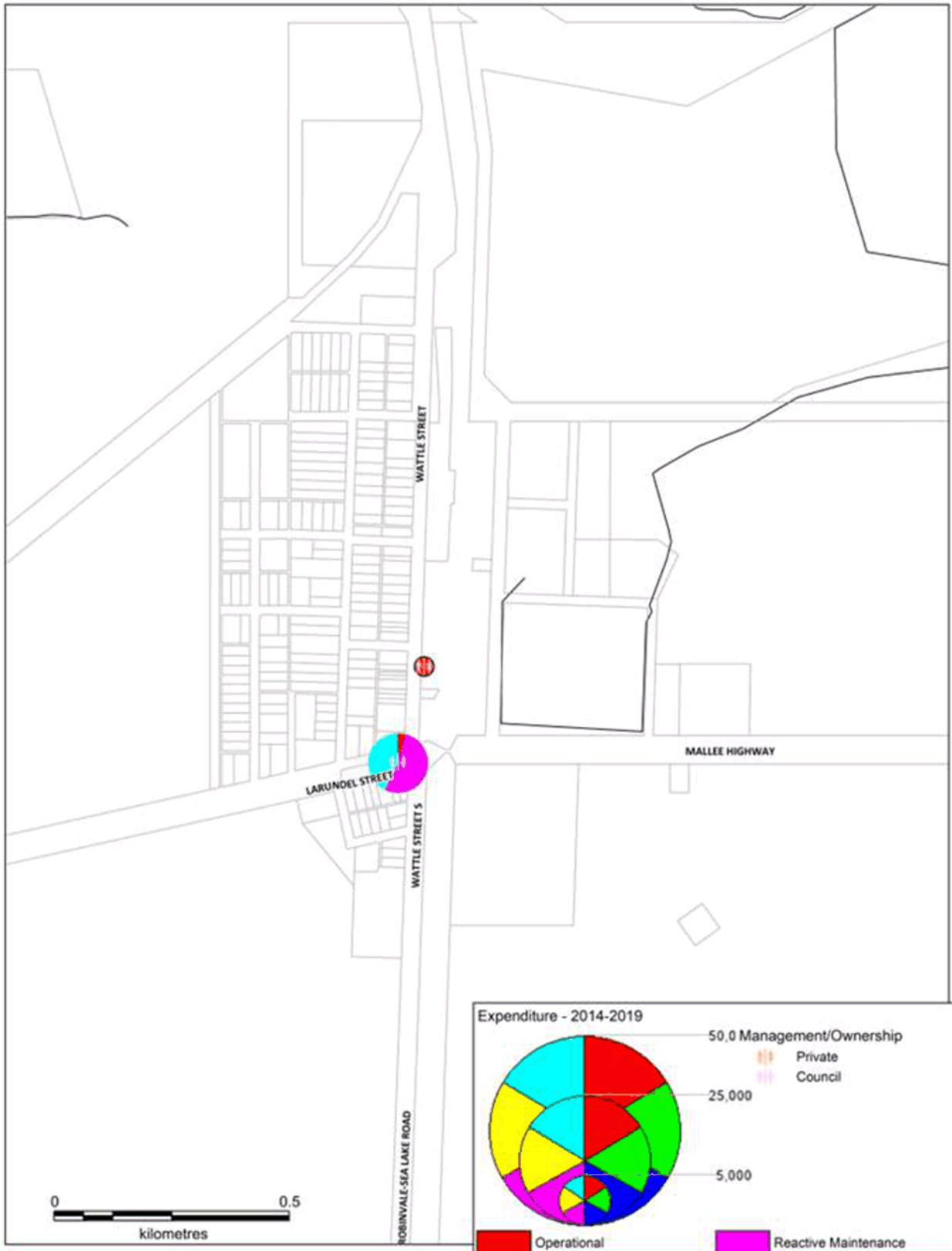
Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Larundel Street Public Toilets	4	7250	\$3,757.24	14
Lowan Park	3	5625	\$521.71	7

Manangatang



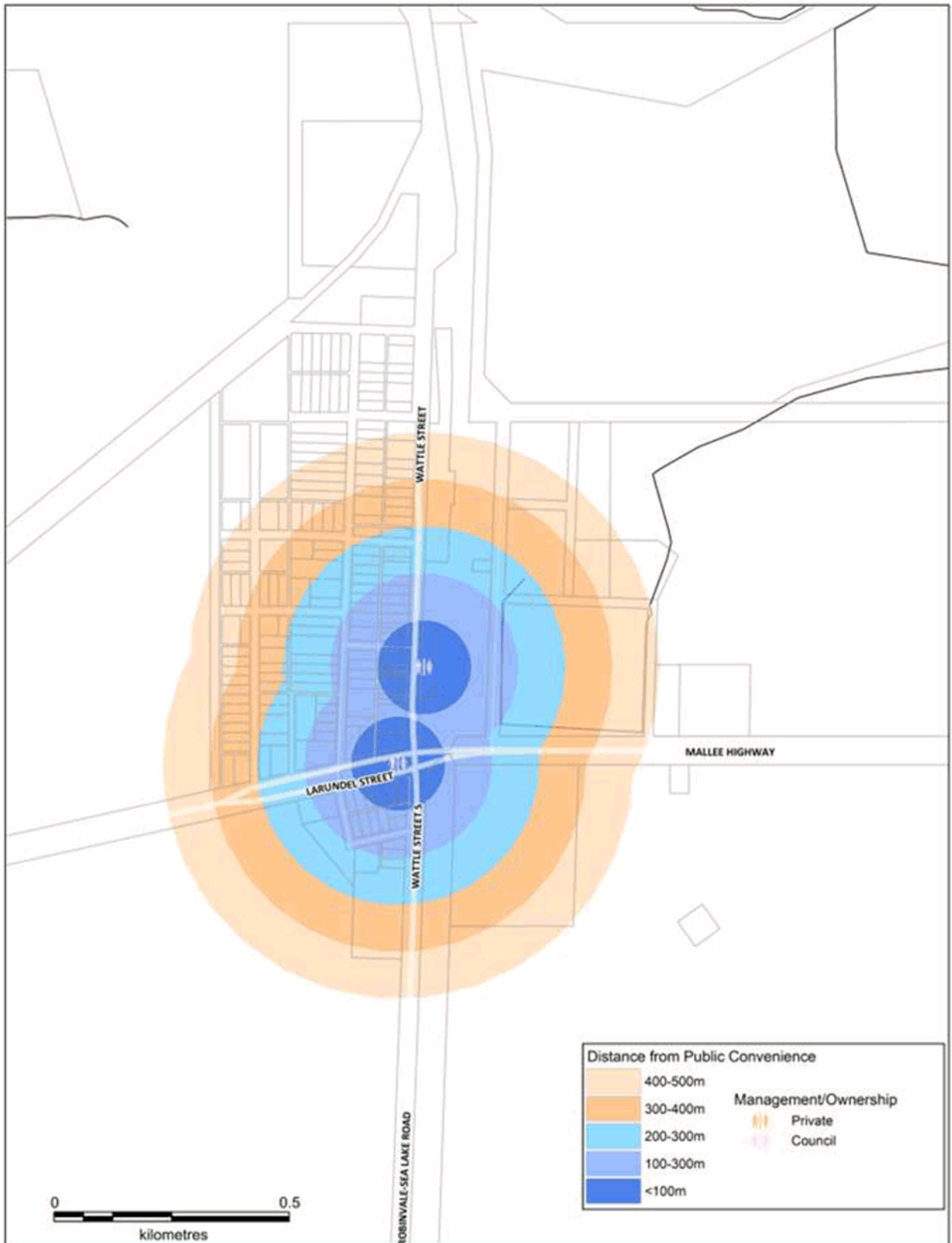
Classification

Manangatang



Expenditure

Manangatang



Proximity

Manangatang

Larundel Street Public Toilets **Asset ID** 36816
 Address Larundel Street, Manangatang Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year 1965 Valuation \$81,000.00
 Expected Life 50 WDV \$0.00
 Remaining Life 0 Acc Depreciation \$81,000.00

Number of Cubicles 5 Baby Change StaticNo
 Male 2 Hot Water No
 Female 3 Urinal Yes
 Unisex 0 Toilet Paper JUMBO
 Disabled / Fa 0 Hand Dryers 0
 Showers 0 Dump Point No
 Av Consum/m 7250



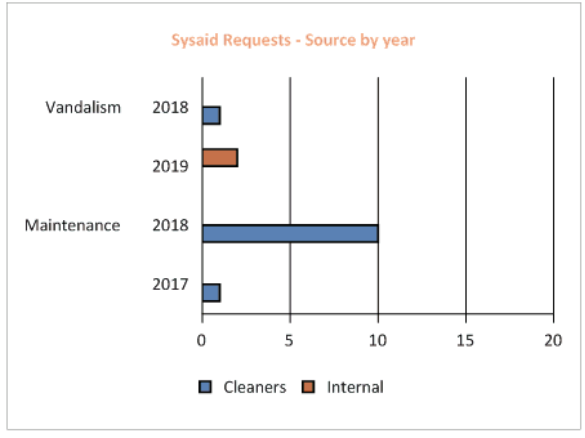
Condition	Usage
Poor	Medium

General Comments

Basic toilet amenity servicing the needs of travellers and visitors. Opposite the vline bus stop and highway between Adelaide and Sydney

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$370.88	\$0.00	\$978.11	\$245.12	\$410.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$53.06	\$128.78	\$636.99	\$117.70	\$670.07
Operational	\$28.95	\$54.64	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1 - Decommission and direct users to Wattle St Facility (subje	Long	\$20,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renew - small facility	Alternate	\$100,000.00

Manangatang

Lowan Park

Asset ID 36725

Address Wattle St, Manangatang

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1999	Valuation	\$48,600.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$28,188.00
Remaining Life	29	Acc Depreciation	\$20,412.00

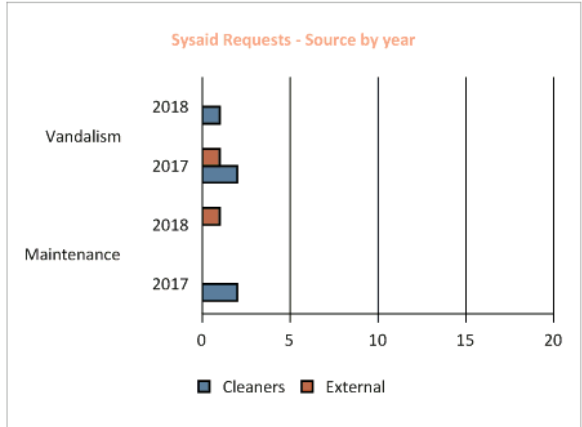


Number of Cubicles	3	Baby Change Static	Yes
Male	1	Hot Water	Yes
Female	1	Urinal	No
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers	3
Showers	1	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	5625

Condition	Usage
Good	Medium

Maintenance costs

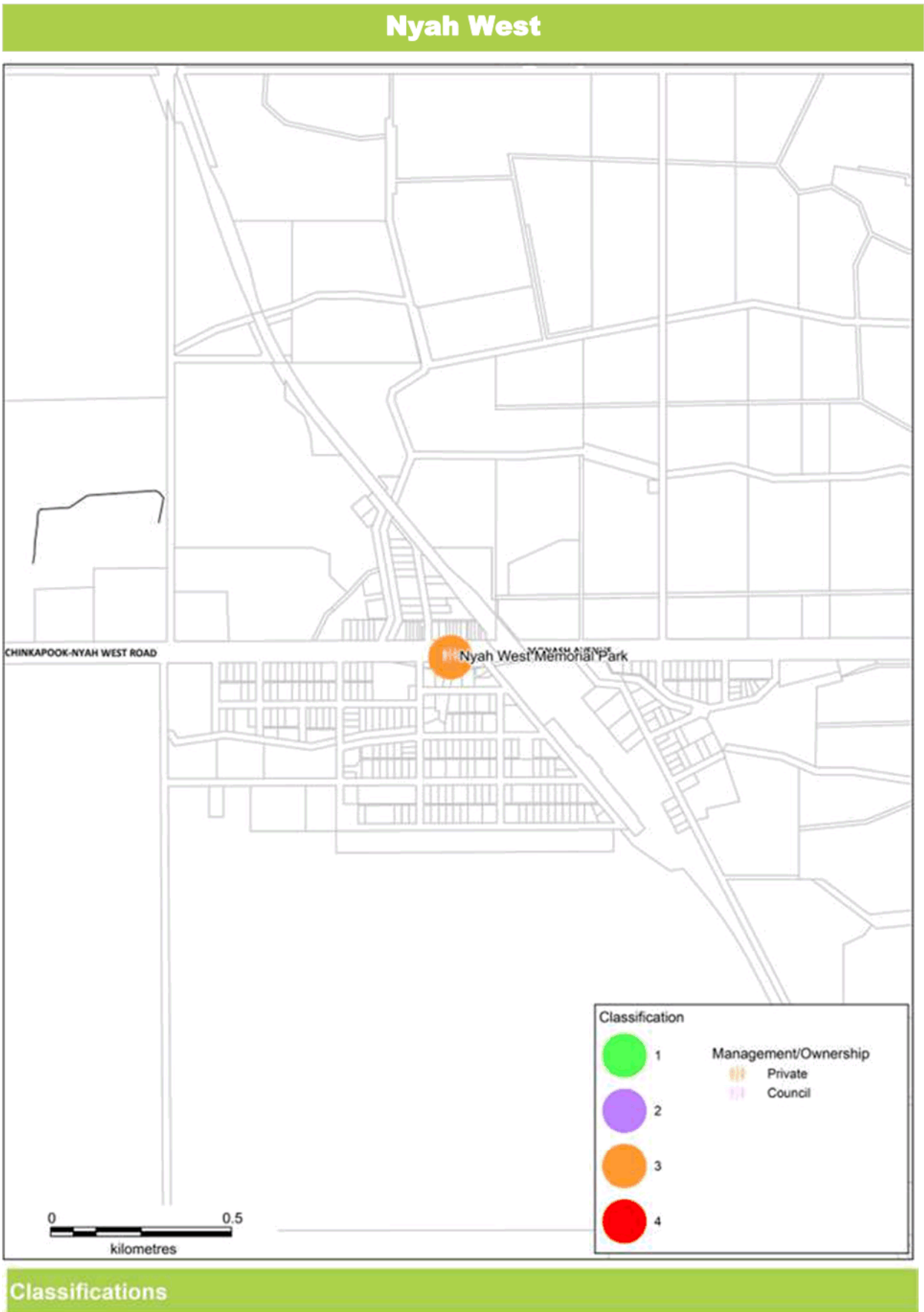
EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Operational	\$28.95	\$429.82	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00



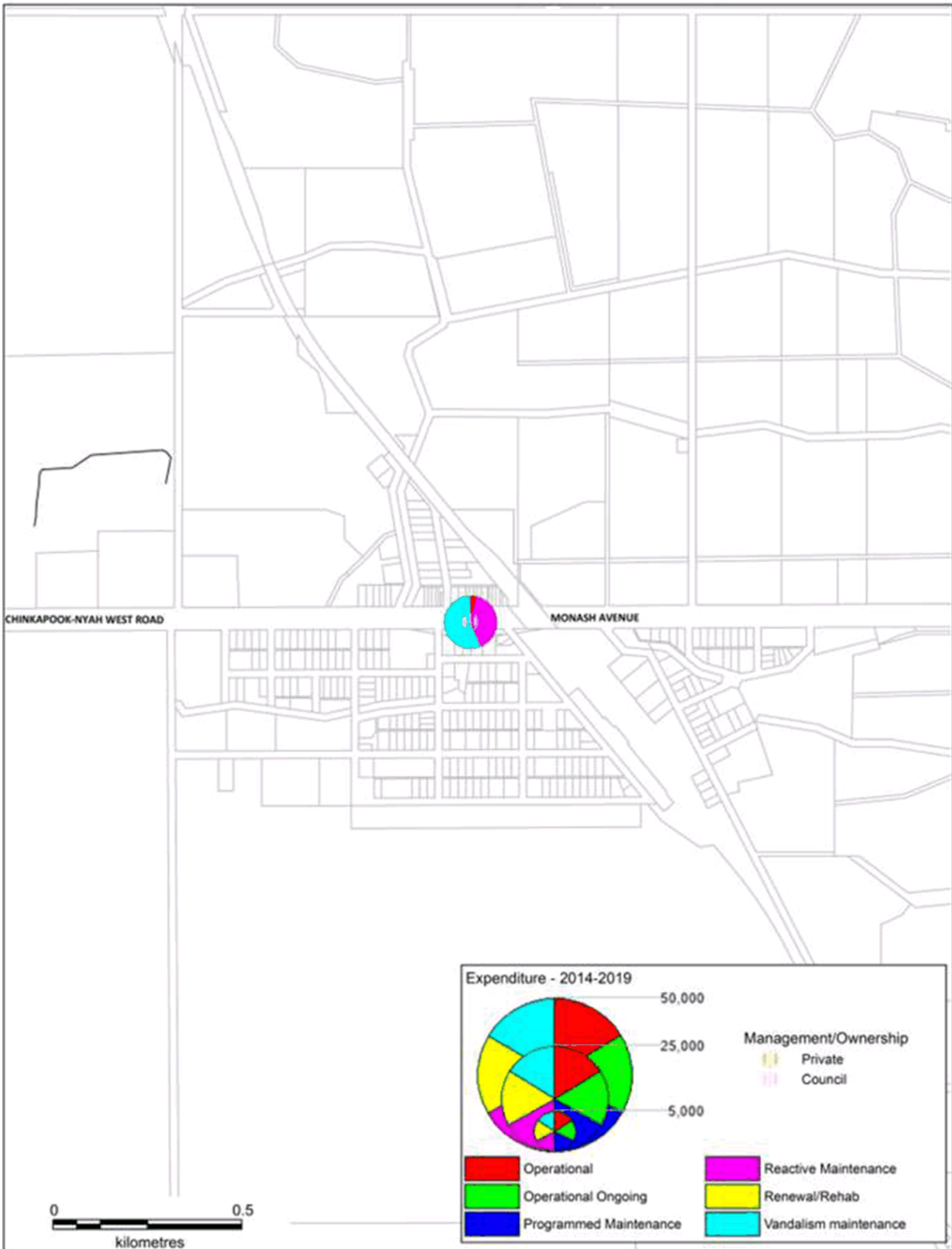
Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
Nil		

Nyah West

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Nyah West Memorial Park	3	1625	\$4,998.52	5

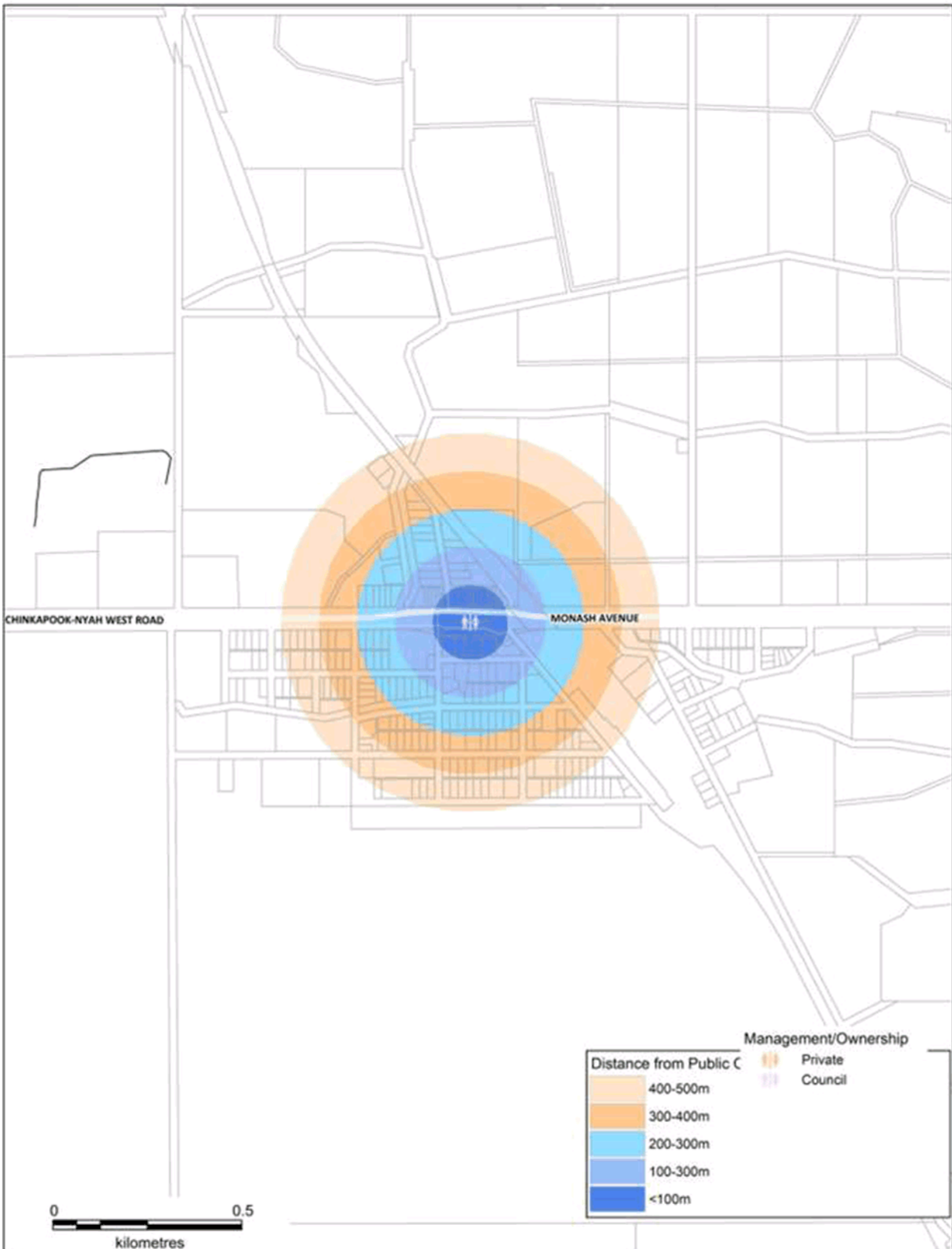


Nyah West



Expenditure

Nyah West



Proximity

Nyah West

Nyah West Memorial Park Asset ID 36889

Address Monash Avenue, Nyah West Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year 1978 Valuation \$94,500.00
 Expected Life 50 WDV \$37,800.00
 Remaining Life 20 Acc Depreciation \$56,700.00

Number of Cubicles 5 Baby Change StaticNo
 Male 2 Hot Water No
 Female 3 Urinal Yes
 Unisex 0 Toilet Paper JUMBO
 Disabled / Fa 0 Hand Dryers 0
 Showers 0 Dump Point No
 Av Consum/m 1625



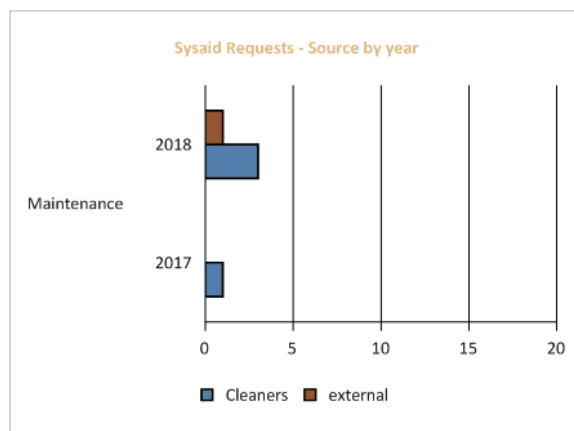
Condition	Usage
Medium	Medium

General Comments

Basic toilet amenity that services the immediate park and playground area, situated in the middle of the main st shops. Toilet facility is in fair condition with relatively new cisterns throughout

Maintenance costs

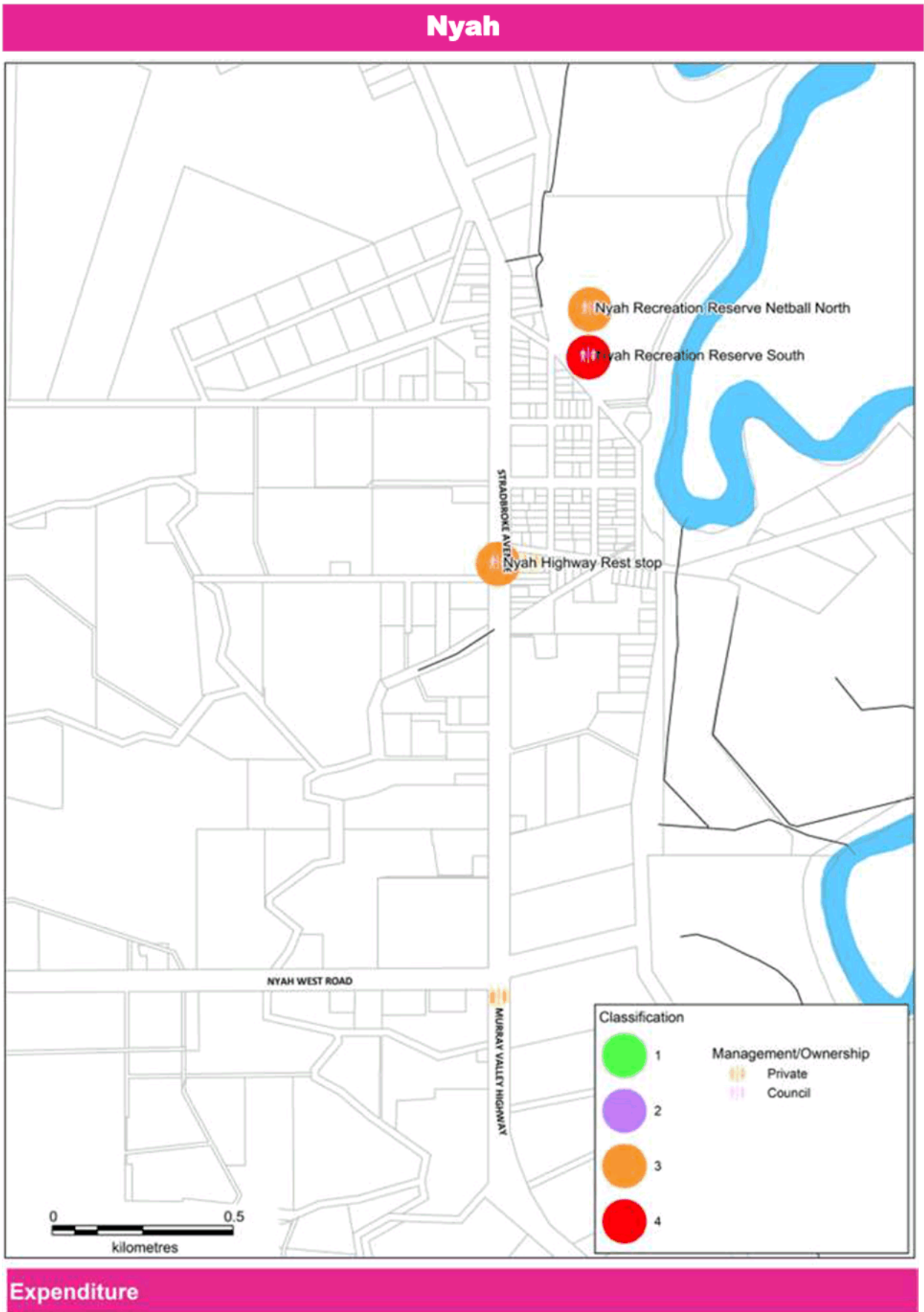
EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$441.57	\$464.22	\$996.92	\$106.89	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$864.05	\$620.86	\$709.69	\$613.84	\$0.00
Operational	\$57.90	\$59.64	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - New small facility. Combined with Performance stage	Short	\$100,000.00

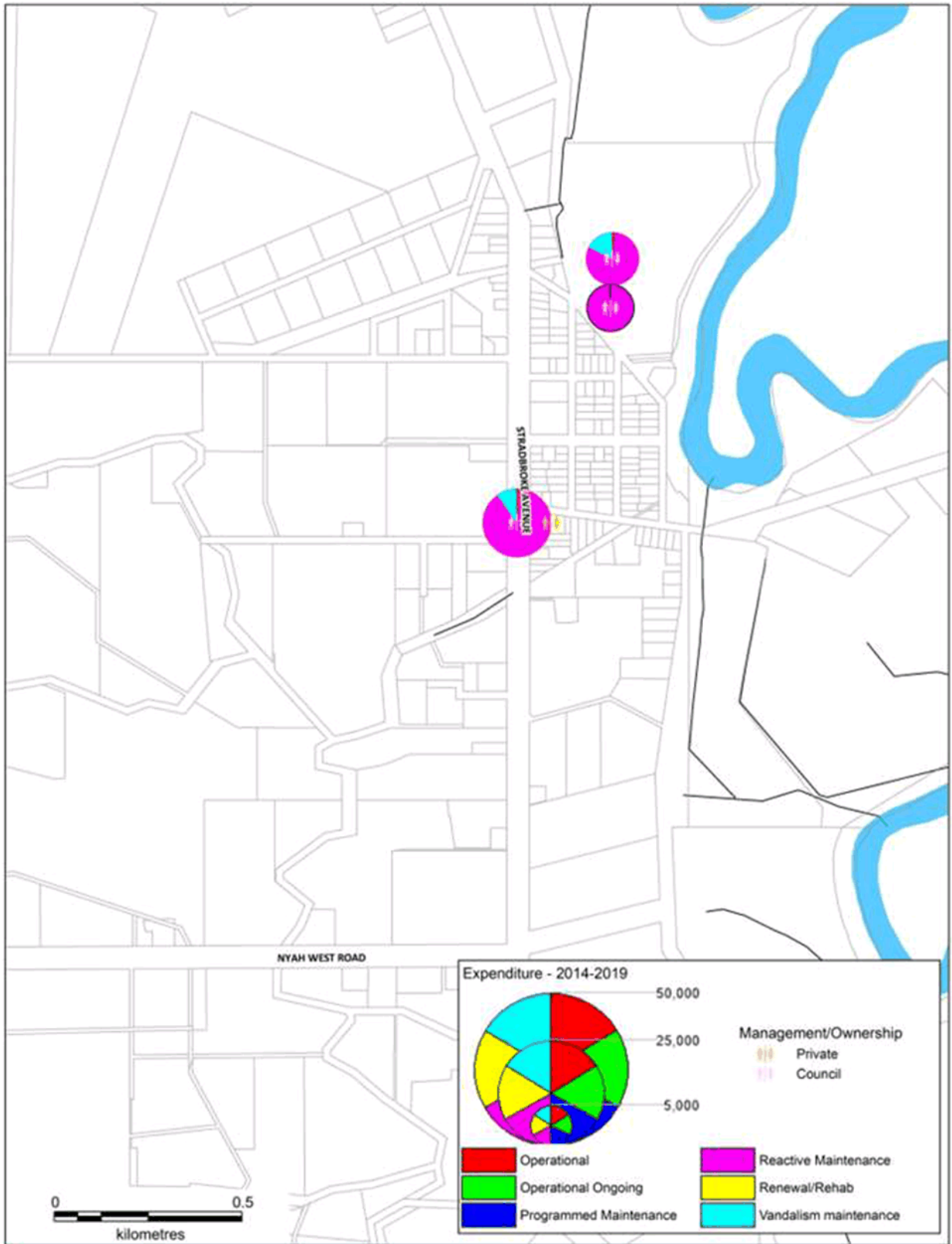
Nyah

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Nyah Highway Rest stop	3	1625	\$7,414.80	13
Nyah Recreation Reserve Netball North	3	4000	\$4,736.96	10
Nyah Recreation Reserve South	4	1500	\$3,706.65	6

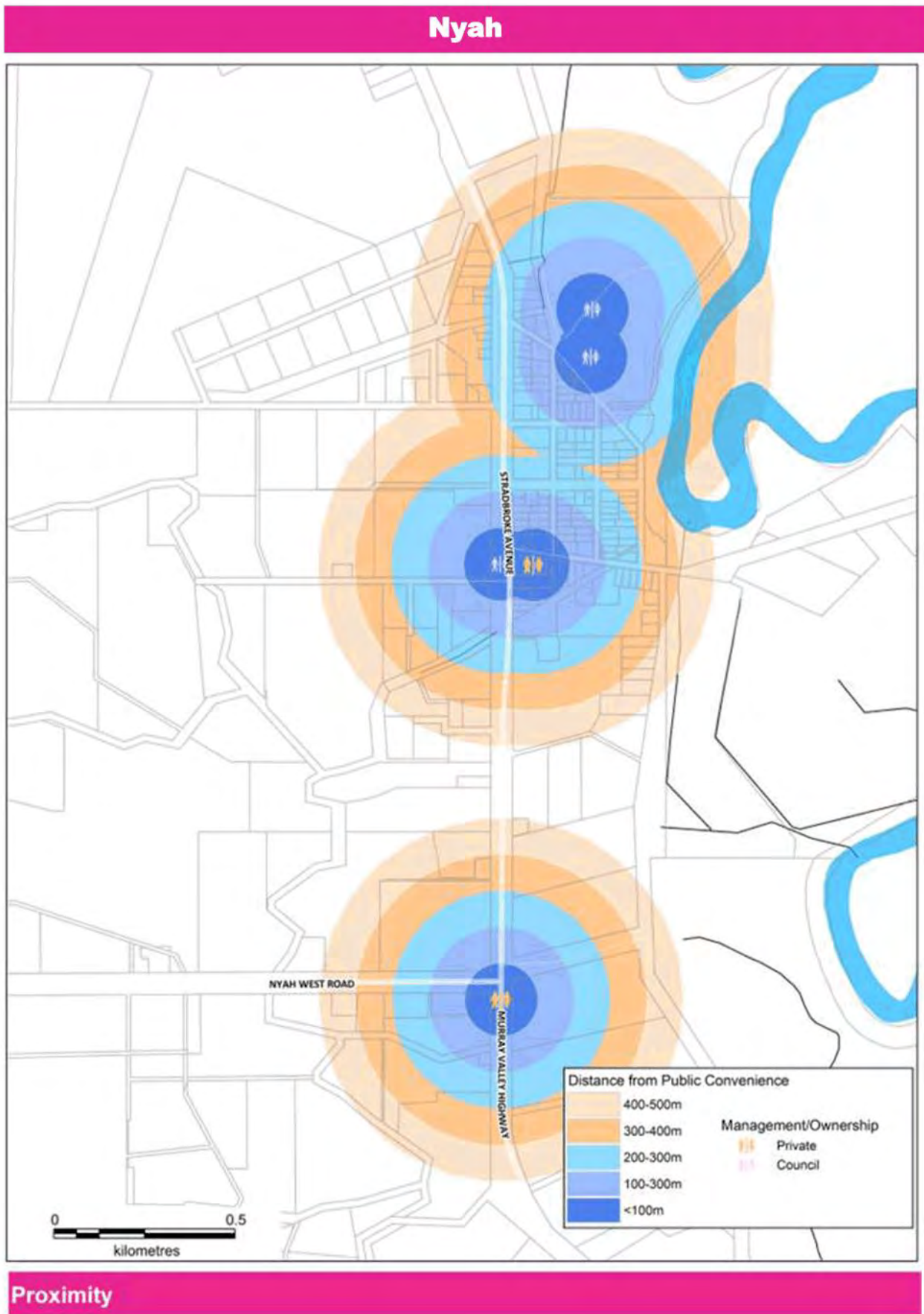


Expenditure

Nyah



Expenditure



Nyah

Nyah Highway Rest stop

Asset ID 37210

Address Stradbroke Avenue, Nyah

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1995	Valuation	\$259,200.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$129,600.00
Remaining Life	25	Acc Depreciation	\$129,600.00



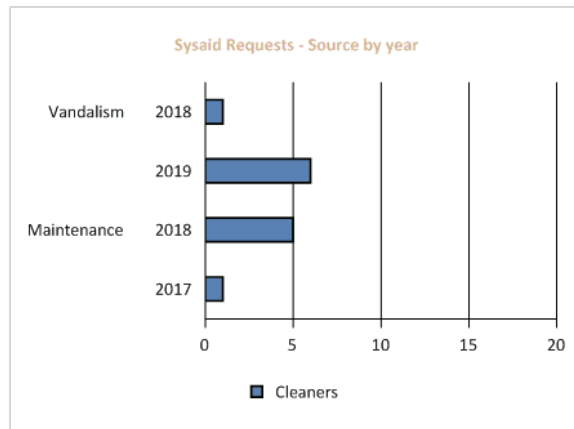
Number of Cubicles	6	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers	2
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	1625

Condition	Usage
Good	High

General Comments
built 1995, no issues

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$1,290.12	\$227.82	\$96.05	\$4,951.23	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$157.07	\$185.37	\$266.09	\$119.34	\$0.00
Operational	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1: Basic Refurbishment	Long	\$10,000.00

Nyah

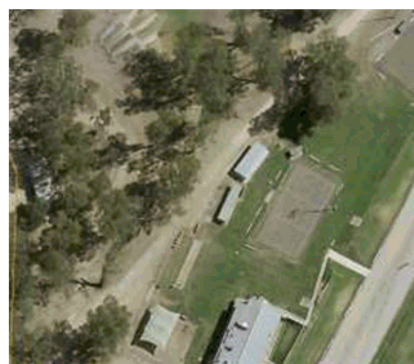
Nyah Recreation Reserve Netball North

Asset ID 37245

Address River St, Nyah

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1965	Valuation	\$135,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$135,000.00



Number of Cubicles	10	Baby Change Static	No
Male	4	Hot Water	No
Female	6	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	Yes
		Av Consum/m	4000

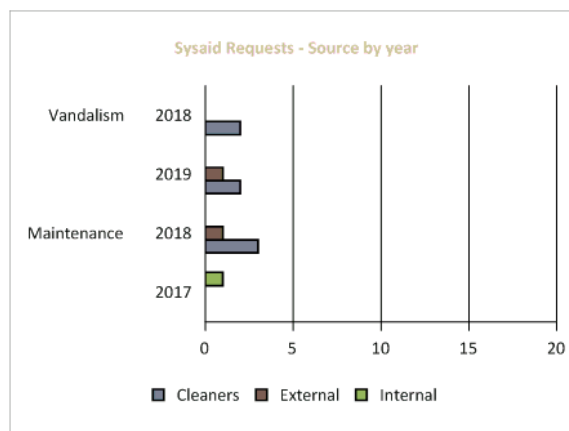
Condition	Usage
Medium	High

General Comments

Made of Cement sheeting walls similar to Lake Boga recreation reserve. Adjacent to the dump point. Currently used as the away change rooms as no facilities in the Netball building.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$65.00	\$262.73	\$420.30	\$3,069.62	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$262.35	\$0.04	\$0.00	\$12.27	\$571.79
Operational	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$72.86	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Co-location with Netball changerooms and incorporate an e	Long	\$30,000.00

Nyah

Nyah Recreation Reserve South

Asset ID 37246

Address River St, Nyah

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1938	Valuation	\$81,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$77,760.00
Remaining Life	48	Acc Depreciation	\$3,240.00



Number of Cubicles	3	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	1	Hot Water	No
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	1500

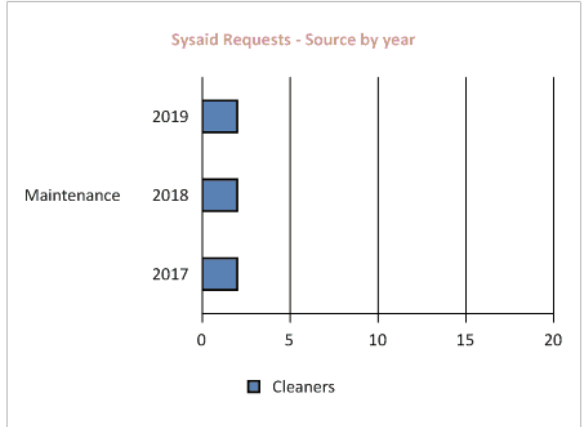
Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

General Comments

Reinforced concrete slab, timber frame, solid brick, colorbond roof. Used campers and sporting, but less use now that trotting isn't on

Maintenance costs

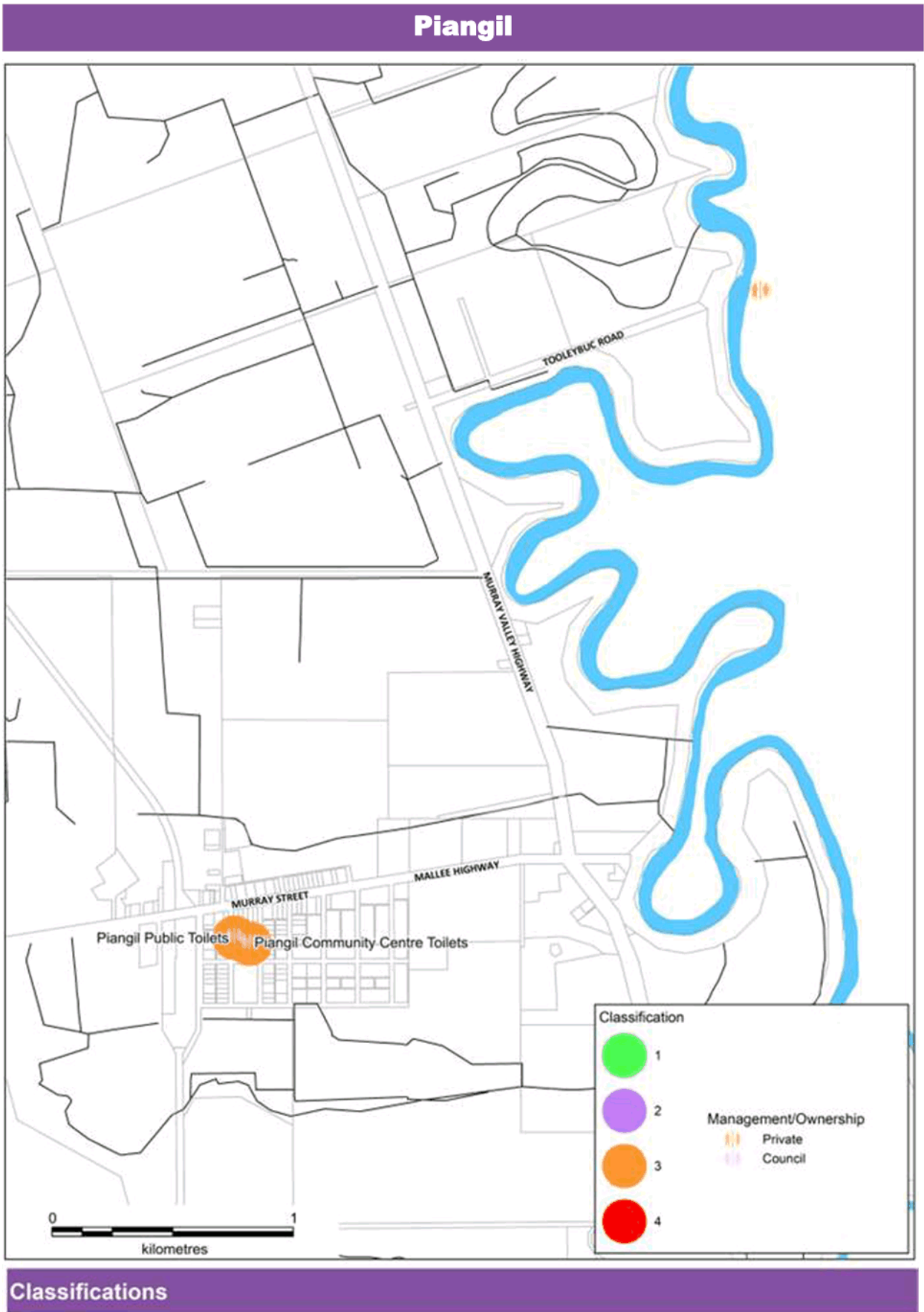
EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$314.18	\$256.82	\$3,135.65	\$0.00



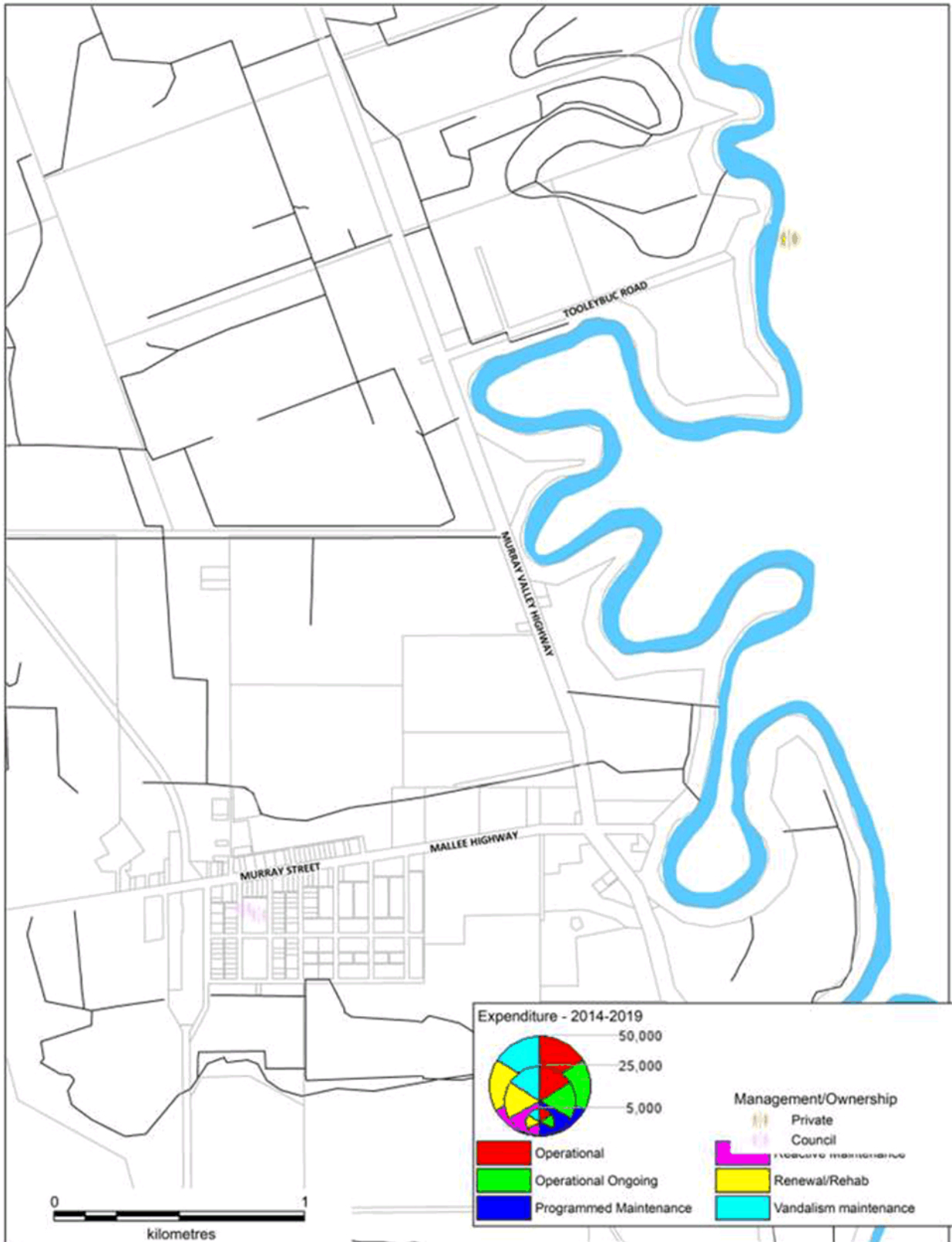
Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Decommission at end of life	Medium	\$20,000.00

Piangil

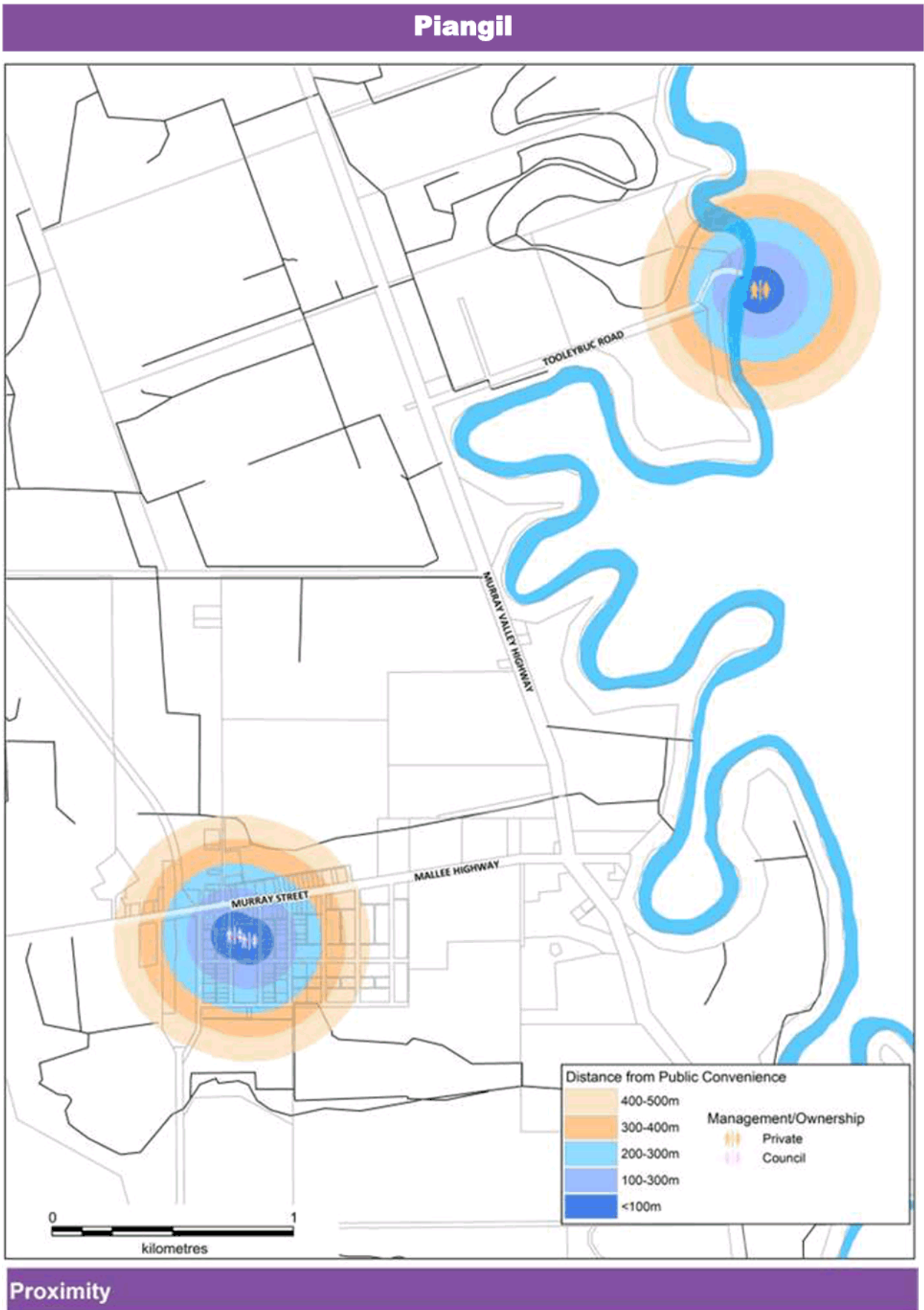
Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Piangil Community Centre Toilets	3			0
Piangil Public Toilets	4	1500	\$2,266.93	6



Piangil



Expenditure - None indicated



Piangil

Piangil Public Toilets

Asset ID 37852

Address Hall St, Piangil

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1938	Valuation	\$48,600.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$48,600.00



Number of Cubicles	5	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	1500

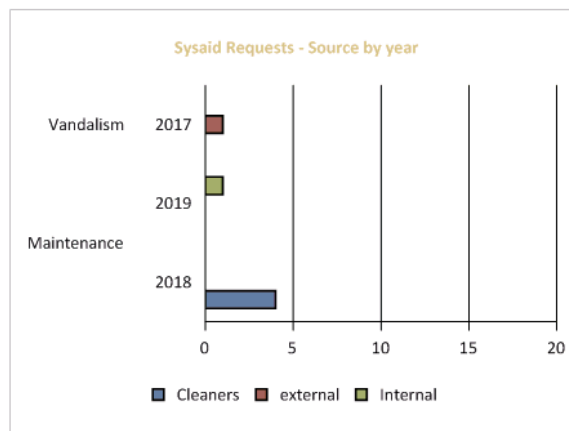
Condition	Usage
Poor	Medium

General Comments

When Council built the new public hall, it was agreed with the local committee that the old toilets would be decommissioned and the Community toilets would be utilised with external access.

Maintenance costs

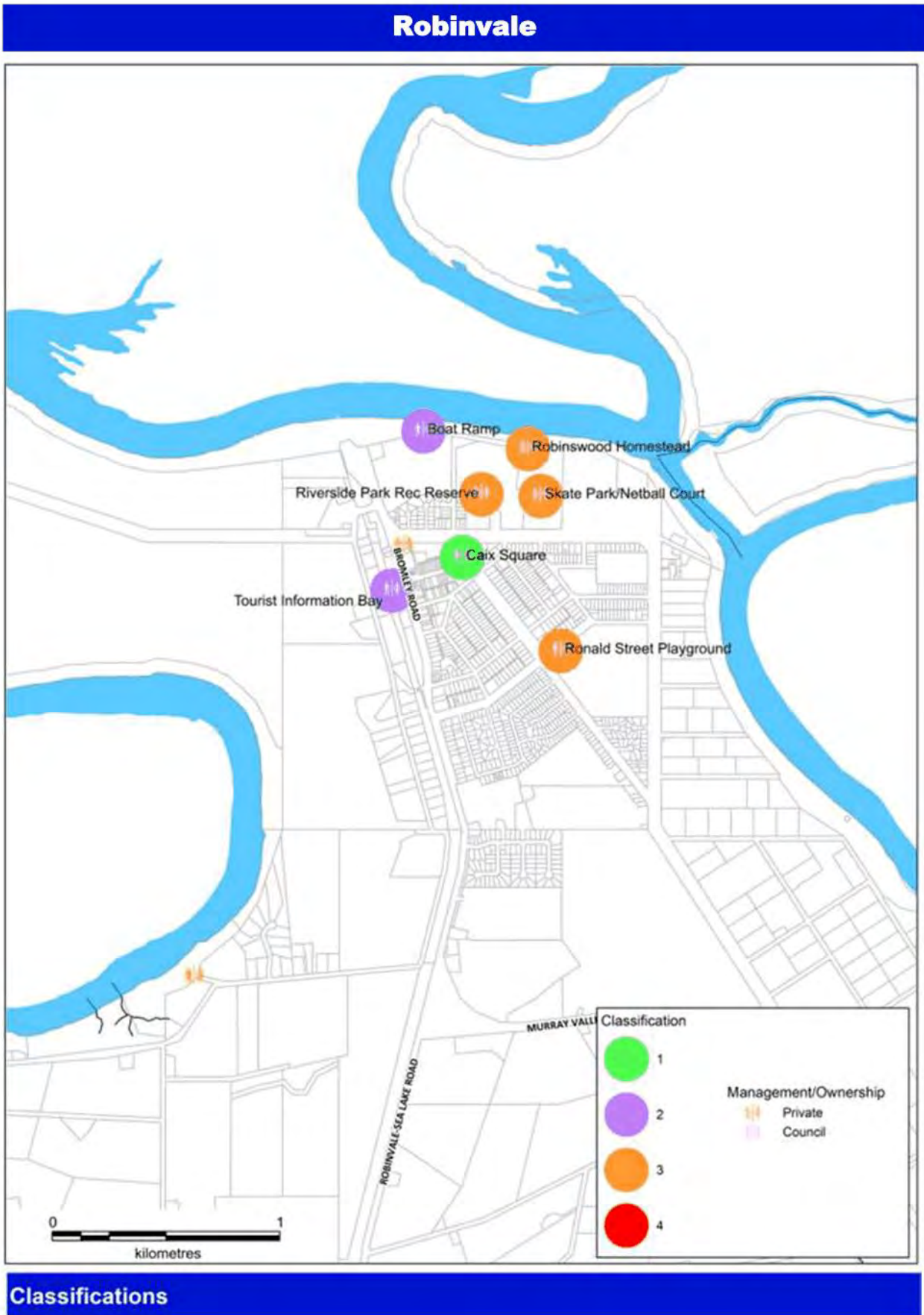
EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$618.40	\$473.75	\$292.48	\$882.30	\$0.00



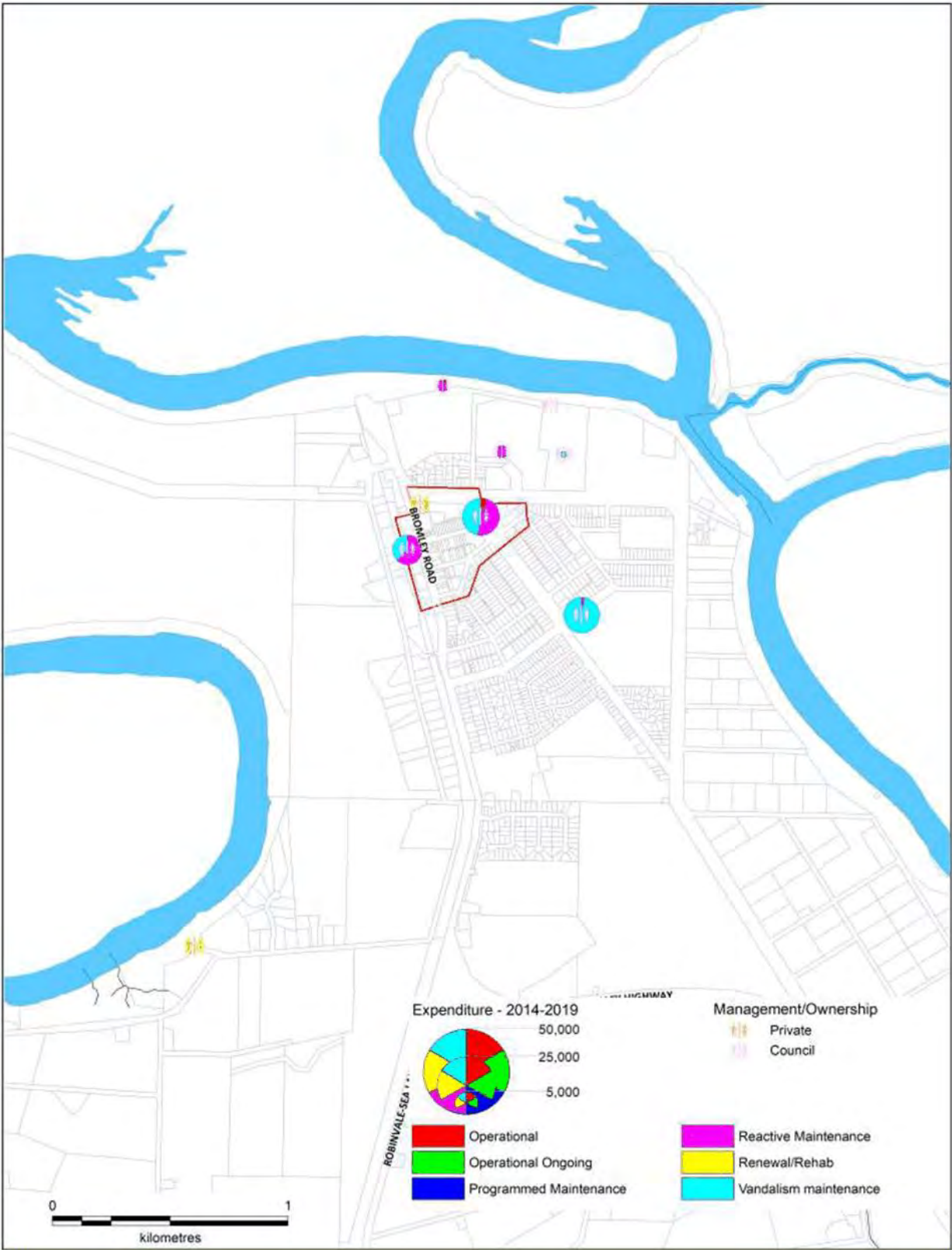
Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Decommission at end of life and utilise Piangil community h	Long	\$20,000.00

Robinvale

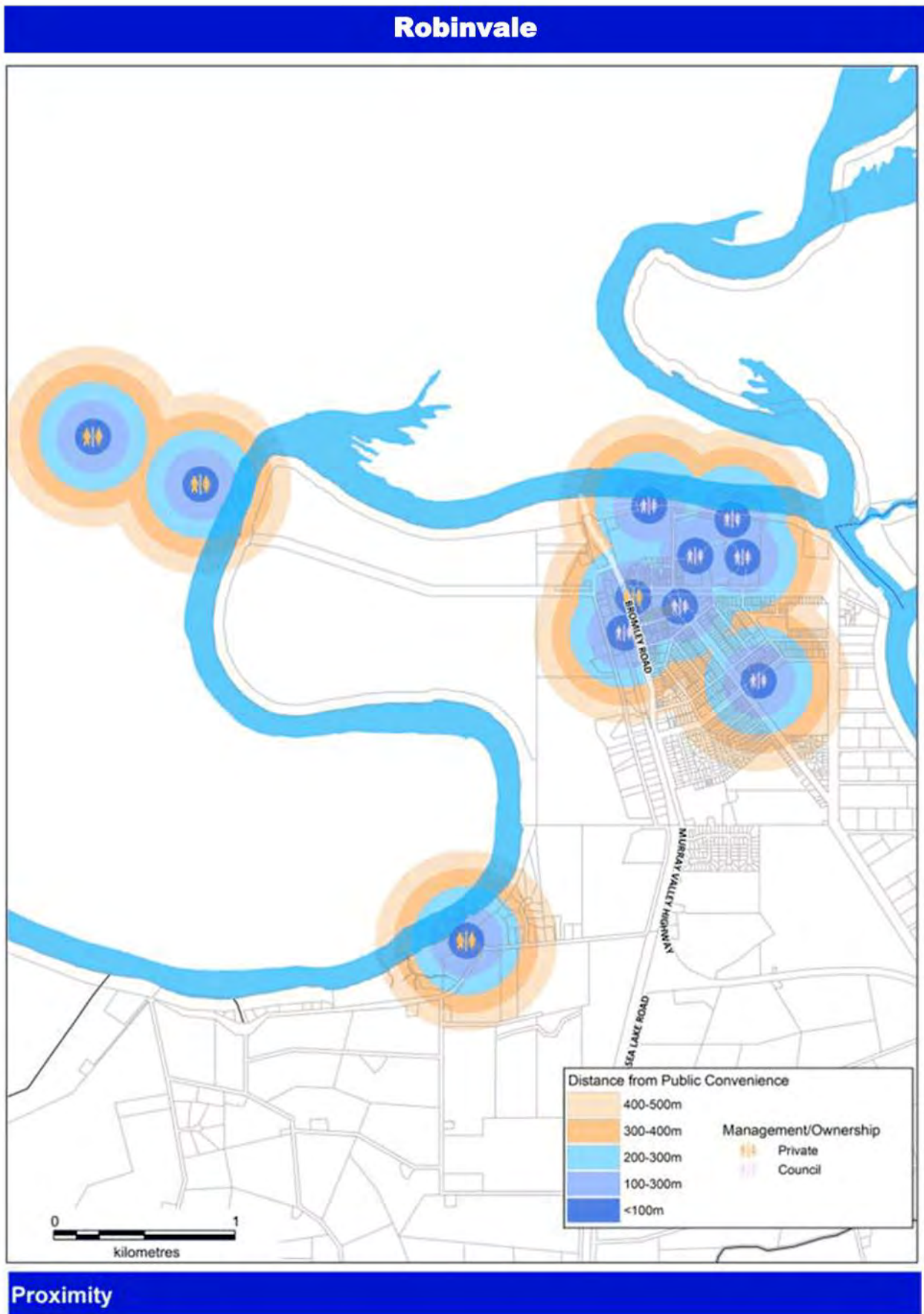
Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Robinvale Boat Ramp Toilets	2	5375	\$901.42	3
Robinvale Caix Square Public Toilet	1	9375	\$7,335.00	20
Robinvale Pisasale Park Toilets	3	680	\$6,917.20	11
Robinvale Riverside Park Rec Reserve Toilets	3	1125		5
Robinvale Skate Park/Netball Court Toilets	3	3375	\$1,654.78	6
Robinvale Tourist Information Bay	2	6885	\$5,092.82	17



Robinvale



Expenditure



Proximity

Robinvale

Robinvale Boat Ramp Toilets

Asset ID 36502

Address McLennan Drive, Robinvale

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1965	Valuation	\$102,600.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$102,600.00



Number of Cubicles	3	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	1	Hot Water	Yes
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	2	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	5375

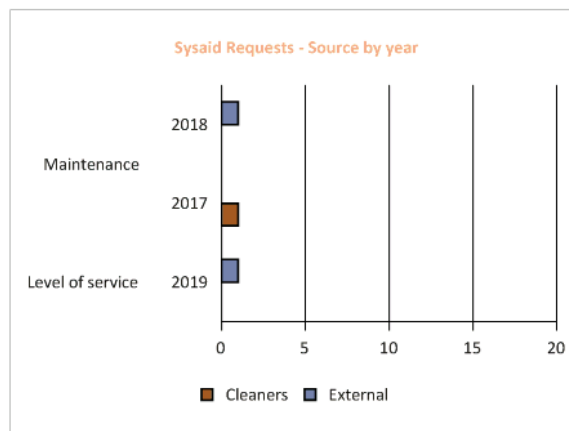
Condition	Usage
Poor	Medium

General Comments

Basic toilet amenity servicing the needs of travellers, water users and events, as well as overflow for the caravan park. No accessible toilets, tired and due for renewal.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$87.00	\$88.00	\$460.32	\$144.39	\$0.00
Operational	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Medium Facility	Medium	\$130,000.00

Robinvale

Robinvale Caix Square Public Toilet

Asset ID 36276

Address 22 George St, Robinvale

Open Hours DAYLIGHT

Construction year	1999	Valuation	\$135,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$78,300.00
Remaining Life	29	Acc Depreciation	\$56,700.00



Number of Cubicles	6	Baby Change Static	Yes
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	9375

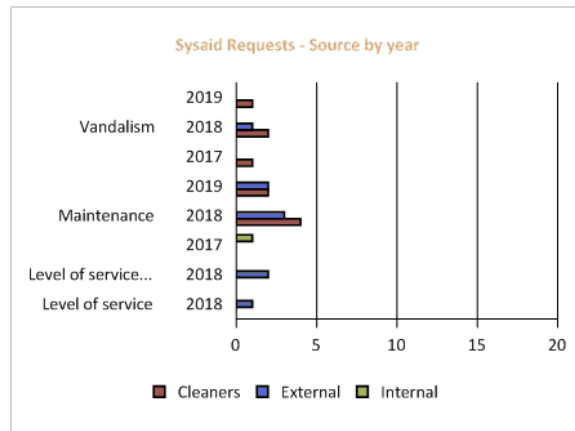
Condition	Usage
Good	High

General Comments

Prone to vandalism. Although a newer facility, it looks tired and in need of love.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$83.00	\$267.59	\$721.47	\$2,383.50	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$95.01	\$1,036.52	\$1,687.78	\$457.45	\$209.69
Operational	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$302.44	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1: Basic Refurbishment	Long	\$15,000.00

Robinvale

Robinvale Pisasale Park Toilets

Asset ID 42056

Address Ronald St, Robinvale

Open Hours

Construction year	2015	Valuation	\$48,600.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$43,740.00
Remaining Life	45	Acc Depreciation	\$4,860.00



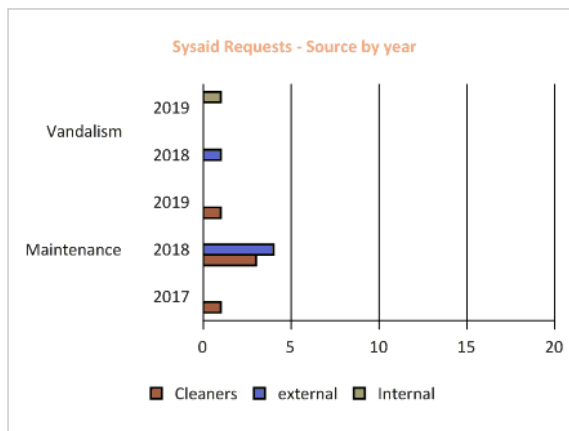
Number of Cubicles	2	Baby Change	Static
Male		Hot Water	
Female		Urinal	
Unisex		Toilet Paper	
Disabled / Fa		Hand Dryers	
Showers		Dump Point	
General Comments		Av Consum/m	680

Condition	Usage
Good	Low

High vandalism rate.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$1,801.13	\$2,727.16	\$541.46	\$1,667.45	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
Nil		

Robinvale

Robinvale Riverside Park Rec Reserve Toilets

Asset ID 37346

Address Accessed off Robin St, Robinvale

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1975	Valuation	\$216,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$21,600.00
Remaining Life	5	Acc Depreciation	\$194,400.00

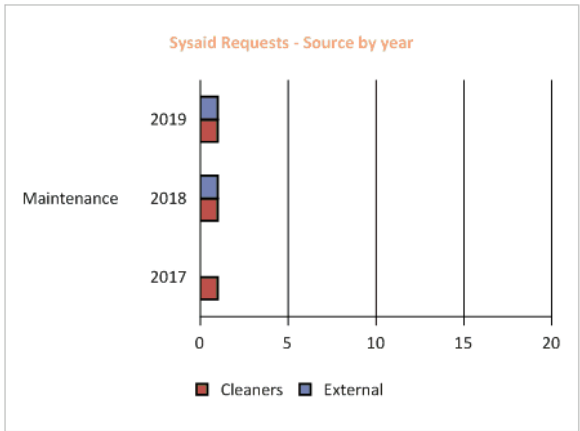


Number of Cubicles	5	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	1125

Condition	Usage
Medium	Medium

Adjacent the dump point. Very old facility and open to rubbish and weather. High vandalism.

Maintenance costs



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1 - Incorporate into Main Sporting Pavilion and remove all w	Long	\$25,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renewal - Small Facility with shower as it is by a dump poi	Alternate	\$100,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 3 - Renovation	Alternate	\$15,000.00

Robinvale

Robinvale Skate Park/Netball Court Toilets

Asset ID 37327

Address Latje Rd, Robinvale

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1980	Valuation	\$1,000,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$200,000.00
Remaining Life	10	Acc Depreciation	\$800,000.00



Number of Cubicles	5	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	3375

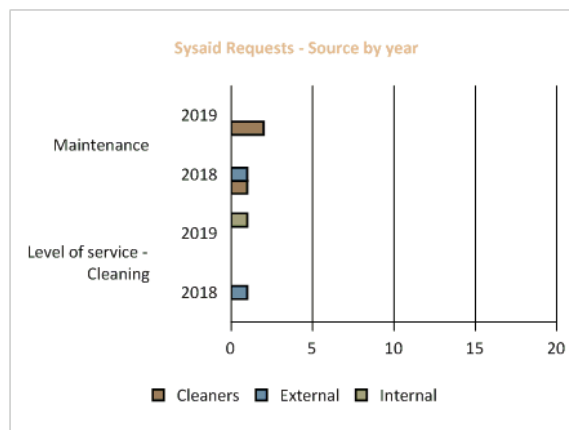
Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

General Comments

Utilised by Netball on Saturdays and by skate park. Approaching end of life. Netball Court redevelopment, as well as Leisure Centre expansion plans provide many RECOMMENDATIONS for the decommissioning of this facility.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$121.50	\$108.00	\$0.00
Operational	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$732.75	\$144.39	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$0.00	\$147.00	\$0.00	\$194.43	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION: Co-locate with Leisure Centre development to include one a	Short	\$30,000.00

Robinvale

Robinvale Tourist Information Bay

Asset ID 37569

Address Bromley Rd, Robinvale

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1995	Valuation	\$25,125.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$12,562.50
Remaining Life	25	Acc Depreciation	\$12,562.50



Number of Cubicles	6	Baby Change	Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes	
Female	3	Urinal	Yes	
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO	
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers		3
Showers	1	Dump Point	No	
General Comments		Av Consum/m		6885

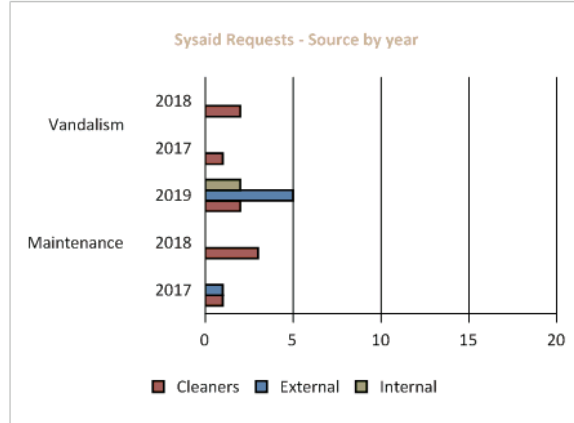
Condition	Usage
Good	High

General Comments

Facility built in 1995, generally issue however there is a major concern regarding the shower which is possibly leaking behind the wall, mould and fungus issues.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$89.00	\$1,364.42	\$1,452.55	\$248.26	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$251.57	\$803.05	\$810.52	\$57.55	\$15.90

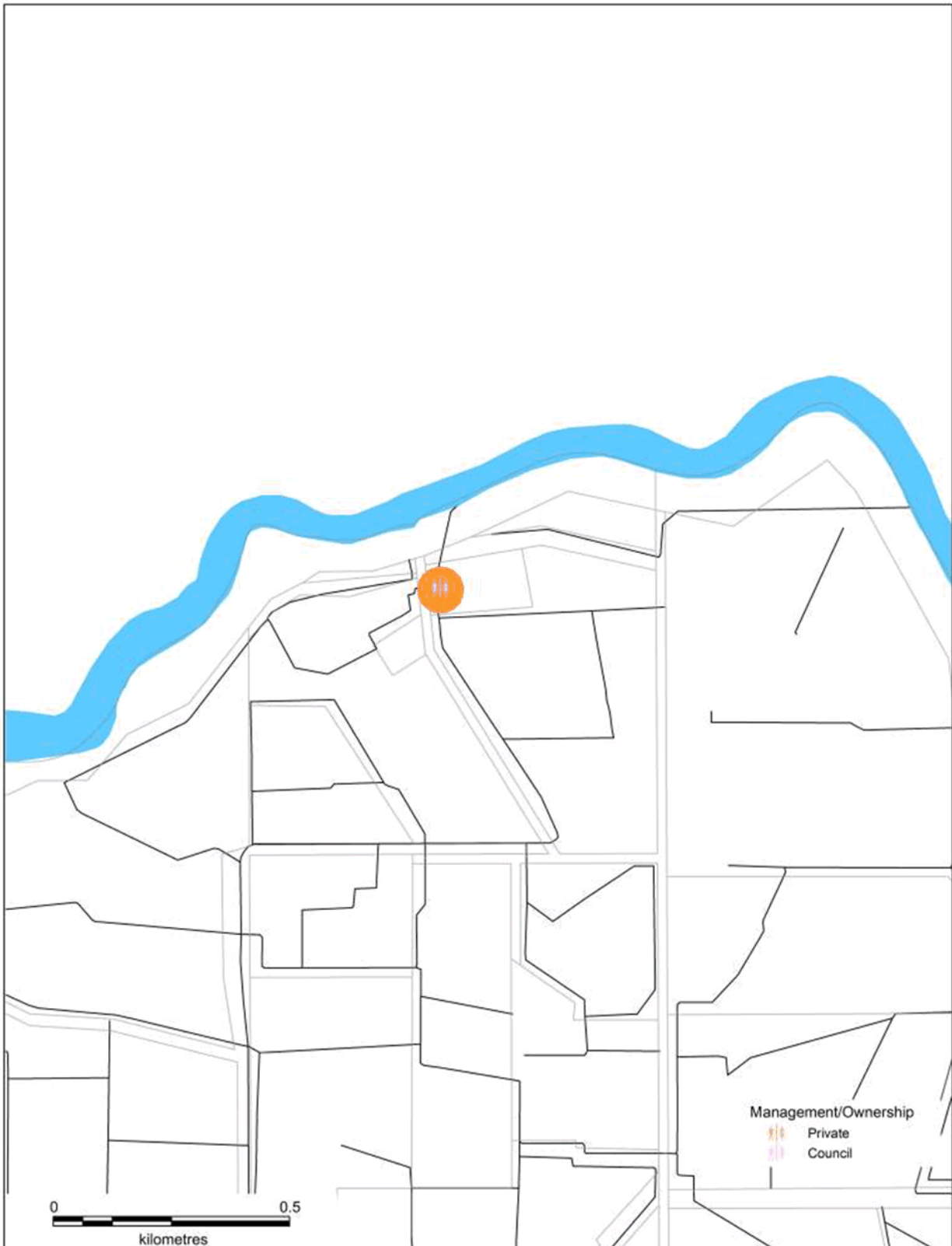


Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Refurbishment of Shower facility including better ventilatio	Short	\$10,000.00

Speewa

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Speewa Speewa Hall Toilets	3			0

Speewa



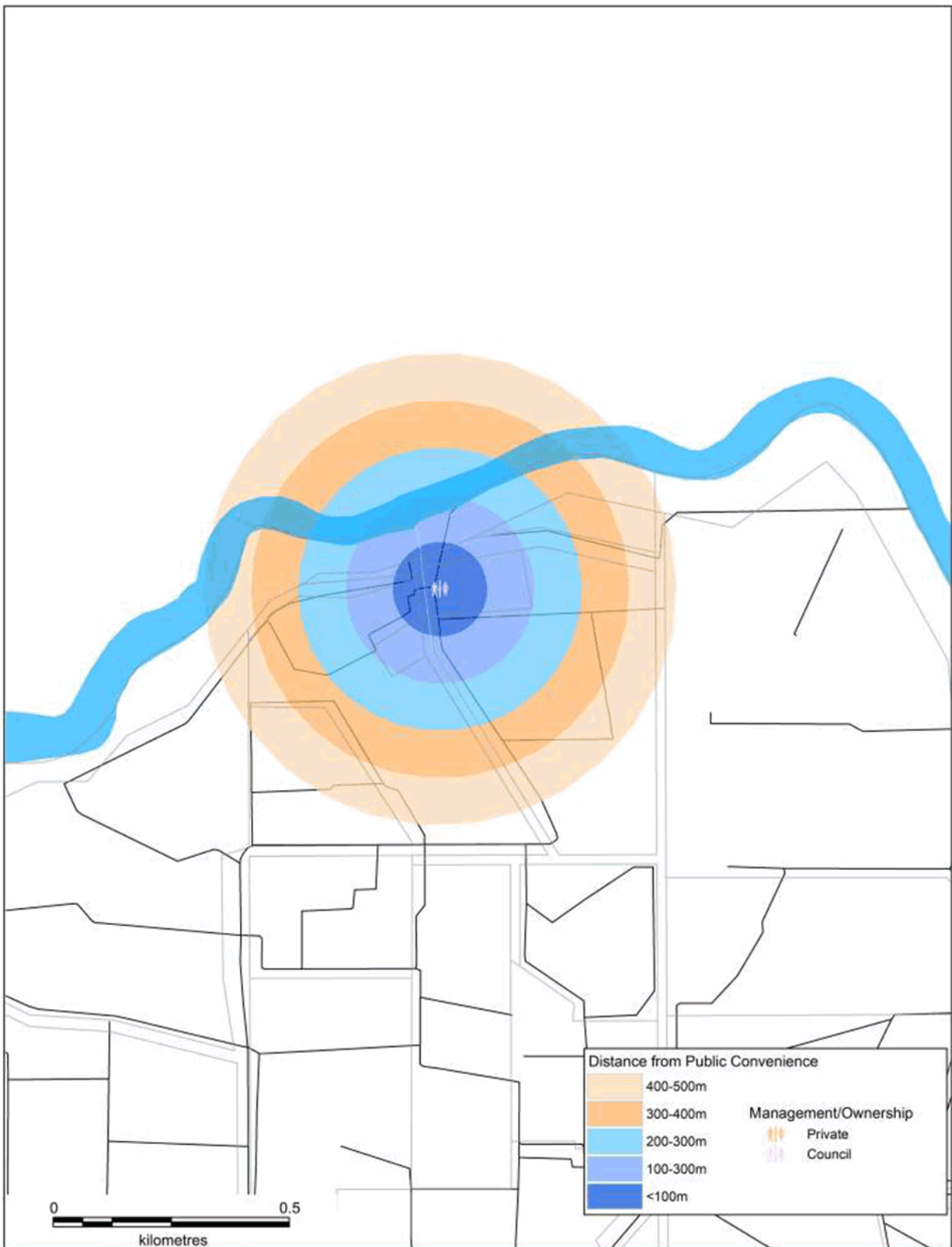
Classification

Speewa



Expenditure - None noted

Speewa



Proximity

Speewa

Speewa Speewa Hall Toilets

Asset ID 37493

Address 502 Speewa Punt Rd, Speewa

Open Hours

Construction year	1958	Valuation	\$90,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$90,000.00



Number of Cubicles	2	Baby Change	Static
Male		Hot Water	
Female		Urinal	
Unisex		Toilet Paper	
Disabled / Fa		Hand Dryers	
Showers		Dump Point	
		Av Consum/m	

Condition	Usage

General Comments

A lot of use by punt users and campers. Council has no direct responsibility for the upkeep or cleaning of the facility but have supplied loose leaf toilet paper in the past. The responsibility of the toilet block is accounted for in the user agreement of the Public Hall.

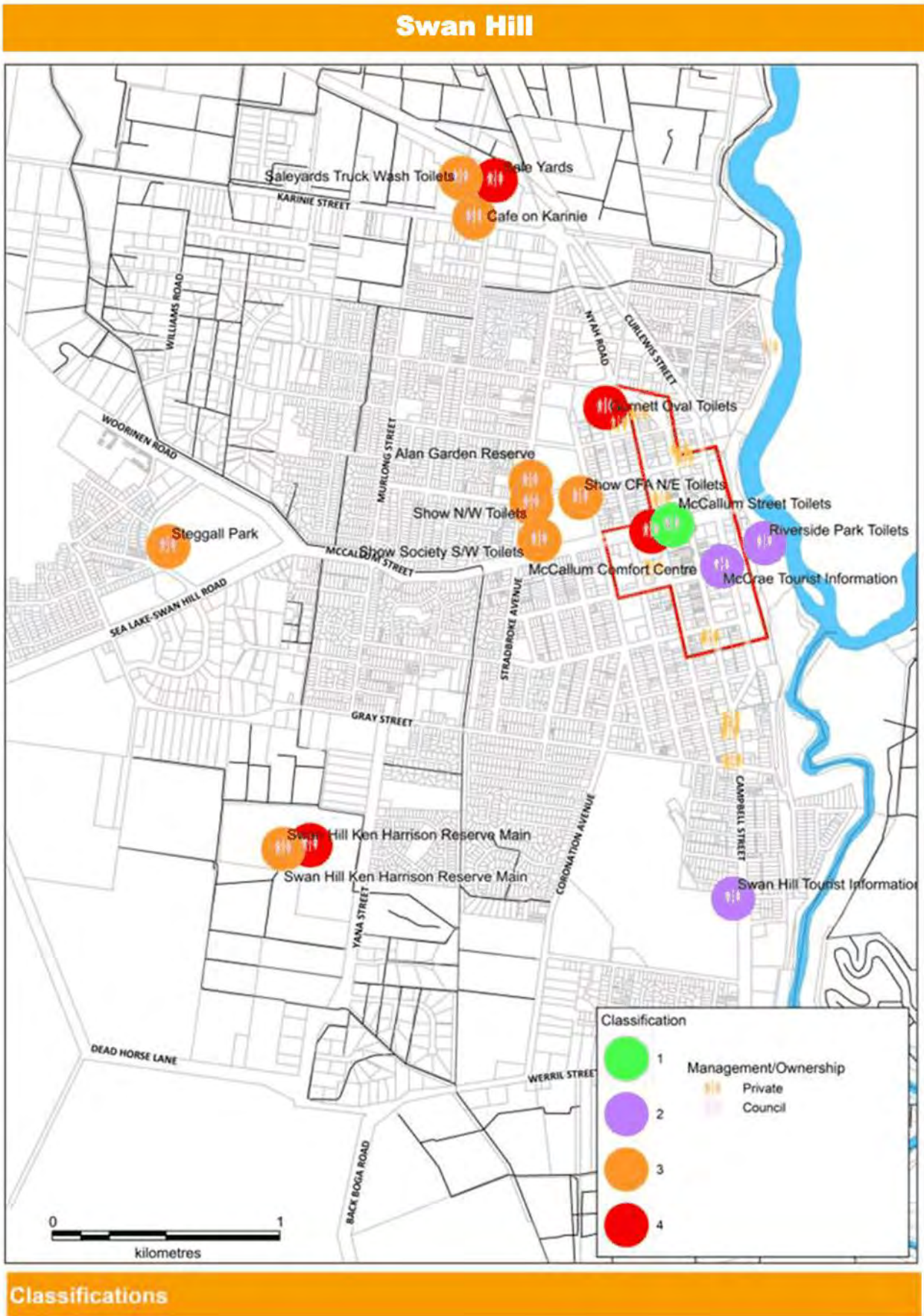
Maintenance costs

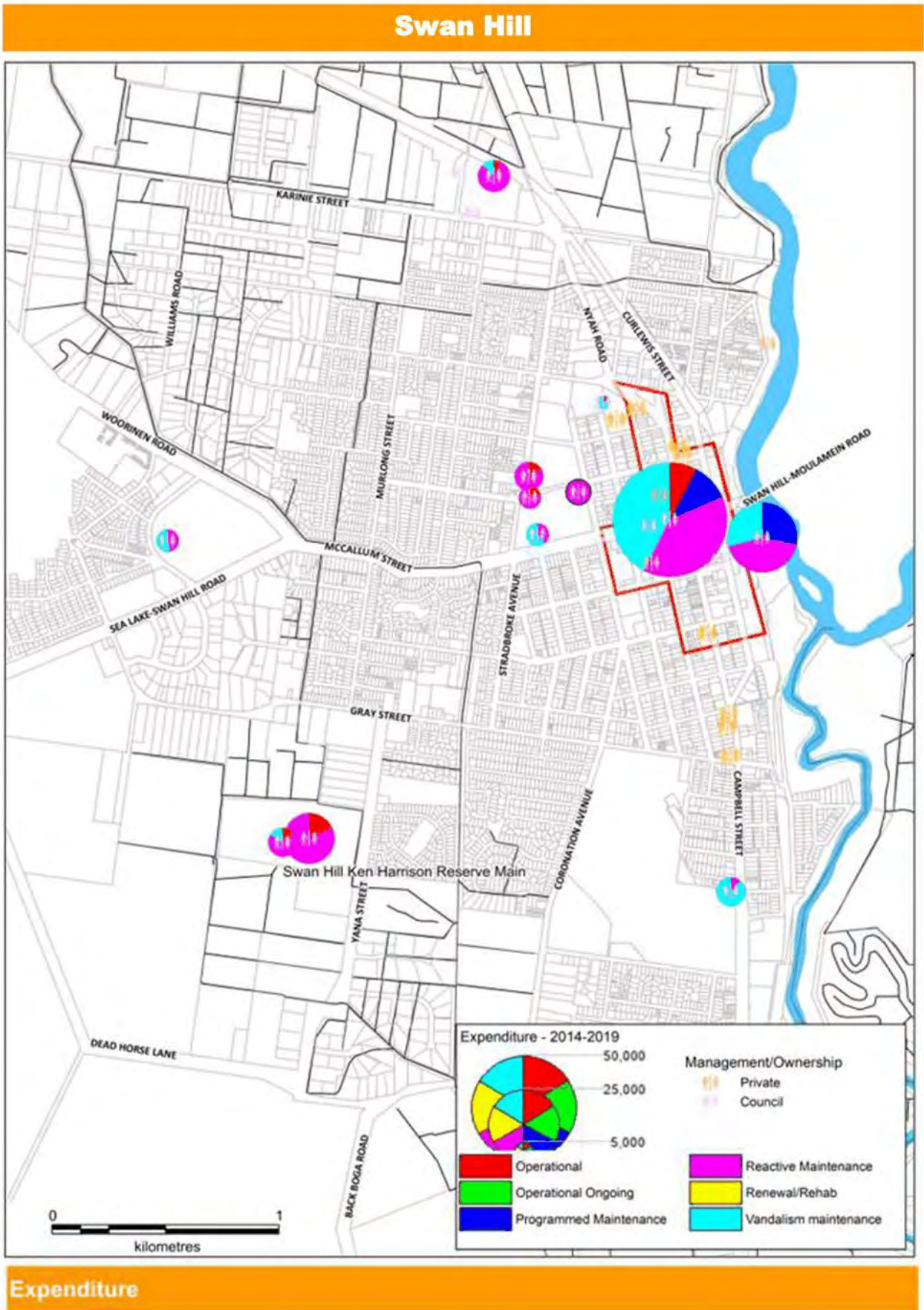


Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
Nil		

Swan Hill

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Swan Hill Milloo St Boat Ramp	3			0
Swan Hill Aerodrome	4	90	\$3,866.66	7
Swan Hill Alan Garden Reserve Football Toilets	3	1000	\$3,917.35	8
Swan Hill Cafe on Karinie	3			5
Swan Hill Gurnett Oval Toilets	4	1500	\$862.05	1
Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve Main	3	8875	\$3,830.15	8
Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve Soccer	4	375	\$10,707.62	11
Swan Hill McCallum Comfort Centre	4			0
Swan Hill McCallum Street Toilets	1	31675	\$32,021.70	64
Swan Hill McCrae Tourist Information	2	14900	\$22,882.04	41
Swan Hill Riverside Park Toilets	2	7375	\$19,822.50	36
Swan Hill Sale Yards	4	250	\$5,082.92	1
Swan Hill Saleyards Truck Wash Toilets	3	1250		8
Swan Hill Show CFA N/E Toilets	3	625	\$3,580.98	6
Swan Hill Show N/W Men's and Women's Toilets	3	875	\$2,561.26	10
Swan Hill Show Society S/W Toilets	3	2875	\$2,418.82	12
Swan Hill Steggall Park	3	2250	\$2,309.39	4
Swan Hill Tourist Information Bay	2	1625	\$3,909.13	4







Proximity

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Aerodrome

Asset ID 36233

Address 190 Back Boga Rd, Swan Hill

Open Hours 24/7

Construction year	1960	Valuation	\$81,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$81,000.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	ROLL
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	90

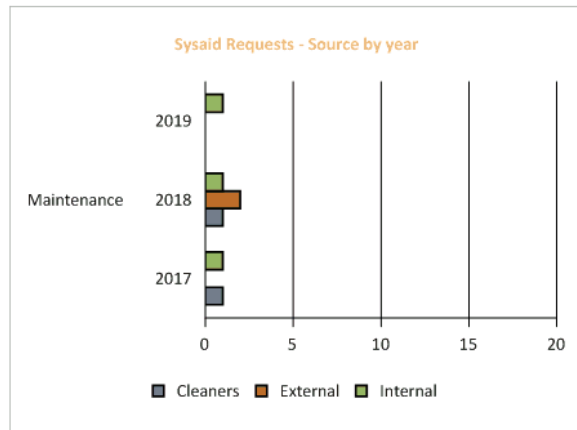
Condition	Usage
Medium	Low

General Comments

Water service provision to toilet block has been problematic over the time; water is pumped from a tank on demand. Septic provision at this site only, working to a satisfactory standard. The toilet block services mainly workers in the hangers and some plane travellers.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$58.15	\$420.15	\$2,993.25	\$395.11	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Decommission - access to terminal 24/7	Short	\$20,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Alan Garden Reserve Football Toilets

Asset ID **36239**

Address Stradbroke Avenue, Swan Hill

Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year	1966	Valuation	\$108,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$108,000.00



Number of Cubicles	5	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	1000

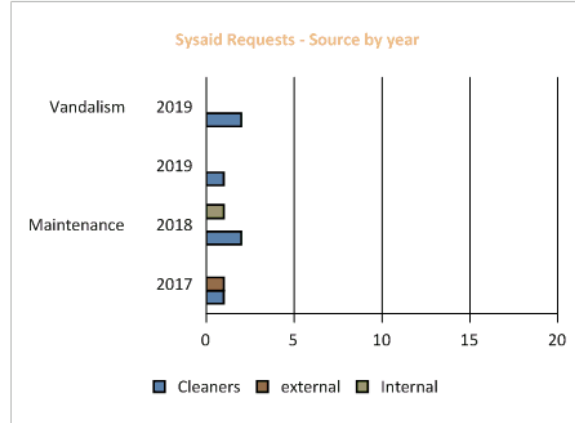
Condition	Usage
Poor	Medium

General Comments

Basic Amenity used during football, the show and Swan Hill college etc for events. Toilets at pavilion, although nearby, are upstairs so many people use these.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Operational	\$57.88	\$59.62	\$469.41	\$63.55	\$0.00
Reactive Maintenance	\$2,545.93	\$110.18	\$337.65	\$273.13	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1 - Renew with Small Facility	Long	\$100,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 2 - Renew with Medium Facility	Alternate	\$130,000.00
RECOMMENDATION 1 - Decommission at end of life	Alternate	\$20,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Cafe on Karinie

Asset ID 36711

Address Karinie St, Swan Hill

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1995	Valuation	\$171,000.00
Expected Life	75	WDV	\$114,000.00
Remaining Life	50	Acc Depreciation	\$57,000.00



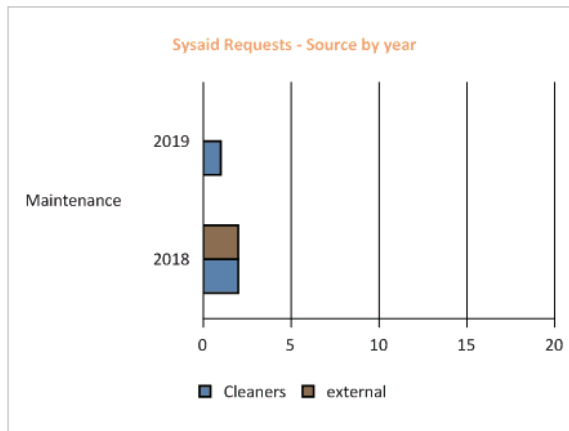
Number of Cubicles	2	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	1	Hot Water	Yes
Female	1	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	INTERLE
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	1	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	

Condition	Usage
Good	

General Comments

Toilet block services the cafe and patrons for Sales. After hours access to showers and toilets for truck drivers.

Maintenance costs



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
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Nil

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Gurnett Oval Toilets

Asset ID 36963

Address Purtons Lane, Swan Hill

Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year	1969	Valuation	\$108,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$108,000.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	1500

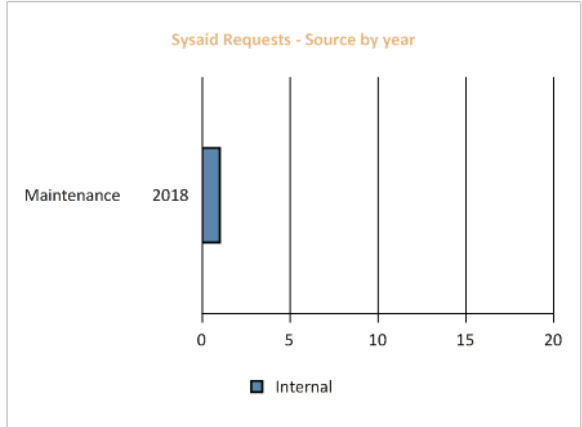
Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

General Comments

Currently opened for recreation reserve bookings only. Can only be used during daylight hours due to no power for lighting.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Vandalism maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$740.34	\$0.00
Operational	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$31.16	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Decommission, co-locate with clubrooms	Short	\$40,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve Main

Asset ID 36649

Address Yanna St, Swan Hill

Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year 1991 Valuation \$194,400.00
 Expected Life 50 WDV \$81,648.00
 Remaining Life 21 Acc Depreciation \$112,752.00



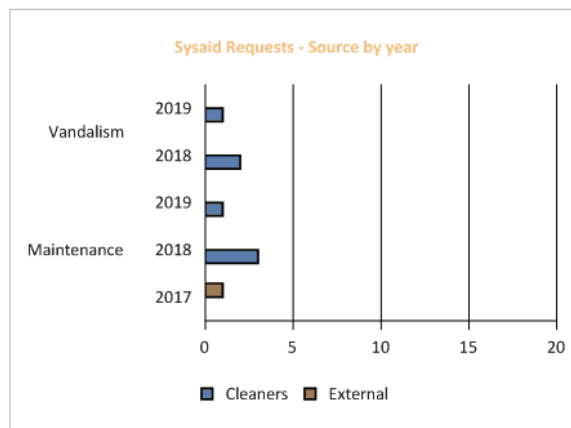
Number of Cubicles 10 Baby Change Static No
 Male 3 Hot Water No
 Female 6 Urinal Yes
 Unisex 0 Toilet Paper JUMBO
 Disabled / Fa 1 Hand Dryers 0
 Showers 0 Dump Point No
 Av Consum/m 8875

Condition	Usage
Medium	High

General Comments

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$231.39	\$170.03	\$1,709.96	\$520.20	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$0.00	\$406.43	\$133.46	\$35.68	\$59.65
Operational	\$57.88	\$59.62	\$62.30	\$383.55	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Refurbishment	Long	\$30,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Ken Harrison Reserve Soccer

Asset ID 36645

Address Yanna St, Swan Hill

Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year	1980	Valuation	\$385,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$77,000.00
Remaining Life	10	Acc Depreciation	\$308,000.00



Number of Cubicles	2	Baby Change Static	No
Male	1	Hot Water	No
Female	1	Urinal	No
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No

Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

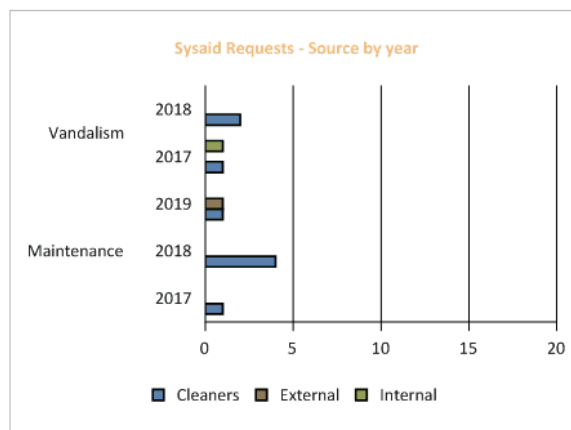
General Comments

Av Consum/m 375

External toilets at back of soccer. Locked afterhours but prone to vandalism
 Plans to construct new amenities for the soccer or to shared facilities with tennis have been discussed. Recommend the inclusion of toilets into this building.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$221.53	\$4,283.71	\$498.15	\$3,737.37	\$0.00
Operational	\$282.47	\$328.81	\$522.96	\$765.96	\$66.66



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Co-locate with new soccer facility	Medium	\$20,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill McCallum Comfort Centre

Asset ID 36785

Address McCallum St, Swan Hill

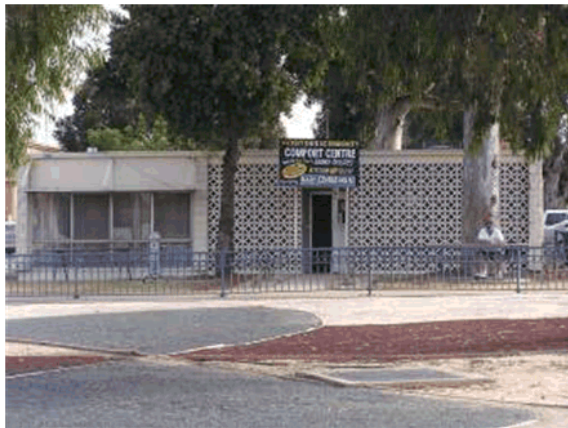
Open Hours

Construction year	1956	Valuation	\$420,000.00
Expected Life	80	WDV	\$84,000.00
Remaining Life	16	Acc Depreciation	\$336,000.00



Number of Cubicles	Baby Change Static
Male	Hot Water
Female	Urinal
Unisex	Toilet Paper
Disabled / Fa	Hand Dryers
Showers	Dump Point
General Comments	Av Consum/m
Maintenance costs	

Condition	Usage
Good	



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
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Nil

Swan Hill

Swan Hill McCallum Street Toilets

Asset ID 36786

Address McCallum St, Swan Hill

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1972	Valuation	\$162,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$6,480.00
Remaining Life	2	Acc Depreciation	\$155,520.00



Number of Cubicles	7	Baby Change Static	Yes
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	2	Urinal	No
Unisex	2	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	31675

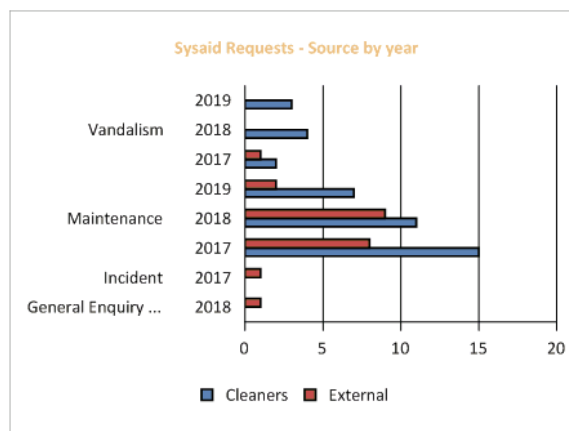
Condition	Usage
Good	High

General Comments

Condition: Good – toilet block has all abilities access and is of modern design. Painted 2016/17 and has updated signage.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$1,914.72	\$4,197.41	\$3,077.01	\$2,654.37	\$983.51
Vandalism maintenance	\$7,512.46	\$2,143.32	\$3,085.34	\$6,012.70	\$89.63
Operational	\$28.95	\$29.82	\$260.68	\$31.78	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1 - Refurbishment	Medium	\$40,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Riverside Park Toilets

Asset ID 37365

Address Monash Dr, Swan Hill

Open Hours DAYLIGHT

Construction year	2000	Valuation	\$81,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$48,600.00
Remaining Life	30	Acc Depreciation	\$32,400.00

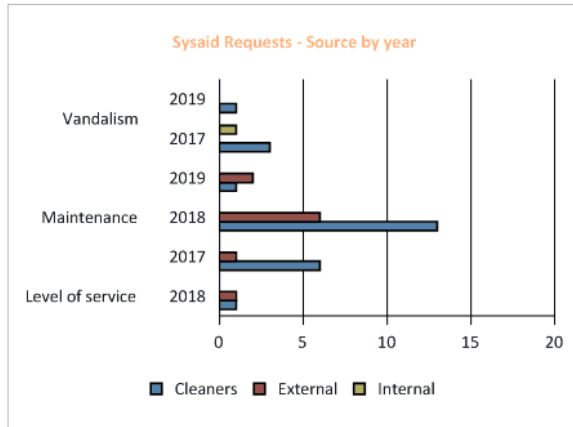


Number of Cubicles	6	Baby Change Static	Yes
Male	2	Hot Water	Yes
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers	1
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	7375

Condition	Usage
Good	Medium

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Programmed Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,673.35	\$3,940.33	\$0.00
Reactive Maintenance	\$1,941.87	\$2,028.40	\$1,644.28	\$2,297.18	\$506.69
Vandalism maintenance	\$972.55	\$1,065.24	\$935.78	\$2,816.83	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renewal with Large facility	Medium	\$260,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Sale Yards

Asset ID 36717

Address Saleyards Rd, Swan Hill

Open Hours 24/7

Construction year	1960	Valuation	\$108,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$108,000.00



Number of Cubicles	1	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	1	Hot Water	No
Female	0	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No

General Comments

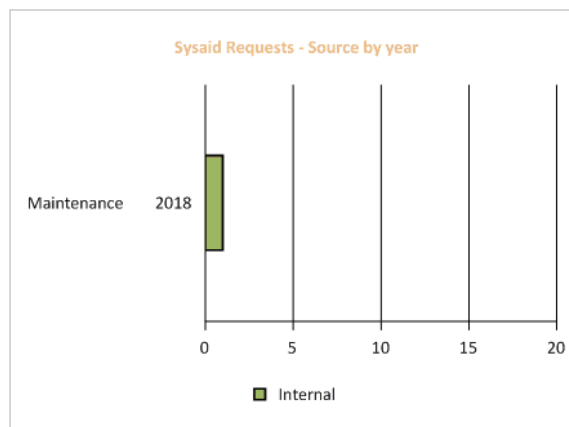
Av Consum/m 250

Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

Overall condition: Poor – Services sale day purposes and is suitable for men only. Without the toilets, more indiscreet toileting would take place, so they currently serve an important function of sale day services

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$276.50	\$40.89	\$15.90	\$1,441.94	\$75.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$306.45	\$0.00
Operational	\$57.88	\$59.62	\$62.30	\$154.90	\$0.00
Reactive Maintenance	\$570.00	\$506.69	\$0.00	\$868.63	\$296.38
Vandalism maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$92.86	\$256.98	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Small facility with sewerage connection	Medium	\$130,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Saleyards Truck Wash Toilets

Asset ID 36718

Address Saleyards Rd, Swan Hill

Open Hours 24/7

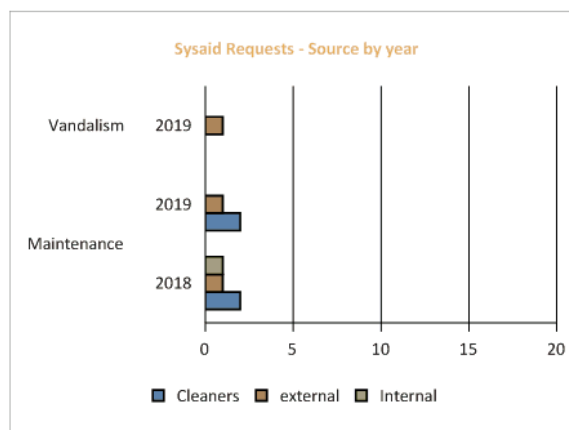
Construction year	1960	Valuation	\$108,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$108,000.00



Number of Cubicles	2	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	1	Hot Water	Yes
Female	1	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	1	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	1250

Condition	Usage
Medium	Low

Maintenance costs



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION 1: Decommission at end of life and redirect to Karinie Toilets.	Long	\$20,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Show CFA N/E Toilets

Asset ID 37483

Address Showgrounds, High St side, Swan Hill

Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year	1966	Valuation	\$105,300.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$105,300.00

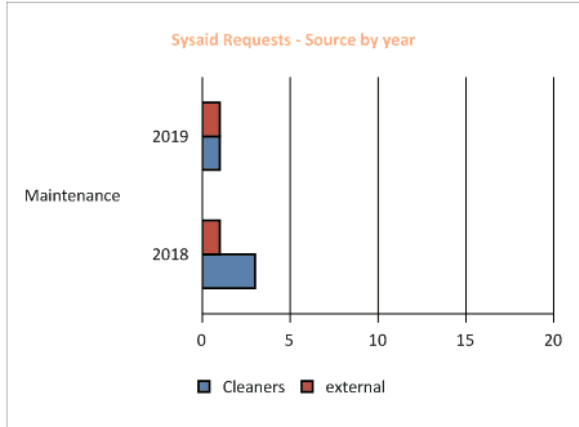


Number of Cubicles	6	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	4	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	625

Condition	Usage
Medium	Low

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$2,173.73	\$132.53	\$348.45	\$926.27	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Co-Location with Leisure Centre	Long	\$30,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Show N/W Men's and Women's Toilets

Asset ID 37481

Address Showgrounds, Pritchard St, Swan Hill

Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year	1966	Valuation	\$162,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$162,000.00

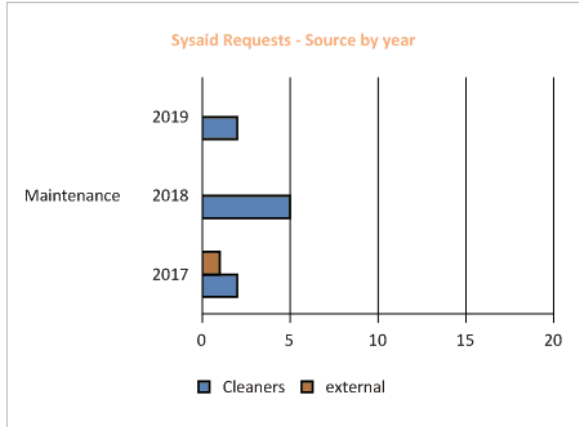


Number of Cubicles	10	Baby Change Static	No
Male	4	Hot Water	No
Female	6	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	Yes
General Comments		Av Consum/m	875

Condition	Usage
Poor	Low

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$460.80	\$187.35	\$76.75	\$101.96	\$219.86
Operational	\$72.35	\$149.05	\$155.76	\$158.88	\$0.00
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$92.85	\$885.65	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Decommission at end of life	Medium	\$20,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Show Society S/W Toilets

Asset ID 37480

Address Showground, McCallum St side

Open Hours AS REQ

Construction year	1966	Valuation	\$97,200.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$0.00
Remaining Life	0	Acc Depreciation	\$97,200.00

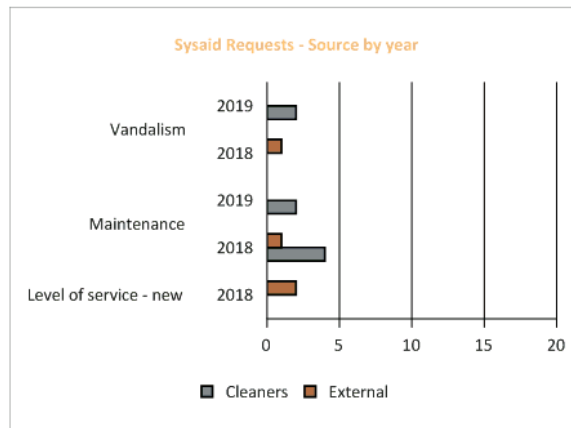


Number of Cubicles	5	Baby Change Static	No
Male	2	Hot Water	No
Female	3	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	0	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
General Comments		Av Consum/m	2875

Condition	Usage
Medium	Low

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$143.64	\$0.00	\$13.18	\$562.88	\$212.53
Vandalism maintenance	\$526.83	\$144.68	\$815.07	\$0.01	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renewal with lockable Medium facility	Short	\$130,000.00

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Steggall Park

Asset ID 39061

Address Parkside Ave, Swan Hill

Open Hours 24/7

Construction year	2012	Valuation	\$86,400.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$72,576.00
Remaining Life	42	Acc Depreciation	\$13,824.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change Static	Yes
Male		Hot Water	Yes
Female		Urinal	No
Unisex	4	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	2	Hand Dryers	2
Showers	0	Dump Point	No
		Av Consum/m	2250

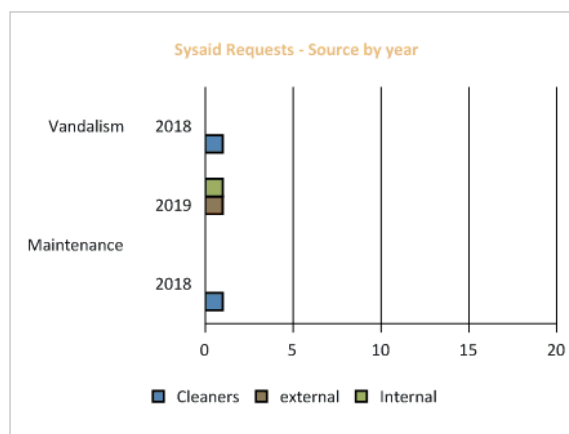
General Comments

Built in 2012.

Condition	Usage
Good	Medium

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$652.96	\$0.00	\$213.28	\$177.77	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$1,005.62	\$145.18	\$57.03	\$57.55	\$0.00



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
Nil		

Swan Hill

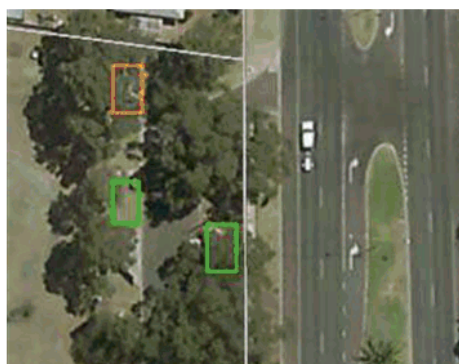
Swan Hill Tourist Information Bay

Asset ID 37562

Address Campbell St, Swan Hill

Open Hours 24 / 7

Construction year	1981	Valuation	\$94,500.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$20,790.00
Remaining Life	11	Acc Depreciation	\$73,710.00



Number of Cubicles	4	Baby Change	StaticNo
Male	1	Hot Water	No
Female	2	Urinal	Yes
Unisex	0	Toilet Paper	JUMBO
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers	0
Showers	0	Dump Point	No

Condition	Usage
Medium	High

General Comments

Av Consum/m 1625

Located in Tourist Information hub off Campbell Street, the toilet serves basic amenity function where there is provision for motor homes and caravans. There's an Information Board and some older style street furniture. The Information Bay precinct offers only a basic service at this time.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$231.82	\$0.00
Vandalism maintenance	\$1,240.31	\$117.05	\$383.15	\$1,736.80	\$0.00

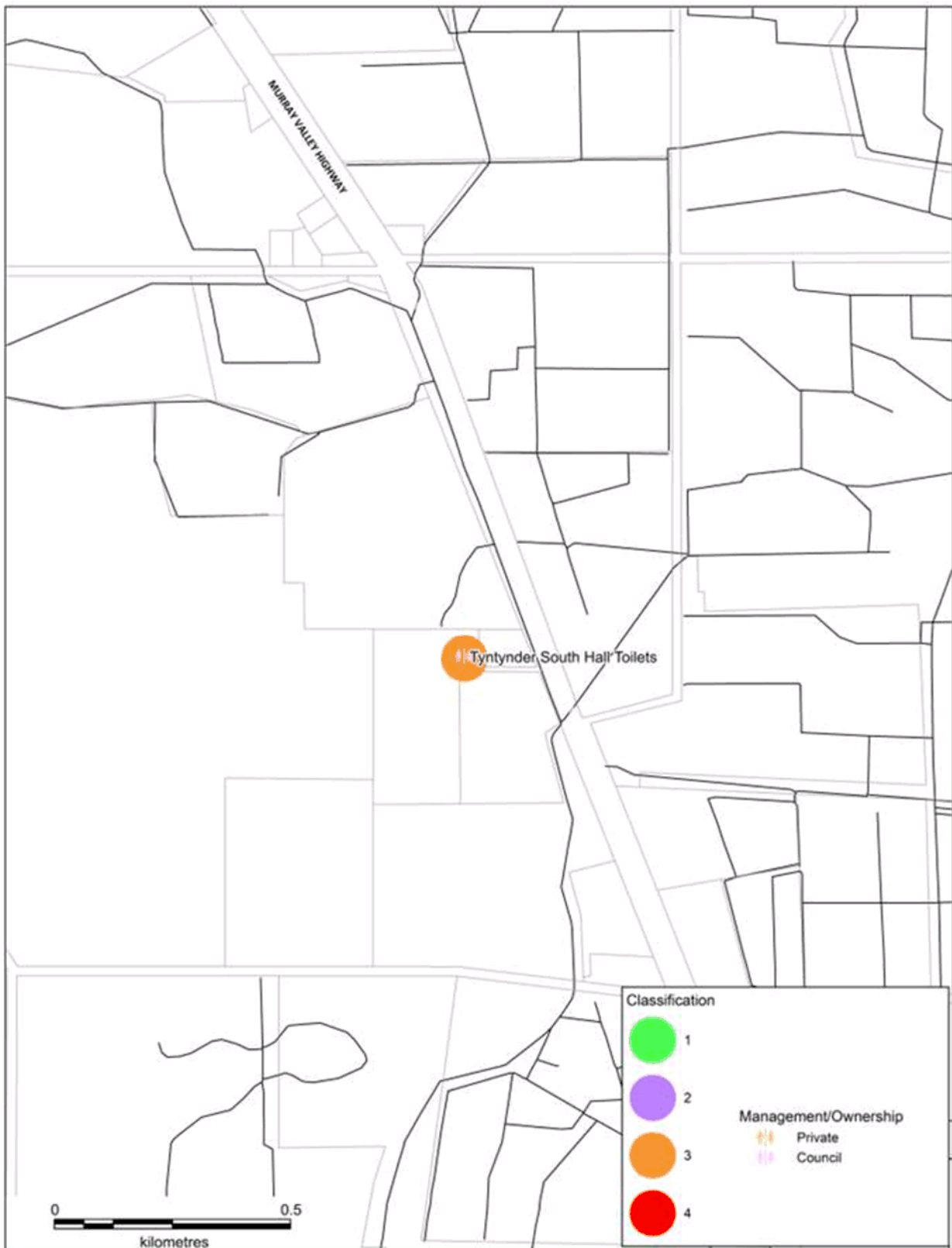


Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Renewal - Medium Facility	Medium	\$130,000.00

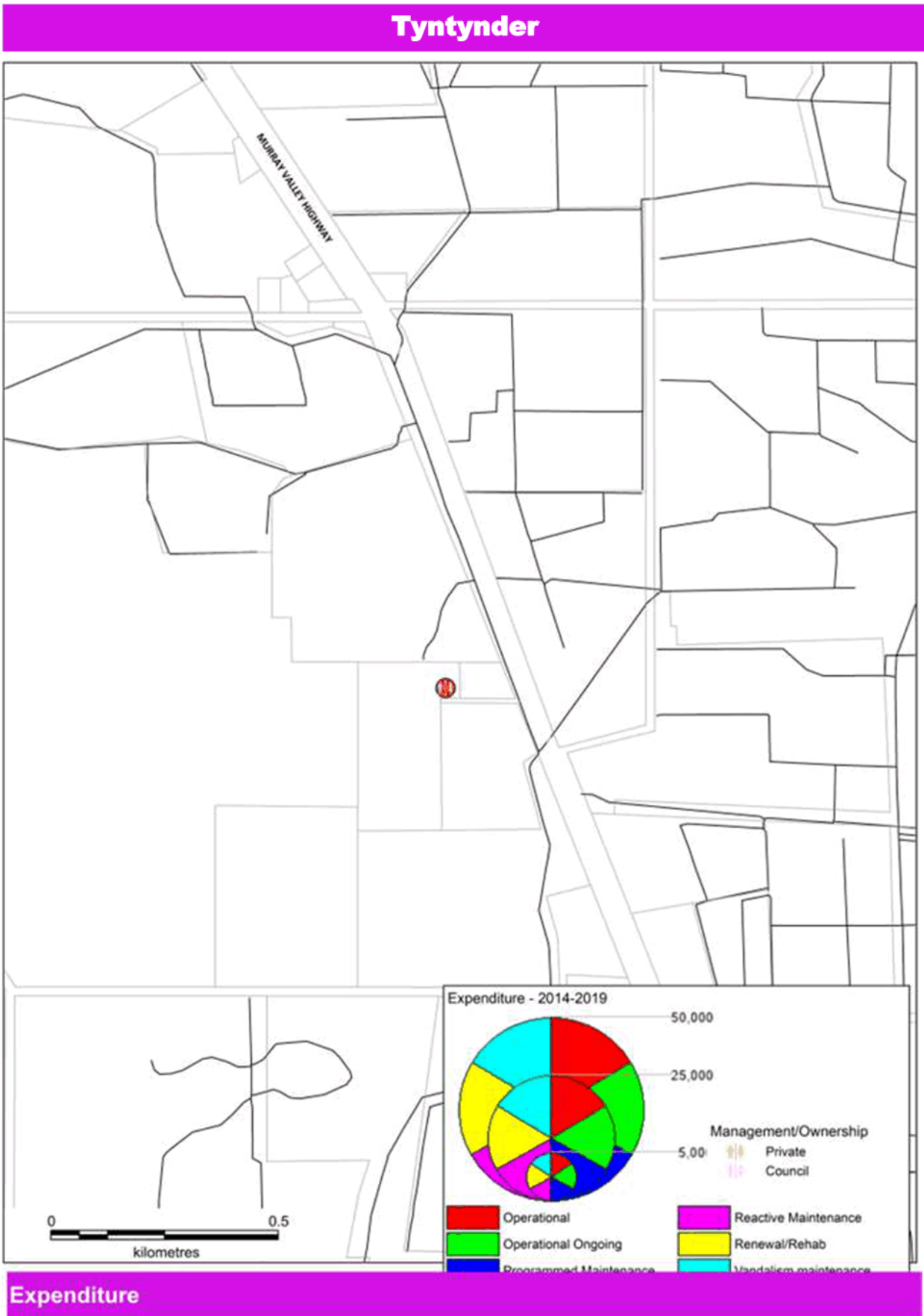
Tyntynder

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Tyntynder South Hall Toilets	3		\$625.20	0

Tyntynder

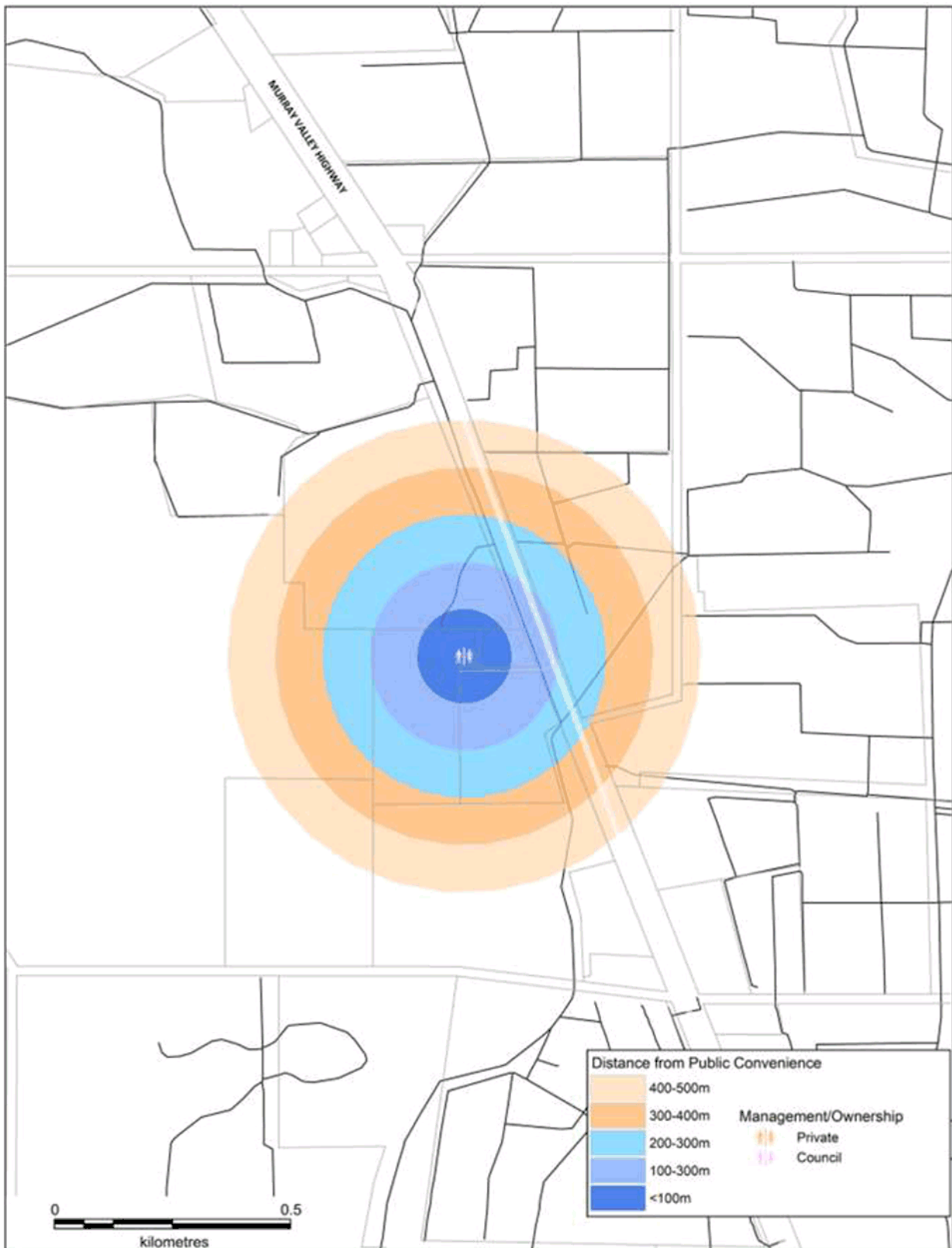


Expenditure



Expenditure

Tyntynder



Proximity

Tyntynder

Tyntynder South Hall Toilets

Asset ID 37286

Address Open Hours

Construction year	2013	Valuation	\$81,000.00
Expected Life	50	WDV	\$69,660.00
Remaining Life	43	Acc Depreciation	\$11,340.00



Number of Cubicles	Baby Change Static
Male	Hot Water
Female	Urinal
Unisex	Toilet Paper
Disabled / Fa	Hand Dryers
Showers	Dump Point
General Comments	Av Consum/m

Condition	Usage

Used mainly for functions at the Tyntynder South Hall and the Equestrian Facilities, the toilets are not available as a public toilet to the general public. They are currently in very good condition and were funded through grant and community fundraising efforts.

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Operational	\$148.71	\$153.17	\$160.06	\$163.26	\$0.00



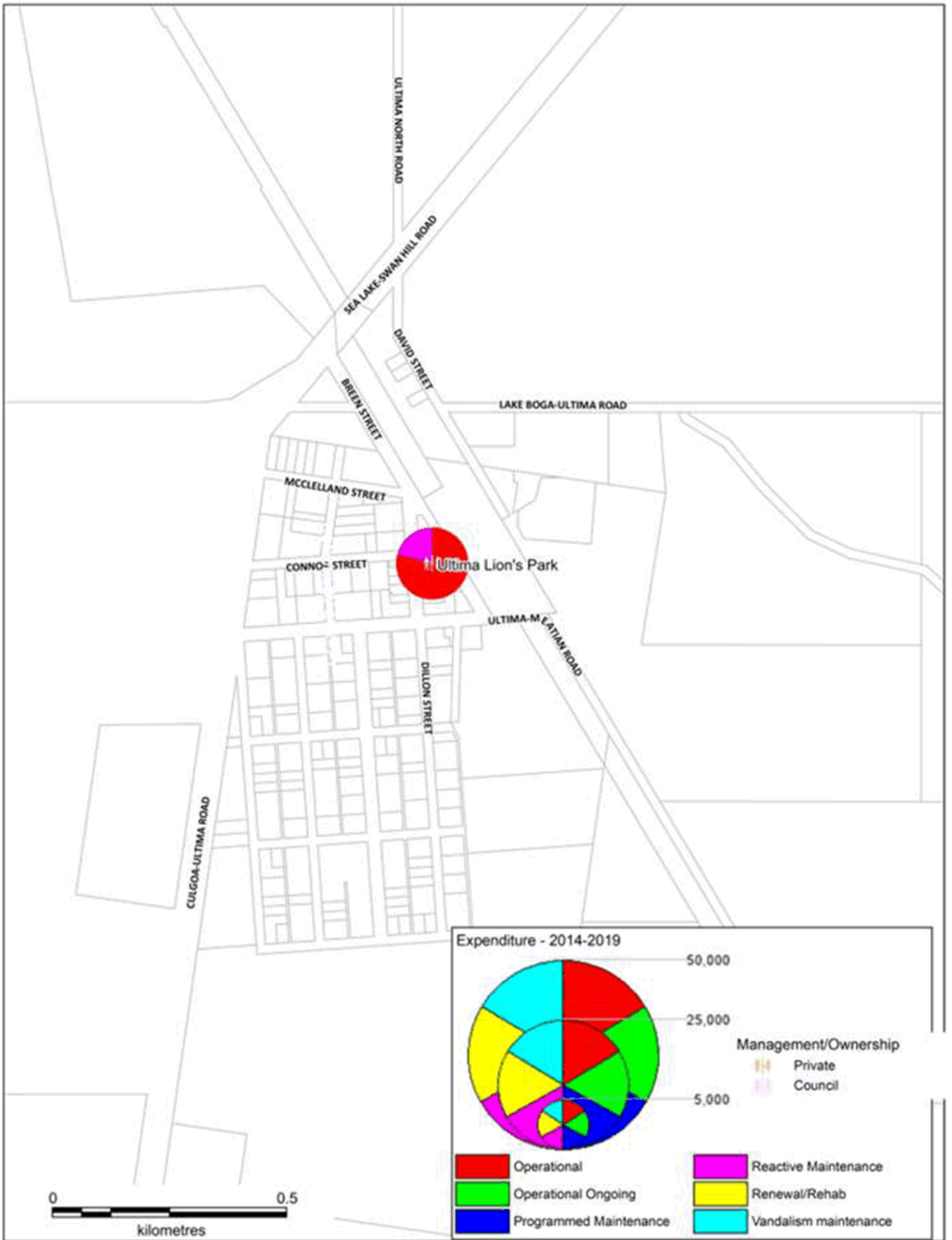
Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
Nil		

Ultima

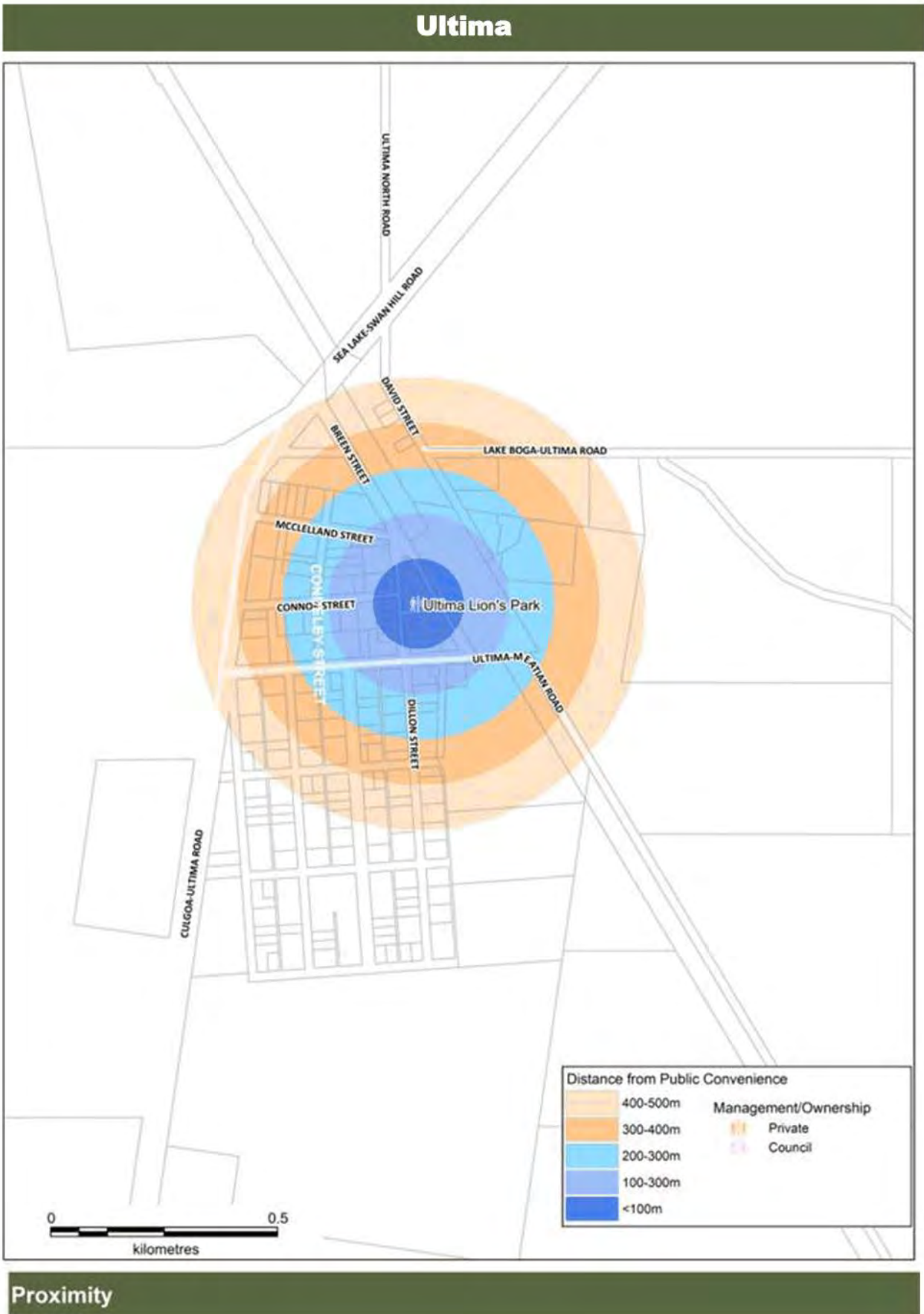
Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Ultima Lion's Park	3		\$5,481.64	1



Ultima



Expenditure



Ultima

Ultima Lion's Park

Asset ID **37189**

Address

Open Hours

Construction year	1950	Valuation	\$640,000.00
Expected Life	80	WDV	\$80,000.00
Remaining Life	10	Acc Depreciation	\$560,000.00



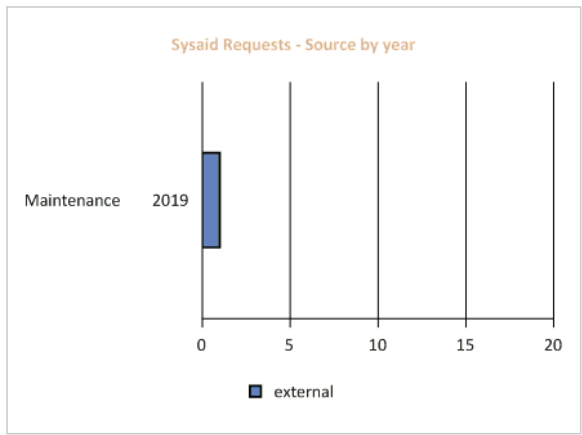
Number of Cubicles	1	Baby Change	Static
Male		Hot Water	
Female		Urinal	
Unisex	1	Toilet Paper	
Disabled / Fa	1	Hand Dryers	
Showers		Dump Point	
General Comments		Av Consum/m	

Condition	Usage
Good	Low

A single toilet, externally accessible off the Ultima Public Hall

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Reactive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$575.00	\$252.50	\$315.00	\$0.00
Operational	\$933.57	\$924.69	\$1,679.01	\$703.21	\$98.66

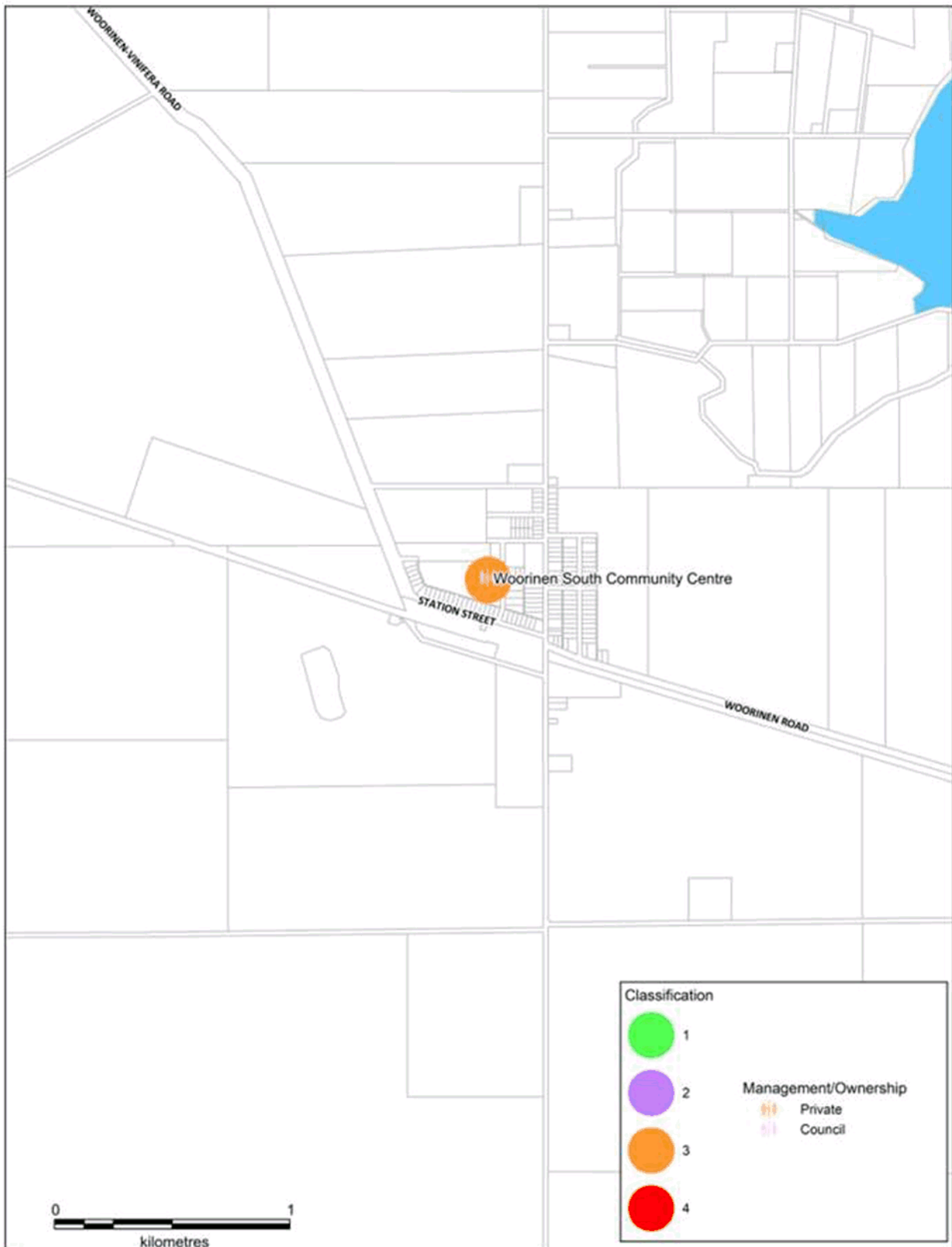


Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
RECOMMENDATION - Build Small Facility with Shower	Long	\$130,000.00

Woorinen South

Amenity Name	Classification	Average Consumerables per month	2015-2019 Expenditure	SysaidReq
Woorinen South Community Centre	3	750	\$3,747.11	7

Woorinen South



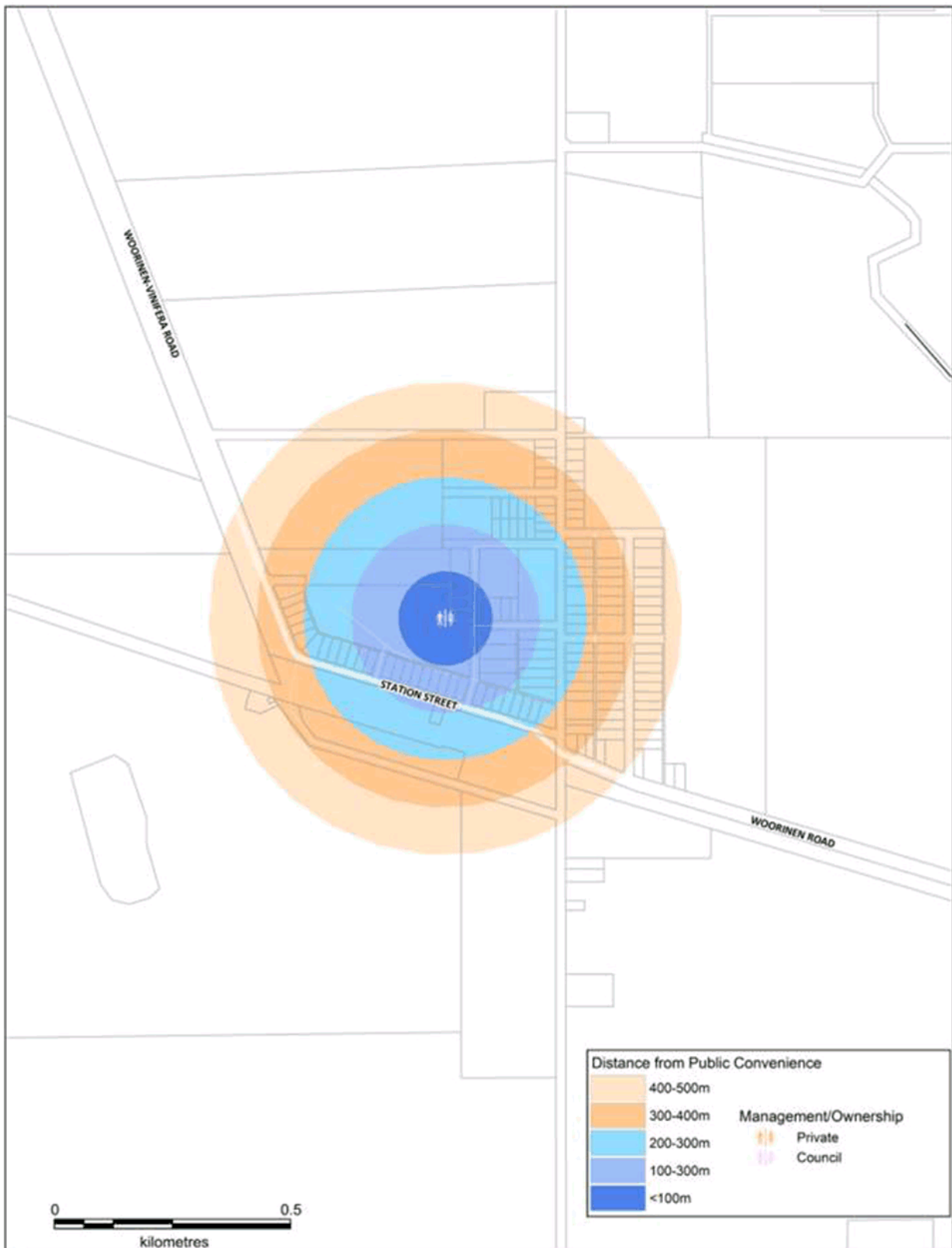
Classification

Woorinen South



Expenditure

Woorinen South



Proximity

Woorinen South

Woorinen South Community Centre

Asset ID 37314

Address

Open Hours

Construction year	1981	Valuation	\$360,000.00
Expected Life	80	WDV	\$184,500.00
Remaining Life	41	Acc Depreciation	\$175,500.00

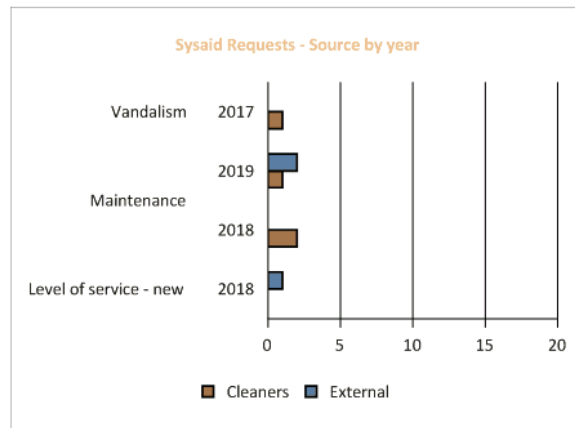


Number of Cubicles	Baby Change Static
Male	Hot Water
Female	Urinal
Unisex	Toilet Paper
Disabled / Fa	Hand Dryers
Showers	Dump Point
General Comments	Av Consum/m 750

Condition	Usage
Medium	Low

Maintenance costs

EXPENSE TYPE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 YTD
Vandalism maintenance	\$285.00	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$600.82	\$0.00
Operational	\$582.20	\$635.83	\$811.16	\$625.44	\$66.66



Recommendation	Priority	Approx cost
Nil		

Attachment 1 - Draft Public Convenience Strategy Submissions

Sysaid no 140434 Name Supplied Request_time 26/02/2020 12:46:00 PM

Our two most frequented toilet blocks in Swan Hill - Riverside Park and McCallum St -need a complete renewal. Its a reflection of our entire town. Upgrade the facilities, clean, fresh and modern. Check out Cohuna's public toilet block adjacent to their information centre. Why not take their lead and install speakers piping relaxing music and promoting our local facilities and services in Swan Hill to local visitors and also fill local community goers with a sense of pride in our local town.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	Riverside Park	Swan Hill
Improvement Program - Support	McCallum St	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140578 Name Supplied Request_time 27/02/2020 10:30:00 AM

Great to see George Lay Park is listed. It is a popular area now. Would be good to see it happen before 2024.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140604 Anonymous Request_time 27/02/2020 12:06:00 PM

George lay park needs atleast a toilet. Such a wasted park for those who dont live right by

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140713 First Name Supplied Request_time 27/02/2020 4:25:00 PM

please put in toilets at George lay park swan hill than

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140714 Name Supplied Request_time 27/02/2020 4:25:00 PM

Some need to be put somewhere safe for elderly to access . Very hard for them to access McCallum St tiolets, (both lots) due to busy roads and traffic ! They are ok for younger people and people with cars ! The ones in McCrae st are good , but they will most probably go , when new building is built for tourist info , so there will then be nowhere safe for the elderly to access ! Will need at least one lot to go into the shopping precinct,where there is safe access for the elderly !

Category	Sub Category	Town
Design Guidelines	Access Issues	Swan Hill
Improvement Program - Support	McCrae St	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140739 Name Supplied Request_time 27/02/2020 6:25:00 PM
 We desperately need toilets at Wemen. Many people use the Wemen shop, travellers and people engaged in the many horticultural industries and truck drivers plus locals. Caravanners often pull up and camp by the river near the shop and people launch their boats at the boat ramp near by. A public toilet block is essential in Wemen

Category	Sub Category	Town
Request for Facility	Wemen	Wemen

Sysaid no 140746 Name Supplied Request_time 27/02/2020 8:47:00 PM
 Our family go to George Lay park it should have toilets as not every one lives close by

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Toilets	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140751 Anonymous Request_time 27/02/2020 9:20:00 PM
 The toilets opposite the police station need to be updated. Some toilets at Beverford would be handy.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	Information Bay	Swan Hill
Request for Facility	Beverford	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140753 Anonymous Request_time 27/02/2020 10:09:00 PM
 Toilets are needed at the park in Murlong stre

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140835 Name Supplied Request_time 28/02/2020 11:37:00 AM
 There is a single not used or connected toliet on the corner of Chinkapook and chillongolah road in Chinkapook near train line it needs to be updated so people can use cause my boss and I clean and we think people would want a toliet there as after there coming back from races and Manangatang

Category	Sub Category	Town
Other	Chinkapook	Chinkapook

Sysaid no 140836 Name Supplied Request_time 28/02/2020 11:38:00 AM
 Need soap in all toliets is hygiene and wouldn't be great idea

Category	Sub Category	Town
Level of Service	Soap	All

Sysaid no 140839 Name Supplied Request_time 28/02/2020 11:43:00 AM
 Plead think of truck drivers that use these facilities and the space trucks need to rejoin the traffic flow

Category	Sub Category	Town
Design Guidelines	Access Issues	all

Sysaid no 140964 Anonymous Request_time 28/02/2020 10:58:00 PM
 I often travel with horses, and a shower is often a really good reason for me to stop in a town. Of course when stopped we always get a feed or fuel or both. We have used the ones at Boga on occasion, which are perfect with the park to unload and walk the horses for a bit.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Levels of Service	Showers	All

Sysaid no 140988 Name Supplied Request_time 29/02/2020 7:13:00 PM
 Sorry but out of your 5 people requesting a new facility and only 2 said george lay park ??? That's a joke and shows just how out of touch this council is with the community and it's ratepayers.....time to have this park taken from a tier3 to provide a basic service for the community that use it!!!! Have a look at the facility in general how do you expect it to be enjoyed by families when there is no toilet facilities???? Come on

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 140989 Name Supplied Request_time 29/02/2020 7:45:00 PM
 The toilet block No3 should be repaired not demolished.It is too far between toilet blocks around the lake. As it is we find toilet paper amongst trees and the reeds now.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Decommission Objection	Lake Boga Block 3	Lake Boga

Sysaid no 140990 Name Supplied Request_time 29/02/2020 9:19:00 PM
 Toilets at the George lay park are a necessity and the fact they are not already there is a complete oversight on councils behalf. Zoning or no zoning it is common sense to require facilities at a children's park. A fence around the outside the border of the park to avoid roads would also beneficial for the safety of kids.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 141117 First Name Supplied Request_time 2/03/2020 12:31:00 PM
 George Lay Park is a wonderful asset to the community but it must have toilets so it can be enjoyed by all ages and used to it's full potential

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 141142 Name Supplied Request_time 2/03/2020 2:09:00 PM
 There should be public amenities at George lay park. Ridiculous to have a park aimed at young children and families and no toilets. We rarely use this park for that exact reason.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 141449 Name Supplied Request_time 3/03/2020 6:53:00 PM
 Council need to put in more toilet blocks in the lake boga forshore area, a high usage area like that should have more toilets functioning. Signs are that there is not enough when there is human faeces along foreshore frequently.-

Category	Sub Category	Town
Request for facility	Lake Boga Foreshore	Lake Boga

Sysaid no 141451 Name Supplied Request_time 3/03/2020 8:29:00 PM
 I think it us a must and need to have public toilets at George Lay Park, family have to take their children and them selves home to the loilet.

Sysaid no 141452 Anonymous Request_time 3/03/2020 8:43:00 PM
 Current toilet facilities are not always open during cricket season at several recreation reserves. This needs to change

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Colocation Objection	Recreation Reserve Toilets	Robinvale

Sysaid no 142087 Name Supplied Request_time 7/03/2020 6:14:00 PM
 As a community care worker, disable toilets are scarce in this shire, will be great to see more. Thank you

Category	Sub Category	Town
Compliment	Disabled facilities	All

Sysaid no 146135 Name Supplied Request_time 6/04/2020 9:34:00 AM
Refer to Attachment 4

Category	Sub Category	Town
Engagement and Consultation	Engagement and Consultation	All
Improvement Program - Colocation Objection	Robinvale Skate Park Toilets	Robinvale
Data and Methodology	Usage Numbers	
Data and Methodology	Maintainance expenditure	
Design Guidelines	Gender Neutral Objection	
Levels of Service	Soap and Hand drying	
Improvement Program - Support	Robinvale Boatramp Toilets	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Request for Renovation	Caix Square	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Colocation Objection	Recreation Reserve Toilets	Robinvale
Request for Lighting	Ronald St Toilets	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Support	Ronald St Toilets	Robinvale
Baby Change	Ronald St Toilets	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Colocation Objection	Skate Park Toilets	Robinvale
Classification Review	Robinvale Tourist Information Bay	Robinvale

Sysaid no 149395 Anonymous Request_time 1/05/2020 2:07:00 PM
Desperately need toilets at George Lay Park please.Toilets on McCalluk St are often gross.Toilets next to Info Centre are very handy when out shopping. Especially when pregnant or with little kids. Please ensure they remain in the Info Centre is moved/closes in that location

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Toilets	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 149401 First Name Supplied Request_time 1/05/2020 2:13:00 PM
I haven't been there for a while, but George Lay Park needs a toilet

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Park	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 149405 First Name Supplied Request_time 1/05/2020 2:21:00 PM
An upgrade or new toilet block at Lake Boga that is near the intersection of lakeside drive and lake baker road. It has been closed for years now. Unfortunately people fishing near that area use the bushes as a toilet because they are too lazy to drive to the nearest toilet block. We walk the path quite often and it's unsanitary for there to be human faeces and toilet paper about the place.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Decommision Objection	Lake Boga Block 3	Lake Boga

Sysaid no 149445 Name Supplied Request_time 1/05/2020 4:00:00 PM

On behalf of the Piangil Community Group I am responding to the strategy that has been formulated for Public Conveniences ..The Group objects to the proposals for Piangil as it goes against the decision that we fought for 5 years ago. When our community centre was proposed there were to be at least 3 outside toilets (accessible to the general public) but because of financial constraints the size of the centre and two outside toilets were removed from the plans to meet the available finance . The community group agreed that they would clean the ambulant toilet at the complex whilst the council would maintain the public toilets . I would also like to point out that the power source and water source for the complex both originate and pass through this toilet complex. As to the determination of toilet sheets used per toilet how do you measure if a bus load of men visit this facility . We the committee feel that the strategy is biased and smaller towns are being victimised or alienated to the extent that people are wary of buying in smaller communities due to the constraints imposed by councils and yet the council says Piangil is a go ahead town . As Piangil is on the Mallee Highway between Adelaide and Sydney large numbers of travellers use this facility on thru traffic and families lunch there frequently . It is also being resolved at the moment as to where the regular buses will in the future take on and alight passengers and the public conveniences at the community park has been a suggested site for this to occur as it is off the major highway and is central to the new backpackers facility being developed. We feel that if these public toilets are deemed unserviceable then a small complex should replace them with the possibility of a dump point also to be considered . We would like to support this objection and query in person if given the opportunity

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Decommission Objection	Piangil	Piangil

Sysaid no 149470 Anonymous Request_time 1/05/2020 8:52:00 PM

Happy with amount and while old always clean. There is a lack of baby change tables and key toilets like the main riverside park and Main Street should be so much nicer- we don't even have soap. Who does't supply soap in public toilets? We travel a lot and even in the smallest of towns there is always soap. Even in Bali they have soap in public toilets and it's 3rd world. I avoid the toilets opposite town hall and the park as no soap and cold which can cut time down the street short. Wiki camps also has bad reports about Swan Hills toilets, 's the most used app by those who travel in caravans. It's the difference between a stop that leads to lunch and spend in town and driving through hoping for better toilets. Just my thoughts, toilets at boat ramp very nice (still no soap though)

Category	Sub Category	Town
Level of Service	Soap	All
Compliment	No of Toilets	All
Compliment	Cleanliness	All
Compliment	Milloo St	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 149474 Name Supplied Request_time 1/05/2020 11:25:00 PM

The toilets at the lake boga kennel club that has now been reinvented as an equestrian centre so there fore the toilets will need to stay there as once events are able to be conducted again toilets will definitely be needed. Any new business being built must also provide public toilets. If this was the case as when cheap as chip reject target dimneys best and less Aldi were stipulated this would take pressure off the council. Lake boga foreshore needs more toilets around the back part of the lake and surely cleaners of smaller communities could be found as volunteers with cleaning products provide to keep the cost down and these amenities open for their community

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Decommission Objection	Lake Boga Kennel Club	Lake Boga
Request for Facility	Lake Boga Foreshore	Lake Boga
Design Guidelines	Public private toilets	All
Level of Service	Cleaners	All

Sysaid no 149488 Name Supplied Request_time 2/05/2020 2:15:00 PM

Contrary to comments previously received from Council officers and the information in your report there is a need for toilets at the George Lay park. As a local who has had to clean up after those who 'could not wait', I can assure you of this. It was always planned and accepted, that toilets were to be part of the park. The Park planning documents which are still available on line, refer to this. George Lay Park is visited by a large number of people of varying ages and ethnic origins, both local and travelers. The park is not just used by a hand full of locals who can readily access their own toilets, I have on many occasions had to refer is visitors requesting toilet facilities to the city center or Tower hill. Our visitors and locals deserve better.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	George Lay Toilets	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 149507 Request_time 3/05/2020 4:58:00 PM

I would like to give feed back on the public facilities in Manangatang and Swan Hill. Manangatang definitely need the two public conveniences. We have a high volume of traffic on a cross road, the Mallee Highway and the Sea Lake /Robinvale road. The conveniences in Wattle street are great with very little needed, How ever as noted in the strategy the Larundle toilets are out dated. These toilets are used by the people travelling on the V-Line coaches travelling in all directions. Many car travelers also stop on the way through to Sydney or Adelaide, Sea Lake and Mildura. The small facility in recommendation 2 is perfect. With a disabled toilet and baby change station included. It would be great if we could also have art work on the sides as we currently have a mural on the existing facility. I travel to Swan Hill once a week for business, appointments, medical and general shopping. This is a full day and thus the need for good, clean facilities. The McCrae street toilets are within a short walk of the main street, close to cafes and there is easy accessible parking. It would be great if these could be kept open

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Decommission Objection	Manangatang Lauradel st	Manangatang
Improvement Program - Support	McCrae st	Swan Hill

Sysaid no 149512 Name Supplied Request_time 3/05/2020 9:40:00 PM

I am the Secretary of the Manangatang Improvement Group and I am providing this feedback on their behalf. Regarding the Public Convenience at Larundel Street, Manangatang the MIG supports recommendation 2 "renew - small facility". The group believes a Public Toilet is necessary at this site because of the volume of interstate traffic that uses this road. There are also 2 bus stops at this location, used primarily by the VLine interstate buses. The group agrees that a smaller but newer facility would be more appropriate for this location. They would like to see some artwork on the facility to make it more of an attractive feature within the town. Kind Regards

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Decommision Objection	larundel St	Manangatang
Design Guidelines	Artwork	All

Sysaid no 149648 First Name Supplied Request_time 4/05/2020 2:13:00 PM

Hi SHRCC, my suggestion is hand soap in all public toilets. I only found it mildly annoying that there is not hand soap until it came time to change my sons nappies, now it's just plain unhygienic. Thanks

Category	Sub Category	Town
Level of Service	Soap	All

Sysaid no 149843 Name Supplied Request_time 5/05/2020 3:46:00 PM

Replacing the toilet block at Catalina Park with a small style block conflicts with the high usage of the current block. A medium size would be required as the new playground attracted patronage outside the opening hours of the Museum

Category	Sub Category	Town
Classification Review	Catalina toilets	Lake Boga

Sysaid no 150081 Request_time 6/05/2020 8:05:00 PM
Refer to Attachment 2

Category	Sub Category	Town
Data and Methodology	Valuations	All
Data and Methodology	Name Change	Robinvale
Baby Change	Ronald St toilets	Robinvale
Data and Methodology	Maintainance expenditure	All
Request for Lighting	Ronald St Toilets	Robinvale
Public Heath	Tourist Information Bay	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Colocation Objection	Recreation Reserve Toilets	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Support	Robinvale Boatramp Toilets	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Request for Renovation	Caix Square	Robinvale
Classification Review	Robinvale Tourist Information Bay	Robinvale
Level of Service	Soap	All

Sysaid no 150161 Name Supplied Request_time 7/05/2020 11:13:00 AM

Asset: 37327, Robinvale skate park/netball court: incorporating this toilet into Leisure centre - not appropriate. Netball players use these toilets as well as people from Footy, Soccer and Rugby; they will have no toilet to use if this one is removed. The Leisure Centre not always open and you pay to enter. Also Unisex toilets are very inappropriate for a Multicultural community. Polynesians will not use a Unisex toilet, it's very wrong for their culture. This is a medium use toilet, probably because the sport that is played is seasonal.

Asset: 36502, Robinvale Boat Ramp: This is also a medium use toilet and probably services people walking along the river and people with boats; why is this seen as more important than 37327. Is it because the wealthy people who can afford to own a boat are more important than those with less who play netball, footy, rugby and soccer?

Asset: 37346: Robinvale Riverside Park Recreation Reserve: This should be Recommendation 2 not Recommendation 1. The main Sports Pavilion is not open when cricket is being played or when people come to 'dump'. Incorporating this into the sports pavilion will leave cricketers in a quandary, where do they go to put their 'box' on?

Asset: 42056: Robinvale Ronald Street playground, Robinvale: Low use! Low use because there is no gate on the playground and people with more than one child are too frightened to take their children there. If they are watching one child they are worried the second will get out the gap in the fence and on to the road. It is very hard to manage two active children at play near two busy roads! Put a gate there and it will be used much more.

Note: now with covid19 there is a need for soap to be available for use in all public conveniences.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Design Guidelines	Gender Neutral Objection	All
Improvement Program - Colocation Objection	Robinvale Skate Park Toilets	Robinvale
Improvement Program - Colocation Objection	Recreation Reserve Toilets	Robinvale
Level of Service	Soap	All

Sysaid no 150212 Name Supplied Request_time 7/05/2020 2:22:00 PM

Looks like a thorough study and I think it is on the right track - I hope there will always be some Gender Specific Cubicles in high use areas like the Swan Hill Showgrounds.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Compliment	Strategy	
Design Guidelines	Gender Neutral Objection	

Sysaid no 150351 Name Supplied Request_time 8/05/2020 11:46:00 AM
Refer to Attachment 3

Category	Sub Category	Town
Design Guidelines	Provision of Condom Machines	All

Sysaid no 150398 Name Supplied Request_time 8/05/2020 2:38:00 PM

:My Response is to the allocation of new toilets.The Wemen Community has been asking Council for public toilets in Wemen for many years.The response has always been a no response.Council is fully aware of this major need and yet it is put into the too hard basket.Many travelers stop at the wayside stop and find no facilities.There are no public toilets between Red Cliffs and Boundary Bend/Robinvale if traveling through Wemen.If Council wants to lift tourism potential surely public toilets are a primary need.The Wemen shop has closed at present, but when it was operational so many people asked to use the shop's private facilities.This is not an acceptable situation.Because Wemen is situated on the river and the many regulations that surround the building of public toilets in this situation, nobody wants to know about it. So VicRoads and Council just bury the problem.Wemen people are more than willing to discuss the issue and many times have forward the proposition of public toilets at the Hall . Public toilets are necessary in Wemen and even more so with the increased volume of traffic,because of the farming enterprises and surrounding national and state parks visitors.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Request for Facility	Wemen	Weman

Sysaid no 141171 Name Supplied Request_time 2/03/2020 3:24:00 PM

To facilitate information to community & encourage public comment on CI Draft Plan for Toilets, please would you re-post CI Toilet Plan so that pages16-20:SHRCC RECOMMENDATIONS is DISPLAYED ON FIRST SCREENS of SHRCC online version for community access This section p16-20 CI.Recommendations is by far most important to residents ----Yet for most, its placement requires scrolling through 15 screens before discovery of this section which is the mostly like attract to public input, and comment.For these reasons, RESIDENTS WILL EASILY MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE FULLY INFORMED, ALSO MISS THIS SINGLE OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT COMMENT WHICH WILL BE COUNTED BY SHRCC

Category	Sub Category	Town
Engagement and Consultation	Website Layout	All

Sysaid no 150317 Name Supplied Request_time 8/05/2020 8:55:00 AM

**** saw SHRCC notice re upgrading toilets in yesterdays Sentinel. The Robinvale Euston Ski Race Committee would like to bring your attention the poor state of the public toilets at the foreshore in front of the Robinvale Community Centre. They are just outside the caravan park and are in a poor state. Obviously this area is the hub of the tourist precinct in Robinvale and we think it reflects poorly on the community and council. If there was an opportunity to upgrade/replace we would have no hesitation in writing a letter of support re from the Robinvale Euston 80 Ski Races prospective.

Category	Sub Category	Town
Improvement Program - Support	Robinvale Boatramp Toilets	Robinvale

Sysaid no 151342

Name Supplied

Request_time

8/05/2020 8:19:08 PM

Dear Laura/Svetla,

Thank you for taking the time to discuss the Swan Hill Public Conveniences Strategy with elected members from Lake Boga Inc committee last Wednesday night. The following feedback represents the views and recommendations of Lake Boga Inc in regards to future development of public toilets in Lake Boga over the next 10 years and beyond.

- # liquid soap dispensers to be installed at all toilet facilities around the lake foreshore and at Gray park
- # removal and demolition of toilet block 3 ASAP
- # prioritise the development of a new toilet facility in Jacaranda Crescent
- # prioritise the upgrade of toilet block 4 facility as per strategy conceptual design
- # trial a portable toilet facility near boat ramp on lakeside drive during peak season period (26 Dec to Easter). This will provide a valuable service to visitors to the Lake and allow Council to obtain an understanding of the demand for a public convenience located in the area.
- # council advocates for the connection of reticulated sewerage system around lakeside drive to support future toilet facilities around Lake foreshore.

Hope you are able to incorporate the above feedback into your report. If you have any questions regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Category	Sub Category	Town
Level of Service	Soap	
Improvement Program	Lake Boga 3	
Improvement Program	Jacaranda prioritise	
Improvement Program	Lake Boga 4	
Improvement Program	Trial a portable toilet	
Improvement Program	Advocate for town sewerage around I	

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STRATEGY 2020-2030

Submission

Prepared by University of Melbourne, Centre of Excellence in Regional Sexual Health, Youth Affairs Council Victoria and Harry Mc Anulty Consulting



Department of Rural Health
Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health



some

Submission / Feedback

The following submission requests consideration be made for the installation of condom vending machines in existing, redeveloped and new build Public Convenience Blocks across the Swan Hill LGA as outlined in the Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 Draft currently open for feedback.

This submission advocates for youth engagement and participation via consultation in development with Swan Hill Rural City Council to determine which sites implement vending machines in consideration of public health within the Public Convenience Strategy.

Who we are:

YACVic

Youth Affairs Council Victoria is the leading advocate for young people aged 12–25 in Victoria. As a peak body, we work closely with young Victorians and the sector that supports them to deliver effective advocacy, events, training, resources and support – so that young people can live their best lives. Our vision is that young Victorians have their rights upheld and are valued as active participants in their communities. As Victoria’s youth peak body, we work across the state in the best interests of young people and the youth sector to:

- lead policy responses to issues affecting young people
- represent the youth sector to government

- resource high quality youth work practice
- research and advocate on youth issues.

We value our members and prioritise their needs.

The University of Melbourne - Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH)

CERSH is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services Victoria through a service agreement with The University of Melbourne, to work across the Hume and Loddon Mallee regions. The vision of CERSH is that all rural Victorians have access to quality sexual health care, information and support that is tailored to their individual needs. This includes young people. The purpose of the Centre is to design, implement and evaluate programs that provide practical solutions for the improvement of sexual health in both the Hume and Loddon Mallee regions.

Harry Mc Anulty Consulting

Harry Mc Anulty Consulting is a Victorian based consultancy business who work on a range of social justice, equality and inclusion projects. Their vision is to create social change through developing innovative projects, programs and community-led solutions. They work with individuals, organisations and communities that share our vision of working with vulnerable and marginalised population groups to bring about long-lasting social change.

SHOUT collaboration and working party

A range of organisations across rural and regional Victoria have been working towards improving access to sexual and reproductive health information; improving sexual and reproductive health service provision; and strengthening workforce capacity. Several successful strategies have been implemented with measurable outcomes. Members of the youth/community sector have identified that they could



increase their capacity to support the sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing of young people and establish stronger links with local organisations working in sexual and reproductive health.

Initiated by the Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health and Youth Affairs Council Victoria. The rationale for the establishment of a Working Party is to bring the rural youth/community sector and rural health sector together to build on the success of these outcomes, increase the coordination of effort and sharing of strategies across rural and regional Victoria, produce resources for the youth sector, and undertake an independent evaluation.

The purpose of the Working Party is:

- To foster collective leadership and harness the knowledge and experience of the rural community sector, youth sector and the sexual and reproductive health workforce.
- To focus on: reducing inequities in access to means of prevention and services in identified settings and population groups; addressing systemic barriers; and reducing stigma and marginalisation.
- To promote multidisciplinary collaboration between providers of services and programs, with an intersectional lens, to plan, deliver and evaluate initiatives to support young people's sexual and reproductive health.
- To identify youth sector workforce gaps and needs and guide the development/adaption of Sexual Reproductive Health resources and professional training and support
- To share and document knowledge and innovation, including professional development activities, resources, protocols and operational procedures.

Introduction

The prevalence of teenage pregnancy and the notification rates of Sexually Transmissible Infections (STI's) across Victoria, particularly Chlamydia, have seen a considerable jump in a ten-year period

with regional areas reporting decidedly greater numbers than their city counterparts.

Chlamydia, the most frequently reported notifiable infection in Australia, disproportionately affects young people with more than 80% of infections occurring among those aged 15- 29 years.¹

Chlamydia left untreated can lead to serious complications for women such as Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, infertility and ectopic pregnancy whilst testicular problems occur in men.

According to Health Victoria's Mallee Summary 2015², the Swan Hill region hosts the highest Teenage Fertility rate in the state, the total fertility rate is again among the highest in Victoria. Women disproportionately carry the burden of unwanted or unplanned pregnancy. Teenage pregnancy will often result in negative outcomes including poverty, substance abuse and reduced engagement with education for young mothers and their babies.³ Condoms are the most effective way to reduce the risk of acquiring an STI and act as a contraceptive to reduce unplanned pregnancy.⁴ In recent consultation across the Southern Mallee, following the Victorian Government's plan to improve women's reproductive health⁵, young people reported an array of barriers to accessing condoms and sexual reproductive health products across the region. Our objective is to increase access to condoms and see the introduction of Condom Vending Machines (CVMs) as a way to overcome these issues, increasing safe sex practices among our young people and reducing the incidence of regional unplanned pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections.

¹ Victorian Women's Health Atlas - <https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au/#/>

² <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/data/mallee-area-2015>

³ Victorian Women's Health Atlas 2018

⁴ Crosby RA, et al. 2012 'Condom effectiveness against non-viral sexually transmitted infections: a prospective study using electronic daily diaries'

⁵ Department of Health and Human Services 2017 <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/womens-sexual-health-key-priorities>

About the Condom Vending Machine (CVM) project

Since 2011 CERSH has been working with local councils, across the Hume and Loddon Mallee regions, to advocate for, and assist in, the installation of condom vending machines in locations where young people can access them (ie. public bathrooms that are open 24 hours).

CERSH first piloted the project in the Hume region to install CVMs in Campaspe, Strathbogie and City of Greater Shepparton. The project evaluation concluded that CVMs installed in rural towns are accessible to young people after business hours, are cost-effective for councils and have not generated any complaints from residents.

CERSH coordinated the second roll out of the project in 2014 with four councils in the Loddon Mallee region – Buloke, Gannawarra, Loddon and Greater City of Bendigo. CERSH commenced the third roll out of the project in 2017 and has assisted Mansfield, Benalla and Indigo Shire Councils to install machines. A further four rural Councils are considering the proposal to have machines installed. CERSH created the below map to indicate where CVMs are installed and where there are gaps.

Invitation for local governments to improve condom access and availability

Local councils in rural Victoria can take an important step towards supporting sexual and reproductive health by installing condom vending machines (CVMs) in public places to improve condom access and availability. The Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH) invites and encourages participation from councils across rural Victoria to include CVM installation as part of their public health program.

Why are Condom Vending Machines needed?

Condoms are the best form of prevention of transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and prevent unintended pregnancy. STIs are a major cause of infertility, particularly in women, and place a significant burden on the Victorian community. Rising rates of infection pose

Condom Vending Machine best practice models

Since 2011 CERSH has supported ten rural Victorian LGAs to install CVMs in publicly accessible locations, particularly targeting smaller townships where barriers to accessing condoms are likely to be more significant. For each LGA, CERSH provided four CVMs (retail \$1,300 per machine) and the first 2,000 condoms. Condoms have been supplied in vending packs with local sexual health service information inserts created for each LGA. Condoms are purchased at 75c per two-pack and are sold from the machine at \$1 - \$2. The revenue raised from the sale of condoms is kept by the council and put towards the maintenance of the machine.

A formal evaluation of the first three councils to take on the project concluded that CVMs installed in rural towns in North East Victoria are:

- accessible to young people after business hours
- are cost-effective for councils
- have not generated any complaints from residents⁸

Gippsland Condom Vending Machine Initiative

The incidence of sexually transmitted infections, particularly in young people in regional Victoria is increasing. This trend is evident in Gippsland's statistics (Women's Health Atlas). The use of condoms is effective in preventing STIs (Holmes, Levine & Weaver 2004). Research conducted by the Victorian Rural Women's Health Services indicated that privacy and availability were barriers to accessing condoms (Victorian Rural Women's Health Services 2012). The Gippsland Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy 2013- 2017 included an objective to increase access to condoms and emergency contraception in Gippsland in response to this data. Condom vending machines are a way to overcome privacy and access issues and have been shown to be acceptable to rural communities (Tomnay & Hatch 2013). The Department of Health and Human Services supported this objective by

⁸ Tomnay JE and Hatch B. Council-supported condom vending machines: are they acceptable to rural communities? Sexual health (2013) 10, 456-466 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SH13050>

providing funding to Gippsland Women's Health (GWH) to facilitate the installation of condom vending machines in the six Gippsland local governments and in sporting clubs across Gippsland. The machines and the first 1000 condoms per machine were provided to each council or club. The revenue from the sale of the free condoms plus the profit from the sales of future condoms are used to purchase further stock ensuring the initiative is cost neutral. There are 29 machines across Gippsland with 2 or more machines in each local government area. The machines have been installed primarily in public toilets, preferably in the accessible toilet which makes the purchase private, accessible to all genders as well as to people with a disability. Braille signage was installed on the outside of the toilet door as well as on the condom vending machine.

There have been different models of partnership for the installation and management of the machines. The best outcomes for the project have occurred within the local government areas (LGA) in which the local council has incorporated the project into the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan and managed the stocking and maintaining of the machines. This has occurred in 3 LGAs to date. In the other 3 LGAs local health services, clubs and community groups have taken on the role of managing the machines. This model of management has in many cases been more problematic due to inconsistent checking of the machines and lack of skills to address minor mechanical faults. It has also proven difficult to collect sales statistics. Sustainability or longevity of the project with this model is also a concern.

From 2014 to 2018 there have been over 4000 condoms sold through the condom vending machines across Gippsland. The social media campaign 'Are you covered' was developed in partnership with Bass Coast Shire Council. This included business cards, posters and stickers to promote the location of the machines as well as safe and consensual sex. These resources combined with the #areyoucovered instagram account and sexual health information on the GWH website support the Gippsland Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy 2017-2021 objective 'To increase safe sex practices in young people in Gippsland'.⁹

⁹ Gippsland Condom Vending Machine Initiative Report - <http://www.gwhealth.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/CVM-report.pdf>

What are the options

Develop a model

There are many different models and approaches to implement CVMs within local government. Councils have noted increased community participation and engagement when working with community groups to plan, manage and inform the project. CERSH and YACVic can work with council to adapt a model that is suited to your local community. CERSH and YACVic is available to provide a presentation to counsellors and/or staff members and can include relevant data about the LGA. YACVic can support youth engagement and participation which is highlighted in the 'youth led approaches' section of the submission. Further youth consultation can be undertaken in collaboration with Swan Hill Rural City Council – Youth Support Program.

Free Condom Vending Machines

CERSH provide a limited number of free CVM. These are **valued \$1300 each and come with 2,000 condoms** as an initial supply (the revenue raised from condoms sold (\$1-2 each) is kept by local council or their community partners.



at

Guiding policies and links to other local strategies

Commonwealth of Australia, Department of Health. Fourth National Sexually Transmissible Infections Strategy 2018–2022. A priority population group is people residing in rural and remote

locations and a key priority area includes the central role of condoms in preventing the transmission of STI.

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019–2023 - Improving sexual and reproductive health is 1 of the 10 key priorities within the strategy.

The Victorian HIV strategy 2017–2020. Key highlights include how it is essential to retain a central focus on condom use and harm reduction efforts in preventing transmission.

Women’s sexual and reproductive health: key priorities 2017-2020 is the Victorian Government’s plan to improve the sexual and reproductive health of all Victorian women. One priority area is the prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmissible infections (such as chlamydia) to reduce their impact on women’s sexual and reproductive health.

Swan Hill Rural City Council - Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 outlines improving sexual and reproductive health when documenting state-wide priorities.

Swan Hill Rural City Council Community Access and Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 priorities around ensuring Council buildings, facilities and infrastructure is accessible for all. Improving and upgrading current Council facilities and infrastructure to meet disability requirements and readily available information on accessible infrastructure.

Swan Hill District Health – Health Promotion Priorities: Clinic 60 is a youth sexual health clinic which provides free Chlamydia testing for those under 26 years; contraceptive advice; pregnancy testing and counselling. Services are provided by qualified sexual & reproductive health nurses in a confidential and discreet manner.

Prevention is key

Chlamydia is the most common sexually transmissible infection (STI) in Australia Young people accounted for **75% of chlamydia cases** in 2016. Over **30% of cases were from rural** or regional

communities. **Rural young people are disadvantaged** when it comes to looking after their sexual health, mainly due issues around:

- *Limited access to services*
- *Privacy and confidentiality*
- *Cost*



Chlamydia is the **most frequently notified STI in Australia, with over 71,000 new cases in 2016**

Chlamydia disproportionately affects young adults with **75% of notified cases being 15-29 years**



As over 80% of cases are asymptomatic, **most cases remain undiagnosed in both men and women**

For men, **Chlamydia related epididymitis can cause severe pain and impaired sperm fertilising capacity**



Untreated it can lead to serious complications for women, including :

- **pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)**
- **ectopic pregnancy**
- **infertility**

Chlamydia also **increases the possibility of contracting other infections**, such as HIV



Sexy and Safe - youth led approach

Introducing Mia Rovere

Mia Rovere is a young person from Swan Hill who co-designed and facilitated the Sexy and Safe project. Below is comments from Mia:

Sexy and Safe has been a highly valuable and timely youth consultation that has given young people in Victoria's Mallee region a real voice in on the critical issue of youth sexual health. The release of this Safe and Sexy Report comes at a very important time with increasing calls for:

- i. youth sexual health reforms; ii. increased support and access to sexual health education; and
- ii. additional services and resources for all young people, especially those of us in rural and regional Victoria.

As a young person with lived experience of teenage pregnancy, I have firsthand experience of the barriers and issues existing within the education system and the sexual health services available in my small town. Supporting Youth Affairs Council Victoria to design and deliver the Sexy and Safe initiative has been a fantastic opportunity to facilitate critical conversations with young people from across my region. It is the voices of these young people that must be not only listened to, but actioned if we are to see real change, both with and for young people, in the delivery of youth sexual health education, services, resourcing and supports in our region.

My hope from this work is that one day all young people, especially those in rural areas will not have to face barriers that I have had to face. Those of stigma, judgement, lack of confidentiality and lack of service options/provision. Young people are experts in their own lives and as such their voice should be the loudest and most considered when seeking to understand the issues and the potential solutions to the current youth sexual health crisis in rural and regional Victoria. This report presents a significant contribution to providing such a voice and I remain hopeful that the right people will be listening.

Findings: Sexy and Safe: Let's Talk About It

A research report developed in 2017 by the Mallee Child Youth Area Partnership exploring issues associated with teenage pregnancy across the Mallee found that many young people become

pregnant due to low use of oral contraception (before or after sex) or sexual health products such as condoms. Young people reported at the time there were barriers and challenges to accessing such products in their rural communities, and in many cases, this led to continuing with their pregnancy, as there was limited choice or availability.

Sexy and Safe: Let's Talk About It¹⁰ was an in-depth youth consultation focused on giving young people across the Southern Mallee a voice on the issue of youth sexual health. Designed and facilitated in 2019, Sexy and Safe's primary tool for engagement was a series of eight youth forums for young people aged 15-25 whom live, work, study or play in Victoria's Mallee region. An online survey linked from the Safe and Sexy website was also used to engage with and hear from young people who were unable to make a youth forum.

Sexy & Safe: Let's Talk About It aimed to discover from young people if this had changed? Do young have access to useful products in the community you live in? Do you know where to go? Do you know who to ask? Do you feel judged when asking?

These conversations captured the voices of young people and highlights what they think the issues for young people in the Mallee region are in regard to youth sexual health.

The consultations shared concerns held by young people, who articulated both a desperate need for better ways to inform and educate, as well as the need for more youth sexual health related services and resources for all young people with a strong focus on making contraceptive & sanitary products more easily available.

Final comments

Youth Participation

The youth participation and engagement models discussed places young people themselves at the centre of policy development and program design. It promises new opportunities for young people

¹⁰Sexy and Safe: Let's Talk About It <https://www.sexyandsafe.com.au/reports>

across the wider Swan Hill region to work directly with the Local Government and Advocacy agencies such as CERSH & YACVic to identify issues of concern pertaining to youth sexual and reproductive health and design innovative solutions that meet their needs. This commitment ensures that a wide range of voices are heard, notably those of young people who have traditionally not been well included in mainstream consultation processes.

Inclusion

Outside signage promoting the CVM to include braille to increase access for persons living with a disability. LGAs also have the opportunity to utilise a series of promotional posters developed by rural young people to provide information about condom availability and local services in their community. Posters can be adapted to provide local information.

Other health promotion and harm reduction

CERSH and YACVic welcome the installation of syringe bins within toilet facilities and encourage collaboration with Harm Minimisation Victoria. This is a proven method to reduce harm and provide a safe disposal method for used needles.

Recommendation

Swan Hill Rural City Council work with CERSH and YACVic to explore options to implement a youth led condom vending machine initiative across the Swan Hill Rural City utilising best practice models. We recommend this is integrated into Swan Hill Rural City Council Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 in addition to other council strategies and frameworks.

Contacts

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PO Box 386 Wangaratta 3676

Dear Svetla,

DRAFT PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STRATEGY

References:

- A. Draft Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030
- B. Draft Public Convenience Strategy 2020-2030 Reference Information and Design Guidelines

Council has requested feedback on the draft strategy. The following comments are offered in response to this request.

Engagement

Engagement and consultation is not a strong point of Swan Hill Rural City Council as demonstrated in the annual survey results. It is suggested therefore that before issuing a document for public comment the Council identify likely stakeholders and contact them directly. This would not be hard or time consuming. A group email address should suffice. It would demonstrate that Council is fully committed to engagement and in return would provide evidence that Council contacted those organisations that may be affected.

For this strategy the following organisations should be contacted:

- a. Robinvale and District Cricket Association;
- b. Robinvale 80 Ski Race Committee;
- c. Robinvale Euston Bicycle Riders Group;
- d. Robinvale Euston Football Club;
- e. Robinvale Euston Netball Club;
- f. Robinvale Netball Club (as distinct from e.);
- g. Robinvale Lawn Tennis Club;
- h. Robinvale Rowing Club;
- i. Robinvale Swimming and Diving Club;
- j. Robinvale Rugby Club;
- k. Robinvale Leisure Centre (contracted to Belgravia Leisure); and

I. Robinvale Tourism Information Centre.

A phone call and a request for an email address would be quite simple. The Robinvale-Euston Phone Book 2018-2020 would be a good place to start.

The recommendations directly impact the above stakeholders. Particularly where a recommendation includes decommissioning or colocation. Also where a recommendation carries a dependency on other organisation for access to public conveniences.

Dependencies

Colocation includes a dependent relationship. This leads to the following questions:

- a. How will the Council manage the projects to ensure there is no loss of access to facilities?
- b. Has Council contacted the organisations concerned before offering the recommendation?
- c. How will Council adjust the contract held with Belgravia to enable access? The current opening hours in winter are quite limited.
- d. How will Council enforce 24 hours access to shared/co-located conveniences?
- e. How will Council guarantee construction alignment with decommissioning of facilities, and the requirement for potential incorporation into externally accessible toilets of non-Council facilities?

Data and Methodology

The following questions are posed:

- a. Does the data consider the fact that Robinvale's service population, as identified by Geografia, and agreed by Council is 8,000 plus or minus 10%. Population is important in decision-making as the methodology for usage excludes the fact that males don't use toilet paper when using a urinal. Hence the usage data severely underestimates actual usage of the conveniences, especially at the sporting facilities.
- b. How does the data identify trends using data from previous years and forecast usage across the next 20 years?
- c. The monthly usage data is averaged. This misrepresents the actual monthly usage rates as it removes seasonal fluctuations. Averaging removes peak usage rates, moderates the peak data down

and results in a false presentation of actual usage. It ignores maximum usage during seasonal sporting activities, tourism and school holidays etc. The data should not have been averaged. The facility should be designed to accommodate the higher usage rates not an average.

d. Inclusion of the costs for cleaning of BBQs invalidates the fidelity of the data. Robinvale has two Council BBQs, The Cut and Rowing Club.

e. The cleaning contract/s at each town would identify costs and these contracts should be able to provide more accurate information. The number of BBQs cleaned would also be in the contract.

f. Maintenance data (FY 15/16 to FY 18/89) shows:

- Operation. A significant and continuing increase in costs for Swan Hill and low but variable costs for Robinvale.
- Programmed Maintenance. High and increasing costs for Swan Hill and nil costs for Robinvale. Given the current conditions of the facilities in Robinvale this demonstrates a Council focus on Swan Hill and a disregard for Robinvale.
- Reactive Maintenance. High and increasing costs for Swan Hill and steadily increasing costs for Robinvale. This may be a result of nil expenditure for Robinvale in the previous four years.
- Vandalism. High and increasing costs for Swan Hill and comparatively low costs for Robinvale.
- Each convenience is under contract for cleaning. The data per convenience would be able to be calculated from the contract and invoices received for payment.

The data is not robust as it includes variables not related to the discussion. Averaging data leads to misrepresentation and use of the conveniences by males has been significantly underestimated especially at sporting facilities. The data therefore provides a false basis for decision-making.

Comments from locals

a. Crowd estimates. As a member of the Sunraysia Football and Netball League, Robinvale hosts semi-finals. The crowd on these days' peaks at about 2,000. This peak is not addressed as the data has been averaged and does not include urinal usage.

b. Gender neutral. Mature women do not like this type of facility.

c. Urinals. Men prefer urinals at sporting venues as using a urinal is quicker than a cubicle. This prevents long queues from forming.

Recommendations

General. The recommendations exclude the construction of conveniences with urinals. It is accepted that Council must comply with regulations, will try to reduce costs and be political correct but it is also necessary to be practical. Presumably the construction of gender-neutral conveniences does not exclude the option to include a separated area for a urinal. The inclusion of a urinal is important at sporting venues.

Robinvale

Six conveniences are listed for Robinvale.

a. Robinvale Boat Ramp Toilets:

- SHRCC Recommendation: Renewal – Medium Facility.
- Very poor condition but on request (Snap, Send Solve) was recently painted.
- Needs showers.
- SHRCC Recommendation – \$150,000.00 with showers - Agreed.

b. Robinvale Caix Square Public Toilet:

- SHRCC Recommendation: Nil
- Very tired and in need of love as stated in the report.
- Needs to be painted, sympathetic to surrounding tree-lined road plantations
- High profile central location – Tier 1
- SHRCC Recommendation – Not Agreed

c. Robinvale Riverside Park Recreation Reserve Toilets:

- SHRCC Recommendation:
 - o Rec 1 – Incorporate with main sporting pavilion
 - o Rec 2 – Renewal – small facility with Shower (also a Dump Point)
 - o Rec 3 – Refurbishment \$15K
- The Robinvale and District Cricket Association and the Robinvale Rugby Club, the general public and tourists using the Dump Point use this convenience.
- Junior football spectators also use the toilets, as junior football is played on the cricket oval every home game and these toilets are used as the club rooms are too far away. Also local

spectators and opposition at the main oval don't all use the football club rooms as they don't go inside the club rooms that are often crowded with spectators (especially opposition supporters).

- The campers, security and netball and football personnel officiating at the gate also use these public toilets during the ski race weekend.
- The playground near the club rooms is used throughout the week and through out the year. Children and adults using the playground need access to toilets. Little children usually need to go to the toilet 'now'.
- The usage data reflects the fact that the sports played are dominated by male players, coaches etc and as a result toilet paper usage is considered medium.
- SHRCC Recommendation – Recommendation 2 is Agreed but with a urinal included.

d. Robinvale Ronald Street Playground Toilets:

- SHRCC Recommendation: Nil
- Constructed 2015
- Being next to a playground it should have included:
 - o Hot water
 - o Baby change station
- The community has repeatedly asked for the playground to be lit at night to help reduce vandalism but Council has declined to do so. The request is based on the success in reducing the vandalism at a nearby church when lights were installed.
- SHRCC Recommendation – Agreed

e. Robinvale Skate Park/Netball Court Toilets:

- SHRCC Recommendation: Co-locate with Leisure Centre development to include one accessible unisex toilet.
- Toilets are dreadful and well and truly past their Life.
- SHRCC recommendation must be / is also dependent on the development of new netball courts adjacent to the main football pavilion.
- Should the Leisure Centre development fail to eventuate there would not be a toilet near for the users of the skate park. The users are children. If they needed to use a toilet they would need to be driven to Caix Square or the Robinvale Boat Ramp.
- Young males (students after school and on weekends and backpackers after work) gather at the courts to play basketball and soccer. This occurs when the Leisure Centre is booked, closed or considered too expensive.

- Families who take their kids to the current courts to practise netball or for fitness use the conveniences. Even when the new courts are developed it could be expected that the sporting surface will still be used.
 - Social tennis players also use these toilets as the toilets at the courts are in the clubhouse, which is not opened outside scheduled events. The users include tourists as well as locals and school children that use the courts after school in summer.
 - Spectators at sporting events on the main John James Oval and football matches use this convenience. Again usage has not been correctly reported, as males using the urinal do not use toilet paper.
 - A small facility with a urinal is required.
 - SHRCC Recommendation – Not Agreed
- f. Robinvale Tourist Information Bay:
- SHRCC Recommendation: Refurbishment of Shower facility including better ventilation.
 - This facility should be a Tier 1 facility. It is high profile as it is located adjacent to the main street; it is within the developing Robinvale Historical Tourism precinct and is used by all bus travellers. It is part of the entrance to the town. It must be attractive and functional at all times

The data collection methodology has failed to include all users, in particular those males who participate in, and watch regular and frequent sporting activities and events at the three ovals at Riverside Park and the netball courts. Decommissioning of both conveniences that are available throughout daylight hours followed by a co-location is a highly risky proposal. Co-location and access would be dependent on the contractor for the Leisure Centre and the Robinvale – Euston Football and Netball Club, neither of which are under the daily control of the Council. Both these conveniences require a small facility that includes a urinal.

Finally, all conveniences must include soap dispensers and hand drying facilities, especially given current health concerns.

These comments are provided in response to your request for feedback.

For your consideration.

Yours faithfully

Name and email Supplied

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STRATEGY 2020-2030

I would like to lodge a submission regarding the Public Convenience Strategy. My submission only concerns Public Conveniences in Robinvale as I am not familiar with Conveniences in other towns within the Municipality.

When was the study into all Conveniences carried out? Again, with regard to Robinvale (and I have no reason to think that other towns will not be the same) a calculation of Construction Year + Expected Life – Remaining Life, shows that this study must have been carried out in 2018 – 2 years ago.
e.g. Robinvale Tourist Information Bay: 1995 (Construction) + 78 (Expected Life) = 2073 – 55 (Remaining Life) = 2018.
All other Robinvale sites show 2018 as well.

It appears therefore, that this study was carried in 2018. Have the Expense figures for 2018/19 and 2019/20 (YTD) been added later when actual figures for those years were known, or were/are they “estimated”? Are all figures in this study accurate and up-to-date?

Ronald Street Playground Toilets – or to give it its proper name: “Pisasale Park Playground”:

- How often are these Toilets cleaned? No indication given in this Report.
- This is a Toilet facility for a “Playground”; why were there no Baby Change facilities included in the construction – only five years ago, to date?
- “High vandalism rate” listed yet there are no maintenance costs – why?
- No “Expense Type/s” listed at all. Have there been no expenses for this facility?
- It has been noted (several times) that lights in this Playground would help reduce after-dark vandalism (as has been proven in other areas in town). Why is Security lighting not considered for this Park – to help reduce (non-existent?) maintenance/vandalism costs?
- What are the Opening Hours for this facility?

Robinvale Tourist Information Bay:

- General Comments: *“Facility built in 1995, generally issue however there is major concern regarding the shower etc”* There appears to be a word, or words, missing from this explanation; doesn’t quite make sense. Are they “generally” in good condition or not?
- If there is a problem with the shower and there is mould and/or fungus, shouldn’t this be a health issue and require immediate attention, rather than include it in a ten-year plan? This facility is used by many people, are their health and wellbeing not important?
- Definitely carry out the Recommendation.

Robinvale Riverside Park Rec Reserve Toilets:

- Recommendation 3 is my preferred option. If showers are available at the Information Bay and Boat Ramp Toilet facilities, there is no necessity for a shower here. Toilets need a major upgrade and should be retained in the same position.
- This facility is used by many junior sporting bodies in all seasons, as well as senior sports groups. Recommendation 1 should not be applied. If this facility is incorporated into the Main Sporting Pavilion, there is a very real danger that they will no longer be “Public Conveniences” as there is the potential for the whole facility to only be open (i.e. unlocked) on days of “home”: football matches.
It may well be that *“An Externally accessible public toilet that is attached to or within another building that has a separate purpose”* (i.e: in a co-located facility) in theory, has to be open for the public but the reality may be quite different. If these toilets are co-located, they would be distantly removed from where children play a lot of their team sport. To have to run from the oval, crossing an internal road, to get to the toilet, is dangerous. Children’s lives should not be put at risk for the sake of a “co-location”.

Robinvale Skate Park/Netball Court Toilets:

- Local Junior and Senior Netball competitions are played here during the week as well as the Saturday competition. Skaters will skate throughout the year. This facility is not just used during winter months (Football/Netball season).

- How is this facility “Approaching end of life” when it’s shown as having a “Remaining Life of 42 years”?
- The Recommendation to relocate with the Leisure Centre re-development is not the right one; refer to “Riverside Park Rec Reserve” comments above. There is a very real danger that the facility would not be open to the public at times when there was organised sport or training sessions, if it was co-located.

Robinvale Boat Ramp Toilets:

- With a Construction date of 1965 and an Expected Life of 57 years, this facility has now passed its “Lifetime” by two years. It is certainly tired and is an unsightly blot on our Riverfront.
- The Recommendation (for renewal) should be proceeded with.

Robinvale Caix Square Public Toilet: (Note – Caix not Cain)

- ‘NIL’ Recommendations? – even though “*it looks tired and in need of love!*” It would be good if this facility could be checked regularly to make sure the external door to the Female toilet actually stays shut when you close it behind you.
- Some internal freshening-up would not go astray. This facility often has tour buses stop; not a good introduction for visitors to Robinvale.

Both Robinvale Tourist Information Bay and Robinvale Caix Square Public Toilet are “High Usage” facilities, one is classed Tier 1 and the other is classed Tier 2. As this classification is, apparently, based on “usage” numbers, it is hoped that the method of calculating “usage” is reliable, as the Tourist Information Bay is open 24/7 while Caix Square is only open during “Daylight”.

In view of the current health crisis, which may be around for some time, it should be compulsory for soap dispensers to be provided in all public conveniences along with hand-towel or hand dryers.

It is noted that for many of the Municipality’s facilities, there is no “Recommended Year” for any improvements. Is it likely that this “Strategy” may well extend beyond 2030, in which case the total strategic objectives will have become redundant and will necessitate a complete repeat of the process?

Name and address supplied

B.20.34 URBAN TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure
File Number: S14-24-03
Attachments: 1 Urban Tree Management Plan

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

This report seeks a Council resolution to adopt the Swan Hill Rural City Council Urban Tree Management Plan.

This plan provides a rationale and framework for an equitable, transparent and consistent approach to the management of urban trees by Swan Hill Rural City Council.

Discussion

This plan applies to all public trees listed on Council's Tree Asset Register that are on land owned or managed by Swan Hill Rural City Council within all urban boundaries, townships and along roadsides in speed limit zones of up to and including 70 kilometres per hour.

This plan is applicable to all developers, builders, service providers, residents, contractors, event organisers and internal works units undertaking activities in proximity to municipal trees.

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Tree Management Plan is divided into eight key areas;

1. Tree Protection

The Plan introduces the Australian Standard for the management and protection of trees as a means of protecting trees in the Swan Hill Municipality.

2. Tree Removal

This plan clearly defines the criteria under which urban trees in the Swan Hill Rural City Council can and cannot be removed.

3. Tree Valuation

This Plan provides a monetary value on Council trees to quantify the contribution trees make to the liveability and character of the Swan Hill Municipality and as a tool for rational decision making.

4. Tree Asset Management

This section outlines Council's plan in regard to arboricultural operations including tree inspections, data collection, and pruning and electrical line clearance. This section incorporates industry best practice in arboricultural operations.

5. Tree Selection and Planting

This Plan provides industry best practice tree planting procedures for all staff, contractors and developers involved in establishing Council trees, giving new trees the best chance of fulfilling their long-term intended function and avoiding costly interventions at a later date.

6. Tree Roots and Infrastructure

Swan Hill Rural City Council's approach to dealing with tree root and infrastructure issues is addressed in this section.

7. Fauna

This plan aims to retain important habitat for native wildlife through arboricultural operations. It also details Council's plan in regards to requests for tree removal as a result of termite infestation.

8. Community Engagement

This Plan defines when, how and who is consulted during tree management activities undertaken by Council.

Consultation

Internal work areas consulted include Parks and Gardens, Engineering, Assets, Building and Planning and Risk.

Financial Implications

This plan reflects the current Council budget and work practices and will have no immediate financial implications.

Social Implications

There are no formal guidelines or policies in place to govern the day-to-day decision-making in regards to tree management across the municipality. This leaves Council's tree population vulnerable and could lead to inconsistencies in decision making. Having a clear plan will also provide certainty to developers, builders, service providers, residents, contractors, event organisers and internal works units.

Economic Implications

Not applicable

Environmental Implications

The lack of a formal tree plan was leading to inconsistencies and ambiguity in decision making. This Plan incorporates previous recommendations as well as relevant Australian Standards and industry best practice to govern the management of Swan Hill Rural City Council urban trees.

Risk Management Implications

The main risks of not having an Urban Tree Management Plan are that Council may be exposed to inconsistent decision making in regards to tree management and greater insurance premiums.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Environment - Sound policies and practices that protect and enhance our environment.

Options

Council can:

1. Choose not to adopt the Urban Tree Management Plan - There are no formal guidelines or policies in place to govern the day-to-day decision-making in regard to tree management across the municipality. This leaves Council's tree population vulnerable and leads to inconsistencies in decision making (Not recommended). There is no legislative requirement for Council to have a Tree Management Plan.
2. Adopt the Swan Hill Rural City Council Urban Tree Management Plan.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Swan Hill Rural City Council Urban Tree Management Plan as presented.

53/20 Motion

MOVED Cr Benham

That Council adopt the Swan Hill Rural City Council Urban Tree Management Plan as presented.

SECONDED Cr McPhee

The Motion was put and CARRIED



Document information

Document type:	Plan
Document status:	Approved
Responsible Officer:	Works Manager
Approved by:	Councillors / Executive Leadership Team
Date Adopted:	June 2020
Review date:	June 2023 or sooner in response to organisational change or industry standards.
Related policies/ procedures/documents:	Swan Hill Rural City Council Plan Swan Hill Rural City Council Communication and Engagement Strategy Swan Hill Rural City Council Significant Tree Register Tree Maintenance Works Contract
Related legislation:	Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 Fisheries Act 1995 Wrongs Act 1958 Emergency Management Act 1986 Electrical Safety Act 1998 Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2015
Evidence of approval:	_____ Signed by Chief Executive Officer

DOCUMENT HISTORY:

Version number	Issue date	Description of change
0.1 DRAFT		

Council documents are amended from time to time, therefore you should not rely on a printed copy being the current version.

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1. Purpose

This Plan provides a rationale and framework for an equitable, transparent and consistent approach to the management of urban trees by Swan Hill Rural City Council (Council).

2. Context

The protection of existing trees and enhancement of trees is pivotal to Swan Hill Rural City Council's Vision of a prosperous and healthy community enjoying quality facilities and services.

The innumerable environmental, economic and social benefits provided by trees contribute to a livable town which supports human health and wellbeing whilst enhancing the character of our urban areas and townships.

As urban development increases and vegetation on private land diminishes, the provision and protection of trees in the public realm will become increasingly important.

3. Scope

This plan applies to all public trees listed on Council's Tree Asset Register that are on land owned or managed by Swan Hill Rural City Council within all urban boundaries, townships and along roadsides in speed limit zones of up to and including 70 kilometres per hour.

This plan is applicable to all developers, builders, service providers, residents, contractors, event organisers and internal works units undertaking activities in proximity to municipal trees.





Figure 1: Swan Hill Rural City Council Municipality.

Trees **excluded** in this plan but may be covered by other policies and legislation include;

- Trees on private property
- Trees on rural roadsides
- Roadsides managed by VicRoads / Regional Roads Victoria
- Public trees in National, State or Regional parks or on land managed by DELWP or Parks Victoria
- Bushland and natural reserves

4. Plan Objectives

This plan is intended to:

- Support and enhance the management of urban trees within the Swan Hill Rural City Council Municipality.
- Standardise processes and procedures to ensure consistency in tree management decisions made by the Swan Hill Rural City Council.
- Value the contribution that urban trees make to the livability and character of Swan Hill Rural City Council.
- Assist in Councils mission to adopt work practices and implement policies that reduce our environmental impact, advocate for the protection of our environment and fulfill our regulatory obligations.
- Protect existing trees from construction and development activities.
- Define the circumstances under which public trees may be removed.

5. Strategic Areas

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Tree Management Plan is divided into eight key areas;

1. Tree Protection
2. Tree Removal
3. Tree Valuation
4. Tree Asset Management
5. Tree Selection and Planting
6. Tree Roots and Infrastructure
7. Fauna
8. Community Engagement

5.1. Tree Protection

Trees are dynamic living organisms that require specific environmental conditions in order to maintain life, health and value as a community asset. Trees consist of crowns, stems and roots and damage sustained to one part will compromise the function of the tree as a whole. If trees are to be adequately retained and protected, these requirements must be considered and met during all stages of development.

Trees will be protected from construction works and other activities that threaten their health and stability. All construction, works, events and development activities in proximity to Council trees and trees shown on any endorsed plans to be retained must abide by the following requirements:

- Removal of trees will not occur unless approved by the Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works or their delegate.
- Trees may not be pruned in any form and branches or roots may not be removed, unless authorised by the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator or delegate. Any pruning undertaken on Swan Hill Rural City Council trees must conform to *AS 4373 Pruning of Amenity Trees* and only be undertaken by adequately accredited and insured personnel.
- Swan Hill Rural City Council trees shall be protected from construction and works activities in accordance with Australian Standard AS 4970- *Protection of trees on development sites*.
- Care will be taken at all times to ensure no damage is sustained to tree stems, crowns and roots.
- Any exemptions to these requirements must be approved by Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator, Development Manager or their delegate.

Tree Protection Zones

A Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) may be requested to be established in accordance with Australian Standard AS 4970- *Protection of trees on development sites* for the duration of any works in proximity to a Swan Hill Rural City Council tree or tree shown on an endorsed plan to be retained.

Root pruning

Roots are responsible for the uptake of water and nutrients and for anchoring and supporting the tree in the ground. Root pruning is generally discouraged as the long-term impacts are not always predictable.

Any root pruning must be approved by Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator, Development Manager or Senior Environment Officer or their delegate.

Where root pruning is unavoidable, all cuts will be clean cut using sharp tools such as secateurs, pruners, handsaws or specialised equipment.

Under no circumstances can roots be ripped or pulled by machinery.

Events

Parks and public open spaces provide the perfect venue and backdrop to a diverse array of community events and activities. Trees provide valuable amenity and much needed shade, especially over the warmer months, however can sustain damage from activities that occur around them.

Common ways that trees can be injured during events include;

Compaction of the soil profile in which the space between soil particles is reduced, limiting the amount of air and water available to tree roots. If occupation beneath trees is frequent enough to damage the lawn, then it is likely that tree roots are also being damaged. Compaction is especially problematic on silty soils or during wet weather. If occupancy of vehicles or other equipment beneath trees cannot be avoided, there are many products available that will distribute loads and therefore reduce the amount of soil compaction sustained.

Mechanical damage and injury to trees from vehicles, conflicts with equipment, unauthorised pruning and from tethering or fixing equipment and objects to trees.

Less common is the **spill of chemicals or liquids** into the soil or the **scorching** of tree canopies due to the proximity of outdoor heaters and exhausts.

In addition to the tree protection criteria listed above, the following must be applied to all events and activities held in proximity to trees;

1. There should be no vehicular movement or placement of sheds/large infrastructure beneath the drip-line of a public tree except where ground-protection, such as track mats or similar, has been implemented.
2. Equipment, decorations and signage must not be tied to, tethered to, nailed to, suspended from or placed within tree crowns, branches or stems.
3. Care will be taken at all times to avoid damage to tree crowns, branches and stems.
4. Trees must not be pruned in any form to facilitate access or activities unless permission from Council has been sought prior to the event.
5. Outdoor heaters and exhausts must be placed no less than 2 metres from any part of a tree.
6. Refueling, cleaning of equipment and emptying of liquid waste may not occur under the dripline of any tree.

Person(s) or organisations found to have failed to comply with these and any other directions outlined in this plan may be prosecuted in accordance with Swan Hill Rural City Council Local Law No. 2.

Tree Protection Management Plans

In instances where works or activities by contractors and other external parties cannot be undertaken within the parameters outlined in the abovementioned tree protection requirements, a Tree Protection Management Plan (TPMP) may be requested to be prepared and implemented prior to the commencement of the project.

1. The Tree Protection Management Plan (TPMP) must be prepared in accordance with Australian Standard AS 4970- *Protection of trees on development sites*.
2. The TPMP will assess the impacts of activities on public trees, recommend mitigation efforts to minimise identified impacts and identify methodologies to guide works and activities through all stages of a project.
3. A project arborist may be required to oversee all works near trees for the duration of works.
4. The TPMP must be endorsed by Council's Environment Officer or delegate prior to commencement of the works.
5. The Principal Contractor will be responsible for the implementation of the TPMP by all contractors and personnel onsite.
6. Any exemptions to these requirements must be approved by Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator, Development Manager, Senior Environment Officer or their delegate.

5.2. Tree Removal

Trees, like all living things grow, age and eventually die. Swan Hill Rural City Council will manage and monitor all public trees throughout their lifecycle and remove and replace them as appropriate. Whilst tree removal is a last resort management option, public safety always takes priority.

Trees may not be removed unless approved by the Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer - Works or delegate.

Waste and debris generated from tree maintenance activities will be disposed of as directed by the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator or delegate, including mulch and firewood and will not be offered to residents or businesses unless approved by the Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works.

Tree removal criteria

Tree removal **shall not be considered** in the following instances;

- a. If the tree is considered healthy and structurally sound.
- b. If there is a safe and practical means for tree retention.
- c. For solar access.
- d. For unjustified property or infrastructure damage claims.
- e. To reduce leaf, fruit and litter debris.
- f. For causing minor allergenic and irritant responses.
- g. To minimise obstructions of advertising signage and desired views.
- h. For awnings, verandas and other projections over public open space.
- i. To reduce the impact from any bird/bat/other animal waste or noise.
- j. For superficial bushfire risk.
- k. If the tree/s provides an important biodiversity function such as recognised high conservation road reserves.
- l. For personal aesthetic preference.

- m. Trees listed as a 'significant tree' on either the Swan Hill Rural City Council or National Trust registers.

Any exemption to the above must be approved by the Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure or Works Manager.

The removal of trees **may be considered** under the following instances;

- a. All hazardous trees will be removed as soon as reasonably practicable.
- b. Trees that are unviable, have a high probability of failure, or are structurally unsound.
- c. Any tree deemed dead, dying, in severe decline or approved by the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator or delegate.
- d. For justified Council property or infrastructure damage approved by the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer - Works or delegate.
- e. In the case of works and development, only once practical design solutions to retain the tree have been exhausted.
- f. A tree that has a defect requiring action that cannot be rectified without removal of the tree and approved by the Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works or Park and Gardens Coordinator.
- g. For pest, disease and biosecurity reasons that cannot be managed with the tree *in situ*.
- h. The tree is registered weed specie for a particular location.
- i. Trees proven to be causing damage to private infrastructure or services where all interventions to retain the tree have been exhausted.
- j. Trees that are recognised as inducing severe allergenic or toxic responses following written confirmation from a registered medical practitioner and authorisation from the Council CEO or Infrastructure Director.
- k. As part of a Council project, whole street upgrade or capital works program which will result in a net increase in or improvement to green space that could not be achieved with the tree/s *in situ*.
- l. Trees that do not meet specific objectives of the approved street theme, a masterplan or a management plan for a location in which they are located.
- m. Non-indigenous trees within natural or bushland reserves that are considered weedy or incompatible with the conservation values of that reserve.
- n. Trees listed as a 'significant tree' on either the Swan Hill Rural City Council or National Trust registers may only be removed following authorisation from the Council CEO or Infrastructure Director.

In every instance, the on-going health and retention of the tree in the landscape will be given priority.

5.3. Tree Valuation

When the removal of a public tree is deemed necessary for construction, development or works, all costs associated with its removal and replacement must be paid by the property owner, contractor, utility or developer prior to removal.

Tree Removal Costs

The costs associated with the removal of a public tree include:

A. Tree Amenity Value	Calculated in accordance with the method approved by an Authorised Council Officer.
B. Removal Costs	Costs associated with the removal of the tree including stumps, disposal of debris, advertising and any community.
C. Tree Replacement Costs	Costs associated with the suitable replacement of the tree being removed. The level of reinstatement required will be determined by Swan Hill Rural City Council and include a 24-month maintenance period or period as approved by the Director Infrastructure, Senior Environment Officer, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works or Parks and Gardens Coordinator. Opportunities to improve soil conditions and increased water capture shall be explored.

A Tree amenity value (A.) will not be charged in the following instances;

- a. Trees that are dead (except in cases of intentional vandalism or poisoning).
- b. Trees with a useful life expectancy (ULE) of less than two years.
- c. Where the tree is a declared weed species for a particular location.
- d. Trees that have been assessed by a qualified arborist that pose a medium, high or very high level of residual risk in accordance with Swan Hill Rural City Council's risk management framework (Based on *Australian Standard for Risk Management ISO 31000:2009*).
- e. Trees proven to be causing damage to private infrastructure or services where all interventions to retain the tree have been exhausted.

Bonds

Swan Hill Rural City Council may impose bonds on contractors, developers and event organisers where necessary, to ensure the adequate protection of all trees to be retained. The bond or bank guarantee amount will be the combined amenity, removal and replacement value determined in accordance with this plan. The bond or bank guarantee will be held for the duration of the works.

5.4. Tree Asset Management

Swan Hill Rural City Council will ensure that its high standard maintenance regime is continued and strengthened and that it provides adequate resources for ongoing urban tree management. Swan Hill Rural City Council will regularly update tree maintenance standards and procedures to ensure they reflect legislative requirements and industry best practice.

Tree Data

Swan Hill Rural City Council has a register of trees for which it is responsible. Swan Hill Rural City Council tree management is linked to this inventory and allows for the details of all tree works and inspections to be recorded, providing evidence that Swan Hill Rural City Council satisfactorily maintains its urban tree population.

To maintain the integrity and content of the asset inventory and works program;

1. All trees considered to be tree assets are to be recorded in the register.
2. The tree register is to be updated no greater than every five years to ensure that the content is current and relevant.
3. Swan Hill Rural City Council staff and contractors will update electronic information as required including adding trees planted by a third party and recording trees that have been removed.

Tree Pruning

Swan Hill Rural City Council undertakes pruning of street and park trees as part of its proactive, reactive and electrical line clearance programs.

1. All tree pruning on urban trees will be in accordance with AS 4373 *Pruning of Amenity Trees*.
2. All tree pruning on Swan Hill Rural City Council trees outside of the Proactive Tree Management program must be approved by the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator or delegate.
3. No more than 30 per cent of the total tree crown will be removed at any one time.
4. Swan Hill Rural City Council shall not allow pruning of trees under the following circumstances;
 - a. For solar access.
 - b. To reduce leaf, fruit and litter debris.
 - c. For causing minor allergenic and irritant responses.
 - d. To minimise obstructions of advertising signage and desired views.
 - e. For awnings, verandas and other projections over public open space.
 - f. To reduce the impact from any bird / bat / other animal waste or noise.
 - g. For personal aesthetic preference.

Any exemption to the above must be approved by the Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure, Works Manager or Senior Technical Officer - Works.

Proactive maintenance

Swan Hill Rural City Council's Proactive Tree Management Program aims to provide the necessary maintenance of tree assets as described by this plan. Activities covered in the scope of works for the Proactive Tree Management Program are included in Appendix 1. Each tree asset should be inspected and serviced by experienced staff or contractors.

1. Trees in council managed major parks and major recreation facilities in Swan Hill and Robinvale will be inspected on a more regular basis and works programmed accordingly. A list of nominated parks and recreation facilities is included in Appendix 2.
2. All Council trees within Swan Hill's and Robinvale's urban area will be inspected and works programmed both;
 - a. Annually for Swan Hill trees under electric lines as part of the Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan, and
 - b. At least once every three years as part of the Proactive Tree Management program.
3. All rural town maintenance zones will be inspected and works programmed at least once every five years.

Significant Trees

Council manages many noteworthy trees that are captured on Council's Significant Tree Register and/or the National Trust's Register of Significant Trees. Some of these trees may be over-mature and nearing the end of their natural life. In recognition of the contribution that these trees make to Swan Hill Rural City Council's cultural and environmental heritage, Swan Hill Rural City Council's Planning and Development Department will afford these trees extra attention to manage their mortality and prolong their presence for as long as practical.

Electrical Line Clearance

Council will maintain clearances around overhead electric lines in compliance with the *Electrical Safety Act 1998*, *Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2015* and the Swan Hill Rural City Council Electric Line Clearance Management Plan.

Clearance from trees over roads and footpaths are outlined in Council's Road Management Plan.

Wherever possible, all pruning for electrical line clearance within the urban declared area will adhere to AS 4373 Pruning of Amenity Trees.

Reactive works and requests for maintenance

Tree maintenance activities are frequently required outside of the Proactive Tree Management such as after severe weather events, as a result of a change in tree condition or in response to customer requests.

Council will assess customer requests regarding urban trees in line within the parameters of this plan and all customer service requests will be responded to in a timely manner.

The Swan Hill Rural City Council also has specific responsibilities under the *Emergency Management Act 1986* in response to and recovery from emergencies such as storms, fires and floods within the Swan Hill Municipality.

In circumstances where tree works are required to be carried out in an emergency situation, the employee on duty or representative on site will be entitled to exercise discretion about what works are carried out in the prevailing conditions.

Tree Inspections

There are many types of tree inspections that are required as part of the tree management program. Types of inspections may include tree risk assessments, tree planting requests, customer service requests, tree health assessments and routine inspections as part of a maintenance cycle.

Council shall implement a proactive urban tree asset inspection program based on risk.

All inspections of Council trees undertaken by Council staff and/or approved Contractors;

- Must be undertaken by a suitably qualified arborist or trained person.
- Shall be recorded in Council's tree asset register and/or maintenance database.

Pests and Disease

The Swan Hill Rural City Council will monitor and treat pest and disease incursions that threaten urban trees as appropriate and as resources permit.

The Victorian State Government is responsible for matters of biosecurity including minimising the impacts associated with the entry, establishment and spread of invasive plants, pests and diseases.

5.5. Tree Selection and Planting

Investment in quality tree stock and industry best-practice planting techniques is essential for giving a tree the best chance of fulfilling its long-term intended function. A combination of planning, site preparation, quality stock selection and on-going maintenance is essential for successful tree establishment and for avoiding costly interventions at a later date.

Selection of tree species shall be guided by the list contained in this plan. Existing themes within a street must be considered and matched where appropriate. The approved tree list shall only have tree species removed or added with the approval of the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer - Works and the Parks and Gardens Coordinator.

Urban tree planting will be programmed through the following avenues:

- Council's Parks and Gardens annual plans
- Masterplans – Riverfront & Recreation Reserves
- Community plans
- Coordination with infrastructure improvements works program; and
- Community requests.

In order to maximise the environmental benefits that trees provide, large canopy trees may be planted wherever conditions allow.

Council will continue to seek new tree planting opportunities in appropriate locations to maximise tree canopy cover and deliver associated environmental, social and economic benefits.

Council will plant the most appropriate tree species for a given location based on site suitability, aesthetic, functional and environmental attributes and the potential to contribute to the predominant or preferred landscape character.

All new tree plantings should have a maintenance period of 24 months (or period as approved by the Works Manager, Parks and Gardens Coordinator or Senior Technical Officer – Works) post planting to aid establishment.

Residents are not permitted to plant trees on Council managed land without permission by the Works Manager, Parks and Gardens Coordinator, Senior Technical Officer - Works or delegate and a works within road reserve permit may be required. Trees that do not meet the objectives of this plan shall be removed.

Council will not plant tree species that are environmental weeds in our region.

Council shall take preventative measures to minimise future conflicts between tree roots and infrastructure. Such preventative measures may include;

- Pursuing the relocation of infrastructure and utilities away from trees.
- The adoption of technologies such as Water Sensitive Urban Design, structural soils, contiguous tree root trenches.
- Coordinating capital works, streetscape and street tree renewal cycles wherever possible.
- Considered tree species selection and placement.

5.6. Tree Roots and Infrastructure

Trees are an integral part of the urban fabric and an understanding of tree root behavior in urban areas is essential for minimising conflicts between trees and other infrastructure.

Trees have horizontal root structures that are typically found within the top metre of the soil profile. Tree roots are opportunistic and will proliferate where below-ground conditions of water, oxygen, nutrients and temperature are favorable. Frequently, construction techniques employed for the installation of civil infrastructure and services can in fact create favorable conditions for tree root growth such as gravel footings and gaps between joins of kerbs and pavers. Condensation on the lower surface of pavers due to variations in cooling can also provide moisture for tree roots.

Conflicts between tree roots and infrastructure are generally classified into three areas;

Direct damage to light-built structures:

Direct damage is the distortion of built structures due to the exertion of pressure on the structure as the tree grows. Such structures include brick fences, low walls, crossovers and paths. Damage is caused when the intruding root expands as it grows, exerting outwards pressure on the structure. In order to cause damage, the weight of the structure must be less than the expansion pressure of the root.

Light structures will age and deteriorate regardless of the presence of tree roots and tree root activity generally gets a disproportional amount of the blame. Frequently, tree roots will exploit an existing crack or fault.

Indirect damage - Subsidence and heave from soil moisture variations:

Subsidence and heave of foundations and built structures are the result of soil moisture changes over time. Indirect damage is most common in clay soils due to the shrink/swell nature of the soil as it dries out or absorbs water. The shrinking effect of the soil that leads to subsidence of structures can be exacerbated by the water demands of surrounding vegetation. Although surrounding vegetation does influence the water balance of the soil to some extent, there are many factors that can contribute to foundation movement including soil type, prolonged periods of drought, leaking pipes and changes in soil hydrology from an increase in impermeable surfaces. In general, if the foundations of a structure are deeper than where tree roots exist and can extract moisture, damage from tree roots is unlikely.

It can be expected that all residential properties within the municipality have or will eventually have a tree in the nature strip in front of the property and therefore new dwellings, structures and concrete slabs should be designed and constructed accordingly.

Damage to Sewers, Pipes and Drains:

Leaking pipes as a result of poor construction, old earthenware and cracked and faulty joints can create a moisture gradient that encourages roots to proliferate in the direction of the pipe. For tree roots to enter a pipe there would need to be a pre-existing fault or leak as trees do not actively 'search' for water. In some rare instances, root growth can displace pipes (direct damage) causing them to break.

It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain drains and pipes to the legal point of discharge. Root intrusion can be avoided by ensuring that all joints are watertight and fitted correctly and pipes are manufactured from watertight materials such as PVC rather than earthenware.

Council's procedure regarding each of these types of damage is addressed below.

1. Council will not remove public trees for unjustified claims of damage from tree root activity.
2. Claims for indirect property damage should be accompanied by a report from a qualified geotechnical or structural engineer that implicates tree root damage and also considers soil type and the age and type of footings of the structure.
3. Should infrastructure damage be attributed to roots of a public tree an appropriate remedial solution will be sought. Such remedial solutions may include;
 - Realignment of paths.
 - Selective root pruning.
 - Casting concrete kerbs *in situ*.
 - Ramping and bridging over existing tree roots.
 - Increasing the tree planting/plot area.
 - The installation of tree root barriers.
4. Tree removal will only be considered should no practical arboricultural solution be found and if the damage is solely attributed to that tree.
5. In the case of indirect damage, the potential of soil heave as a result of tree removal or tree root barrier installation must also be considered.
6. Once alerted to existing conflicts between infrastructure, Council will investigate in accordance with MAV's guidelines for tree root damage claims.
7. Should tree removal be deemed necessary by the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator or delegate, a replacement tree should be planted as close as practically possible to the tree being removed. Every effort will be taken to ensure that the replacement tree will not result in similar damage in the future.

5.7. Fauna

Urban trees create important habitat for a diverse range of native fauna and therefore can be either positively or negatively impacted by routine tree management activities.

In recognition of the contribution that urban trees make to biodiversity, Council will;

1. Endeavour to relocate native fauna that will be displaced from routine tree management activities where it is possible and reasonable to do so;
2. In accordance with the tree removal and pruning criteria listed in this plan, trees will not be removed or pruned to reduce the impact of waste or noise from any bird or other animal.

Habitat trees

Hollows provided by large old trees provide critical habitat for many species that are typically not present in younger trees. Eucalypts for example will generally not start forming hollows until they are over a century old and are therefore extremely difficult to replace once they are removed.

Hollow bearing trees that meet the criteria for removal as outlined in this plan will be made safe and retained as habitat trees wherever it is safe, practical and appropriate to do so.

Termites

Termites are native species and part of the natural environment where they play important ecosystem functions. Out of the hundreds of species of termites in Australia, only a dozen or so are known to cause damage to property.

Trees that contain termites are not necessarily compromised as the termites will feed on the heartwood (deadwood) and not the living tissues the tree requires for growth and stability. Removal of a tree with termites may in fact increase the chance of damage to property as, once the tree or food source is removed, termites will seek out a new food source which may include timber in and around the home.

The Swan Hill Rural City Council is in a declared termite area and it is the responsibility of property owners to ensure that their property is suitably protected.

Any request to have a Council tree inspected or removed for termites will be undertaken in accordance with the inspection and tree removal criteria outlined in this plan. Council will not allow;

1. The drilling or boring of trees to ascertain the presence of termites.
2. The removal of Council trees as a preventative measure against termites.

Any exemption to the above must be approved by the Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO, Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer – Works or Parks and Gardens Coordinator.

5.8. Community Engagement

1. The community shall be informed about major projects involving multiple tree removal's and planting and any other specialised projects that involve Council trees.
2. The type and extent of community engagement will vary depending on the impact of the works on the local community and will be determined in accordance with a number of factors including; the prominence of the location, the significance of the tree, the number of trees being impacted and the visual impact of proposed works.
3. Community engagement may include direct contact with the customer, letters to immediately affected residents, signage on site and/or via information on the Council website or social media platforms.
4. The Swan Hill Rural City Council will assess customer requests regarding urban trees in line within the parameters of this plan.
5. All customer service requests will be responded to in a timely manner.
6. The Swan Hill Rural City Council may notify the community of unauthorised works and undertake site specific responses following tree poisoning, vandalism or prohibited tree removal. Those may include erection of temporary or permanent signs.
7. The Swan Hill Rural City Council may notify adjoining property owners of the removal of large trees from residential streets.
8. Removal of trees that are hazardous will be undertaken as soon as reasonably practicable and therefore it may not be possible to provide a period of notification.

Tree Planting

Council's annual planting program is made up of individual tree requests, capital projects and tree replacements.

1. Individual customer tree planting requests will be followed up with the customer directly.
2. Council shall inform affected residents of entire streetscape upgrades.
3. Planting of replacement trees may not necessitate customer or community engagement.

Tree Maintenance Activities

For customer service requests, Council's Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer - Works, Parks and Gardens Coordinator, Senior Environment Officer, suitably qualified Arborist or respective delegate will, at the time of assessment, allocate a timeframe for any required works based on the urgency, risk and severity of the defect.

This information is generally passed on to the customer verbally or in the form of a letter or email unless specified otherwise. Depending on the volume of tree works on Council's system at any one given time, it may not be possible to give an exact date and time for specific works.

Glossary

Authorised Council Officer:	Is a person who has been delegated by Council to perform certain compliance and enforcement duties.
Canopy Types (E, D, S-D):	E = Evergreen, D = Deciduous, S-D = Semi-Deciduous.
Council Tree:	Refers to all public trees that this plan applies including those that are on land owned or managed by the Swan Hill Rural City Council within Council's urban boundary townships and along roadsides in zones up to 70 km/hr.
DBH:	Trunk diameter at breast height. Measured vertically at 1.4m from ground level.
MAV:	Municipal Association of Victoria
National Significant Tree Register:	The National Trusts of Australia have collaborated to create a National Register of Significant Trees. This Register is consistent with their mission to protect and celebrate Australia's heritage.
Noxious Weed:	means; (a) a State prohibited weed; (b) a regionally prohibited weed; (c) a regionally controlled weed; or (d) a restricted weed.
Risk:	The combination of the likelihood of an event and the severity of the potential consequences. In the context of trees, risk is the likelihood of a conflict or tree failure occurring and affecting a target and the severity of the associated consequences.
Swan Hill Rural City Council Significant Tree Register:	Many trees within Swan Hill Rural City Council contain significant scientific, social, historic and amenity attributes. It is the purpose of the significant tree register to provide a framework where significant trees within the municipality can be identified, assessed and afforded appropriate protection. Some of these trees may also be included on the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register of Significant Trees.
Suitably Qualified Arborist:	A person who has a minimum qualification of Certificate Level III in Horticulture or Arboriculture, or an equivalent qualification and at least three years field experience in assessing trees.
Trained Person:	A person delegated by the Director Infrastructure, Works Manager, Technical Officer – Works or Parks and Gardens with the appropriate field experience in assessing or conducting tree inspections.
TPZ:	Tree Protection Zone.
Urban:	Is a broad term that covers area within and including the 70km/h speed restriction zone of a town.
Urban Tree:	Is a broad term that covers any tree growing within and including the 70km/h speed restriction zone of a town.
ULE:	Useful life expectancy.
WSUD:	Water Sensitive Urban Design. An environmentally preferable alternative to a traditional urban drainage solution.

Appendix 1 - Proactive Tree Management

Activities that are covered in the scope of works for the Proactive Tree Management Program include;

1. Removal of dead, dangerous and declining trees;
2. Removal of deadwood;
3. Removal of hanging, broken or diseased branches;
4. Formative pruning;
5. Canopy lifting;
6. Canopy reduction;
7. Stump removal;
8. Removal of mistletoe;
9. Removal of redundant tree guards, stakes and surrounds;
10. Maintaining clearance from roads, footpaths, traffic signs and street lights as per Council's Road Management Plan, clearance requirements; and
11. Maintaining required clearances from properties as deemed appropriate by Council.

All roads in the Swan Hill Rural City Council are managed and maintained in accordance with Council's Road Management Plan.

Appendix 2 - Nominated places and/or facilities on Council's annual tree inspection cycle

Facility	Address	Locality
Pioneer Settlement	Monash Drive	Swan Hill
Swan Hill Riverside Park	Monash Drive	Swan Hill
Robinvale Recreation Reserve	Latje Road	Robinvale
Ken Harrison Reserve	Yana Street	Swan Hill
Nyah Recreation Reserve	River Street	Nyah
Lake Boga Catalina Public Reserve	Willakool Drive	Lake Boga
Riverside Caravan Park	Monash Drive	Swan Hill
Lake Boga Caravan Park	Murray Valley Highway	Lake Boga
Robinvale Caravan Park	McLennan Drive	Robinvale

Appendix 3 – Suggested Tree Species

Category 1 – Standard variations for nature strips less than 3 metres						
Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Canopy Width	Canopy E/D/S-D	Drought Tolerance	Frost Tolerance
Section A - planted under powerlines (species up to 5m or those that can successfully be trimmed to this height)						
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i> 'Kings Park Special'	Crimson Bottlebrush	4m	2m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Weeping Bottlebrush	5m	5m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> x <i>L. fauriei</i> (all varieties)	Crepe Myrtle	4m - 8m	3m - 6m	D	Moderate	High
<i>Leptospermum brachyandrum</i>	Weeping Tea Tree	4m	2m	E	High	Good
Section B - planted with no powerlines above. All of the above Section A trees are also suitable for this scenario.						
<i>Acacia aneura</i>	Mulga	10m	4m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Acacia estrophiolata</i>	Desert Ironwood	10m	5m	E	High	Good
<i>Acacia floribunda</i>	White Sallow Wattle	8m	2m - 15m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Acacia microbotrya</i>	Manna Wattle	8m	5m	E	High	Good
<i>Acacia pendula</i>	Weeping Myall	9m	4m	E	High	Good
<i>Acer platanooides</i>	Maple	7m	4m	D	Moderate	High
<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> (all varieties)	Willow Myrtle	7m	5m	E	High	Good
<i>Angophora hispida</i>	Dwarf Apple Gum	7m	5m	E	good	Good
<i>Atalaya hemiglauca</i>	Whitewood or Cattle Bush	6m	4m	E	High	Good
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coastal Banksia	10m	4m	E	High	Good
<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata'	Hornbeam	12m	4m	D	Good	High
<i>Corymbia eximia</i> 'Nana'	Dwarf Bloodwood	8m	7m	E	High	Good
<i>Corymbia ficifolia</i> (all varieties)	Flowering Gum	5m – 10m	4m – 8m	E	High	Good
<i>Eucalyptus torquata</i>	Coral Gum	10m	5m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Fraxinus griffithii</i>	Evergreen Ash	6m	4m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Grevillea striata</i>	Beefwood	7m	5m	E	High	High

<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native Frangipani	10m	6m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistachio	8m	6m	D	High	High
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Oakville Crimson Spire'	Ornamental Plum (Non fruiting)	6m	2m	D	Moderate	High
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Capital'	Ornamental Pear (Non fruiting)	11m	3m	D	Moderate	High
<i>Santalum lanceolatum</i>	Sandal Wood	7m	4m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Zelkova serrata</i> (all fastigiate varieties)	Japanese Elm	7m	4m	D	Good	High

Category 2 – Standard variations for nature strips wider than 3 metres						
Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Width	E/D/S-D	Drought Tolerance	Frost Tolerance
Section A - planted under powerlines (species up to 5m or those that can successfully be trimmed to this height). All Category 1 Section A trees are suitable for this scenario.						
Refer category 1A						
Section B - planted with no powerlines above. All of the above Section A, Category 1 & 2 trees are also suitable for this scenario.						
<i>Acacia aneura</i>	Mulga	10m	4m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood	12m	5m	E	High	Good
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Maple	7m	4m	D	Moderate	High
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Smooth Barked Apple	20m	5m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coastal Banksia	10m	4m	E	High	Good
<i>Brachychiton rupestris</i>	Queensland Bottle Tree	12m	8m	S-D	High	High
<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata'	Hornbeam	12m	4m	D	Good	High
<i>Corymbia apparerinja</i>	Ghost Gum	15m	8m	E	High	High
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum	20m	10m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardiodes</i>	Tuckeroo	10m	10m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Eucalyptus conferruminata</i>	Bushy Yate	8m	5m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> ssp. <i>Pruinosa</i>	Inland Blue Gum	10m	7m	E	High	Good
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> subsp. <i>megalocarpa</i>	Yellow Gum	9m	6m	E	High	Good
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> subsp. <i>megaloscarpa</i>	Yellow Gum	9m	6m	E	High	Good

<i>Eucalyptus newbeyi</i>	Newbeys Mallee	10m	12m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemos</i>	Red Box	12m	5m	E	High	High
<i>Eucalyptus torquata</i>	Coral Gum	10m	5m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Geijera parviflora</i>	Wilga	10m+	10m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos (all varieties)</i>	Honey Locust	15m	7m	D	Good	High
<i>Grevillea striata</i>	Beefwood	7m	5m	E	High	High
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	10m	8m	D	Good	Good
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Queensland Brush Box	20m	10M	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Pyrus calleryana 'Capital'</i>	Ornamental Pear (Non fruiting)	11m	3m	D	Moderate	High
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese Elm	13m	6m	D	High	High
<i>Ulmus parvifolia (some varieties)</i>	Chinese Elm	7m	6m	D	High	High
<i>Waterhousea flouribunda</i>	Weeping Lilly Pilli	8m	3m	E	High	Moderate
<i>Zelkova serrata (some varieties)'</i>	Japanese Elm	7m	9m	D	Good	High

Category 3 – Standard variations for trees is in larger road reserve areas and clear from infrastructure i.e. footpaths, kerb, drainage and powerlines. Trees from all above Categories are suitable for this scenario.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Canopy Width	Canopy E/D/S-D	Drought Tolerance	Frost Tolerance
<i>Acacia caesiella</i>	Bluebush Wattle	6m	4m	E	High	Good
<i>Acacia cognata</i>	River Wattle	8m	6m	E	High	High
<i>Acacia howittii</i>	Howitts Wattle	8m	5m	E	High	Good
<i>Acacia stenophylla</i>	River Cooba	12m	8m	E	High	High
<i>Acer palmatum (all varieties)</i>	Maple	4m	4m	D	Moderate	High
<i>Allocasuarina torulosa</i>	Dropping sheoak	8m	10m	E	High	Good
<i>Angophora floribunda</i>	Rough-barked Apple	30m	15m	E	Good	Good
<i>Brachychiton populeneus</i>	Kurrajong	15m	m	E	High	High
<i>Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius</i>	'Jerilderie Red'	6m	4m	E	High	High

<i>Casuarina cristata</i>	Belah	6m	4m	E	Good	High
<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	River She-Oak	20m	5m	E	Good	Good
<i>Corymbia citriodora</i>	Lemon-scented Gum	30m	15m	E	High	High
<i>Corymbia intermedia</i>	Pink Bloodwood	25m	15m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Corymbia tessellaris</i>	Moreton Bay Ash	25m	15m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Corymbia tessellaris</i>	Moreton Bay Ash	25m	15m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Corymbia torelliana</i>	Cadghi Gum	25m	12m	E	High	High
<i>Eremophilla longifolia</i>	Emubush	8m	3m	E	Good	Good
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Red Gum	30m	15m	E	Good	High
<i>Eucalyptus mellidora</i>	Yellow Box	30m	25m	E	Good	Good
<i>Eucalyptus redunca</i>	Black Marlock	4m	3m	E	High	Good
<i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i>	Salmon Gum	25m	15m	E	High	Good
<i>Eucalyptus sepulcralis</i>	Weeping Gum	5m	1.5m	E	Good	Good
<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i>	Red Ironbark or Mugga Ironbark	25m	15m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywoodii'	Claret Ash	15m	12m	D	Good	Good
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky Oak	20m	14m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Liquidambar straciflua</i>	Liquidambar	15m	6m	D	Moderate	Good
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Bull Bay Magnolia	15m	10m	E	Moderate	Good
<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>	Prickly-leaved Paperbark	10m	3m	E	Good	Moderate
<i>Quercus canariensis</i>	Algerian Oak	25m	25m	E	Good	High
<i>Quercus canariensis</i>	Algerian Oak	25m	25m	E	Good	High
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak	30m	6m	D	Good	Good
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak	30m	6m	D	Good	Good

The above suggested tree species list shall have tree species removed or added with the approval of the Works Manager, Senior Technical Officer - Works and the Parks and Gardens Coordinator.

B.20.35 ROADS AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUNDING

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure
File Number: S17-02-01
Attachments: Nil

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

On the 22nd May 2020 the Federal Government, through a media release, notified SHRCC of a funding allocation of \$1,434,158, with guidelines expected to be prepared by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (DITRDC), still to be released.

SHRCC will have access to that allocation from the 1st July 2020.

Council's share of funding has been calculated in a similar way to how the Roads to Recovery Program and the road component of the Financial Assistance Grants work. This formula takes into consideration road length and population and is based on recommendations of Local Government Grants Commission.

Council is able to select the projects to be funded according to priorities at the local level.

Similar to the Roads to Recovery Program, council will need to submit a Work Schedule that outlines the project(s) it plans to undertake.

As long as these projects are eligible local road or community infrastructure projects, they will receive funding.

The recommendation in this report outlines the projects proposed to undertake using this funding.

Discussion

Funding is available for local road and community infrastructure projects that involve the construction, maintenance and/or improvements to council-owned assets (including natural assets) that are generally accessible to the public.

Projects will need to deliver benefits to the community, such as improved accessibility, visual amenity and safety benefits.

Eligible local road projects could include works involving any of the following associated with a road:

- traffic signs;
- traffic control equipment;

- street lighting equipment;
- a bridge or tunnel;
- a facility off the road used by heavy vehicles in connection with travel on the road (for example, a rest area or weigh station);
- facilities off the road that support the visitor economy; and
- road and sidewalk maintenance, where additional to normal capital works schedules.

Eligible community infrastructure projects could include works involving:

- Closed Circuit TV (CCTV);
- bicycle and walking paths;
- painting or improvements to community facilities;
- repairing and replacing fencing;
- improved accessibility of community facilities and areas;
- landscaping improvements, such as tree planting and beautification of roundabouts;
- picnic shelters or barbeque facilities at community parks;
- playgrounds and skate parks (including all ability playgrounds);
- noise and vibration mitigation measures; and
- off-road car parks (such as those at sporting grounds or parks).

The recommended projects do not include Road upgrades, apart from lighting, as other recent funding opportunities have targeted roads projects.

The following projects are recommended for funding under this grant:

- Building maintenance program projects in Nyah West, Nyah, Robinvale, and Swan Hill totalling approximately \$130,000
- Public Lighting \$200,000
- George Lay Park toilet \$130,000
- Alan Garden netball court lighting upgrade - \$152,000
- Robinvale pool heating / solar \$100,000
- Robinvale Netball Court Change rooms \$350,000
- Missing Link Footpath Strategy priority projects \$225,000
- Shade Sail over playground (skate park) \$50,000
- Roadside vegetation clearance approximately \$100,000

Consultation

Consultation with ELT and respective managers occurred following the announcement of the funding.

Missing links, Public Convenience strategy, building and maintenance program, urgent faults and town specific strategies informed this list.

Financial Implications

At this time there is no clarity around the financial/co-funding requirements as the guidelines have not been released. There may or may not be a requirement for matching funds.

Electricity cost saving will be realised though the public lighting project.

Social Implications

Improvements to community assets.

Economic Implications

Improvements to community assets.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

Options

1. Accept the recommendations, subject to funding guidelines
2. Amend the recommendations, subject to funding guidelines

Recommendation

That Council support the projects as outlined in this report as preferred for funding under the Roads and Community Projects Funding, subject to compliance with the funding guidelines.

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council support the projects as outlined in this report as preferred for funding under the Roads and Community Projects Funding, subject to compliance with the funding guidelines.

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

Cr McKay moved an Amendment

That Council support the projects as outlined in this report as preferred for funding under the Roads and Community Projects Funding, subject to compliance with the funding guidelines and that Council add an additional project to complete the footpath between the pre-school and Station Street in Nyah West to the extent of \$50,000 to the list of projects. And reduce the amount of roadside vegetation clearance to \$50,000.

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Amendment was put and CARRIED

54/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McKay

That Council support the projects as outlined in this report as preferred for funding under the Roads and Community Projects Funding, subject to compliance with the funding guidelines and that Council add an additional project to complete the footpath between the pre-school and Station Street in Nyah West to the extent of \$50,000 to the list of projects. And reduce the amount of roadside vegetation clearance to \$50,000.

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

SECTION C – DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION

C.20.9 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.

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

No.	Document Type	Document Description	Date signed/sealed
982	S5 Instrument of Delegation to CEO	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and the CEO	19-05-20
983	S6 Instrument of Delegation to Staff	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO to members of staff	19-05-20
984	Deed of variation of Lease – Swan Hill Aerodrome hanger	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and SA & MP McLean Super Fund	19-05-20
985	Deed of variation of Lease – Swan Hill Aerodrome hanger	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Kent Charters Pty Ltd	19-05-20
986	Deed of variation of Lease – Swan Hill Aerodrome hanger	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Dr J. J. Barry	19-05-20

DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION

23 June 2020

987	Deed of variation – Lot 1 on title plan 219714 Parish of Bumbang Vol:8472 Folio 294	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Robinswood Homestead Association Inc.	9-06-20
988	Deed of variation – Swan Hill Aerodrome	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and N.D.James and G.C.Manual	9-06-20
989	Section 173 Agreement – Ownership and Maintenance of Asset in Road Reserve – Happy Valley, Landing Road.	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and P.M.Camera Pty Ltd	16-09-20

Conclusion

Council authorise the signing and sealing of the above documents.

Recommendation

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

55/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

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

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED

C.20.10 COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES - RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA ITEMS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S15-05-06
Attachments: 1 Councillor Assembly 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 - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

Options

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

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of the report.

56/20 Motion

MOVED Cr Johnson

That Council note the contents of the report.

SECONDED Cr McPhee

The Motion was put and CARRIED

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
19 May 2020 at 1pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

AGENDA ITEMS

- Rate Remodelling

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Our Place
- Flight School at Swan Hill

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Nicole McKay (by face time)
- Cr Ann Young

Apologies

- Nil

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Service
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Dione Heppell, Construction Project Manager Regional Livestock Exchange Redevelopment

Other

- Nil

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
26 May 2020 at 1pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

AGENDA ITEMS

- CEO performance review
- Public convenience strategy
- Local Law No.2 – Amendments
- Youth Strategy
- Council Plan
- Revegetation project in Tol Tol Road Council Plan

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Federal Funding
- August Council Meeting
- Councillor Assemblies for June

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Chris Jeffery (not present for item 6)
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young

Apologies

- Nil

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Service
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Helen Morris, Organisational Development Officer
- Laura O'Dwyer, Enterprise Assets Manager
- Jan McEwan, Family Youth & Children's Services Manager
- Kane Sparks, Youth Support Co-Ordinator
- Stefan Louw, Development Mangers

Other

- Nil

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
9 June 2020 at 1pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

AGENDA ITEMS

- Councillor only session
- Our Place
- Two intersections Gray Campbell and Murlong McCallum
- The Commonwealth Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
- The Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) What Works and Issues
- Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program Projects
- Vibrant Villages
- Tower Hill Estate Development Stages 13, 14 and 15
- Robinvale Housing Action Plan

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young

Apologies

- Nil

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Service
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Candis Fraser, Project Manager, Our Place
- Nazrul Islam, Engineering and Capital Projects Manager
- Nathan Keighran, Liveability and Project Development Co-ordinator
- Felicity O'Rourke, Community Planning Officer
- Muriel Scholz, Senior Economic Development Officer

Other

- Nil

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

SECTION D – NOTICES OF MOTION

D.20.3 HEADS OF AGREEMENT AUSTRALIAN AVIATION ALLIANCE

Having given due notice, **Councillor Nicole McKay MOVED that:**
Council withdraw its offer to enter into a heads of agreement with Australian Aviation Alliance (ABN 29637519781) to negotiate the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome.

Preamble

Council has been holding informal and infrequent discussions with Australian Aviation Alliance (AAA) around the possibility of establishing a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome.

Council recently resolved to authorize the CEO to enter into a heads of agreement with AAA with a view to negotiating suitable arrangements to establish the flight school. Neither party has at this point in time signed the heads of agreement.

As suitable commercial arrangements were unable to be reached AAA has advised Council that they have withdrawn from negotiations.

In light of this, it is prudent for Council to formalise it's withdrawal from negotiations, and it's offer of a Heads of Agreement.

Considerable community concern has been expressed regarding the proposal and this action will clarify Councils present position on the matter.

57/20

MOVED Cr McKay

Having given due notice, **Councillor Nicole McKay MOVED that:**
Council withdraw its offer to enter into a heads of agreement with Australian Aviation Alliance (ABN 29637519781) to negotiate the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome.

SECONDED Cr McPhee

The Motion was put and CARRIED

SECTION E – URGENT ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN AGENDA

Nil

SECTION F – TO CONSIDER & ORDER ON COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cr Jeffery, nothing to report

Cr Young

Councillor Assembly 9-6-20 and 16-6-20
Art Gallery Advisory Committee on-line meeting
Visit to the Pioneer Settlement and Spoons
Motorplex Meeting

Cr Benham

Seasonal Workforce teleconference (Dr Anne Webster MP and Ministers)
WAC – GoTo Meeting
School Council – Robinvale College
Marawarpina Aboriginal LAN - GoTo Meeting
Robinvale Euston suicide prevention network – zoom meeting
Wemen Progress Association
WAC Our Place site visit and meeting

Cr Johnson

WAC Our Place site visit and meeting
Swan Hill Inc meeting
CEO performance review
Swan Hill Aerodrome visit and discussion with trainer and community members
Audit Committee (GoTo Meeting)

Cr McPhee

Audit Committee Meeting
Swan Hill MEMPC meeting
Our Place site visit

Cr McKay

Meeting with at Nyah West to look at the footpath in front of the post office
Our Place site visit and meeting

Cr Bill Moar

North West Municipalities Virtual Meeting
MRGC (Murray River Group of Council)

SECTION G – IN CAMERA ITEMS

58/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council close the meeting to the public on the grounds that the report(s) include personnel and contractual matters at 3.37pm.

SECONDED Cr Johnson

The Motion was put and CARRIED

**B.20.36 IN CAMERA CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORT
B.20.37 IN CAMERA CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

Cr Lea Johnson declared an indirect Conflict of Interest for In Camera item B.20.36 due to her employment with real estate agent LJHooker and left the Council Chambers at 3.38pm.

59/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That the meeting move out of closed session

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

SECTION H – DECISIONS MADE IN CAMERA

B.20.36 TOWER HILL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT OF STAGES 13,14 AND 15

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Propose to sell Lots 391-457 Stage 13, Stage 14 and Stage 15 as shown on the layout plan.**
- 2. Give public notice of its intention to sell the land by private treaty, seeking submissions for consideration on the proposed disposal pursuant to S189 of the Local Government Act 1989.**

- 3. Authorise Council officers to sell lots 391-457 if no submissions to the disposal of the land are received pursuant to Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.**

60/20 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council:

- 1. Propose to sell Lots 391-457 Stage 13, Stage 14 and Stage 15 as shown on the layout plan.**
- 2. Give public notice of its intention to sell the land by private treaty, seeking submissions for consideration on the proposed disposal pursuant to S189 of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- 3. Authorise Council officers to sell lots 391-457 if no submissions to the disposal of the land are received pursuant to Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.**

SECONDED Cr McPhee

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED

Councillor Johnson returned to the Council Chambers at 3:46pm and was informed of the decision.

B.20.37 CEO PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the CEO Performance Review process undertaken in accordance with Council's policy and procedure, and with the Contract of Employment.**
- 2. Adopt the Specific Performance Criteria set for achievement by the CEO for the period from May 2020 – May 2021.**
- 3. Adopt the recommended remuneration increase for the CEO for the coming 12 month period.**
- 4. Note that the position description has been reviewed and no changes are warranted.**

61/20 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the CEO Performance Review process undertaken in accordance with Council's policy and procedure, and with the Contract of Employment.**
- 2. Adopt the Specific Performance Criteria set for achievement by the CEO for the period from May 2020 – May 2021.**
- 3. Increase the remuneration package for the CEO to the agreed amount for the coming 12 month period on the condition that the cost of the CEO's vehicle is paid to Council after tax.**
- 4. Note that the position description has been reviewed and no changes are warranted.**

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED

There being no further business the Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar closed the meeting at 4.05pm.