



# MINUTES

## SCHEDULED MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 23 February 2021  
(deferred from 16 February 2021)

Held Swan Hill Town Hall  
McCallum Street, Swan Hill  
Commenced at 2:00 PM

### **COUNCIL:**

Cr B Moar – Mayor

Cr J Benham  
Cr A Young  
Cr LT McPhee  
Cr C Jeffery  
Cr S King  
Cr N McKay

Confirmed 16 March 2021

Chairperson.....

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## **SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

- **Postponement of Scheduled Council Meeting**

The Acting Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the CEO and Mayor postponed the meeting to be held on the 16 February for 1 week to the 23 February 2021.

This action was necessary as Victoria was placed in a COVID-19 snap lock down for 1 week commencing on Friday 12 February 2021. In the early hours of the snap lock down it was unclear if a face to face Council meeting would be able to proceed.

- **Welcome**

Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 2.00pm.

- **Acknowledgement of Country**

Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar read the Acknowledgement of Country.

- **Prayer**

Cr Nicole McKay read the prayer.

- **Apologies/Leaves of Absence**

Nil

### **Recommendations**

**That the apologies be accepted.**

- **Directors/Officers Present**

John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer  
Bruce Myers, Director Community and Cultural Services  
Heather Green, Director Development and Planning  
Joel Lieschke, Director Corporate Services  
Sharon Lindsay, Executive Assistant

- **Confirmation of Minutes**

- 1) Scheduled Meeting Of Council held on 15 December 2020
- 2) Unscheduled Meeting of Council held on 12 January 2021

### **6/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Young**

**That the minutes of the:**

- 1) **Scheduled Meeting Of Council held on 15 December 2020**
  - 2) **Unscheduled Meeting of Council held on 12 January 2021**
- be confirmed.

**SECONDED Cr Jeffery**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

- **Disclosures of Conflict of Interest**

Cr Ann Young declared an indirect conflict of interest in item B21.3 Grant Programs and Opportunities 2021 due to a close relative being on the committee of the Woorinen Football Club.

**7/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McKay**


**That standing orders be suspended at 2.03pm to note condolences for the late Mr Ross Mellor a former Councillor and Mayor for this municipality.**

**SECONDED Cr King**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

Cr Les McPhee suggested that Council conduct public question time whilst standing orders are suspended to which the Mayor Cr Bill Moar agreed.



Date Rec'd	18 JAN 2021	File #	SO1-07-06
Workflow	CEO	Doc #	
Copies		Security	
BW / Col:			
Comments	xref #164885 #172713 #179354		

Alison Black  
 PO Box 1044  
 Robinvale Victoria 3549

10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Mr John McLinden  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Swan Hill Rural City Council  
 PO Box 488  
 Swan Hill Victoria 3585

**RITCHIES IGA – ROBINVALE – PETITION FOR SHADE SALES**

Dear John,

Please find enclosed a petition, which demonstrates significant support for the provision of shade sails for the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park. Also enclosed is a letter (dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2021) sent to three stakeholders. The other key stakeholders are of course all the members of the community and customers, especially those who signed the petition.

It is requested the petition and accompanying letter be presented to the Council at the April 2021 meeting.

It is also requested you acknowledge receipt of this letter, the petition and accompanying letter and confirm the date for presentation at the Council meeting.

Yours sincerely



Alison Black

Enclosures:

1. Original bound petition for Swan Hill Rural City Council (and three stapled pages)
2. Copy of letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Alison Black  
PO Box 1044  
Robinvale Victoria 3549

9<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Mr Alan Fisher  
Director  
Faren Pty Ltd  
PO Box 1608  
Mildura Victoria 3502

Mr Fred Harrison  
Chief Executive Officer/Director  
Ritchies Stores  
Unit 10  
1095 Frankston-Dandenong Road  
Carrum Downs Victoria 3201

Mr John McLinden  
Chief Executive Officer  
Swan Hill Rural City Council  
PO Box 488  
Swan Hill Victoria 3585

**RITCHIES IGA – ROBINVALE - PETITION**

Dear Mr Fisher, Mr Harrison and Mr McLinden,

In my letter of 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020 I expressed concern over the lack of shade sails for the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park. I requested all stakeholders; land and business owners, lessees and lessors consider this issue with a view to working together to enable the construction of shade sails over the entire car park.

A petition has been raised for lodgement with Swan Hill Rural City Council with presentation to Council requested for April 2021.

The words of the petition are as follows:

‘The petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear here under petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.’

The petition garnered 1,042 signatures.



Given the extreme reluctance of many residents to sign any form of documentation and the impact of COVID 19 reducing the number of tourists passing through Robinvale, the result is very significant and cannot be ignored.

During summer the temperature inside vehicles parked in the sun can rise to around 60 degrees Celsius even after a relatively short period of time. In these temperatures vehicles become a deadly scorching oven and a safety concern.

Key to our request is the issue of sun and heat safety for all; mums with babies and children, the elderly, teams of workers who arrive at the supermarket in people movers and who then sit on the curbs in the sun or under a tree before departing and the everyday customer.

The provision of shade sails would also be an incentive for locals to return to shopping in Robinvale rather than including grocery shopping on their 'to do list' when visiting Mildura.

Faren Pty Ltd, Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores and Swan Hill Rural City Council do not have any legal obligation to provide shade sails for customers. However, it would demonstrate a significant commitment to this town if all three organisations worked together to provide what is now accepted as an essential social and community requirement for residents.

Robinvale is a booming horticultural centre and a developing tourist location. In 2018 the total gross value of production of irrigated crops for Robinvale Ward was estimated as \$649.5 Million (SunRISE Mapping & Research 2018). All three addressees derive significant benefit from our horticultural expansion and associated population. It would be welcomed if a portion of those financial benefits were reinvested in the community from which they came in order to provide a better living environment for all.

Demonstration of your commitment to Robinvale through the provision of shade sails is requested.

Yours sincerely



Alison Black

Enclosure:

1. Original bound petition for Swan Hill Rural City Council
2. Copy of the original bound petition for Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Julie Kelly	11 Leonora St Robinvale	Julie A Kelly
2	JULIE McMINNIE	5 Hunt Dr Robinvale	JMcMinnie
3	Carmen Garreff	2 Hunt Drive ROBINVALE	Garreff
4	Joan Pitt	54. ROBINVALE	J. Pitt
5	Ram Ciopelle	Finschaffers Rd	Ram
6	Tobula	4 Carrington St	Tobula
7	NUR	218 Bromley Road	NUR
8	Yvonne Wagner	manor gatong	y Wagner
9	John Albanese	Robinvale	John Albanese
10	Vanessa Cordova	EUSTON	Vanessa
11	Epitima ARAUOLA	Robinvale	Epitima
12	Chelsea Masila	Robinvale	Chelsea Masila
13	Donald Barker	Robinvale	Du Barker
14	ROB ACBANESI	ROBINVALE	Rob Acbanesi
15	Zina Tsanakalidis	Robinvale	Zina Tsanakalidis
16	Steen Wood	Robinvale	Steen Wood
17	Sophia Pablou	Robinvale	Sophia Pablou
18	Joziah	Robinvale	Joziah
19	Joseph Natale	Robinvale	Joseph Natale
20	Chloe Heaps	EUSTON	Chloe Heaps


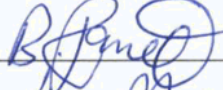
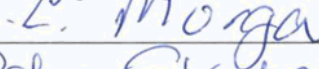

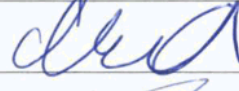
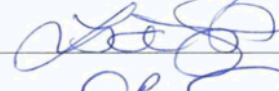

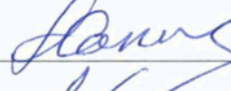




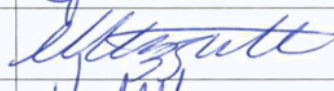
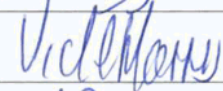

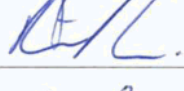

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Sandra Scarcella	46 WALSH ROAD	
2	LVA BURENE	20 MALLA AVE	
3	Rutha Albanese	116 Tobruks Rd.	R. Albanese.
4	GREA MCCLURE	6 CAROLYN CRT	PM Mcclure.
5	Libby Grant.	Webster Rd	
6	MAH HARRIS	KOKODI COURT	
7	PETER SMITH	0419875886	
8	Mary-Albanese	4195 Murray Valley	M. Albanese
9	Ashlyn Healy	Mant Dispersion	
10	Vernica Chapple	82 New Britain Rd.	Vernica Chapple
11	Kristina Davoli	140 Salamana Rd	
12	Josie Falvo	Wemen	
13	Michael Dunns	Darwin Rd	
14	JACK MCGINTY	37 PUMP RD	
15	MUSU	25 ROWE STREET	
16	Betty Coultts	4/ Hostel - 15/VALE	B. J. Coultts
17	Carmela Natale	35 Derna Road	C. Natale
18	Margaret Leslie	Euston	
19	Mentlyn Boyd	56 Kenneth Road Robinvale	Mentlyn Boyd
20	Bruna Canniti	8 Happy Valley Road	Bruna Canniti

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	NEAL PRIEST	3 CAROLYN CRT	
2	Betty Romec	655 Happy Valley Rd.	
3	Lina Morgan	Robinvale	
4	Robyn Strachan	Essendon/Robinvale	
5	MARIA IUDICA	ROBINVALE	
6	LISA	Kenley	
7	Debbie Barrett	Euston	
8	Julie Camera	Robinvale	
9	Jayde Gaunt	Marangatang	
10	JULIE POUND	MELBOURNE	
11	Pat DeLuca	Robinvale	
12	Al Mitchell	Robinvale	
13	Maria mezza	Robinvale	
14	Vicki Morns	Euston	
15	RIKKI JOHNSON	Robinvale	
16	Damien Plomsher	Robinvale	
17	M Camera	Robinvale	
18			
19			
20			

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	KATHY MOLLUSO	777 MALAYA RD.	<i>KMolluso</i>
2	Pamela McClure	6 Carolyn Crt Rivale	<i>PMcClure</i>
3	LEONARD JOHN PISASAKI	265 MALAYA RD RIVALE	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	LYNDA SMITH.	40 RONALD ST RIV.	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Ones Knuds	18 Mella Ave Rivale	<i>Ones Knuds</i>
6	<del>John Deatling</del>	3794 Weme Vic	<del><i>[Signature]</i></del>
7	Pam Edelstein	HASTINGTOWN <sup>Bolton</sup>	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	Don Chudryk	EUSTON NSW	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	Shelley Waters	EUSTON	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	Maree Andriolas	Robinvale	<i>[Signature]</i>
11	PETER ROGERS	"	<i>[Signature]</i>
12	ARIAN RAYMO	ROBINVALE	<i>[Signature]</i>
13	A. TSANAKAKIOTSS	151 DAMOUR RD ROB.	<i>[Signature]</i>
14	Jessica Curran	5112 Hatch-Robinvale Rd, Robinvale	<i>[Signature]</i>
15	Jane Ruane	257 Crete Rd Rivale	<i>J.Ruane</i>
16	Sava Panay	5 MARRY COURT	<i>[Signature]</i>
17	WILMA KUNENBERG	KULSTON	<i>Wilma Kungenberg</i>
18	Silia Mafi	Robinvale	<i>[Signature]</i>
19	M. WRIGHT	EUSTON	<i>[Signature]</i>
20	J Parker	Hatch Rivale Rd Wemen	<i>[Signature]</i>

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	TERI MACINTOSH	BP LATJE ROAD, ROBINVALE	
2	PETER MYLONAS	14 GEORGE ST RYAN	
3	Jasmin Waters	40 Cowper St Euston	
4	W KATIS	136 LATJE RD	Wendy Katis
5	O ESAM	32 PARK ST RYAN	
6	B ZANKER	Wemen	
7	L BOLT	14 MURRAY TCE EUSTON	
8	J TYRELL	19 NIXON ST EUSTON	J. Tyrell
9	E. WIGGS	10 PARK ST	
10	Pat Churchilla	Euston	
11	Kathy Hamattina	Wemen	Khamattina.
12	Natalie Natale	17 Derna Rd	
13	Charlean Graham	215 Wewak Rd.	C. Graham.
14	JANICE WHITTON	13 Mully Da Ryvale	
15	KEVIN PEARCE	13 Mully Da Ryvale	
16	Kamini Begcehu	97 George St	Robinson
17	Vine Natale	10 Sandrands Rd	Robinson
18	<del>Alice Ryan</del>	<del>Bromely Rd.</del>	
19	Sandra Blake	Ryan Rd.	
20	<del>Naga Kelly</del>		

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Suzanne Fontanes	4 River gr Robinvale	S Fontanes
2	Josie Falvo	Wemen	
3	Norma Cooks	5 Garden brd R/Vale	
4	NANCY GARREFFA	Bertram Rd Euston	Nancy Garreffa
5	Belinda Hemmari	92 Malaya Rd Robinvale	
6	KATHY GARREFFA	BERTRAM RD EUSTON	
7	JENNIFER TONZING	2780 M/Valley Hlway Tol Tol	
8	Maria Absalom	23 Walsh Rd - Tol Tol	
9	NOEL JOHNSON	2 JOHNSON RD ROBINVALE	
10	<del>Karen Dunstan</del> Karen Dunstan	Warrnambool	K.D
11	TERESA NATALE	Robinvale	
12	lyn Bolt	Euston	
13	Vic Taylor	Euston	
14	Calla Gallace	Robinvale	
15	JOHN WAGNER BCS	10 COGHILLS, MANANG	
16	Eileen Morrow	Euston.	
17	KALA	1 Robinvale	
18	JETT	ROBINVALE	
19	Olivia	Mildura	
20	Ann Holland	Robinvale	

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	A. BLACK	131 Kutje Road Robinvale	A Black
2	Tara Parish	227 Sealake Rd R/Vale	Tara Parish
3	R. AVERY	INVINCIBLE BEND LN E.Ta	R. Avery
4	Casey Steven	46 Selwyn Euston	Casey Steven
5	Anna Brigante	185 Hocking Rd.	A Brigante
6	J. Hume	3481 Hattah Robinson Rd Lipman	J. Hume
7	R. PARKER	15 LEMONA ST	R. Parker
8	James Taylor	29 Lemora ST	James Taylor
9	Reba Maestros	156 Tabrot Del	Reba Maestros
10	LEIGH BYRON	148 BRET RD EUSTON	L. Byron
11	Loretta Charalambos	166 Alexishafen Rd	L. Charalambos
12	Josie Holt	39 Zara Lane Lake Powell	J. Holt
<del>13</del>	<del>Aalayah Holt-Mackay</del>	<del>39 Zara Lane Lake Powell</del>	<del>A. Holt-Mackay</del>
14	Annette Kennedy	Wemen	A. Kennedy
15	Joanne G	25 HOCKING RD	J. Griebel
16	Alexandra Prisk	46 Maher St Euston	A. Prisk
17	J. Cousins	5 WATKIN ST. Rob	J. Cousins
18	L. Gello	101 / UNIT 2 Kutje Rd	L. Gello
19	M. Lipanota	29 Kilpatrick Rd	M. Lipanota
20	Angela Garretti	6 Cary St Euston	A. Garretti



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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	ERIN LESLIE	1 GLENDA COURT ROBINVALE	
2	P Jewell	103 RAMOUR	
3	S. CARLE	28 PIONEER ST. MARRANG	
4	S. LINGWOOD JACK	ROBINVALE	
5	H. IRVING	ROBINVALE	
6	A. GINN	14 Higgins Road	
7	Lin COLLEGAN	91 Down Rd Robinvale	
8	C. Pisasale	PARKE ST, R'vale	
9	PAT SMYTHE	132 WARRICO RD.	
10	B. Hammet	29 Perrin St Rival	
11	C. CHIRCHIGLIA	51 BOSTON RD EUSTON	
12	S. Costa	Nulty Dr Robinvale	
13	Sally Smith	Robinvale	
14	Doug ANCRUM,	R/vale	
15	LEONIE MACKEN	R/VALE	
16	Leanne Adcock	Robinvale	
17	Jasmine Marks	Robinvale	
18	K.D. Warrick	Bacchus Marsh	
19	Boloni. <del>324</del>	SHEPPARDSON	
20	V. FROE <del>320</del>	"	

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Tim Kennedy	52 STALEY RD WERNUM	Tim Kennedy
2	CEORIC NOTER.	23 ROWE ST R/VALE	Ceoric Noter
3	BERYL NOTER.	" " "	B. Noter
4	HEBA TUAVILA	95 GEORGE ST	H. Tuavila
5	Greg Gilbert	55 Malen St Euston.	G. Gilbert
6	ALEXANDRA ENGLEFIELD	110 MADANG RD	A. Englefield
7	NIGHTINGALE LOMU	13 CLEARY DRIVE	N. Lomu
8	Georgina Lomu	13 Cleary Drive	G. Lomu
9	Bob Tully	6 Cleary Drive	B. Tully
10	Hanice Prayt	145 Latje Rd R/Vale	Hanice J. Prayt
11	Salote Sateki	18 Warden Ave R/Vale	S. Sateki
12	JULIEANNE LOY	MALAYA RD, R/VALE	J. Loy
13	JOE CARREFFA	TAYLOR RD. EUSTON	J. Carreffa
14	NITA OSBORNE	48 PIONEER ST MANUKATANG	N. Osborne
15	GRAEME HAEUSLER	WERNUM	G. Haesler
16	DAVID SHERIFF	ROBINVALE	D. Sheriff
17	KATRINA GELLETLY	65 BALIKPAPAN Rd Robinvale	Katrina Gelletly
18	Rilyn Dejong	21 Logan Street Swan Hill	Rilyn Dejong
19	Lynne Dejong	21 Logan <sup>ST</sup> Swan Hill	Lynne Dejong
20	LINDA WATSON	1 Kokoda Cr Robinvale	L. Watson

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	M. WADDINGTON	Box 168 R/Vale	MW add-j
2	LEIGH PARISH	227 SEALAKE RD R/VALE	L.P.
3	Rob Morgan	61 MALLA/A R/Va	Rob Morgan
4	Betty Romeo	655 Happy Valley Rd	B Romeo
5	M UELIE	EUSTON	M Uelie
6	M Curran	Box 990 Robinvale	M Curran
7	Aizat	32 Leonara st	Aizat
8	C. Avery	10/129 LATSE	C Avery
9	M. Harrison	18/ 3 Spiller ct	M Harrison
10	D Harrison	3 Spiller ct	D Harrison
11	M Pisasak	Parke st Robinvale	MP
12	K. MACHKAN	Ronald St., R/Vale	K Machkan
13	John Pratt	Geelong	J Pratt
14	A E W E N M' L E A N	ANN 4 E 110	A E M'Lean
15	C L A R O S T	Riddell Creek	C J Clark
16	Y. L. PARKER	8 RONALD ST ROUVALE	Y. L. Parker
17	M. KATIS	146 Darwin Rd	M Katis
18	Kay + Tony	Stuwell	Kay + Tony
19	Lorraine T.	1 A many court Robinvale.	L. T.
20	Jenelle Jensen	6 ARAFURA ST Robinvale	J Jensen

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To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park. 9

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Jess Camera	wewak Rd	
2	Anna Piscione	Springfield drive.	
3	Elena Camera	Dean rd.	
4	Deb Dickie	Murray Valley Hwy	
5	Vicki Neylandy.	PO EUSTON	
6	Elvira Wighton	Robinvale	
7	Josie Falvo	Wemen	
8	KATHY MOLLUSO	ROBINVALE	
9	Jan Johnson	Robinvale	
10	Marion Findlay	Balkrat	
11	Helen Harris	Robinvale	
12	Kirsty McClure	Robinvale	
13	Calla Gallace	Robinvale	
14	Teressa Chrciglia	Robinvale	
15	ROJ ALLPORT ROBINVALE		
16	MIRIAM JONES	EUSTON	
17	Craig McClure	Robinvale	
18	V. Harradine	Euston	
19	C. Heath	Wangaratta	
20	V. GARDNER	Darwin Rd R'Vale	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Maria Efstratiou	27 Kennedy Street	m. ef
2	Krysti Brown	Euston	Brown
3	Jess Vandenberg	Robinvale	J Vandenberg
4	Tess Efstratiou	Robinvale	Tess
5	CHARLI OUCH	ROBINVALE	Charli Ouch
6	Phung Dao	Robinvale	Phung Dao
7	Jessica Smythe	Robinvale	Jessica Smythe
8	David Lovell	Robinvale	David Lovell
9	ANDREW D.S	ROBINVALE	Andrew D.S
10	Lih PETTIT	Robinvale	Lih Pettit
11	Buck PETTIT	Robinvale	Buck Pettit
12	John Zaffina	Euston	John Zaffina
13	Jamie Buchanan	Robinvale	Jamie Buchanan
14	Mariah Darobin	Robinvale	Mariah Darobin
15	TESS SAMPSON	ROBINVALE	Tess Sampson
16	EMMY APPOO	ROBINVALE	Emmy Appoo
17	Mary Fangatua	Robinvale	Mary Fangatua
18	Ross MacIntosh	Robinvale	Ross MacIntosh
19	TEVILA TAIMANI	ROBINVALE	Tevila Taimani
20	K. Funaki	R/vale	K. Funaki

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Shirley Handy	Unit 2/51 Ronald St	
2	Sharina Baxter	29 Parke St R/vale	
3	Anton Johnson	carrington st	
4	Heather Lawrence	22 Morris St R/Vale	
5	HACAR	12	
6	Chris Bacon	131 WAREH Pt R/vale	
7	Paula Rodger	65 Balikpapan Rd	
8	Wayne Backs	3 Rowe St	
9	Shamay Appo	20 Annett St	
10	TERRY	UNIT 3/147 GEORGE ST	
11	DEE	116 LATJIE RD	
12	V. A. W.	2267 MURRAY STREET	
13	I Brigante	110 Sanananda Road	
14	<del>Marie Murray</del>	<del>Robinvale</del>	<del></del>
15	AKESA KEI	Robinvale	
16	Anka Isom	Robinvale	
17	Vika Funaki	ROBINVALE	
18	Shanice Appo	Robinvale	
19	ANDREW KIRBY	Robinvale	
20	DIANE LEAETOA	ROBINVALE	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	S. Fairbank	71 George St	
2	JAWAYA WILSON	13 Nicholas St	
3	S. FANUA	1/47-GEORGE ST	
4	K. Rodgers	64 Damour Rd R/vale	
5	WAI-KI SMITH	20 Parke St	
6	James Wilson	32 Oliver Rd	James Wilson
7	Marilyn Edwards	" " "	m edwards.
8	Clare Smith	65 Ryan Rd, Robinvale	clsmith
9	Weni Mumoneti	Warren Ave	
10	Fisifisi Kofale	Warren Ave	
11	Mary Poulivaat	71 George St	
12	Robert Poulivaat	71 George St	RP
13	Alexander Jarvis	78 GUOLKA ST	RJ
14	Sharon Urquhart	220 LATJE RD	SEL
15	PEZ GILL	12 MARRIS ST	
16	MEZ GILL	12 MARRIS ST	
17	PAWEE KGI	9 MARRIS ST	
18	Stephanie	Malaya rd	Shaitke
19	Rebecca	Parke st	Rebecca
20	Nicde	Meilman Road	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:



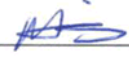





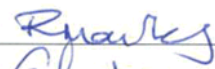
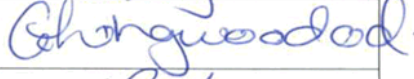

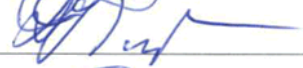








**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Felicina Franco	73 Damour Rd Robinval	
2	MASON Quirk-Meech	Euston	
3	Joseph Matala	Robinvale	
4	KRESTI GALLETTA	TAYLOR RD EUSTON	
5	Estia Felcke	16 ARNOTT ST	
6	ANDY MARLOW	ROBINVALE	
7	Sheldon Calarco	Euston	
8	Sharee Gallace	Robinvale	
9	Sivstar Perinogo	R-vale 3549	
10	Jacky Chhun	Euston	
11	Sela Ate	Robinvale	
12	Dafra Faulkner	Robinvale	
13	MARK WILLIAMS	R'VALE	
14	Cynthia	Euston	
15	Kiera	Robinvale	
16	DOMINIC ZAFFINA	ROBINVALE VIC	
17	Chantelle Kirby	Robinvale	
18	Nisa Apoo	Robinvale	
19	Noen	ROBINVALE	
20	Faleata Tuifua	Robinvale	



The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	JAI	ROBINVALE	
2	M. S. DW	ROBINVALE	
3	Melissa Singh	Robinvale	
4	Michelle Gevan	Robinvale	
5	CYNTHIA BAXTER	R/vale	
6	Janice Baxter-Mannix	Robinvale	
7	Melissa Anderson	Robinvale	
8	Carly Sidora	Robinvale	
9	R. Marks	Robinvale	
10	Cheryl Greenwood	Robinvale	
11	Heidi Bisby	Robinvale	
12	Darren Taylor	BOUNDARY BEND	
13	Robert Libbitt	Boundary Bend	
14	Hashim	Robinvale	
15	Tiffany	Robinvale	
16	Alex	Robinvale	
17	ASHRAF	ROBINVALE	
18	NIKITA PHILLIPS	Robinvale	
19	JULIE CLARK	ROBINVALE	
20	Maggie Egan	Robinvale	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:









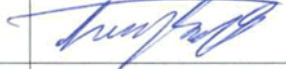



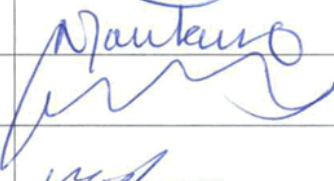

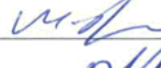





To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	K. HOCKING	ROBINVALE	K.H.
2	T. FOSTER	EUSTON	T.F.
3	J Falvo	Wemen	J Falvo
4	A Falvo	Wemen	A Falvo
5	B HUEPS	ROBINVALE	B Hueps
6	F. Zappia	Eusta	F.Z.
7	<del>DRY</del>		
8	Angus Mitchell	Robinvale	Angus Mitchell
9	L. Mahalic	Robinvale	L. Mahalic
10	Bec Harvey	Euston	Bec Harvey
11	Candice Bowden	Robinvale	Candice Bowden
12	Maurus Kromann	Maurus	Maurus Kromann
13	Jaidyn whitton	Robinvale	Jaidyn
14	Lachlan Apps	Rvale	Lachlan Apps
15	Francine Marlowe	Robinvale	Francine Marlowe
16	Maureen Tavalupe	Robinvale	Maureen Tavalupe
17	Corinne Best	Robinvale	Corinne Best
18	<del>Bitch gss</del>	<del>Bitch</del>	<del>ok</del>
19	IMI BURENE	ROBINVALE	IMI BURENE
20	Pamela Romeo	Robinvale	Pamela Romeo

6.

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Chantel Feia	<del>1</del> Kennedy St	
2	Linkawa	Maston C	
3	Stacey Ingram	Anniversary DR	
4	Carole Egan	Anniversary DR	
5	Tanya Burkinshaw	Robinvale	
6	Tyanna Barfield	Damascus RD	
7	Jai Hall	Tol Tol	
8	Tahlia Cox	Bendigo	
9	Tyrene Urquhart	Bendigo	
10	DANNIEUE ADAMS	BOUNDARY BEND	
11	Hikaru <sup>Fonua</sup> <del>XXXX</del>	Robinvale - Ronald <sup>street</sup>	
12	Matty Chilly	Robinvale <sup>Ronald street</sup>	
13	Naomi Yankuro	Malla Ave	
14	Abraham Schuffink	Maston Ct	
15	MARLAINE JOHNSON	3155 GEORGE ST ROBINVALE	
16	Samantha Mendel	Ronald Street	
17	Evelyn Gallo	Robinvale	
18	SINI Penlongo	Robinvale	
19	Srey Mak	Robinvale	
20	G. Chirchiglia	Robinvale	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Caithlin Churchiglia	Robinvale	
2	ALAN WELCH	ROBINVALE	
3	Steven KATIS	R/VALE	
4	WENDY WALSH	R/VALE	
5	Maeghan Costantino	Robinvale	
6	ISAIAH JOHNSON	Robinvale	
7	RAFFI	ROBINVALE	
8	Mario C	Robinvale	
9	Wingent	EUSTON	
10	MANIA PANAGIOTAKIS	ROBINVALE	
11	Marc jealous	EUSTON Y16	
12	Mania Abs	23 Walsh Rd	
13	MARK GARA	243 SEA LAKE RD	
14	Walter Low	Euston	
15	Josie Falvo	wemen	
16	Grace Mezafesto	Robinvale	
17	Tiffany Valinot	Robinvale	
18	Leticia Marabio	Euston	
19	Diane Jones	47 RONALD ST ROBINVALE	
20	A. Puleio	Red Cliffs	




















The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Natasha ANSON	2491 Murray Valley Highway	
2	Donna Christie	6 Kokoda CT, Robinvale	
3	Mary Mezzakata	4027 Murray Valley Hwy Robinvale	
4	RA GRIFITHS	1 QUEEN MARY LEITCHVELL	
5	Lemalo Togo	55 Bergajim Rd, Robinvale	
6	Indi Lee Togo	2/21 Marlen Av.	
7	Maddison Lawrence	2 Donald St Robinvale	
8	Mickel an	10 Graye	
9	Brendan Kennedy	17 NULTY DVC RIVALE	
10	Felix Wood	18 Cooper St Ins	
11	TAI	6 WARLEN AVE	
12	Lucia Albanese	90 Bina Rd, Robinvale	
13	Manu Dylh	40 Madrie St	
14	Sulu	29 MALLA AVE	
15	Roko	29 MALLA AVE	
16	<del>GINA</del>	<del>—</del>	<del>—</del>
17	Jwhitton	—	
18	LEN O'BELEN	118 LATJE ROAD 1	
19	J Tui	71 Graye St.	
20	epi skander	7 Nulty Drive	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Gordon Jones	ROBINVALE	
2	Mouli Lemani-Anga	Robinvale	
3	MAY	Robinvale	
4	Blayne	Robinvale	BR
<del>5</del>	<del>Mark Tuan</del>	<del>Robinvale</del>	<del></del>
6	IKA	Robinvale	
7	Brenden Johnson	R-vale	
8	WARREN BILL	R-VALE	
9	MARISSA BROWN	Robinvale	
10	ELIZABETH AHOAHI	ROBINVALE	
11	John Luke	Robinvale	
12	KEREI LOVEGRAVE	Robinvale	
13	HARIMIN SUHAIMI	ROBINVALE	
14	Pierce	Euston	
15	Cynthia	Euston	
16	Russell Lawrence	Robinvale	
17	Pat Chirchiglia	Euston	
18	Uly	R. vale	
19	Johni	Robinvale	
20	Julie	Robinvale	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritichies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Jaidyn	Robinvale	Jaidyn
2	Ngoc Dong Vy	Robinvale	Ngoc Dong Vy
3	Kathleen Terrick	Robinvale	Kathleen Terrick
4	Rodeana Whetton	Robinvale	Rodeana Whetton
5	Noreen Burns	Robinvale	Noreen Burns
6	Chelsea Marila-Liutob	Robinvale	Chelsea Marila-Liutob
7	Dang Singh	220 lot 1c	Dang Singh
8	CAMERON DAUZI	ROBINVALE	Cameron Dauzi
9	JENNIFER DAUZI	ROBINVALE	Jennifer Dauzi
10	Louisa Gervasi	Robinvale	Louisa Gervasi
11	Justi Ley	Robinvale	Justi Ley
12	Beryl Moter	ROBINVALE	Beryl Moter
13	NOOR AZLINA	ROBINVALE	Noor Azlina
14	Sarah	Robinvale	Sarah
15	Luke	Robinvale	Luke
16	Chris	Rob	Chris
17	Rose	Robinvale	Rose
18	Nick	Robinvale	Nick
19	Joseph Mezza	Robinvale	J. Mezza
20	Georgie McLeish	Robinvale	Georgie McLeish

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Ritendra For.	Rvale	
2	Nia Tute	Rvale	
3	<del>John</del> Lusi K-G	Rvale	
4	Millie Wood	Rvale	
5	Jenny Cuthason	Rvale	
6	Jacinta Harrodine	Robinvale	
7	Taylee Gilbert	Robinvale	
8	Haiscare Tanale	Robinvale	
9	Jerome Jackson	Robinvale	
10	Ria	Robinval	
11	Talin Taitofou	Swan Hill	
12	Mary Gabriel	Swan Hill	
13	Wan	Robinvale	
14	anne	Robinvale	
15	Shane Sures	Marang	
16	Jessica Bulos	Robinvale	
17	ROS POULVATI	ROBINVALE	
18	<del>PNDRS</del>	<del>APTME</del>	
19	Dennis	Robinvale	
20	Jenie	"	

LEE & DAVID

"

LM

12.



The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Carrie Hammet	lot 1 Stuart Hwy Euston NSW	
2	Hannah Irving	79 Smythe Rd, Robinvale	
3	Maria Rosa Chirchigli	51 Bertram Rd Euston NSW 2737	
4	Rebel Burkinshaw	8845 mH Bandingford	
5	Jessie Grieneres	19 Cowper St Euston	
6	Juscindo Mattschess	1-toyla Court Euston	
7	Fiona shawcross	8 Hunt drive	fshawcross
8	Greg Kennedy	16 Malla Ave Rivale	Greg Kennedy 5 Volebarrackon
9	Shirley Mattschess	15 Maher St Euston	
10	Maria Chirchigli	11 Taylor Rd Euston	
11	Charlie Best	14 Maher St Euston	
12	Shanise McKinnis	21 Lamington St	
13	Cassey Taylor	941 Tol Tol Rd.	
14	Sue Burkinshaw	33 Derna Rd Rivale	
15	Naomi Schultink	7 maston court Rivale	
16	Alison Mitchell	112 Bromley Rd	
17	Lachlan Mitchell	" "	
18	Seamus Mitchell	" "	
19	Jess Vandy	39 Adcock Rd	
20	Rose Billington	1029 Tillara Road	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Tori Best	699 Malaya RD	Tori Best
2	Craig Kennedy	16 Mellis Ave Rivale	Craig Kennedy
3	Jane Atkman	11 Hunt Drive, Robinvale	Jane Atkman
4	Craig Kennedy	16 Mellis Ave Rivale	Craig Kennedy
5	Annabelle Sharman	32 Parkes St Robinvale	Annabelle Sharman
6	Lucy Hope	810 EUSTON PRUNGLER RD EUSTON	Lucy Hope
7	Roxanne Parker	62 Phillips rd	Roxanne Parker
8	Gabriella Violi	25 Bertram Rd	Gabriella Violi
9	Penee Stringer	178 Darwin road	Penee Stringer
10	Abraham Schuttko	7 Maston Ct	Abraham Schuttko
11	Nicole Higgins	3674 Hattah/Kvale Rd Werrim.	Nicole Higgins
12	Jessica Milewski	152 Leslie Drive, Euston	Jessica Milewski
13	John Jukes	226 Bronley Rd	John Jukes
14	Lisa Zuppig	80 Pethard Rd Rivale	Lisa Zuppig
15	Jessica Sharman	12 Malla Ave	Jessica Sharman
16	<del>Annabelle Sharman</del>	<del>32 Parkes St</del>	<del>Annabelle Sharman</del>
17	Carmen Maclean	20 Mary ct, Rivale	Carmen Maclean
18	Matty Chilly	12 Ronald, St	Matty Chilly
19	<del>David</del>	<del>Lake Kangaroo</del>	<del>David</del>
20	<del>Marg</del>		<del>Marg</del>

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	MICHAEL SMITH	146 SATELBELL RD ROBINVALE	
2	DOURAL LESLIE	4020 Murray Valley 14WAY R/vale.	
3	Kelly Wescombe	46 Damour Rd	
4	Tahlema Tege	82 laje Rd	
5	Bruce Crocker	215 Robinvale	
6	John Zappa	Lot 20 Spurr Hwy Euston	
7	Marin Churchylic	38 Maday RD Robinvale	
8	JUSTIN HAMEL	35 SHALERS THE EUSEN	
9	Jonas Hur	ROBINVALE	
10		Robinvale.	
11		ROBINVALE	
12	Susan Windsor	146 Murray Valley Road Robinvale	
13	Peter Muraca	Robinvale	
14	Dianne. M. JAMES	Robin Vale.	D. M. JAMES
15	Shane O'Bryan	Euston	
16	Don Albones	Rob	
17	<del>Kenise Deafa</del>	<del>ToL Tol</del>	<del></del>
18	Tom Luster	Euston	
19	Chris Bukoml	Euston.	
20	Rusty Roberts	Euston	








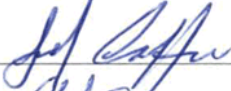



The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	PETER Nooy	31 PERKINS STREET R'vale	
2	Dean Leslie	396 Shaggy Ridge RD	
3	Jesse Lazarus	241 Darwin Rd Rob	
4	Andrew L. Pederson	7 Hunt Drive	Andrew L. Pederson
5	Ross Cecina	178 SARAVANDA R.D.	
6	FRED LAPPIN	81 BETMANS Rd R'vale.	
7	Nat Puleio	Murray Valley Hwy, R'vale	
8	David MATTBROSS	153 SALAMANA Rd	David MATTBROSS.
9	Tony NATALE	52 Happy Valley Rd	
10	Clint Smith	3864 Hattah - Robinvale rd	
11	Dean MURPHY	1 JAWORSKI CRT R'vale	
12	Grog McChure	6 Carolyn Ct R'vale	
13	Jean Mumford	248 Bromley Rd R'vale	
14	Jim Holkaway	162 SATTLBERG	
15	GARAS CORRAN	1665 SALAKE - ROBINVALE -	
16	Peter Brauerthansen	14 Shaggy Ridge Rd	
17	Steve Polato	12 River Grove	
18	JAKOB GARREFFA	2 NOLTY DRIVE	
19	Danna O'Connor	3146 KUH TRL	
20	Prue Barker	42 Royston rd rd	






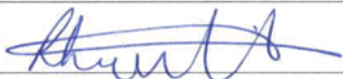
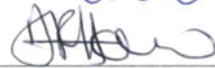

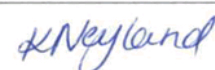


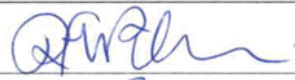






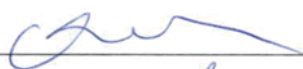

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Russell Lawrence	2 Donald st	Russell Lawrence
2	NEAL PRIEST	3 CAROLYN CRT	
3	SUSANNAH LINDSAY	180 ROYSTON RD RD	Sh A Linds
4	ROB MENZ	7 WATSON ST R/Vale	Rob Menz
5	Ken Fodolsten	Arnuello	Ken Fodolsten
6	Joe Zappi	ROBINVALE <sup>80</sup> Redland Rd	
7	Mick Parker	Robvale	
8	Peter Corcoran	Robvale	
9	John Corry	Eastern	
10	FRANK ROMEO	ROBINVALE	F Romeo
11	VICKI BROAD	EUSTON	V Broad
12	Craig Abernethy	ct- ROBINVALE HEALTHCARE	
13	Peter Rickard	ROBINVALE	
14	Irene GUEST	21 TIMOR RD ROBINVALE	Irene Guest
15	Kian Wei Lee	0458557625	Peter Lee
16	FRED GARRETT	EUSTON NSW	
17	Shawn Hyland	2 Forrester Ct NP	
18	Brett Barnes	251 Walnut ave	
19	<del>Signature</del>		<del>Signature</del>
20	Tina	24 Dean	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:










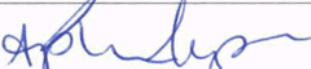








**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	ELLYN CRAWFORD	3366 MURRAY RD ROBINVALE	
2	BARRY EVANS	3366 MURRAY VAL HWY	
3	Stella Healy	47 Selwyn St. Euston	
4	Shantell Kitt	18 Garreffa Pde. Euston	
5	Kerry-Anne Jeabas	34 Shailer Tce Euston	
6	Rhiannon McInnes	11 Casper St Euston	
7	John Hall	41 PET ROBINVALE	
8	ROSEY	4 NIXON ST EUSTON	
9	Kirsten Neyland	45 Maher St EUSTON	
10	Ben Rogers	" "	
11	Nicole Ricevuto	Brett rd Euston	
12	Rebecca Williams	25 Perry St Euston	
13	GARRY MANNIX	39 MURRAY TCE EUSTON	
14	Jackie Chapple	17 Maher St Euston	
15	Isaac Chapple	"	
16	Fiona Serong	44 maher St Euston	
17	Carmen Maclean	20 Mary Ct, Robinvale	
18	Ashley Maclean	20 Mary Ct Robinvale	
19	Ange O'Bryen	93 BRIDGE RD. EUSTON	
20	EROLD MANNING	1/8 ROBIN ST, ROBINVALE	

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The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Mick Garreffa	Box 125 Euston NSW	
2	Mandy Laughler	28 Tayla crt Euston	M. Laughler
3	BILL VANDENBERG	5 BATES DRIVE EUSTON	
4	Shannon Brown	33 COUPER ST EUSTON NSW	
5	NES LEHMANIA	Box 139 EUSTON (NSW)	
6	Fiona Kirby	8 Selwyn St Euston	
7	JEREMY Ellery	Lot 38 morris rd Euston	
8	Tom Fosca	EUSTON	
9	Harvey Family	EUSTON	
10	GRHAMS TULLY	R/vale	
11	AnnaPhillipi	23 PERRY STREET EUSTON	
12	Brent Smith	Robinvale	
13	Pat Hunt	Euston	
14	Javen Ricevuto	Brett road Euston	
15	Kylie Zabina	7 BATES DRIVE Euston	
16	PETER MCDADE	226 BAYLOW RD TUMBARUMBA	
17	Aaron McIlmes	11 couper st Euston	
18	Heben Uebergang	8 Carey st Euston	
19	Wanda Seymore	Eush	
20	FRAZEL Quirk-Moek	Goa Goa	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	<i>[Signature]</i>	14 Murray Terrace Euston	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Husky Mannix	30-32 Cole Street	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	Teagan Sheppard	30-32 Cole Street	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	MICK NEYLAND	Lot 5 STURT Hwy	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Lyn TAYLOR	37 Cole St Euston	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	Calla Gallau	Robinvale	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	Jayden Kitt	Mildura	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	Jack Mott	Mildura	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	Tom Mott	Red Cliffs	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	Kelly Mott	Red Cliffs	<i>[Signature]</i>
11	Wayne Mott	Red Cliffs	<i>[Signature]</i>
12	Jack Kilson	Mildura	<i>[Signature]</i>
13	Candice Neyland	Euston	<i>[Signature]</i>
14	Ryan Neyland	Euston	<i>[Signature]</i>
15	Nicky Neyland	Gool Gool	<i>[Signature]</i>
16	Honk Neyland	Gool Gool	<i>[Signature]</i>
17	Ronny McGowan	Blunnie	<i>[Signature]</i>
18	Ian Bertram	24 Maher St Euston	<i>[Signature]</i>
19	Robert South	EUSTON	<i>[Signature]</i>
20	Teresa Mezzatesta	Euston	<i>[Signature]</i>



The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Joe + Mana Chirchghi	EUSTON	
2	Vicki Karaganis	Robinvale	
3	Bev Harbinson	237 Happy Valley Pt Robinvale	
4	Gret Kennedy	16 Malla Ave R/ale	
5	Edna Price	Euston	
6	Marg Curran	Euston	
7	Sue Smythe	168 Malaga Rd R/ale	
8	Jim TAGGERT	ROBINVALE	
9	MAREA TAGGERT	ROBINVALE	
10	PAULINE & WAYNE	TRAWALGON	
11	TUAN VO	ROBINVALE	
12	KRIS	Robinvale	
13	GRET KENNEDY	16 MALLA AVE ROBINVALE	
14	Edna Price	Euston	
15	NARENE ANDERSON	8655A MV HWY BOUNDARY BEND.	
16	DIANNE & ALAN COCHRANE	9 BOOTHMAN ST EENHUA	
17	Gret Kennedy	Robinvale	
18	Melinda Skelton	Robinvale	
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The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Laraine Schibbar	Postbox 6007 Robinvale	[Signature]
2	Ehna Price	Robinvale	[Signature]
3	Anne + Colin Fraser	Elliott St. Lake Wendouree 3350	[Signature]
4	Emily + Robert Walker	Boys St Swan Hill	[Signature]
5	Doug Dewman + Ann	TORQUAY	[Signature]
6	Ian + Lorraine Penny	Warracknaseel	[Signature]
7	SETI	ROBINVALE	[Signature]
8	Vicki-Burkinshaw	Ananello	[Signature]
9	Jacqui Lawrence	Robinvale	[Signature]
10	Jian Zhong Zhou		[Signature]
11	Jeeyon zhang	386 north rd Ormond	[Signature]
12	Sally Morris	Caravan Park Robinvale	[Signature]
13	Gres Kenned	3549 DARKY 781	[Signature]
14	Maina Abs	0 3549 0476267/30	[Signature]
15	JOHN F KENNEDY	16 MALLA AVENUE ROBINVALE	[Signature]
16	Dina Branda	24 Perrin	[Signature]
17	[Signature]	Robinvale	[Signature]
18	[Signature]	[Signature]	
19	Alan + Robyn Maygs	Ocean Grove 3226	[Signature]
20	[Signature]	92 White Lodge WOODEND	[Signature]

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Robert Sullivan	WOOD END	
2	Lorraine & Les	1A Mary Ct Ruak	
3		0438263513	
4	Charlean	0457437020	
5	Mick Pitta		
6	Raelene (Ken Harris)	0433339498	
7	Carolyn + Greg Hall	0428 382482	
8	Mick Pitta	0737325449	
9	<del>Sinead &amp; Olly</del>		
10	Jack Hannah	0999025907	
11	M. & S CAVILLE	0412989648	
12	Martin & Lois VanNus	0418831378	
13	Aime	0427089510	
14	R. Moggie	50263672	
15	Jan	0428519424	
16	Ree	0409212288	
17	LESLIE COPE	0438263513	
18	Lorraine Iynnell	0417428225	
19	Matty Chilly	0457538213	
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The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Pauline Luthford	50 Perry St Euston	
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The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	KESLEY COPE	75 LATJER RD R/VALE	<i>Kesley Cope</i>
2	Ron COPE	75 LATJER RD R/VALE	<i>Ron Cope</i>
3	MARY CURRAN	10 Hunt Drive R/Vale	<i>M. Curran</i>
4	Kaylene Connor	131 Latje Rd R/Vale	<i>K. Con.</i>
5	Seanette Cattanaoh	50775 Tayler Lake Euston	<i>S. Cattanaoh</i>
6	Jenny Manna	102 Hocking Rd R/Vale	<i>J. Manna</i>
7	HELEN ROBERTSON	65 Belknap. R/V Wardah Heights	<i>Helen R</i>
8	Judy Nixon	2 James Cook Dr	<i>Judy Nixon</i>
9	Susan Marie Burkitt	PO Box 240 Robinvale, VIC.	<i>Susan Marie Burkitt</i>
10	Lois HALEY	1/1 MALLA AVE R/Vale	<i>L. D. Haley</i>
11	Jeanette Alderson	31 Cooper St Euston	<i>J. B. Alderson</i>
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**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Sandra Williams	97 Gona R/vale	S. Williams
2	Lina Manna	127 George R/vale	L Manna
3	Abanis Williams	Newak Rd R. Vale	Ab Williams
4	Bee O'Brien	118 Cafe Rd P/vale	B. O'Brien
5	Valerie Rushford	14 Fern St.	Valerie
6	Dee Jay	10 Church St Mangrove	Dee Jay
7	Patricia O'Brien	Finschhafen rd R/vale	P O'Brien
8	DIANNE MURRAY	4 LEONORA ST R/vale	Dianne M
9	Wanda Mai	21 Rowe St R/vale	Wanda
10	MARY Cordona	L Buxton.	J L Walsh
11	<del>James</del>		
12	Lin Stevens	Robinvale -	L Stevens
13	Herb Pfeiffer	Robinval	HP
14	Paula Wain	42 Tanara Cor Inverloch	P. Wain
15	Graeme & Ann Cill	26 Bryson Ave Kotara	Graeme
16	NOOR MUSTAFFA KAMAL	25 ROWE ST 3549	N Mustaffa
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**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Karen Curran	1665 Sealake Rd Robinvale	KM Curran
2	Rosemary Brigante	156 Hocking Rd. R/vale	R Brigante
3	VALERIE K. FORBES.	5 SPILLER CRT R'VALE	Valerie K Forbes
4	John M Kean	2 RUSW & ROSINVALE	
5	Sandy Natale	10 Samananda Rd R/vale	
6	Maureen Touvalupe	6 Arnott Street	Maureen Touvalupe
7	MARK DURANT	94 (PETTAN) RD	
8	Rob Tressi	4132 WEMMICH RD	
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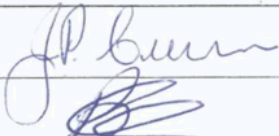





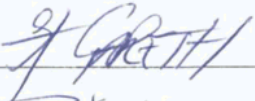

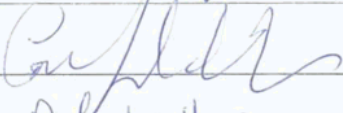

**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	K Teinde	1/21 Warlen Ave, Wale	<i>K Teinde</i>
2	<del>Timothy Tindley</del>	<del>28 KENNEDY ST</del>	<del><i>Timothy Tindley</i></del>
3	Sam Lochan	15 Alexander St	<i>Sam Lochan</i>
4	ANGELA Pan	4 Timon	<i>R</i>
5	Mary Ricetti		<i>M.R</i>
6	MURCIGAN		<i>Murcigan</i>
7	Tony Saly	1 walkie st Robinval	<i>T Saly</i>
8	Abby	204 happy	
9	MARY VIOLI	Perry St. EUSTON	<i>Mario</i>
10	Josie Gill	Nicholls St Robinvale	<i>J Gill</i>
11	Kevin Burke	1 BROWN ST SWAN HILL	<i>Kevin Burke</i>
12	Irene Marce		<i>Irene Marce</i>
13	Roma Farrow		<i>Rarrow</i>
14	Natalia Smith	51 Murray Street Tooleyha	<i>N Smith</i>
15	Scott Smith	51 Murray St Tooleyha	<i>Smith</i>
16	PAT CURRAN	HUNT DR.	<i>P Curran</i>
17	Georgina Lenny	Cleary Drive	<i>Georgina</i>
18	JOAN O'HAIRE	PERRY ST, EUSTON	<i>Joan M. O'Haire</i>
19	DON MARCIANO	8 CLEARY DRU. ROBINVALE	<i>Don Marcano</i>
20	Margaret. Baker	Manangatang	<i>M. Baker</i>



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To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	JOHN CUARAN	EUSTON	
2	BRIAN ENGLEFIELD	6 GLENDA CRT ROBINVALE.	
3	Casey Arentz	Euston	Casey Arentz
4	Mariah Briggs	Robinvale 23 Warten ave	M. Briggs
5	Robyn Leslie	EUSTON	R Leslie
6	<del>Irene</del> THALASINOS	Robinvale	
7	WAYNE ROGERS	ROBINVALE	
8	Domenico Johnson	Robinvale	D Johnson
9	Kerry Robertson	Mildura	KR
10	Tania Johnice	Euston	
11	Matty Chilly	Robinvale 12 Ronald St.	
12	ANNA LANTERI	32 RONALD ST. Robinvale	
13	St GARETH THE JUST	MILDURA	St GARETH
14	Bethna KETTS	R/Vale	B KETTS
15	Pam Saunders	Ballarat	
16	Kaylen	R/Vale	K Kaylen
17	KATHY KETTS	R/VALE	K. K. KETTS
18	Carolyn + Greg Hall	Robinvale vic	
19	Deana Whitten	R/Vale	R Whitten
20	Sally Cocks	Robinvale	

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To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Pauler Rodger	65 Balitpapan	
2	Maggie	Euston	264419
3	Shane Backus	3 Rowe St	GJ Backus
4	John	—	Robyn
5	Sue	—	B. Connelly
6	Edna	56 Carey St Euston	Edna
7	Fred Arentz	Manungatang	Farentz
8	Paula Shroy	Robinvale	Paula
9	Joe & Maria	Chirchighi	Joe
10	James Kenedy	Robinvale	James Kenedy
11	Helen	ROBINVALE	Helen
12	BEL LITCHFIELD	ROBINVALE	Bel Litchfield
13	Edna Purice	Euston	Edna
14	Huyen	Robinvale	Huyen
15	Leeanne Denaro	Euston	Leeanne
16	Lexie McGinniskin	Robinvale	Lexie McGinniskin
17	H. Parke	Robinvale	H. Parke
18	John		
19	SIANE		
20	John	Euston	
	Maria	Robinvale	

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To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Helen Paterson	no 7. Hovl- Dr.	H. Paterson
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**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	MARY CORCORAN	9 Hunt Drive. Robinvale	<i>M Corcoran</i>
2	Una Lainivy	129 George St	<i>Una</i>
3	GEE KAVK	4/122 Georget St	<i>Gee</i>
4	Mary Knight	81 New Britain Road	<i>Mary Knight</i>
5	Dianne Vandenberg	94 Nadab Rd. Robinvale	<i>Dianne Vandenberg</i>
6	Daryl McDure	77 Benghazi Road, Robinvale	<i>Daryl McDure</i>
7	Steve Clarke	292 Bromley Rd R/Vale	<i>Steve</i>
8	SUE GOLDSWORTHY	292 BROMLEY RD R/VALE	<i>Sue Goldsworthy</i>
9	William Cordin -Haw	42 Petnard Road	<i>W C</i>
10	Aaron Marr	86 Damour Rd Robinvale	<i>Aaron</i>
11	Angela Giampado	8/129 Latje Rd.	<i>A.G.</i>
12	Tracey Beck	Boundary Bend	<i>T Beck</i>
13	IWA KUREWE	20 MALLA AVE	<i>Iwa</i>
14	JOHN FRENCH	22 MARY COURT	<i>John</i>
15	Caitlin Bailey	563 Heeking RD	<i>Caitlin</i>
16	HEATHER CONNER	576A TOLTAL RD R/VALE	<i>Heather Conner</i>
17	John Grant	Melbourne	<i>John Grant</i>
18	Mark MENDY	129 Latje R/VALE	<i>Mark</i>
19	Sara Wagh	21 Nixon	<i>Sara</i>
20	Maryanne heeke	396 Shaggy Polex	<i>Maryanne</i>

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	LO LIT BOON	04-84570523	
2		349 Tol Tol Road	
3	Lee Barker	261 Madang Rd Rotarucke Vic	L. Barker
4	Ann McKean	2 Robin St	Ann McKean
5	Anie Gooding	2 River Gr Rvale	Anie Gooding
6	M. Mezzatich	4027 Murray Valley Hwy	M. Mezzatich
7	M. Albanese	Murray Valley High.	M. Albanese
8	N. Curcic	PARAPARAP	
9	M. CASS	50264161	T. F. D.
10	S. Gallo	0408147669	
11	DICK SANDERS	0434524081	Ch.
12	PETER ROGERS	0415419135	P.A.S.
13	Tnuwaraka	0481180754	
14	Seang Hou Sin	0423901350	
15	Jeff Weekly	0427783511	
16	IIM. ALTHUIZEN	0478670905	
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The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:





To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	B. Hammet	EUSTON NSW	
2	W. Pettit	ROBINVALE VIC	
3	G. Hatt	Robinvale Vic	
4	DAVID BROWN	Rivale	
5	JOHN BOND	Anniversary Ave ROBINVALE	
6	BERNICEY BOND	" "	
7	TERESA DRARA	TOL TOL	
8	Mary Frepley	Robinvale	
9	PAK KIM	63 GEORGE STREET	
10	KEN SMITH	LATJE RD	
11	Carmel Dehua	Robinvale	
12	PETER CAMPISI	ROBINVALE	
13	PETER NAOI	ROBINVALE	
14	ROO MAY	MELBOURNE	
15	VLAS	Rob	
16	NITA OSBORNE	MANANGATANG	
17	Kay Sylvester	Weman	
18	Dean Polwart	Mildeura	
19	Joseph Natale	Robinvale	
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The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:










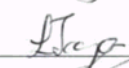






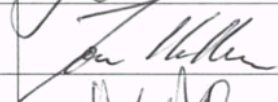
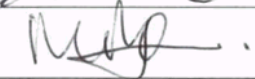

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	BRETT TAYLOR	EUSTON	
2	Eileen + Rob	Bulkrat	
3	MICK MATTHEWS	EUSTON	
4	Lesley Dawes	Marangotang	
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**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Mark	8/129 Latje Rd	
2	DACE	11 LEONORA ST	
3	Dobby	Robinvale	
4	val	5 coral ST	
5	Brien	Murray Valley Highway	
6	Anthony	Robinvale	
7	Anthony	Robinvale	
8	James	Robinvale	
9	Megan	Robinvale	
10	Lemah Togo	Robinvale	
11	Philip Hunt	Robinvale	
12	Pip CRAWFORD	ROBINVALE	
13	FAEZ LURMAN	ROBINVALE	
14	Jordan caminiti	Robinvale	J.C
15	Norita Bt mohamad	Robinvale	
16	Jandi bin Mohamed	Robinvale	
17	J. FANUA	Robinvale	
18	John Hallam	ROBINVALE	
19	Miki Tham	Robinvale	
20	Hanna	Robinvale	

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**To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.**

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	SOPHIE	Robinvale	
2	Toni	Robinvale	
3	MAURELOTU	ROBINVALE	
4	Joseph Netao	Robinvale	
5	Merwin Ntjin	ROBINVALE	
6	Damo	Robinvale	
7	THOMAS BRIGANTE	ROBINVALE	
8	S. Fama	Robinvale	
9	M. Quirk Meeks	Euston	
10	MOTANGO SHAPIA	ROBINVALE	
11	Auan Welch	ROBINVALE	
12	Holly Roberts	Ouyen	
13	Stephen Carter	Robinvale	
14	Robbo Vezz	Robinvale	
15	DAUS	ROBINVALE	
16	Fran Fama	Robinvale	
17	Adam	ROBINVALE	
18	A2A	ROBINVALE	
19	AMIRUL ASHRAF	ROBINVALE	
20	Sam Carrutti	Robinvale	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Notken Kent	Murray valley	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	<del>Harry Kentis</del>		
3	<del>Axel Leslie</del>	<del>Shaggy ridge</del>	
4	<del>Domvezz</del>	<del>Euston</del>	<del>D.V.</del>
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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Nurraki Appo	<del>MANANGATANG</del> IDK	
2	Chantel Seia	3 maston Ct	
3	Lion Daniels		
4	ASHLEY	0476571466	
5	Ameha Bawa	0271284227	
6	Samuel Fungahua	8 Vine Court	
7	KRISTI MCMANON	22 CAREY ST EUSTON	
8	<del>Jesus</del>	<del>Heaven</del>	<del></del>
9	Kylie Thomson	Robinvale	
10	Ana Puleku	Robinvale	
11	Taka Puleku	Robinvale	
12	Ron Edlsta	MANANGATANG	
13	Judy & Vince	0439324148 WALLAN - covid	
14	Roy & Maniam	KILMONE 049568255	
15	Jack Black	0429843614	
16	SANDRA LITWOOD.	MANANGATANG	
17	Valerie McGinty	50263001 Robinvale	
18	Rhonda Roberts	Turriff 50824217	
19	Anna Boreo	Robinvale	
20	Kathleen Moe	manangatang <del>Robinvale</del>	

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Rosemary Brigante	Robinvale	R. Brigante
2	Tammie Langshaw	Robinvale	T. Langshaw
3	Rob Abinett	Robinvale	R. Abinett
4	Maree Langshaw	Robinvale	M. Langshaw
5	L. UNKUNHAR	Robinvale	L. Unkunar
6	Debra Hatah	Robinvale	Debra Hatah
7	Michele Plup	4444C Hatah Robinvale Rd Bannerton	Michele Plup 0427 715065
8	Shammy Appo	Robinvale	Shammy Appo
9	Annie CAREY	Wemen	Annie Carey
10	SUSAN BAXTER	Robinvale	Susan Baxter
11	PEST TULANCA	ROBINVALE	Pest Tulanca
12	<del>John</del>		
13	Milly	Robinvale	Milly
14	Ainta Johnson	Robinvale	Ainta Johnson
15	Sunny	Robinvale	Sunny
16	E. Felise	Robinvale	E. Felise
17	Keeli Lovegrove	Robinvale	Keeli Lovegrove
18	Adriana Falro	Robinvale	Adriana Falro
19	Milly Mitchell	Robinvale/WEMEN	Milly Mitchell
20	<del>Dom Vezz</del>	<del>Euston</del>	<del>D. Vezz</del>




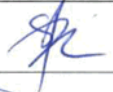






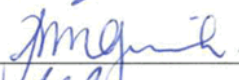







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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Marta Usi	35 USI STREET	
2	J.A.Y	MALLA STREET	Jeanne!
3	IBA	MALLA STREET	
4	Simon	Robinvale	
5	NEIL WOODS	3 BETH ST SW HILL	
6	FJ	MEXICO/CITY	FJ
7	REBELLA MORRIS	15 MALLA AVE	
8	Carli	13 MALLA AVE	
9	ADLEY TRAN	18 ROW	
10	<del>John FALCO</del>		
11	Wadi	5 MALLA AVE	
12	M. SUTHER	30 WARDEN	
13	John WINDHAM	EUSTON	
14	Nick Kiri	80 George St	
15	M WHITTON	5. MASTON	
16	Patricia Williams	17 ROWE	
17	<del>Li A...</del>	NO	NO
18	<del>...</del>		
19	<del>...</del>		
20	Damon Smith	4 NORTON	

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	R. Liddell	Murray Valley Hwy Boundary Bend	
2	S. Taylor	Murray Valley Hwy Boundary Bend	
3	A/S	Rowe Street	
4	ESTER	LEONORA ST	
5	Roko	Mally Avenue	
6	James L	Robinvale	
7	DUC		
8	Mary Fargher	8 vine cut	
9	Christina Johnson	15 cleary Drive	
10	Georgie Kelly	11 Leonora Street	
11	Judith McGuirk	Robinvale Village.	
12	BRET SCHWABER	SWAN HILL.	
13	Sang	10 Rowe St	
14	PESI TAULANCA	38 MAHER ST	
15	MATTY CHILLY	12 RONALD ST	
16	MOTE TAULANCA	38 MAHER ST	
17	MARISSA	LATJE RD	
18	ROSA DAOLI	Tsbruk Rd	
19			
20	<del>FOVO</del>		

The Petitioners whose names, addresses and signatures appear hereunder petition the Swan Hill Rural City Council as follows:










To work in conjunction with Faren Pty Ltd and Ritchies Super Markets and Liquor Stores to install shade sails in the Robinvale IGA supermarket car park.

	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	<del>George</del>	<del>Pell</del>	<del>[Signature]</del>
2	<del>Johnny</del>	<del>E10</del>	<del>[Signature]</del>
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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	PETER JURY	R'vale 0438095704	
2	JOHN COEDONT	ROBVALE 0429328612	
3	BRIAN WILSON	117 HAPPY VALLEY LANE ROBINVALE	
4	TREVOR JURY	192 Sattelberg Rd. Robinvale.	
5	Lucia Albanese	90 BUNA RD, ROBINVALE	
6	Maia Absalom	Walsh Rd - Robin	
7	Billy Vandy	0428 479809.	
8	Robert Brigante	Robinvale	
9	SCOTT MEADOWS	Robinvale	
10	Akma	Robinvale	
11	DAVID ARBANESE	ROBINVALE	
12	Shelly Schuster	ROBINVALE	
13	NOEL JOHNSON	ROBINVALE	
14	FRANK ZAPPALÀ	ROBINVALE	
15	Clayton Taylor	Robinvale	
16	GARY WATTS	ROBINVALE	
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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Clive HARROP	#31 SPRING ST SANDRINGHAM	<i>Clive Harrop</i>
2	Sally Harrop	31 SPRING ST SANDRINGHAM	<i>S. Harrop</i>
3	Casey Harrop	31 SPRING ST SANDRINGHAM	<i>Casey Harrop</i>
4	Bob Merlin	2999 Sixteenth St Lympce 3498	<i>Bob Merlin</i>
5	Mary Merlin	113 Coote Rd. Robinvale	<i>Mary Merlin</i>
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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Robyn Kirby	Mildura	Robyn Kirby
2	Indi Kirby	Robinvale	Indi Kirby
3	Mick Vespucci	Euston	Mick Vespucci
4	Sue Connolly	Euston	Sue Connolly
5	Alysha Zaffina	Euston	Alysha Zaffina
6	<del>Joe</del>	EUSTON	<del>Joe</del>
7	maria madio	Euston	maria madio
8	Diana Domingo	Euston	Diana Domingo
9	Janeiza Domingo	Euston	Aiana
10	Rob Markl	EUSTON	Rob Markl
11	Jonyo Sherman	Euston	J Sherman
12	LYNNE. ELLIS	EUSTON	L. Ellis
13	Jane Connolly	EUSTON	Jane Connolly
14	D. MADIO	EUSTON	D. Madio
15	Lauree Ruthe	50 Perryst Eusta	Lauree Ruthe
16	Ashley Valinoti	Robinvale	Ashley Valinoti
17	Samuel Kilpatrick	EUSTON	Samuel Kilpatrick
18	Vanessa Zappia	Euston	V. Zappia
19	Debbie Henry	Euston	Debbie Henry
20	Aaron Pappin	Euston	Aaron Pappin

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	NAME (Please print)	ADDRESS (Please print)	SIGNATURE
1	Janaya Gaston	8 Endeavour dr	
2	Lee-Anne Tolley	Hunt Dr. Robinvale	
3	Chloe Smith	Robinvale	
4	Francesca Bulzoni	EUSTON	
5	STEPHEN BATES	EUSTON	
6	TAYLOR BATES	EUSTON	
7	LUKE BATES	EUSTON	
8	ROBIN COPE	EUSTON	
9	JACK BATES	EUSTON	
10	ZAC GILMORE	EUSTON	
11	Barry Inlatts	EUSTON	
12	Jacob Hopky	Bendigo	
13	Craig Ververs	Wadonga	
14	TOM FOSTER	EUSTON	
15	Tania Burdett	Euston	
16	Hannah Brigante	EUSTON	
17	R Leslie	EUSTON	
18	Johna	Robinvale	
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- **Public Question Time**

**John Taylor**

**My question is ...directed to Councillor Stuart King. Would he please inform the public that he will not be lobbying for a resumption of negotiations with the I.A.A. or any other flying school organisations.**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: The question really asks of a particular Councillors intentions and this is a matter for Councillor King to respond to and I'm sure Cr King will do that privately with Mr Taylor. The Public Question time Forum is really a time to ask questions of the Council as an organisation not of an individual Councillors particular views or persuasionsons a particular issue. However I can inform the chamber and the community that Council has no active discussions about attracting another flying school to the Swan Hill Aerodrome or the Robinvale Aerodrome at this time Council has no intention of pursuing any flying schools. Council has however refused to rule out this as a future action that binds future generations. At this point in time there are no active discussions with I.A.A and I refer Council to its motion of 23 June last year where Council resolved that it withdraw its offer to enter into a heads of agreement with Australian Aviation Alliance later to be known as I.A.A or to negotiate the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome. That was moved seconded and carried on the 23 June 2020.

**Kaye Mitchell - on behalf of the Save Swan Hill Serenity Action Group Inc**

**At the 15 September 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting Cr McPhee tabled a motion that Council investigate a way to charge users by implementing fees and charges at Swan Hill and Robinvale airports. I am aware that you have met with airport stakeholders last Thursday 18 February 2021, why hasn't a report been brought to today's Council meeting for communities information and awareness?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: I will have to confirm but I don't think Council Officers did meet with stakeholders last Thursday on the 18. That is being scheduled for next week or the week after I believe (but I will clarify that). It may have been proposed to earlier but, I'm not sure that that has happened at this stage. Council has received a preliminary report on the technologies available for charging aerodrome users and they have received that at an informal briefing and it has not been brought to Council formally at this stage and during that briefing there are a number of options of technology and potential charging regimes discussed. Off the back off that Council has asked that we consult with the users that would be financially impacted by the decision to implement charges which is the current aerodrome users and stakeholders and that is the proposal that's occurring. I think that next week or the week after following that consultation a report will be brought to Council for consideration and at that time Council has previously indicated that it would like to share that information with the whole community before a final decision is made.

**Kaye Dunn**

**Council is currently undertaking major infrastructure works at the Swan Hill Airport, please verify what are the exact current works being undertaken and what portion of the 2020/21 budget of the Swan Hill Rural City Council is being spent on these current works.**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: Council has already established Jet A1 fuel at the Swan Hill Aerodrome. That was part of this suite of works and that is now installed and those works have been done and I believe it is now available or if not will be available very soon the infrastructure is there. In addition to that Council has let a contract for runway strengthening for the main runway, over the two ends of the runway (the middle third of the runway was done many years ago). In addition to that we are strengthening the taxi ways and we are looking at improving the apron lighting (not so much the runway lighting) and making provisions for runway lighting. We are also looking for electrical upgrades at the aerodrome and we are increasing the area of the hangar lease spaces by providing an additional taxi way and lease spaces either side of the taxi-way to provide for more local aerodrome users who may wish to lease a hangar space (we are currently out of hangar space) and we have a couple of hangar enquires on the books already from people who would like to lease a hangar at the aerodrome. Council in addition to that are also forming up and constructing the natural surface runway and creating it as a gravel runway which will provide a much greater level of service for the unsealed runway which is commonly out of service because of inundation and softness. Also improving the airport arrival terminal to create a better sense of arrival to people coming to Swan Hill and create a more professional entrance to our town.

In terms of the funding these were works that have been funded over a number of years. Council has been putting the money aside in reserves to fund improvements at the aerodrome and has also provided these funds in the current financial year. Council has also been the recipient of Federal grant monies that have also funded this and Council uses its own monies to match the Federal money to get funding for that. The works are fully funded both through Council putting money aside for a number of years and in the current budget and also through Federal grants.

**Save Swan Hill Serenity Action Group Inc - Dr Jacquie Kelly**

**Subject: Swan Hill Rural City Airports- threats to community amenity, health and wellbeing from noise and safety impacts from industrial scale flight training, particularly circuit training.**

**Since mid-2020, flight training activity by IAA and Rex Airlines has increased at Swan Hill aerodrome. Because of this we respectfully submit these questions to today's public meeting of Council.**

- 1. Are Councillors aware of all Council fees & charges relating to use of the aerodromes at Swan Hill and Robinvale?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: Councillors have been briefed on more than one occasion on the fee

charges and the regimes at the Swan Hill and Robinvale Aerodromes and at this point in time and for as long as we know previously there have been no user fees and charges at the Aerodrome, there are lease fees for those who lease hangar space at the Aerodrome. There is a fee process at all aerodromes where heavier aircraft come in.

**2. Why has the report on Airport fees and charges, requested by Cr Les McPhee, not been brought to this February meeting?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: This is a matter that is currently afoot and under active investigation and we will be consulting with the airport users and lease holders in the near future and at that point we will be coming back to Council and then onto the community and then back to Council.

**3. What type of aircraft does the Pavement Concession relate to? Is it a weight-based charge? How is it monitored and collected?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: Yes it is. Each airport runway and taxi-ways have an airport paving rating and my terminology is probably slightly wrong and it's based on what weight the pavement can withstand and in terms of the Swan Hill Aerodrome it has a pavement rating of 5.7 tonne (5,700 kilograms). Any aircraft under that weight are entitled to come in and land taxi and take off from the Swan Hill Aerodrome. If a plane of greater weight than that comes in it is required to obtain approval from Council, the airport operator before landing and Council staff would make an assessment of the current pavement conditions and the weight of the aircraft and whether it is likely to damage the pavement. The theory being the heavier the plane the more damage it's likely to do, not necessarily that it will do but likely to do and therefore the likelihood of reducing the life of the runway increases. So there is a notational fee that is meant to be put to compensating for the deterioration of the pavement life. I am not sure that it works that way because it's only a few dollars per tonne. What the system allows us to do is to make sure those with particularly heavy aircraft which could damage our infrastructure pay some fee but, more importantly they get the operator approval to land before they come in.

**4. What are Swan Hill Airports 'reasonable terms & conditions' that pertain to lighter aircrafts doing 'touch and go' manoeuvres?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: I will provide that in written answers as there are a number of terms and conditions of our aerodrome and any aerodrome for that matter of how aircraft are supposed to use the base and the aerodrome.

**5. Are you aware that Airservices Australia has no interest, willingness nor capacity to actually remedy community complaints about aircraft noise**

**generated by light aircraft conducting industrial scale flight training when such activity complies with CASA Regulations?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: I am and I think that Council has been briefed on the regulatory regime in relation to aircraft operations around aerodromes and in respect of community complaints against noise. I have also been made aware by a small number of local residents in recent time of their dissatisfaction with the response of Airservices Australia and that said the regulatory environment is that Airservices Australia is responsible for dealing with community complaints in relation to noise.

**6. Does Council see it as appropriate to refer citizens with aircraft noise complaints to Airservices Australia and does Council understand the frustration of citizens who are receiving the standard 'cut & paste' terms of reply that complainants always receive from Airservices and Councils?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: Yes, we are aware that there has been some frustration expressed by our community members and that is something that Council can lobby Airservices Australia to respond to.

**7. Does Council acknowledge that SSHSAG Inc and many residents and rate-payers are totally opposed to the introduction of large-scale flight training operations, in particular 'circuit training'?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: If I can offer a view that I think that the Save Our Serenity Group has made its position abundantly clear both individually to Councillors and by correspondence.

**8. Impact of such operations on amenity, well-being and health following observations of flight training activity at Mildura and other rural and regional aerodromes nationwide. Is Council aware of these impacts?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: I would not profess that Council has been made fully aware of the impacts of flight training schools at airports all over Australia, no. But I will reiterate that there are no current intentions of this Council to attract industrial scale flight training to Swan Hill or Robinvale.

**9. Will Swan Hill Rural City Council take action as owner/operator of the aerodrome, to amend the Swan Hill En Route Supplement Australia (ERSA) to make the aerodrome unavailable for circuit training operations by visiting aircraft?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: Council has not considered that issue in any formal way at this time.



**10. Will SHRCC resolve that Swan Hill aerodrome will not be made available as a base for flight training operations?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: Again Council has pulled up short of making any such decision as it did not wish to bind future generations. Such a resolution really puts a stake in the sand and says that we will never ever do this again and Council has not been in that practice in the past.

**11. In June 2020 Swan Hill Council announced that negotiations with Australian Aviation Alliance (AAA) to establish a flight training school at Swan Hill had been 'suspended'. Residents remain concerned that negotiations have only been suspended, not permanently terminated. Can you clarify that?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: The resolution of the 23 June 2020 and I will read it again was that Council withdraw its offer to enter into a heads of agreement with Australian Aviation Alliance to negotiate the establishment of a flight school at the Swan Hill Aerodrome, is was moved, seconded and carried. That is the language of the formal position of Council, it is not a matter of suspension Council has withdrawn its offer of a Heads of Agreement and has cut off all negotiations with what was then known as Australian Aviation Alliance and is now International Aviation Alliance. Council is not holding negotiations with any other flight school to attract an industrial scale flight school to Swan Hill.

**12. Mildura airport is near or at capacity for flight training activity by IAA and the other local training operators and with circuit training by visiting aircraft potentially being prohibited at Mildura there will be increased pressure to use Swan Hill aerodrome. Essentially, IAA and other Mildura flight training operators will use Swan Hill aerodrome as 'visiting aircraft' themselves. What does Council think of this?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: I don't think Council has a formal position in relation to that matter other than to say that at this point in time the Swan Hill and Robinvale aerodromes are public facilities and public aerodrome and all aircraft as long as they are under the 5.7 tonnes are able to use the aerodrome at will (as other user can with other public infrastructure like local roadways and alike).

**13. Does Council think that it's 'fair' that people should suffer aircraft noise under a concept of "sharing" or will Council consider this development/activity in relation to State and local government land use planning and development control principles?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: That is a position that Council would need to consider but I don't think that the Council has adequately debated at this time.

**14. Luckily, local governments that own and operate airports (particularly rural and regional aerodromes) still have the power to determine how their airports are used. Councils have no control over what happens in the air but they retain the power to determine what happens on the ground. Will Council exercise that power?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: I will take that one on notice there is a lot in that question and Council will be fully considering the operation of this aerodrome in the months to come. We don't have a stated position in relation to that. However, at this point in time and for the decades leading up to this point in time and since its establishment after the war years the Swan Hill Aerodrome has been available for all aircraft users as a public facility.

**15. Has any private land around the airport changed hands in the last year?**

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr John McLinden answered: I am unable to answer because I do not know. On the balance of probabilities there would have been some land around the aerodrome that could have changed hands and land is changing hands all the time but, I'm not aware of what land has or hasn't changed hands.

**9/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McPhee**

**That Standing Orders be resumed at 2.25pm.**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**10/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McPhee**

**That Council observe a minute of silence for the late Mr Ross Mellor a former Councillor and Mayor for many years.**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

Council then returned to procedural item Joint Letters and Reading of Petitions

- **Open Forum**

Nil

Councillor Young left the meeting at 2.31pm due to a conflict of interest in item B21.3.

## **SECTION B – REPORTS**

### **B.21.3 GRANT PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES 2021**

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Director Development and Planning
<b>File Number:</b>	S17-02-02
<b>Attachments:</b>	1 Swan Hill & Robinvale Leisure Redevelopment Update 2 Swan Hill Leisure Centre Expansion - Option 2

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

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

#### **Summary**

This report seeks to inform and obtain direction from Council on projects to pursue, through various Federal and State Government funding opportunities, focusing on community, recreation and tourism infrastructure.

#### **Discussion**

Council has a number of Federal and State Government funding programs currently available for consideration. With a particular focus on generating new economic activities and supporting health and wellbeing outcomes, these funding streams revolve around new community and tourism related infrastructure and include:

##### *Building Better Region Round 5*

- \$100M for tourism related infrastructure and \$100M for community infrastructure supported by detailed plans and economic analysis.
- Closing date 5 March 2021; funding ratio \$1:\$1; outcome announcement early June 2021; works to start within 12 weeks of signing contract (approx September 2021) and completed by December 2023.

##### *Local Sports Infrastructure Program*

- The focus is on female friendly facilities, community facilities and indoor stadiums that are supported by detailed plans and costing.
- Closing date end March 2021; \$1:\$2 funding ratio; outcome announcement mid May 2021.

##### *Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program Round 2*

- Includes \$110M funding stream; sixty five invited applicants only. Submissions must be in line with round 1 application, including funding request and scope of works. Council was unsuccessful in Round 1.
- Closing date 2 March 2021; funding ratio 10% total cost; outcome announcement mid May 2021; project completed by June 2023.

***Building Safer Communities Program - Creating Safer Places***

- Competitive grants of between \$25,000 and \$300,000.
- Focus on public infrastructure to increase safety and activate public places.
- Grant applications are now open and will close 15 March 2021.

**Proposed projects**

The following projects were selected based on the following set criteria:  
In accordance to funding guidelines and linked to a Council's strategy / report or listed on Council's 10 year Major Project Plan.

***Building Better Region Round 5***

Focusing on tourism based projects.

- Aboriginal cultural experiences - including:
  - Visual illumination prelude to the night laser show including street activation / audio displays connecting Our Place to Heartbeat - incorporating Aboriginal cultural and dreamtime stories visual / audio display – all developed with the local Aboriginal community
  - Entry Statement to Our Place – 'weaving' art work / visual displays / connection – Monash Drive
  - Murray River Dreaming – Robinvale Riverfront/Swan Hill Riverfront - unique sensory experience, connecting visitors and locals to the regions rich indigenous culture - incorporating light/soundscape/sculpture )
  - New story and production material to augment the Heartbeat of the Murray laser show (established 2013)- currently attracts over 20,000 visitors per year

Linked to: Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan 2013, Wandarrah Action Group, Swan Hill Public Art Strategy 2020

***Local Sports Infrastructure Program***

- Woorinen Football Netball Club: Construction of two new netball courts

Linked to: Recreation Implementation Plan 2019

***Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program***

- Swan Hill & Robinvale Leisure Centres Redevelopment  
Activities include:
  - Swan Hill Leisure Centre: gym expansion
  - Robinvale Leisure Centre: gym expansion
  - Robinvale Leisure Centre: high ball court expansion

Revised concept plans for the Swan Hill Leisure Centre gym fitness expansion includes two development options for consideration (see attachments).

- Option 1 – Limited consideration for possible future development

associated with outdoor pool and new entrance / foyer space.

- Option 2 – Incorporates staged approach for future development associated with outdoor pool and new entrance / foyer space.

Both options encompass the following features:

- New gym on north side of the Swan Hill Leisure Centre.
- Transfer use of existing gym to group fitness room.
- Alter configuration of female change to assist with pedestrian flow.
- Ability to expand highball courts to the south side of the Swan Hill Leisure Centre.
- Take into consideration a possible location for a new outdoor pool to the east side and additional highball courts to the south of the Swan Hill Leisure Centre
- Provide additional cost and operational efficiencies (compared to previous designs)

Robinvale Leisure Centre concept plans for the expansion of the gym and highball court are as per previous agreed design features.

Council's financial commitment of \$650,000 for the Swan Hill and Robinvale Leisure Centres redevelopment is derived from the 10 Year Major Projects Programme budget and secured funding sourced from the Federal Government.

Link to: Showground Redevelopment Masterplan 2018, Recreation Implementation Plan 2019, Swan Hill Region Development of Future Indoor Recreation Centres 2020

### ***Building Safer Communities Program - Creating Safer Places***

- McCallum Street - shared path from the Woorinen Road to Stradbroke Avenue. Includes a 900m 2.5m wide shared concrete path (old no.9 channel site) with lighting, native landscaping and rest areas.

### **Financial Implications**

Council's commitment towards major projects is derived from the 10 Year Major Projects Programme budget. If successful in all four grants a total of \$6.3M in infrastructure will be built with an input of \$1.465M of Council funds.

### **Social Implications**

The continued upgrade and development of sporting and recreational facilities will provide opportunities for community members to connect socially and become more physically active.

### **Economic Implications**

Upgrading community and recreational facilities will lead to increase participation levels, support liveability factors, resulting in increased economic benefits for the region.

Supporting community and recreational groups helps the community overcome the impacts associated with the COVID 19 pandemic. Improved community infrastructure helps improve liveability and aids in attracting new businesses and residents. Increasing and improving tourism product/s will attract domestic and international visitors to visit and stay longer.

### **Environmental Implications**

Environmentally sustainable principles, Universal Design and Access for All will be considered as part of any new development or upgrade of sporting facilities.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Allocated funds to meet project requirements (all elements not fully costed).

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

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

### **Options**

That Council:

- 1) Submit the following applications for each of the funding streams:

***Building Better Region Round 5***

- Aboriginal cultural experiences

***Local Sports Infrastructure Program***

- Woorinen Football Netball Club: Redevelopment of two netball courts.

***Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program***

- Swan Hill Leisure Centre Group: gym expansion (Option 1 or 2)
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: gym expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: high ball court expansion

***Building Safer Communities Program - Creating Safer Places***

- McCallum Street - shared path from the Woorinen Road to Stradbroke Avenue

- 2) Do not submit a funding application.

## Recommendations

### That Council:

- 1) Submit the following applications for each of the funding streams:

***Building Better Region Round 5***

- Aboriginal cultural experiences

***Local Sports Infrastructure Program***

- Woorinen Football Netball Club: Redevelopment of two netball courts.

***Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program***

- Swan Hill Leisure Centre Group: gym expansion (Option 2)
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: gym expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: high ball court expansion

***Building Safer Communities Program - Creating Safer Places***

- McCallum Street - shared path from the Woorinen Road to Stradbroke Avenue

### 11/21 Motion

### MOVED Cr Jeffery

### That Council:

- 1) Submit the following applications for each of the funding streams:

***Building Better Region Round 5***

- Aboriginal cultural experiences

***Local Sports Infrastructure Program***

- Woorinen Football Netball Club: Redevelopment of two netball courts.

***Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program***

- Swan Hill Leisure Centre Group: gym expansion (Option 2)
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: gym expansion
- Robinvale Leisure Centre: high ball court expansion

***Building Safer Communities Program - Creating Safer Places***



- **McCallum Street - shared path from the Woorinen Road to Stradbroke Avenue**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

Councillor Young returned to the meeting at 2.39pm and was informed of the decision.

# Swan Hill & Robinvale Leisure Centre Redevelopment

Project Progress 25 January 2021



# Concept Objectives

- To prepare for funding opportunities through the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program (CSISP) for the expansion of the Swan Hill and Robinvale Leisure Centres.
- To ensure the redevelopment;
  - meets service/user expectations
  - provides opportunities for future expansion
  - is affordable/feasible
  - can be staged



# Current Concept Swan Hill





## Issues – current concept Swan Hill

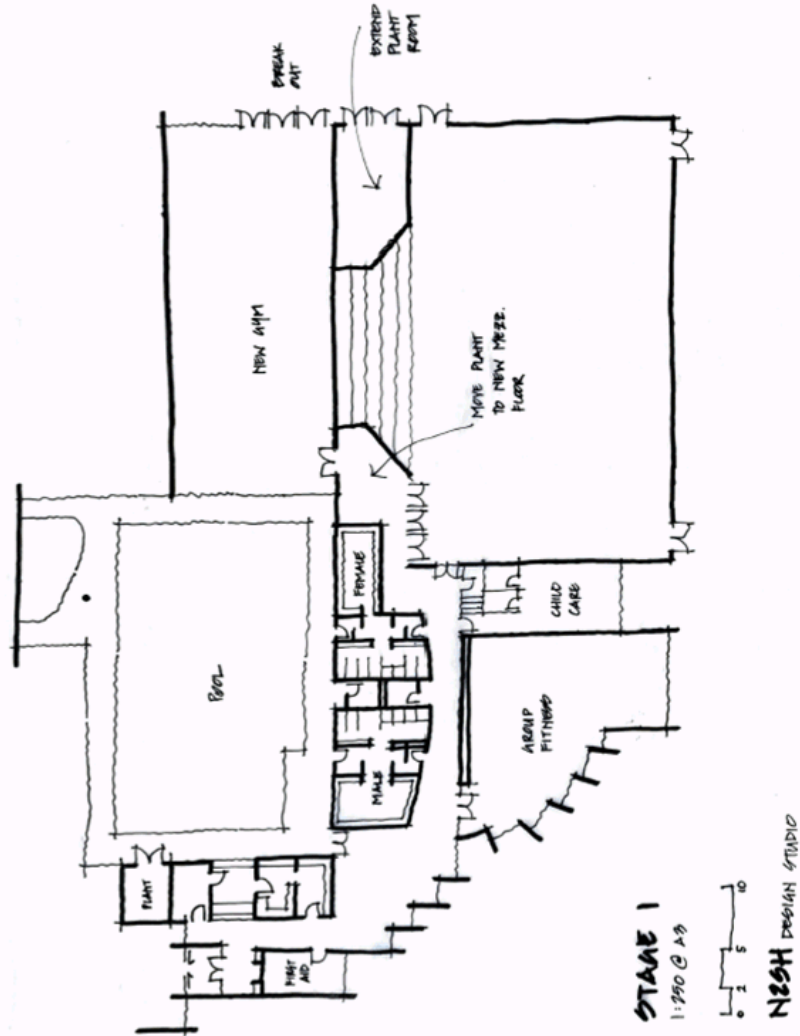
- Limits future expansion and development possibilities
- Is too close to the perimeter of the sports ground
- Places a significant focus on provision of childcare
- Hydrotherapy – high expense and high expertise
- Has not addressed parking, access and future needs. Lacks ‘bigger picture’ thinking

# Preliminary New Concept

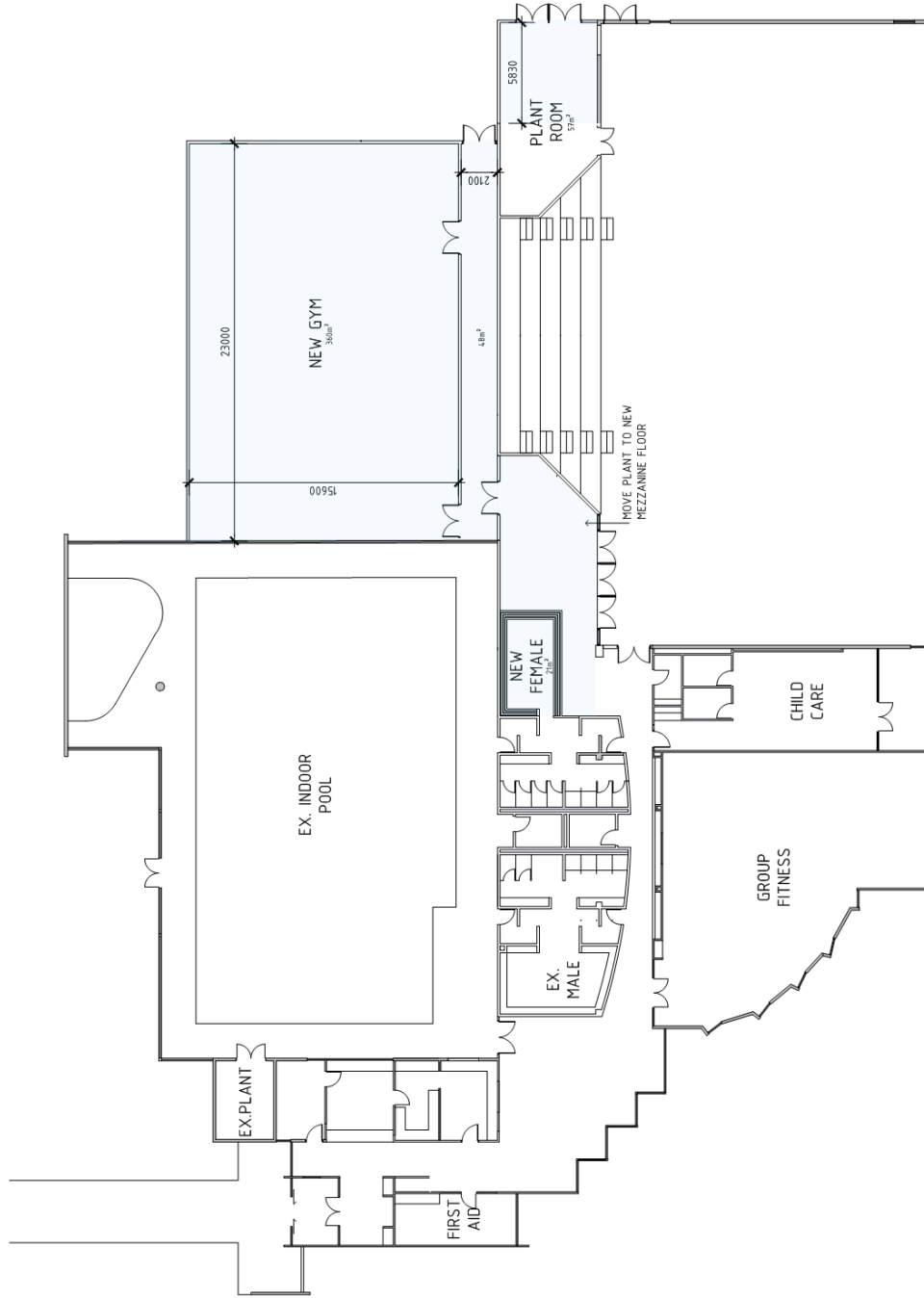
- Propose to expand the building on the north side of the plant room
  - Move plant upward to an enclosed mezzanine
  - Build new gym on north side
  - Transfer use of existing gym to group fitness room
  - Alter configuration of female change to assist with pedestrian flow



# Proposed Concept 1







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SCALE: 1:250 @ A3  
 CHECKED: NH  
 SHEET No: JAN 2021

JOB No: 20084  
 DRAWN BY: FN  
 DATE: JAN 2021

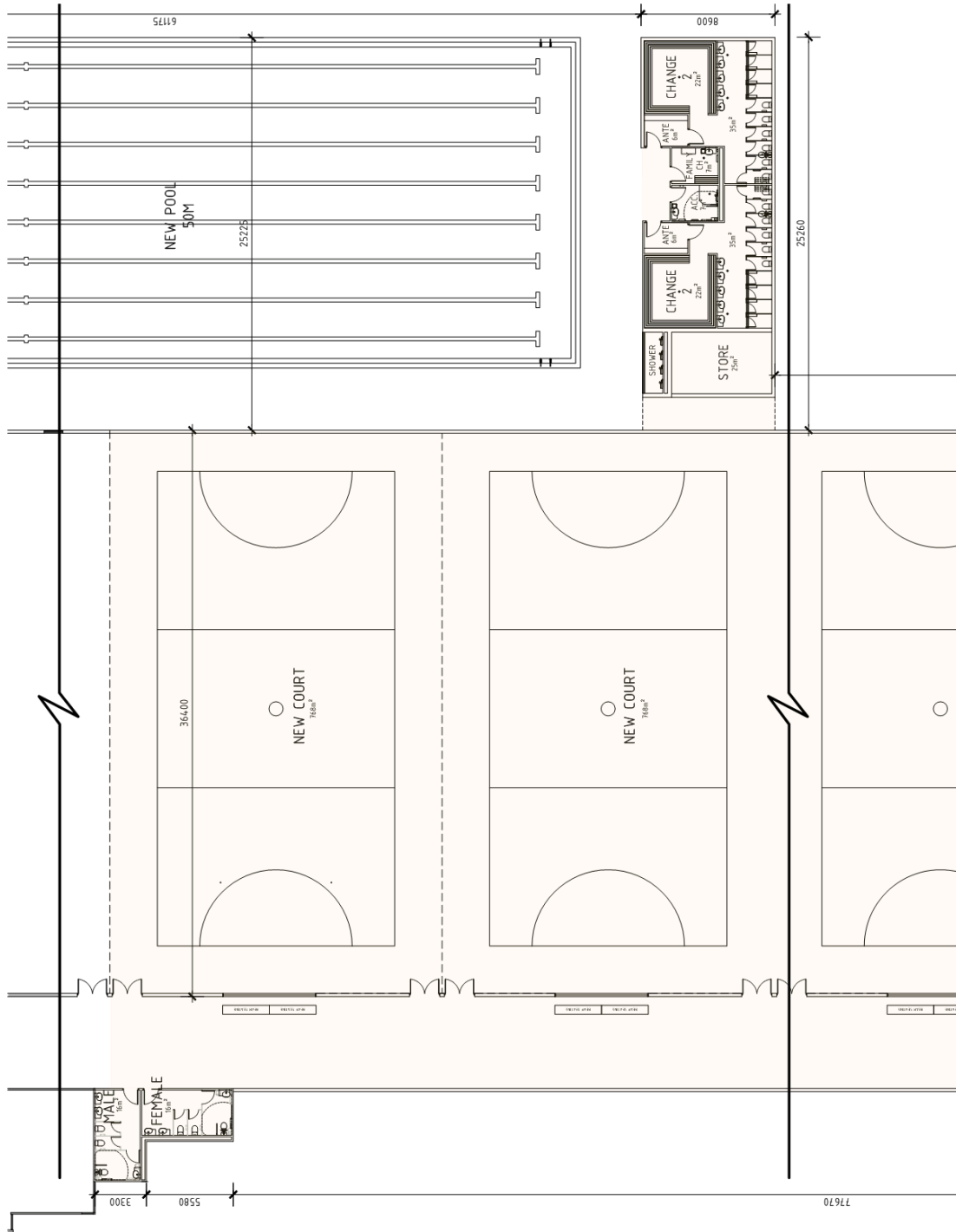
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 DRAWING TITLE: PROPOSED PLAN  
 STAGE 1

CLIENT: SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL  
 PROJECT: SWANHILL LEISURE CENTRE PROJECT

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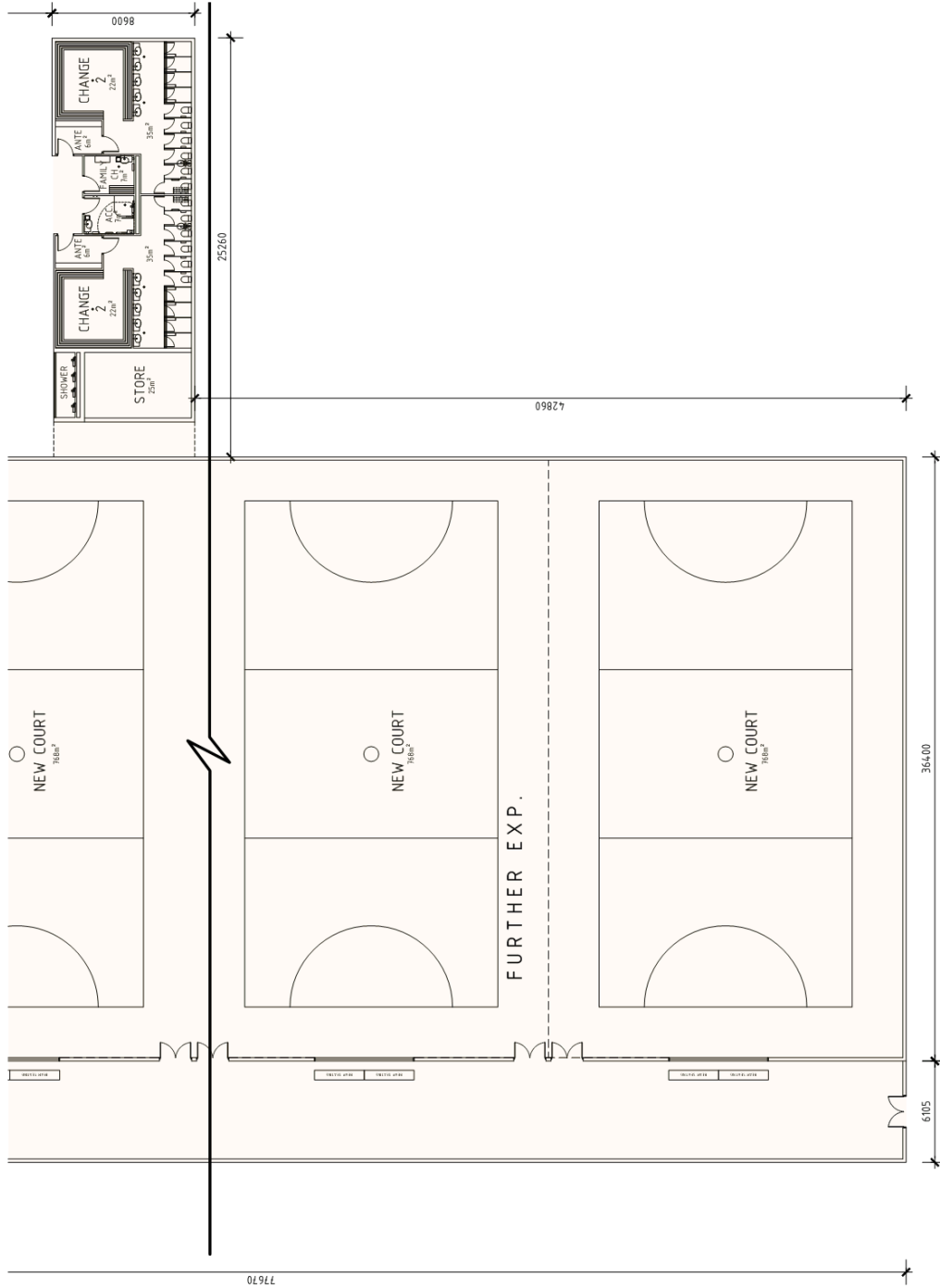
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 DRAWN BY: FN  
 DATE: JAN 2021

REVISION: B  
 DRAWING NO: SK105  
 DRAWING TITLE: PROPOSED PLAN STAGE 2

CLIENT: SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL  
 PROJECT: SWANHILL LEISURE CENTRE PROJECT

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 SHEET NO:

JOB No: 20084  
 DRAWN BY: FN  
 DATE: JAN 2021

REVISION: A  
 DRAWING No: SK106  
 DRAWING TITLE: PROPOSED PLAN STAGE 2

CLIENT: SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL  
 PROJECT: SWANHILL LEISURE CENTRE PROJECT

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DATE	REVISION	BY

**B.21.4 PLANNING APPLICATION 2020-044 – TWO LOT SUBDIVISION AND USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND FOR A DWELLING ON PROPOSED LOT 2 IN THE FARMING ZONE AFFECTED BY THE LAND SUBJECT TO INUNDATION OVERLAY**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Development and Planning  
**File Number:** 2020-044  
**Attachments:** 1 Plans

**Declarations of Interest:**

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

**Summary**

This report seeks a Council resolution to refuse the application for a two lot subdivision and use and development of land for a dwelling located at 74 River Road, Swan Hill within the Farming Zone and affected by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay.

**Discussion**

*Location and existing conditions*

The subject site is located at 74 River Road in Swan Hill. The site is approximately 2 kilometres to the north of the Swan Hill Central Business District and approximately 50 metres to the west of the Murray River with an open irrigation channel on land owned by Goulburn-Murray Water separating the two.

The subject site is comprised of a single title with an area of approximately 2 hectares with an existing dwelling and associated outbuildings located on the most southern part of the lot. The northern portion of the lot is currently used for irrigation bays and is relatively free from vegetation, as shown in figure 1.



**Figure 1. Aerial image of the subject site and surrounds.**

The land is zoned Farming and affected by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO), as shown in figure 2. The subject site is within an area of Aboriginal Cultural Sensitivity however the proposed use and development is exempt from requiring a Cultural Heritage Management Plan, under the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018. The majority of land surrounding the subject site is similarly zoned Farming with land bordering the Murray River zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone.





**Figure 2. Zoning of the subject site and surrounds.**

The above map shows the subject land located entirely within the Farming Zone (FZ), which is the green coloured area on the map, and the map below shows that the land is also entirely located within the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO)



**Figure 3. Overlay affecting the subject land**

Proposal

The applicant proposes to subdivide the existing 2ha lot into two lots of approximately 1 ha in size. It is proposed that the area to the north of the existing dwelling be subdivided thereby creating a vacant lot on the agricultural land.

The use and development of land for a dwelling is proposed for the resulting vacant lot.

The existing access will be utilised for the existing dwelling with an additional access from River Road required for the proposed dwelling.

### Assessment against the Planning Scheme

The primary planning concern is the facilitation of development in an area prone to flooding. The purpose of the flood overlay (LSIO) is to both protect residents and property from the damaging effects of a flood and also to maintain the natural flow of floodwaters by minimising potential obstruction.

Additional concerns include the zoning of the land and the potential to set a precedent for rural living subdivisions in the Farming Zone.

The decision to be made is whether it is appropriate to allow a subdivision of land in the Farming Zone for the sole purpose of allowing the use and development of a dwelling not associated with agriculture, given the applicable planning policies, decision guidelines and controls that apply to the land, in particular those about flooding and the management of risks.

The key questions to consider are:

- Is the proposal appropriate for the zone?
- Is the proposal appropriate under the overlay?
- Is the proposed development in accordance with the policies and provisions of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme?
- Will the proposal result in a proliferation of inappropriate development within a flood prone area?

### Zoning

In addition to implementing the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and the Planning Policy Framework (PPF), the purpose of the zone as relevant to the proposal is to:

- provide for the use of land for agriculture;
- encourage the retention of productive agricultural land;
- ensure that non-agricultural uses, including dwellings, do not adversely affect the land for agriculture;
- encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision.

The proposed use of land for a dwelling is a Section 1 – permit not required use, providing the proposal satisfies the conditions in the schedule to the zone.

Subsequent to the subdivision, the resulting lot will be 1.006 hectares and, therefore, will not meet the minimum area of 20 hectares required by the planning scheme to construct a dwelling without requiring a planning permit. As such, the use of land for a dwelling requires a planning permit.

A planning permit is also required to subdivide land.

The Farming zone provides specific purposes in relation to agriculture, included among these is the use of land for agriculture. There is no requirement for an agricultural use to be profitable. While agricultural pursuits on the existing lot may not be profitable, the land retains the potential to be used for agricultural purposes as shown in the images below from 2017.



**Figure 3 and 4. The subject site being used for agricultural purposes in 2017.**

In the images, the lot appears to be sustaining a crop of Lucerne. Lucerne can be used for animal feed and Lucerne crops also dry the soil and thereby increase the capacity of soil to store water in times of excess, which reduces groundwater discharge. Small crops of Lucerne play a role in and contribute to the productivity of the wider agricultural industry.

The decision guidelines regarding the use of land for a dwelling refer to whether or not the dwelling will result in the loss or fragmentation of productive farmland. As outlined above, while the agricultural use may not be solely profitable, the fact remains that the dwelling will result in a loss of agricultural land.

Other decision guidelines include whether the dwelling would be adversely affected by or adversely affect agricultural activities on adjacent land and whether the

potential for the proposal to lead to a concentration or proliferation of dwellings in the area and the impact of this on the use of land for agriculture.

Due to the surrounding land uses, it is unlikely that a dwelling in the proposed location would be affected by or has an effect on agricultural activities on adjacent land. The dwelling does however, have the potential to lead to a demand and expectation for a proliferation of subdivisions and dwellings in the area that would impact the remaining productive agricultural land.

While the land is currently bare, the proposed dwelling will impact the natural scene from the road side by obstructing the view to the Murray River, as shown in figure 5.



**Figure 5. View of subject land from River Road.**

### Overlays

The subject site is entirely covered by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO). In addition to implementing the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and the Planning Policy Framework (PPF), the purpose of the overlay as relevant to the proposal is to:

- Identify land in a flood storage or flood fringe area affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority;
- Ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, is compatible with the flood hazard and local drainage conditions and will not cause any significant flood level or flow velocity;

- Protect water quality; and
- Ensure that development maintains or improves river and wetland health, waterway protection and flood plain health.

A planning permit is required to construct a building or to construct or carry out works.

The decision guidelines of the overlay include any comments from the relevant floodplain management authority. The application was referred to North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA).

The initial referral response of NCCMA stated that it objects to the proposal on the following grounds;

1. *The proposal is not consistent with the objectives of the Victorian Planning Policy Framework (VPP) Clause 13.03-1S as the proposal is likely to increase the risk to life, property and community infrastructure to flood hazard. The policy identifies that any floodplain management manual of policy and practice, or catchment management, river health, wetland or floodplain management strategy adopted by the relevant responsible floodplain management authority should be considered. In July 2019, North Central CMA's Board adopted the "Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas". These guidelines were released by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) in February 2019 and provide an assessment framework and method to assist decisions on development in flood affected areas. As detailed in these guidelines, development should not intensify the harmful impacts of flooding. These guidelines identify that an appropriate depth of flooding for the subdivision of land and construction of a single dwelling is between 0.3 to 0.5 metres. The estimated depth of flooding at the location of the proposed dwelling in the event of a 1% AEP flood is in the order of 1.65 metres deep. This potential depth of flooding poses an unacceptable increase in risk to the life and safety of future occupants.*
2. *The proposal is not consistent with the purpose of the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) as the proposed development is not compatible with the flood hazard.*
3. *The proposal is not consistent with the decision guidelines in the Victorian Planning Provisions Practice Note 11 'Applying for a Planning Permit Under the Flood Provisions', in that:*
  - a. *It is likely to result in danger to the life, health and safety of the occupants due to flooding on the site.*

**SECTION B - REPORTS**

23 February 2021

- b. It relies on low-level access to and from the site.*
  - c. It is likely to increase the burden on emergency services and the risk to emergency personnel.*
  - d. It is likely to increase the amount of flood damage to public or private assets.*
4. *The incremental long-term effects of such developments. While a single development may not cause a significant change, the cumulative effect of several similar developments may be substantial.*

This information was provided to the applicant who chose to seek further specialist advice from The Wedge Group, which basically states that the development could occur with an appropriate Flood Management Plan in place. The following is an extract from their advice:

*Our opinion is that with an appropriate Flood Management Plan the risk of people being required to wade through water is low as the plan will require evacuation based on a river height as opposed to the Thresholds of Safety in the 'Guidelines for development in Flood Affected Areas'.*

*The intent is to evacuate the site at the point where the River Murray is near to leaving its natural water course. The Management Plan will need to consider that the No. 10 Channel might breach upstream or downstream of the property and set an evacuation trigger taking this into account*

NCCMA acknowledged the information provided by the Wedge Group and provided the following response.

*The Wedge Group concedes that the No.10 Channel should not be relied upon as a levee to provide flood protection to the property however asserts that it is appropriate to allow intensification in the floodplain subject to conditions. This includes the reliance on a Flood Management (Response) Plan and compelling future owners to evacuate based on trigger levels. North Central CMA strongly opposes this view.*

*There have been three separate flood events over the past ten years where water has been up against the levee bank. The duration that flood waters was up against the levee bank ranged between 18 to 50 days, with an average of 30 days. History tells us that residents will not willingly evacuate. In the January 2011 flood event, which was the most prolonged of the three events, it was recommended to the residents of the Tyntynder Flats area by Emergency Services to evacuate. Very few residents evacuated and if they did most returned home whilst flood levels were still high. It is unrealistic to expect residents to evacuate and find alternate accommodation for one month every 3 – 4 years. North Central CMA firmly*

*maintains that decisions to support development in the area should not rely on residents evacuating. This would significantly and unnecessarily increase the burden on emergency services.*

The CMA did not change its views based on the further information provided. The proposal is not in accordance with the purpose of the overlay or the decision guidelines intended on directing appropriate development.

### Planning Policy Framework

#### **Clause 11.02-1S Supply of urban land**

As alternative residential land is available within Swan Hill, encouraging rural residential development, particularly in a zone that does not support it, will compromise future development at higher densities that support sustainable urban development.

#### **Clause 13.01-1S Natural hazards and climate change**

The objective of the clause is to minimise the impacts of natural hazards and adapt to the impacts of climate change through risk-based planning. Strategies include directing population growth and development to low risk locations and siting and designing development to minimise risk to life, property, the natural environment and community infrastructure from natural hazards.

The proposal is not in accordance with the clause as the area cannot be considered a low risk location and the potential risk to life, property and the natural environment by the flood prone location cannot be overlooked.

#### **Clause 13.03-1S Floodplain management**

The objectives of the clause are to assist the protection of:

- Life, property and community infrastructure from flood hazard;
- The natural flood carrying capacity of rivers, streams and floodways;
- The flood storage function of floodplains and waterways;
- Floodplain areas of environmental significance or of importance to river health.

Among the strategies to achieve this is to avoid intensifying the impact of flooding through inappropriately located use and development.



The proposed use and development is located within the LSIO which serves to ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters and minimises flood damage. A development of this nature located within the LSIO has the potential to intensify the impact of flooding causing risk to both the occupying residents and nearby residents.

### Local Planning Policy Framework

#### **Clause 21.05-4 Flooding**

The objective of the clause is to protect the floodplain from inappropriate development. Strategies to achieve this include to discourage development that could adversely inhibit the flow of flood waters and to maintain the function of the flood plain development.

The proposed development has a floor area of over 465m<sup>2</sup> and has the potential to inhibit the flow of flood waters.

#### **Clause 22.01 Flooding**

Objectives of the clause include to maintain the unobstructed passage of floodwaters and to provide suitable flood plain management which will ensure that any new development is suitably designed and compatible with the identified flood hazard and local drainage characteristics.

It is policy to permit the construction of a dwelling on land designated as liable to flooding where:

- This will not adversely affect the function of the floodplain.
- The floor level height of the dwelling is not less than 300mm above the designated 1% flood probability level.
- The construction standards for all works comply with relevant Building Codes and have regard to soil base and local drainage considerations.
- An effective disposal system is provided to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, where a septic tank system or similar suitable waste disposal connected to a dwelling is installed below the designated 1% flood probability level.

It is difficult to determine the effect the dwelling may have on the function of the floodplain. The floor level height can be conditioned to meet the required standards. The construction standards will be addressed by the Building Department or relevant Building Surveyor. No information was provided regarding the disposal system.

### Referral Authorities

#### **Department of Environment, Water, Land and Planning**

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning did not object to the issue of the permit.

#### **Goulburn-Murray Water**

GMW requires that development does not impact detrimentally on Goulburn-Murray Water's infrastructure and the flow and quality of surface water and groundwater. GMW has noted that no buildings or works are located within;

- 30m from any GMW surface infrastructure (open irrigation channels and drains)
- 10m from any other structure (culverts, drainage inlets, subways, syphons)
- 5m from any below surface infrastructure (pipelines)
- located on any Goulburn Murray Water freehold, easements or reserves.

Other conditions include the level of wastewater treatment, disposal and the disposal area location being at least 60m from GMW irrigation drains and channels.

GMW also notes that no information regarding the existing wastewater management/treatment for the existing dwelling on proposed lot 1 has been provided and requires this information prior to the issue of statement of compliance.

#### **North Central Catchment Management Authority**

As previously provided earlier in the report.

### Summary

The proposed subdivision and dwelling is located within the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and has the potential to set a precedent for further development. It is necessary to apply the precautionary principle when assessing development in hazardous areas.

It is also important to note that the NCCMA is a Recommending Referral Authority pursuant to Clause 66.03 of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme who has objected to the proposal.

There are two types of referral authority:

A **determining referral authority** and a **recommending referral authority**.

Clause 66 of the planning scheme identifies the type of referral authority for each kind of application that must be referred. Both types of referral authority can object to the granting of a permit, decide not to object or specify conditions to be included on a permit. However, the effect of that advice on the final outcome of an application is different for each type of referral

authority. If a determining referral authority objects, the responsible authority must refuse to grant a permit, and if a determining referral authority specifies conditions, those conditions must be included in any permit granted.

In contrast, a responsible authority must consider the recommending referral authority's advice but is not obliged to refuse the application or to include any recommended conditions. A recommending referral authority can seek a review at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal if it objects to the granting of a permit or it recommends conditions that are not included in the permit by the responsible authority.

Council would require significant evidence and arguments to issue a permit contrary to the advice of the expert referral authority and in this instance there are contributing additional reasons for refusing this application that are outlined in this report.

The VCAT case *Stella v Maribyrnong CC and ors* [2001] states the following in relation to applications in flood prone areas:

*"There are many considerations associated with the development of land within a floodplain including the risk to life, health and safety, damage to property, the extent to which the burden on emergency services is increased and the impact on the capacity and function of the floodplain itself. These are not trivial matters and accordingly, it is imperative that the extent to which the land is flood prone be carefully considered"*

As recently as February of 2011, Swan Hill was bracing for floodwaters and the reality of this age is that the frequency of extreme weather events and natural disasters is unpredictable.

The proposal is also located within the Farming Zone and while the land may not be considered a suitable size for profitable agricultural productivity, the land is still subject to the regulations of the zone. The proposed dwelling is not required to support agricultural operations as no agricultural operations currently occur or are proposed on the land.

Should a permit be issued for this proposal it may result in a precedent for further inappropriate development on land subject to inundation. The combination of flood risks with little policy support for further development in the area weighs against granting a planning permit.

While the area has seen incremental development in the past, past development is no justification to continue allowing inappropriate development. The VCAT case *Lourey v Yarra CC* [2011] includes the following comments in relation to past development in flood prone areas:

*“The site context and the characteristics of development on surrounding lots, is not sufficient to persuade me that a permit should issue for this proposal. The policies and controls relating to development within flood plains have undergone significant change.....I am required to consider this application having regard to the policies and controls that apply now, and a continuation of existing development patterns is not justification for the grant of a permit in this case”.*

## **Objections**

There was only one objection to the application – CMA as discussed earlier in the report.

## **Consultation**

The application was advertised to surrounding properties and no objections were received.

## **Financial Implications**

As the proposed use and development is of a private nature on private land, no financial implications to Council are foreseen with the exception of potential emergency service requirements in the event of flooding.

### **Social Implications**

It is unlikely that social implication would result from the proposed use and development with the exception of risk to life and property for the owner/occupier and nearby residents.

### **Economic Implications**

Economic implications could occur in the event of a natural disaster and the emergency services efforts that may be required.

### **Environmental Implications**

As no vegetation will be removed to accommodate the proposed use and development, no environmental implications are foreseen.

### **Risk Management Implications**

The proposed use and development is located within an area at risk of flooding. The precautionary principle should be applied when considering the application.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Economic growth*** - Provide land use planning that is responsive and which proactively encourages appropriate development.

### **Options**

Council has two options when considering this application:

1. Issue a Notice of Refusal for the planning application; or
2. Issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit subject to conditions.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council issue a Notice of Refusal for the application for a two lot subdivision and use and development of land for a dwelling in the Farming Zone, affected by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay located at 74 River Road, Swan Hill based on the following grounds:**

1. **The proposal is inconsistent with State and local planning policy, in particular:**
  - a. **Clause 11.02-1S – Supply of urban land**
  - b. **Clause 13.01-1S – Natural hazards and climate change**

- c. **Clause 13.03-1S – Floodplain management**
- d. **Clause 21.05-4 – Flooding**
- e. **Clause 22.01 – Flooding**

2. **The proposal is inconsistent with the purpose of the Farming Zone.**
3. **The proposal is not inconsistent with the purpose of the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay.**
4. **North Central Catchment Management Authority, which is a statutory referral authority, has objected to the proposal.**

**Should Council decide to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit the following conditions must be used:**

**Permit conditions**

1. Prior to the commencement of the development, three copies of amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will form part of this permit. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans received on 4 December 2018 and prepared by Penno Drafting and Design but modified to show:
  - a. The dwelling relocated to comply with conditions 9, 11 and 14.
  - b. The dimensions and exact location of the proposed outbuilding.

**Engineering Department**

2. Prior to the commencement of the use and occupation of the building, vehicular crossing shall be constructed in accordance with the endorsed plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, and must:
  - a. Be constructed at right angles to the road, and any redundant crossing shall be removed.
  - b. Be setback a minimum of 3m from any side-entry pit, power or telecommunications pole, manhole cover or marker, or street tree.

3. Prior to the commencement of the use and occupation of the building, the internal access driveway must be constructed to all weather sealed or gravel, formed, finished and drained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
4. The applicant/owner must restrict sediment discharges from any construction sites within the property in accordance with Construction Techniques for Sediment Control (EPA 1991) and Environmental Guidelines for Major Construction Sites (EPA 1995).
5. Prior to the occupation of the building, the permit holder must ensure that stormwater runoff from the development/site can be retained within the boundaries of the lot to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

### **Health Department**

6. Prior to issuing an occupancy permit for the new dwelling, the dwelling must be fitted with a wastewater treatment and disposal system to a design approved by Council's Environmental Health Officer and such that all effluent is disposed of within the boundaries of the allotment. The wastewater disposal system must be protected from inundation from flood waters up to the 1 in 100 flood level.
7. No polluted drainage shall be discharged beyond the boundaries of the land from which it emanates, or into watercourse or easement drain, but shall be so treated and/or absorbed on that lot to the satisfaction of Council's Environmental Health Officer.

### **North Central Catchment Management Authority**

8. The finished floor level of the proposed dwelling must be constructed a minimum of 0.3 metres above the 1% AEP flood level of 67.9 metres AHD, i.e. no lower than 68.2 metres to Australian Height Datum.
9. All buildings must be set back a minimum of 50 metres from the flood protection levee along the Murray River.
10. Any earthen land fill to achieve the minimum floor level requirement must not exceed 1000m<sup>2</sup>.

### **Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning**

11. All buildings and structures must be located a minimum 30 metres from the shared Crown land – Freehold boundary.
12. Prior to work commencing, the shared boundary with Crown land must be fenced to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and the Department of Sustainability and Environment at the applicant's expense. Fence must be erected:
  - a. On the boundaries of the land;
  - b. Be stock and domestic pet proof and 1.5m high; and
  - c. Without gates or openings on to adjoining Crown land

### **Goulburn-Murray Water**

13. All construction and ongoing activities must be in accordance with sediment control principles outlined in 'Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control' (EPA, 1991).
14. No buildings or works may be erected or carried out within 30 metres of any Goulburn Murray Water surface infrastructure (including open irrigation channels and drains), 10 metres from any other structure (such as culverts, drainage inlets, subways, syphons), or 5 metres from any below surface infrastructure (including pipelines), located on any Goulburn Murray Water freehold, easements or reserves.
15. All wastewater from the dwelling must be treated to a standard of at least 20mg/L BOD and 30mg/L suspended solids using a package treatment plant or equivalent. The system must be an EPA approved system, installed, operated and maintained in accordance with the relevant EPA Code of Practice and Certificate of Approval.
16. All wastewater must be applied to land via pressure-compensating sub-surface irrigation installed along the contour.
17. The wastewater disposal area must be free of stock, buildings, driveways and



service trenching and must be planted with appropriate vegetation to maximise its performance. Stormwater must be diverted away. A reserve wastewater disposal field of equivalent size to the primary disposal field must be provided for use in the event that the primary field requires resting or has failed.

18. The wastewater disposal area must be located a minimum of 60 metres from Goulburn-Murray Water irrigations drains and channels, and from any dams, and at least 20 metres from any bores.
19. Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance, the following information is required in relation to the existing dwelling on proposed lot 2:
  - a. A description of the dwelling in terms of number of bedrooms.
  - b. A site plan showing the location of the existing septic tank system and its associated disposal trenches, as well as a full reserve field at least 60 metres from Goulburn-Murray Water irrigations drains and channels, from any dams, and at least 20 metres from any bores.
  - c. A description of proposed wastewater management and an assessment of the existing septic tank system by a suitably qualified professional to determine whether it is suitable for continuous use for the dwelling. This must include an assessment of its operational status to determine whether it is performing in a satisfactory manner on the site and whether it meets the requirements of the current *EPA Code of Practice – Onsite Wastewater Management*. If the system is inadequate, a detailed description of any works required must be provided.
  - d. In the event that the existing system is unsuitable for use, the system must be upgraded in accordance with the *EPA Code of Practice – On-site Wastewater Management*, Publication no. 891.4, July 2016. The new wastewater disposal field must be located at least 60 metres from Goulburn-Murray Water irrigations drains and channels, from any dams, and at least 20 metres from any bores.
20. For subdivision of property holding delivery shares, the applicant must either:
  - a. Make an application to Goulburn-Murray Water pursuant to sections 224 and 229 of the Water Act 1989 to: terminate or transfer the delivery shares in relation to the property; make a declaration that the property cease to be a serviced property (to effect excision from the district); or

alternatively

- b. Demonstrate to Goulburn-Murray Water reasonable satisfaction the means by which a Goulburn-Murray Water water supply will be metered and delivered to the lots created by the subdivision, bearing in mind requirements for water use licences and annual use limits.

### **Expiry**

21. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

- a. The development is not commenced within two (2) years of the date of this permit;
- b. The development is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit;
- c. The use is not commenced within two (2) years of the completion of the development.

The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or within six months afterwards.

If a request is made outside of the above time, the Responsible Authority cannot consider the request and the holder of this permit cannot apply to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) for a review of this matter.

### **Notes**

#### *From the Building Department*

- a. All building works associated with this development must be in accordance with the Building Act 1993, Building Regulations 2018 and the Building Code of Australia.
- b. A building permit will be required for the building work associated with this development.

#### *From the Engineering Department*

- c. A works within the road reserve permit will be required from Council prior to commencement of any works within the road reserve area (crossovers).

*From the Health Department*

- d. A separate permit must be obtained from Council's Public Health Services Department prior to installation of the septic tank system.

*From North Central Catchment Management Authority*

- e. Flood levels for the 1% AEP (100 year ARI) flood event have been declared for this area under provisions of the *Water Act 1989*. The declared 1% AEP flood level for the location described above is 67.9 metres AHD.
- f. North Central CMA advises that in the event of a 1% AEP flood event it is possible that the property may be subject to inundation from the Murray River. However it is recommended that a licensed surveyor be engaged to determine the exact effect of the applicable flood level on the property.
- g. Please note that the location of the proposed buildings do not achieve condition 9 as recommended by North Central CMA above. To achieve this condition any new buildings and works should be setback approximately 50 metres from the property boundary.
- h. North Central CMA does not support the subdivision of lots in Tyntynder Flats to create new lots and facilitate the intensification of development in this area. Tyntynder Flats is protected by an unmanaged rural levee system of unknown quality. There is potential for this levee system to breach and/or overtop in future flood events. North Central CMA has supported this development on the basis that the subdivision is a boundary realignment and no new lots have been created.

*From Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning*

- i. The adjoining Crown land is not to be used for access, storage of materials or rubbish. Any private use of Crown land requires consent and/or licensing from the Department of Sustainability and Environment.
- j. Fire protection works to a higher level of protection will not be undertaken on the Crown land as a result of the residential development.

*From Goulburn-Murray Water*

- k. Any enquiries or applications regarding access to water for the proposal should be made to Goulburn-Murray Water, Water Administration Area. The procurement of water for the proposal is the responsibility of the applicant and not addressed through the planning permit referrals process.

**12/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Young**

**Council issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit with the following conditions:**

**Permit conditions**

1. Prior to the commencement of the development, three copies of amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will form part of this permit. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans received on 4 December 2018 and prepared by Penno Drafting and Design but modified to show:
  - a. The dwelling relocated to comply with conditions 9, 11 and 14.
  - b. The dimensions and exact location of the proposed outbuilding.

**Engineering Department**

2. Prior to the commencement of the use and occupation of the building, vehicular crossing shall be constructed in accordance with the endorsed plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, and must:
  - a. Be constructed at right angles to the road, and any redundant crossing shall be removed.
  - b. Be setback a minimum of 3m from any side-entry pit, power or telecommunications pole, manhole cover or marker, or street tree.
3. Prior to the commencement of the use and occupation of the building, the

internal access driveway must be constructed to all weather sealed or gravel, formed, finished and drained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

4. The applicant/owner must restrict sediment discharges from any construction sites within the property in accordance with Construction Techniques for Sediment Control (EPA 1991) and Environmental Guidelines for Major Construction Sites (EPA 1995).
5. Prior to the occupation of the building, the permit holder must ensure that stormwater runoff from the development/site can be retained within the boundaries of the lot to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

### **Health Department**

6. Prior to issuing an occupancy permit for the new dwelling, the dwelling must be fitted with a wastewater treatment and disposal system to a design approved by Council's Environmental Health Officer and such that all effluent is disposed of within the boundaries of the allotment. The wastewater disposal system must be protected from inundation from flood waters up to the 1 in 100 flood level.
7. No polluted drainage shall be discharged beyond the boundaries of the land from which it emanates, or into watercourse or easement drain, but shall be so treated and/or absorbed on that lot to the satisfaction of Council's Environmental Health Officer.

### **North Central Catchment Management Authority**

8. The finished floor level of the proposed dwelling must be constructed a minimum of 0.3 metres above the 1% AEP flood level of 67.9 metres AHD, i.e. no lower than 68.2 metres to Australian Height Datum.
9. All buildings must be set back a minimum of 50 metres from the flood protection levee along the Murray River.
10. Any earthen land fill to achieve the minimum floor level requirement must not exceed 1000m<sup>2</sup>.

### **Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning**

11. All buildings and structures must be located a minimum 30 metres from the shared Crown land – Freehold boundary.
12. Prior to work commencing, the shared boundary with Crown land must be fenced to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and the Department of Sustainability and Environment at the applicant's expense. Fence must be erected:
  - a. On the boundaries of the land;
  - b. Be stock and domestic pet proof and 1.5m high; and
  - c. Without gates or openings on to adjoining Crown land

### **Goulburn-Murray Water**

13. All construction and ongoing activities must be in accordance with sediment control principles outlined in 'Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control' (EPA, 1991).
14. No buildings or works may be erected or carried out within 30 metres of any Goulburn Murray Water surface infrastructure (including open irrigation channels and drains), 10 metres from any other structure (such as culverts, drainage inlets, subways, syphons), or 5 metres from any below surface infrastructure (including pipelines), located on any Goulburn Murray Water freehold, easements or reserves.
15. All wastewater from the dwelling must be treated to a standard of at least 20mg/L BOD and 30mg/L suspended solids using a package treatment plant or equivalent. The system must be an EPA approved system, installed, operated and maintained in accordance with the relevant EPA Code of Practice and Certificate of Approval.
16. All wastewater must be applied to land via pressure-compensating sub-surface irrigation installed along the contour.
17. The wastewater disposal area must be free of stock, buildings, driveways and service trenching and must be planted with appropriate vegetation to

maximise its performance. Stormwater must be diverted away. A reserve wastewater disposal field of equivalent size to the primary disposal field must be provided for use in the event that the primary field requires resting or has failed.

18. The wastewater disposal area must be located a minimum of 60 metres from Goulburn-Murray Water irrigations drains and channels, and from any dams, and at least 20 metres from any bores.

19. Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance, the following information is required in relation to the existing dwelling on proposed lot 2:

- a. A description of the dwelling in terms of number of bedrooms.
- b. A site plan showing the location of the existing septic tank system and its associated disposal trenches, as well as a full reserve field at least 60 metres from Goulburn-Murray Water irrigations drains and channels, from any dams, and at least 20 metres from any bores.
- c. A description of proposed wastewater management and an assessment of the existing septic tank system by a suitably qualified professional to determine whether it is suitable for continuous use for the dwelling. This must include an assessment of its operational status to determine whether it is performing in a satisfactory manner on the site and whether it meets the requirements of the current EPA *Code of Practice – Onsite Wastewater Management*. If the system is inadequate, a detailed description of any works required must be provided.
- d. In the event that the existing system is unsuitable for use, the system must be upgraded in accordance with the EPA Code of Practice – On-site Wastewater Management, Publication no. 891.4, July 2016. The new wastewater disposal field must be located at least 60 metres from Goulburn-Murray Water irrigations drains and channels, from any dams, and at least 20 metres from any bores.

20. For subdivision of property holding delivery shares, the applicant must either:

- a. Make an application to Goulburn-Murray Water pursuant to sections 224 and 229 of the Water Act 1989 to: terminate or transfer the delivery shares in relation to the property; make a declaration that the property cease to be a serviced property (to effect excision from the district); or alternatively

- b. Demonstrate to Goulburn-Murray Water reasonable satisfaction the means by which a Goulburn-Murray Water water supply will be metered and delivered to the lots created by the subdivision, bearing in mind requirements for water use licences and annual use limits.

### **Expiry**

21. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

- a. The development is not commenced within two (2) years of the date of this permit;
- b. The development is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit;
- c. The use is not commenced within two (2) years of the completion of the development.

The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or within six months afterwards.

If a request is made outside of the above time, the Responsible Authority cannot consider the request and the holder of this permit cannot apply to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) for a review of this matter.

### **Notes**

#### *From the Building Department*

- a. All building works associated with this development must be in accordance with the Building Act 1993, Building Regulations 2018 and the Building Code of Australia.
- b. A building permit will be required for the building work associated with this development.

#### *From the Engineering Department*

- c. A works within the road reserve permit will be required from Council prior to commencement of any works within the road reserve area (crossovers).



*From the Health Department*

- d. A separate permit must be obtained from Council's Public Health Services Department prior to installation of the septic tank system.

*From North Central Catchment Management Authority*

- e. Flood levels for the 1% AEP (100 year ARI) flood event have been declared for this area under provisions of the *Water Act 1989*. The declared 1% AEP flood level for the location described above is 67.9 metres AHD.
- f. North Central CMA advises that in the event of a 1% AEP flood event it is possible that the property may be subject to inundation from the Murray River. However it is recommended that a licensed surveyor be engaged to determine the exact effect of the applicable flood level on the property.
- g. Please note that the location of the proposed buildings do not achieve condition 9 as recommended by North Central CMA above. To achieve this condition any new buildings and works should be setback approximately 50 metres from the property boundary.
- h. North Central CMA does not support the subdivision of lots in Tyntynder Flats to create new lots and facilitate the intensification of development in this area. Tyntynder Flats is protected by an unmanaged rural levee system of unknown quality. There is potential for this levee system to breach and/or overtop in future flood events. North Central CMA has supported this development on the basis that the subdivision is a boundary realignment and no new lots have been created.

*From Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning*

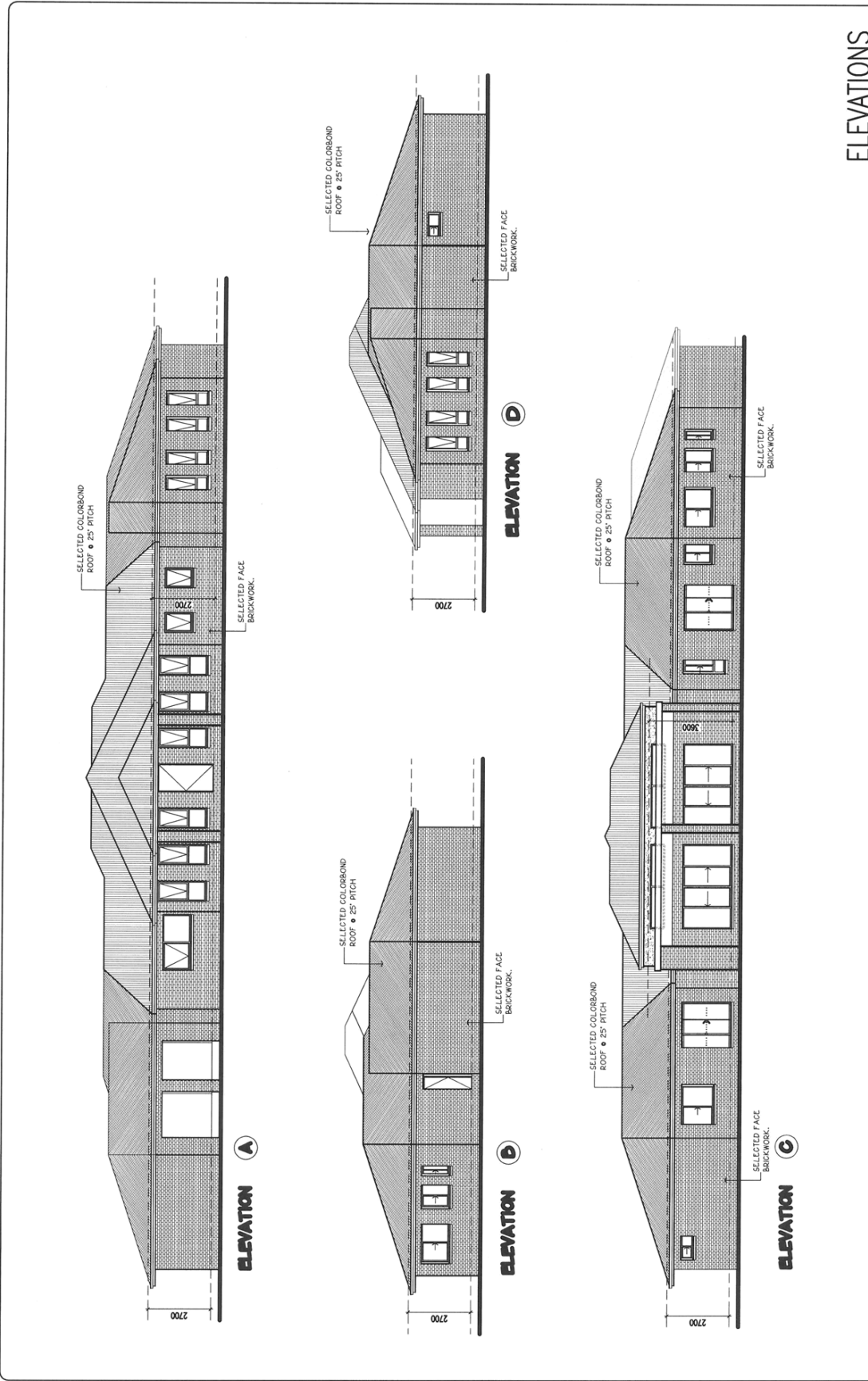
- i. The adjoining Crown land is not to be used for access, storage of materials or rubbish. Any private use of Crown land requires consent and/or licensing from the Department of Sustainability and Environment.
- j. Fire protection works to a higher level of protection will not be undertaken on the Crown land as a result of the residential development.

*From Goulburn-Murray Water*

- k. Any enquiries or applications regarding access to water for the proposal should be made to Goulburn-Murray Water, Water Administration Area. The procurement of water for the proposal is the responsibility of the applicant and not addressed through the planning permit referrals process.

**SECONDED Cr King**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**



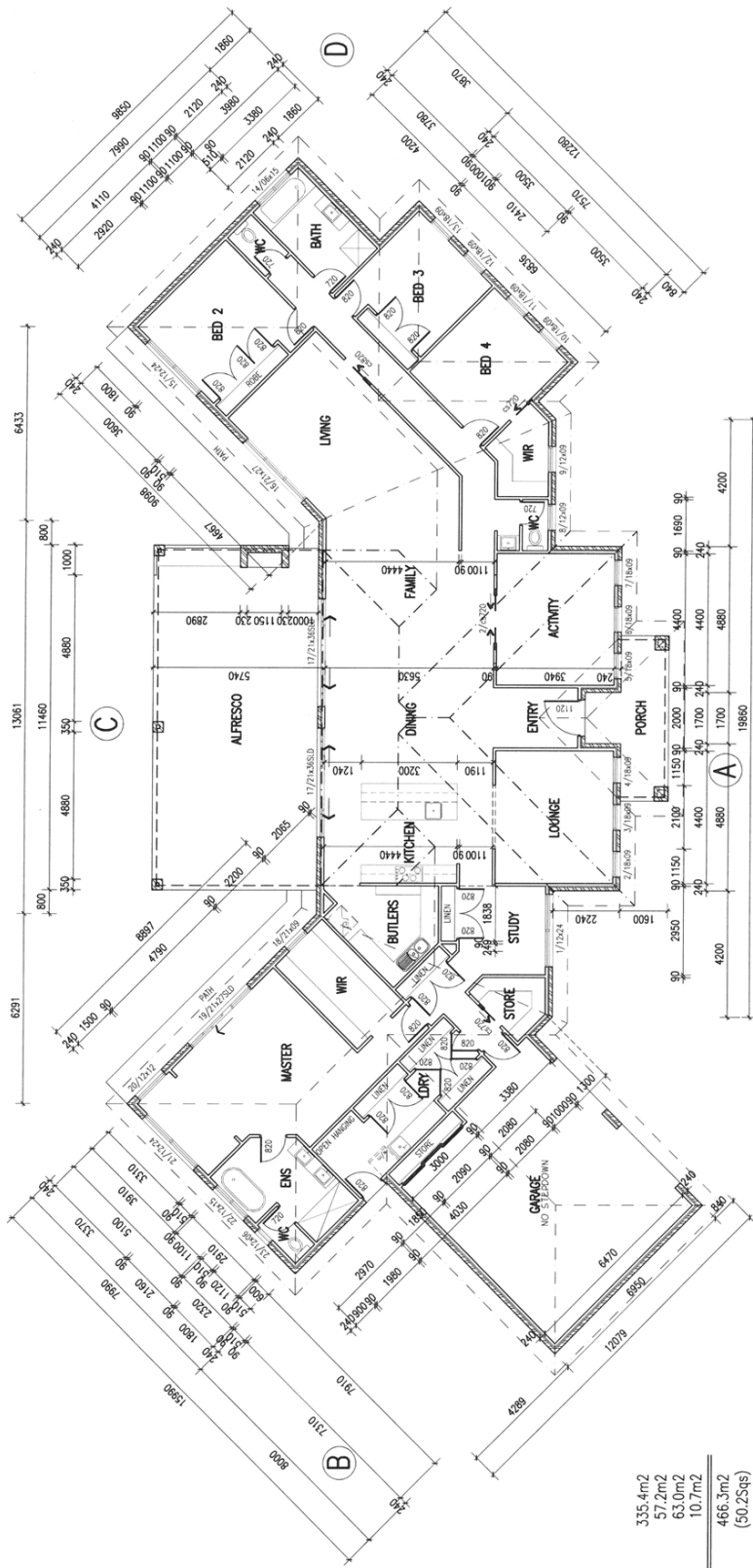
ELEVATIONS

**PROPOSED BRICK VENEER DWELLING**  
**FOR:** LOT 2 RIVER ROAD  
**SITE:** SWAN HILL  
 PROJECT / DRAWING No. 20/2411

THIS IS SHEET 4 OF 4 DRAWINGS REFERRED TO IN THE CONTRACT DATED 20  
 SIGNED BY THE OWNERS: .....  
 SIGNED BY THE BUILDER: .....

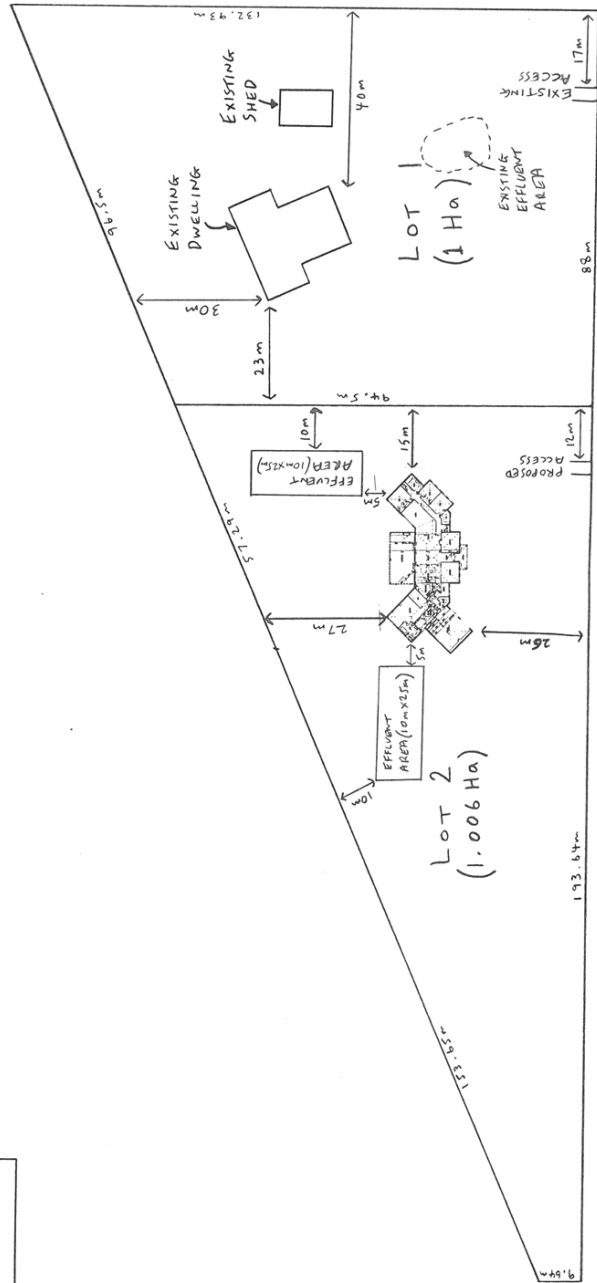
ISSUE DATE	18/05/20	DRAWN	MJD
SCALE	1:150	DATE	DESCRIPTION
REVISIONS	No.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

**G.J. Gardner. HOMES**  
 "We're Great Together"  
 Swan Hill Franchise  
 Safeway Arcade 128 Campbell St. Swan Hill Victoria 3585  
 Ph:03 5033 2438 Fax:03 5032 5718 WEBSITE: g.jgardner.com.au



2 LOT SUBDIVISION
& DWELLING
74
RIVER ROAD
SWAN HILL

SCALE  
1:1000



RIVER ROAD  
RIVER

### **B.21.5 SWAN HILL PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT REQUEST**

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Director Development and Planning
<b>File Number:</b>	S22-03-02-02
<b>Attachments:</b>	1 Letter requesting planning scheme amendment 2 Incorporated document

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

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

#### **Summary**

This report seeks a Council resolution to support a planning scheme amendment proposed to be undertaken by Goulburn Murray Water (GMW) to enable the GMW Water Efficiency Project to occur.

#### **Discussion**

GMW seeks Council's support to amend the Swan Hill Planning Scheme to enable the use and development of the GMW Water Efficiency Project, which comprises of two sub-projects:

- Backbone Transformation Project (BTP); and
- Shepparton East Project (SEP).

The works are similar in regional extent and nature to those which are being undertaken as part of the GMW Connections Project (GMWCP), which were previously permitted via a planning scheme amendment facilitated by the Minister for Planning in 2011.

In September 2020, the Victorian Government submitted a funding proposal to the Australian Government to conduct further irrigation modernisation works in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID) as part of the \$177.5 million GMW Water Efficiency Project. The Australian Government has subsequently approved funding for the project and a project schedule between the State and Commonwealth is expected to be completed shortly to formalise funding arrangements. Works are proposed to commence by March 2021 with completion by 2023.

In essence, these projects include, but are not limited to, the following components to be undertaken by or on behalf of GMW for both capital, on-farm and associated works:

- Automation of regulators on major ('backbone') irrigation channels.
- Replacement, upgrading or removal of meters.
- Remediation and lining of backbone channels to reduce leakage and seepage.
- Decommissioning of channels.

- New pump stations, pipelines or channels.
- Replacement or upgrading of regulators or regulator gates.
- Reconfiguration of landowner connections by pipeline or channel to the public backbone and associated on-farm works.
- Construction of access works to site for construction and maintenance.
- Any use and development ancillary to the above.

The project does not include the river connections component.

Works under the BTP are currently proposed throughout all six of GMW's gravity irrigation areas whilst works under the SEP are restricted to the Shepparton Irrigation Area.

#### Planning scheme amendment approach

It is proposed that the Minister for Planning facilitate approval for the projects by amending the planning schemes of Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Shepparton, Loddon, Moira and Swan Hill to allow for the BTP and SEP by including a new Incorporated Document.

It is considered in this case, given the Minister will facilitate the amendment process, that it will be done using Section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. This section under the Act exempts the Minister from any of the requirements related to public exhibition in order to fast track the process. The works are in essence the same works that were undertaken as part of the previous approved GMW Connections Project.

#### **Consultation**

There will be no consultation as a part of a ministerial amendment as explained above.

#### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this request.

#### **Social Implications**

There are no known social implications associated with this request.

#### **Economic Implications**

There are no known economic implications associated with this request.

#### **Environmental Implications**

There are no known adverse environmental implications associated with this request. The amendment will facilitate better usage of water resulting in valuable

water savings. Any native vegetation removal as part of these projects will still have to go through the normal permit process and offsets provided.

### **Risk Management Implications**

The proposed amendment process may limit the community's opportunity for having a say and it removes Council's role in the amendment process. However, exempting future works from requiring a planning permit removes any risk implications for Council normally associated with planning applications.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

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

### **Options**

1. That Council advise GMW that it supports its request to amend the Swan Hill Planning Scheme to enable the use and development of the GMW Water Efficiency Project.

or

2. That Council advise GMW that it does not support its request to amend the Swan Hill Planning Scheme to enable the use and development of the GMW Water Efficiency Project.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council advise GMW that it supports its request to amend the Swan Hill Planning Scheme to enable the use and development of the GMW Water Efficiency Project.**

### **13/21 Motion**

#### **MOVED Cr Benham**

**That Council advise GMW that it supports its request to amend the Swan Hill Planning Scheme to enable the use and development of the GMW Water Efficiency Project.**

#### **SECONDED Cr King**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**





Stefan Louw  
Development Manager  
Swan Hill Rural City Council  
45 Splatt Street  
Swan Hill VIC 3585  
[stefan.louw@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:stefan.louw@swanhill.vic.gov.au)

15 January 2020

Dear Stefan

## **REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR A PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT FACILITATED BY THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING**

### **1. Introduction**

Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) write this letter to seek written support from your Council for a Planning Scheme Amendment to the Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Shepparton, Loddon, Moira and Swan Hill Planning Schemes to enable the use and development of the GMW Water Efficiency Project, which comprises of two sub-projects:

- Backbone Transformation Project (BTP); and
- Shepparton East Project (SEP).

The works are similar in regional extent and nature to those which are being undertaken as part of the GMW Connections Project (GMWCP), which were previously permitted via a Planning Scheme Amendment facilitated by the Minister for Planning in 2011.

The letter provides background to the two projects as well as the strategic rationale for the request.

### **2. Background and proposed works**

In September 2020, the Victorian Government had submitted a funding proposal to the Australian Government to conduct further irrigation modernisation works in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID) as part of the \$177.5 million GMW Water Efficiency Project. The Australian Government has subsequently approved funding for the project and a project schedule between the State and Commonwealth is expected to be completed shortly to formalise funding arrangements. Works are proposed to commence by March 2021 with completion by 2023.

The GMW Water Efficiency Project comprises of two sub-projects which are proposed to be implemented through this Planning Scheme Amendment:

- the BTP, which will rationalise and modernise channels and meters throughout the GMID;
- the SEP, which will modernise infrastructure in the Shepparton Irrigation Area.

The scope of the BTP is:

- Modernisation and rationalisation of channels and meters will be undertaken across the entire GMID. The final scope for the plans will be determined following project commencement and detailed planning.

PO Box 165 Tatura Victoria 3616 Australia

[reception@gmwater.com.au](mailto:reception@gmwater.com.au)

1800 013 357

[www.gmwater.com.au](http://www.gmwater.com.au)



OFFICIAL-Sensitive

- Existing processes developed during the GMWCP will be used, including:
  - The reconfiguration and efficiency optimisation solution processes; and
  - The eight-step process developed for landowner engagement.
- Not all channels and meters will be modernised following these projects. The efficiency optimisation approach targets strategic investment in higher-loss and usage assets to achieve cost effective water savings.
- Completion of works expected by June 2023 subject to timely securing of funding.

The scope of the SEP is:

- Works will complete the modernisation of the Shepparton Irrigation Area.
- The efficiency optimisation approach has been applied to all 64 unmodernised channel sections for the No. 10 and 11 channels in Shepparton East.
- A small number of Reconfiguration Plans will be developed for channel sections with proposed on-farm works.
- Channels West of Doyles Road will be retained without modernisation.
- Completion of works expected by June 2022 subject to timely securing of funding.

In essence, these projects include, but are not limited to, the following components to be undertaken by or on behalf of the GMW for both capital, on farm and associated works:

- Automation of regulators on major ('backbone') irrigation channels.
- Replacement, upgrading or removal of meters.
- Remediation and lining of backbone channels to reduce leakage and seepage.
- Decommissioning of channels.
- New pump stations, pipelines or channels.
- Replacement or upgrading of regulators or regulator gates.
- Reconfiguration of landowner connections by pipeline or channel to the public backbone and associated on farm works.
- Construction of access works to site for construction and maintenance.
- Any use and development ancillary to the above.

The Project does not include the river connections component.

Works under the BTP are currently proposed throughout all six of GMW's gravity irrigation areas whilst works under the SEP are restricted to the Shepparton Irrigation Area.

### 3. Proposed Approach to Approvals

It is proposed that the Minister for Planning facilitate approval for the BTP and the SEP by amending the Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Shepparton, Loddon, Moira and Swan Hill Planning Schemes to allow for the BTP and SEP by including a new Incorporated Document into them.

*The Planning and Environment Act 1987 allows the Minister to "exempt himself or herself from any of the requirements of section 17, 18 and 19 [of the Act] and the regulation in respect of an amendment which the Minister prepares, if the Minister considers that compliance with any of those requirements is not warranted or that the best interests of Victoria or part of Victoria make such an exemption appropriate".*

It is considered that in this case, it is warranted for the Minister to facilitate the BTP and SEP using Section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The works are in essence the same works that were undertaken by as part of the GMWCP. The works to be undertaken as part of for BTP and SEP comprise works packages that were incorporated into previous project approvals for the GMWCP however were not subsequently implemented due to funding constraints. The Incorporated

Document is proposed to contain the same conditions as the previously approved Incorporated Document.

A review of the previous approvals issued for the GMWCP showed the following:

- The works are located within the area permitted by the EPBC Act approval and as such, no further action is required to be undertaken under the EPBC Act to enable the works.
- The works are located within the area originally referred under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* and as such, no further action is required to be undertaken under this Act to enable the works.

Planning and Environment Act 1987

- Given the expiry date on the Incorporated Document, application needs to be made to the Minister for Planning to make revision to the current Incorporated Document to recognise VEMP and to extend the expiry date of the current Incorporated Document to enable the BTP / SEP works.
- The BTP and SEP are proposed to commence by March 2021 with completion by 2023. Given the current Incorporated Document expires on 31 December 2021, an extension of 2 years would be required.

The conditions of the Incorporated Document effectively translated the conditions of the decision made under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* into the planning schemes. The Incorporated Document has been amended over the years, most recently in 2020 to extend its expiry date.

GMW propose to undertake the VEMP works in accordance with the conditions of the decision made under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* and the existing Incorporated Document. There have been no material changes to either the Act or the planning schemes in terms of policy or zones and overlays and planning scheme provisions that would change how the Minister for Planning or Council would consider the application.

#### 4. Conclusion

In order to progress this matter, GMW ask Council to write a letter of support confirming that the Council agrees to the Minister for Planning prepare an amendment to the Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Shepparton, Loddon, Moira and Swan Hill Planning Schemes to include a new Incorporated Document which allows for the BTP and SEP.

The letter should be addressed to:

Damien Sullivan  
GMW Connections Project  
PO Box 165  
Tatura VIC 3616

and sent via email to: [damien.sullivan@gmwater.com.au](mailto:damien.sullivan@gmwater.com.au)

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Goulburn Murray Water look forward to your consideration of this request.

Yours sincerely



Frank Fisseler  
**PROJECT DIRECTOR**  
**GMW Connections Project**

## **Goulburn-Murray Water Connections Project – Incorporated Document**

---

**June 2020**

Incorporated document under section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

## 1 Introduction

This document is an incorporated document in the Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Greater Shepparton, Loddon, Moira and Swan Hill Planning Schemes under section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

The land identified in this document may be used and developed in accordance with the specific control in the document.

## 2 Purpose

The purpose of the specific control is to allow the use and development of land for the purpose of irrigation modernisation works to be undertaken by or on behalf of the Goulburn-Murray Rural Water Corporation (**Goulburn-Murray Water**).

## 3 The Project

This document applies to the use and development of land undertaken by or on behalf of Goulburn-Murray Water for the purposes of the Goulburn-Murray Water Connections Project (**the Project**), which is the irrigation infrastructure modernisation project for the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District. Under the Project, the Victorian Government, in conjunction with the Commonwealth and local irrigators, is investing \$2 billion to upgrade northern Victoria's irrigation infrastructure. The upgrade will improve water delivery management and irrigation services, and recover much of the water now being lost through leaks, evaporation and system inefficiencies.

The goal of the Project is to save 225 gigalitres (GL) of water over Stage 1 of the implementation of the Project and 204GL of water in Stage 2, by reducing water losses in the irrigation delivery system through renewal, rationalisation, and decommissioning of irrigation infrastructure.

The Project includes, but is not limited to, the following components to be undertaken by or on behalf of the Goulburn-Murray Water for both capital, on farm and associated works:

- Automation of regulators on major ('backbone') irrigation channels.
- Replacement, upgrading or removal of meters.
- Remediation and lining of backbone channels to reduce leakage and seepage.
- Decommissioning of channels.
- New pump stations, pipelines or channels.
- Replacement or upgrading of regulators or regulator gates.
- Reconfiguration of landowner connections by pipeline or channel to the public backbone and associated on farm works.

- Construction of access works to site for construction and maintenance.
- Any use and development ancillary to the above.

The Project does not include the river connections component.

#### 4 Land

The specific control in this document applies to the following land:

- a) The Central Goulburn, Loddon Valley, Murray Valley, Rochester-Campaspe, Shepparton and Torrumbarry Irrigation Areas, which are located within the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District, a prescribed district declared under Part 6A of the *Water Act 1989*; and
- b) The Waranga Western Channel, Pyramid No. 1 Channel, Boort No. 2 Channel, Boort No. 3 Channel, Boort No. 5 Channel, Boort No. 1/5 Channel, Boort No. 8/2 Channel, Boort No. 1/12 Channel, East Goulburn Main Channel and Yarrowonga Main Channel and land adjoining those channels that is either owned by Goulburn-Murray Water, is subject to an irrigation easement or is public or freehold land required for the purposes for the Project.

The land in paragraph (a) is shown on the eight (8) drawings entitled "*Goulburn-Murray Water – Connections Project, Works Program*" which are attached to and form part of this document. Additionally, the land in paragraph (b) is shown indicatively on the drawing entitled "*Goulburn-Murray Water – Connections Project, Works Program*" which is attached to and forms part of this document.

The land specified in this clause is referred to as the "Project Area" in this document.

#### 5 Control

The specific control in the document prevails over any inconsistent provision in the Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Greater Shepparton, Loddon, Moira and Swan Hill Planning Schemes.

Works undertaken by Goulburn-Murray Water and their contractors on behalf of private landowners, as part of the Project, are subject to these controls.

However, the control does not apply to connection works and on-farm works undertaken by private landowners, or their agents or contractors, whether or not undertaken by agreement with Goulburn-Murray Water or the former State Owned Enterprise for Irrigation Modernisation in Northern Victoria.

Subject to that limitation, no permit is required to undertake the following use or development of land within the Project Area to implement the Project:

- Use and develop land for a Utility installation including a Minor utility installation.
- Activities ancillary to the use and development of land for the purposes of a Utility installation and Minor utility installation, including but not limited to the creation of access roads, radio communication towers, provision for car parking, erection of temporary structures and materials storage.
- Remove, destroy, prune or lop native and non-native vegetation.
- Erect fencing.
- Demolish structures.
- Undertake earthworks to create access roads, bunds, borrow pits, mounds, wetlands and otherwise to excavate land, salvage artefacts and alter drainage.
- Create or alter access to a road in a Road Zone – Category 1.

The control is subject to the conditions in clauses 6.1 to 6.4 of this document.

## **6 Conditions**

### **6.1 Environmental Management**

#### *Environmental Management Framework*

Before any native vegetation is removed or any works on a natural waterway or wetland are constructed or carried out, an environmental management framework to the satisfaction of the Minister for Planning, having regard to written advice from the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water, must be submitted to and approved by the Minister for Planning.

The approved environmental management framework may be amended to the satisfaction of the Minister for Planning.

The environmental management framework must include, but is not limited to:

- A statement of environmental commitments or performance requirements in relation to proposed physical works.
- Processes and methodologies for assessing potential impacts on native vegetation as well as flora and fauna species listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG) due to the implementation of the Project.
- A framework for managing impacts and assigning accountabilities for impacts on biodiversity, cultural heritage and potential acid sulphate soils, as well as drainage and flooding patterns, including but not limited to:

- Preparation and implementation of management strategies or plans for mitigation and offsetting of impacts on native vegetation;
- Preparation and implementation of management strategies or plans for flora and fauna species listed under the FFG Act;
- Preparation and implementation of management strategies or plans for cultural heritage;
- Monitoring, reporting and auditing of relevant activities and environmental outcomes, including the role of an independent auditor to be appointed by Goulburn-Murray Water (appointee to be agreed with the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning); and
- Mechanisms to ensure compliance by Goulburn-Murray Water and its contractors with these requirements for all construction activities within this Project.

#### *Environmental Management Plan*

Before any native vegetation is removed or any works on a natural waterway or wetland are constructed or carried out, an environmental management plan to the satisfaction of the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning must be submitted to and approved by the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as constituted under Part 2 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987*).

An approved environmental management plan may be amended to the satisfaction of the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

The environmental management plan must be in accordance with the approved environmental management framework.

The environmental management plan must include compliance with the relevant Victorian native vegetation clearing and offsetting policy.

#### *Implementation*

The environmental management framework must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Minister for Planning and the environmental management plan must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as constituted under Part 2 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987*).

## **6.2 Catchment Management Authority Consent**

The written consent of the relevant catchment management authority must be obtained prior to the commencement of any new use, buildings and works (including decommissioning) within the following zones and overlays:

- Urban Floodway Zone;
- Floodway Overlay; and
- Land Subject to Inundation Overlay.



### **6.3 Heritage Consent**

Where any building or place within the Project Area is identified in a Schedule to the Heritage Overlay in the planning scheme, the prior written consent of the responsible authority is required prior to any action which would have required a permit. The responsible authority will have regard to the nature of the protection afforded to that place.

Any request for the written consent of the responsible authority under this provision must be accompanied by a report by a suitably qualified heritage adviser.

### **6.4 Compatibility with public purpose**

The written consent of the public land manager or an acquiring authority must be obtained prior to the commencement of any new use or buildings and works, or any removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation within a public land zone or a Public Acquisition Overlay which, but for this control, would have required a permit.

## **7 Provision of documents**

A copy of the environmental management framework must be provided for information to each responsible authority for the planning schemes into which this document is incorporated.

A copy of an approved environmental management plan must be given for information to each responsible authority for the planning schemes into which this document is incorporated if the plan relates to the area affected by that planning scheme.

An ongoing provision of a programme of works must be submitted to each responsible authority for the planning schemes into which this document is incorporated.

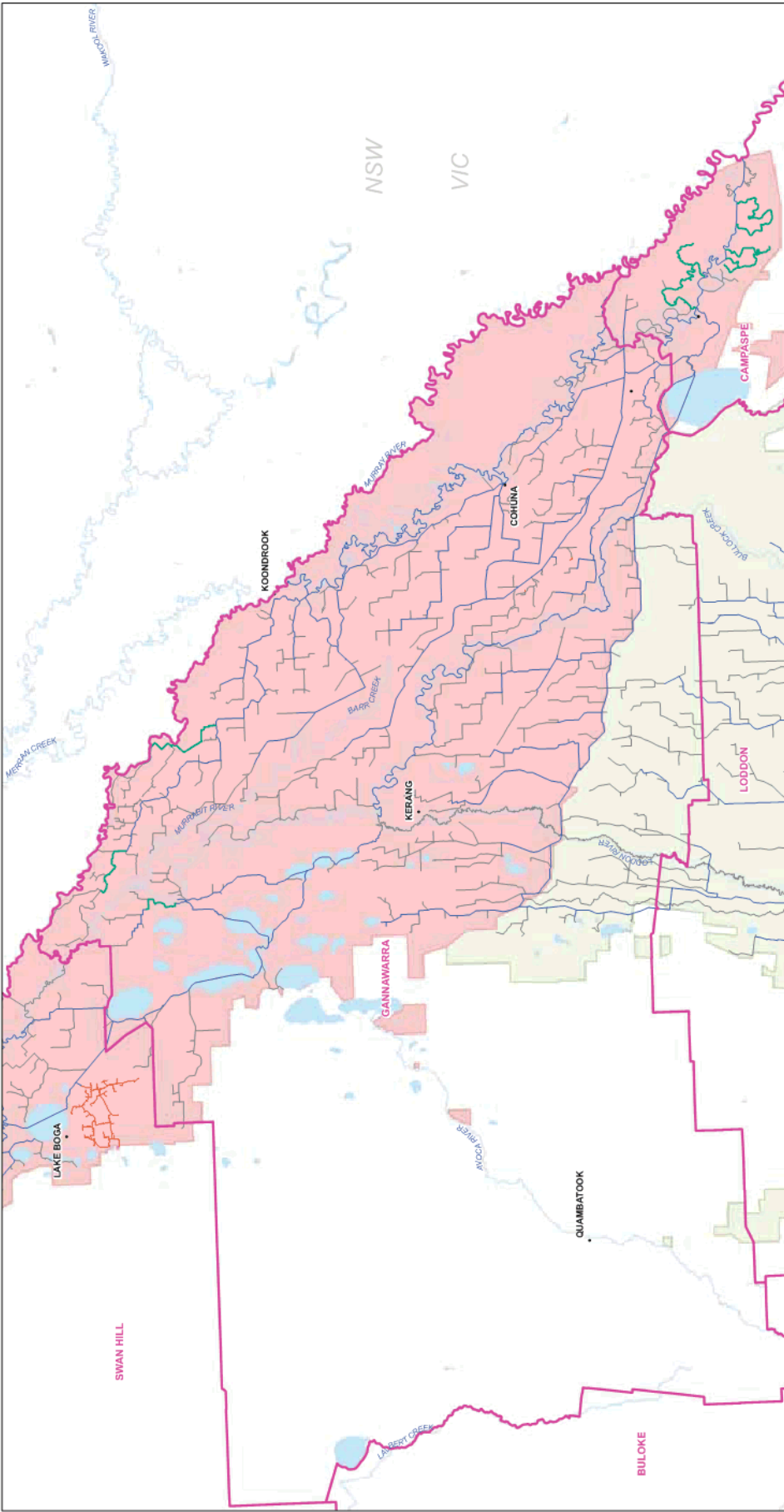
## **8 Expiry**

This control expires on 31 December 2021.



Works Program

Goulburn-Murray Water - Connections Project Map - Gannawarra Shire



**Legend**

- Backbone Channels**
  - Backbone
  - Backbone Subject to Further Investigation
  - GMW Remaining Channel
  - Current GMW Pipeline
  - Watercourse Lines
- Irrigation Areas**
  - Central Goulburn
  - Murray Valley
  - Loddon Valley
  - Rochester
  - Shepparton
  - Torrumbarry
- Local Government Area**
  - Waterbodies



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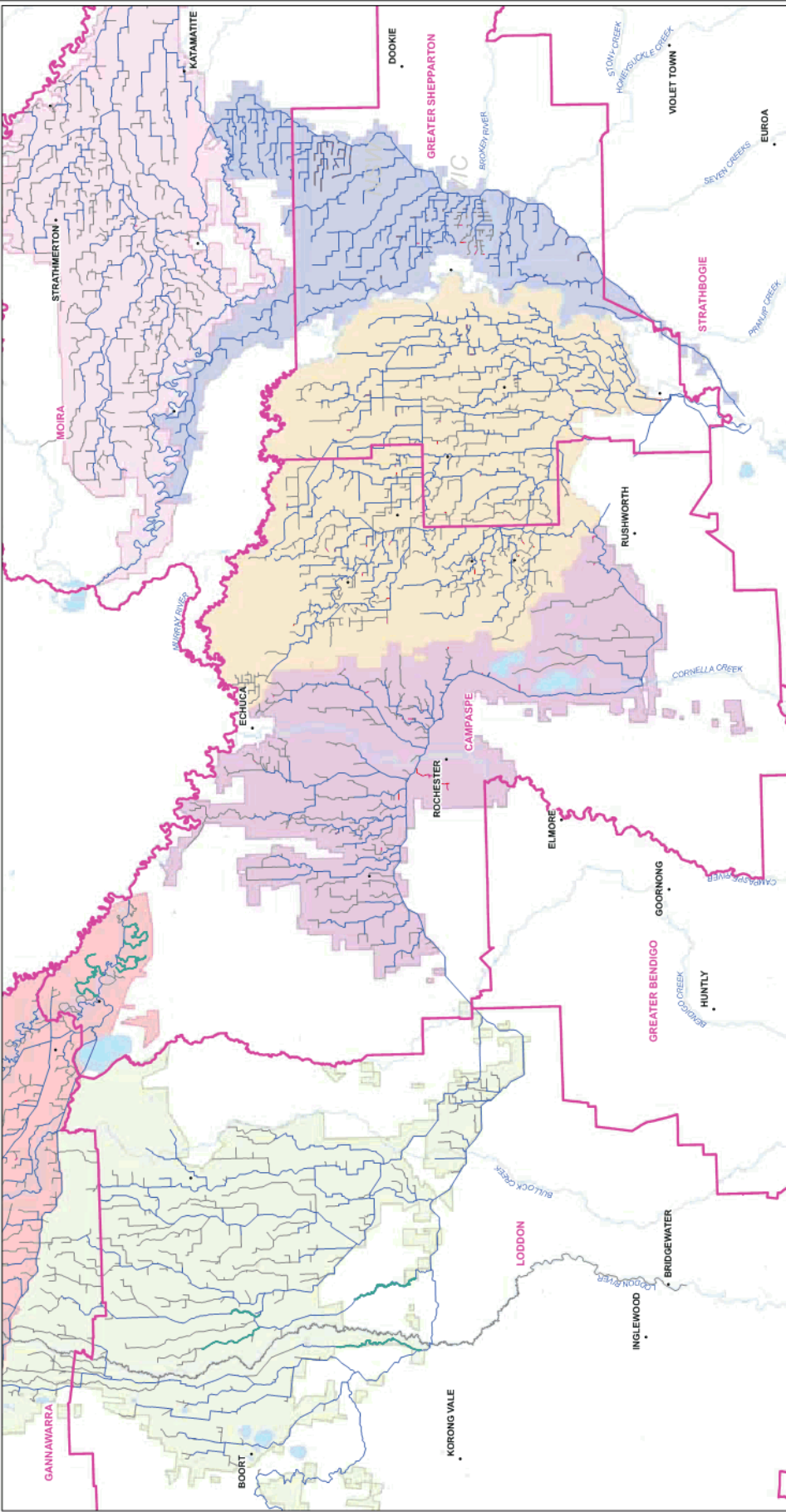
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 2014; Goulburn-Murray Water 2015

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**JACOBS**



Goulburn-Murray Water - Connections Project Map - Campaspe Shire



**Legend**

**Backbone Channels**

- Backbone
- Backbone Subject to Further Investigation
- GMW Remaining Channel
- Current GMW Pipeline
- Watercourse Lines

**Irrigation Areas**

- Central Goulburn
- Murray Valley
- Loddon Valley
- Rochester
- Shepparton
- Torrumbarry

**Local Government Area**

- Waterbodies

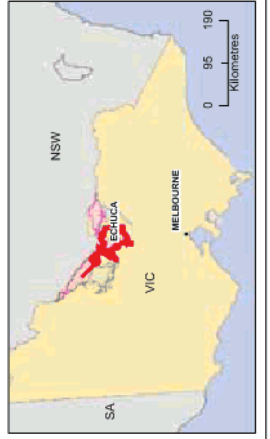
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[ GDA 94 | MGA Zone 55 ]  
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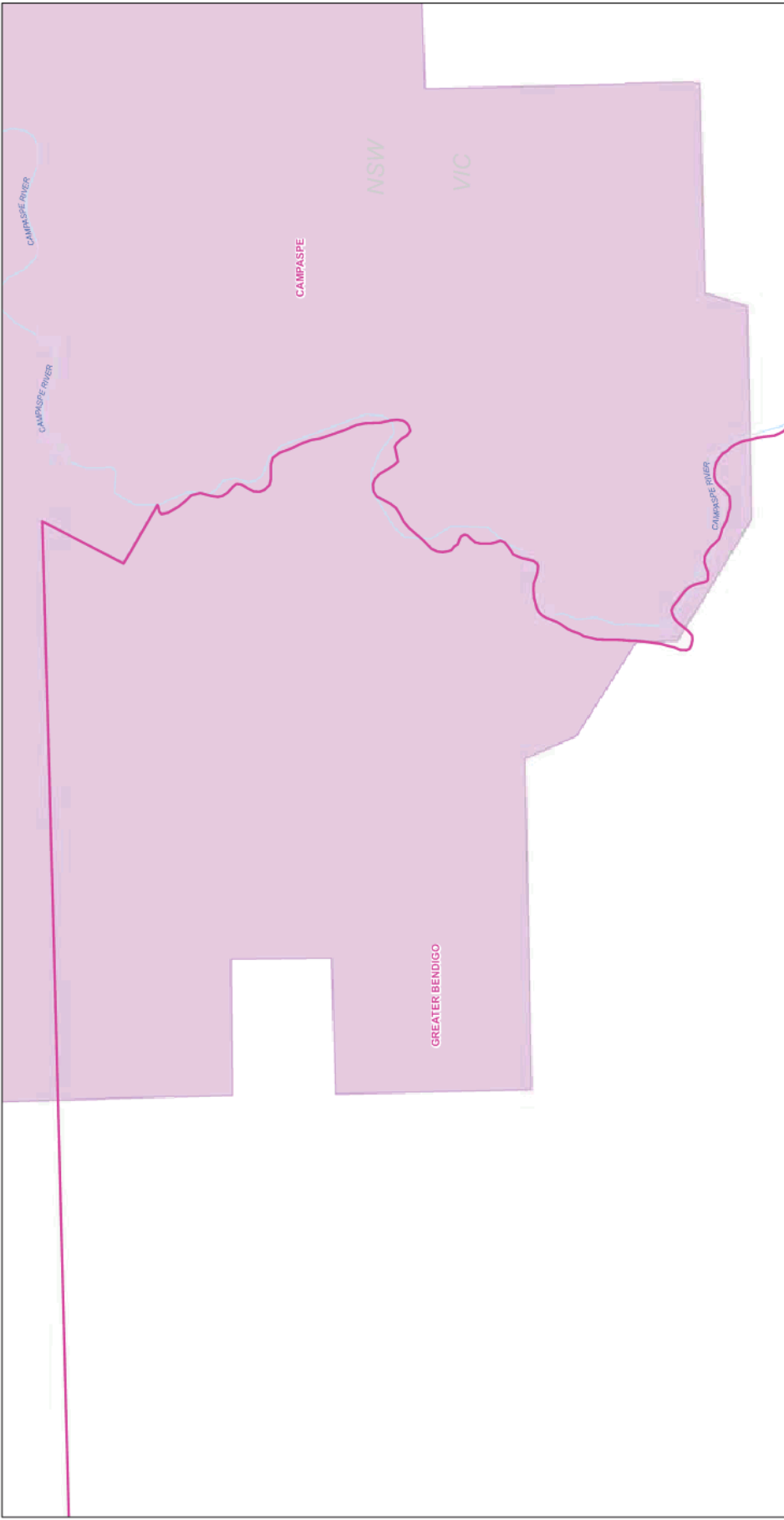
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Works Program

Goulburn-Murray Water - Connections Project Map - Greater Bendigo City



**Legend**

**Backbone Channels**

- Backbone
- Backbone Subject to Further Investigation
- GMW Remaining Channel
- Current GMW Pipeline
- Watercourse Lines

**Irrigation Areas**

- Central Goulburn
- Murray Valley
- Loddon Valley
- Rochester
- Shepparton
- Torrumberry

**Local Government Area**

- Waterbodies

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[ GDA 94 | MGA Zone 55 ]  
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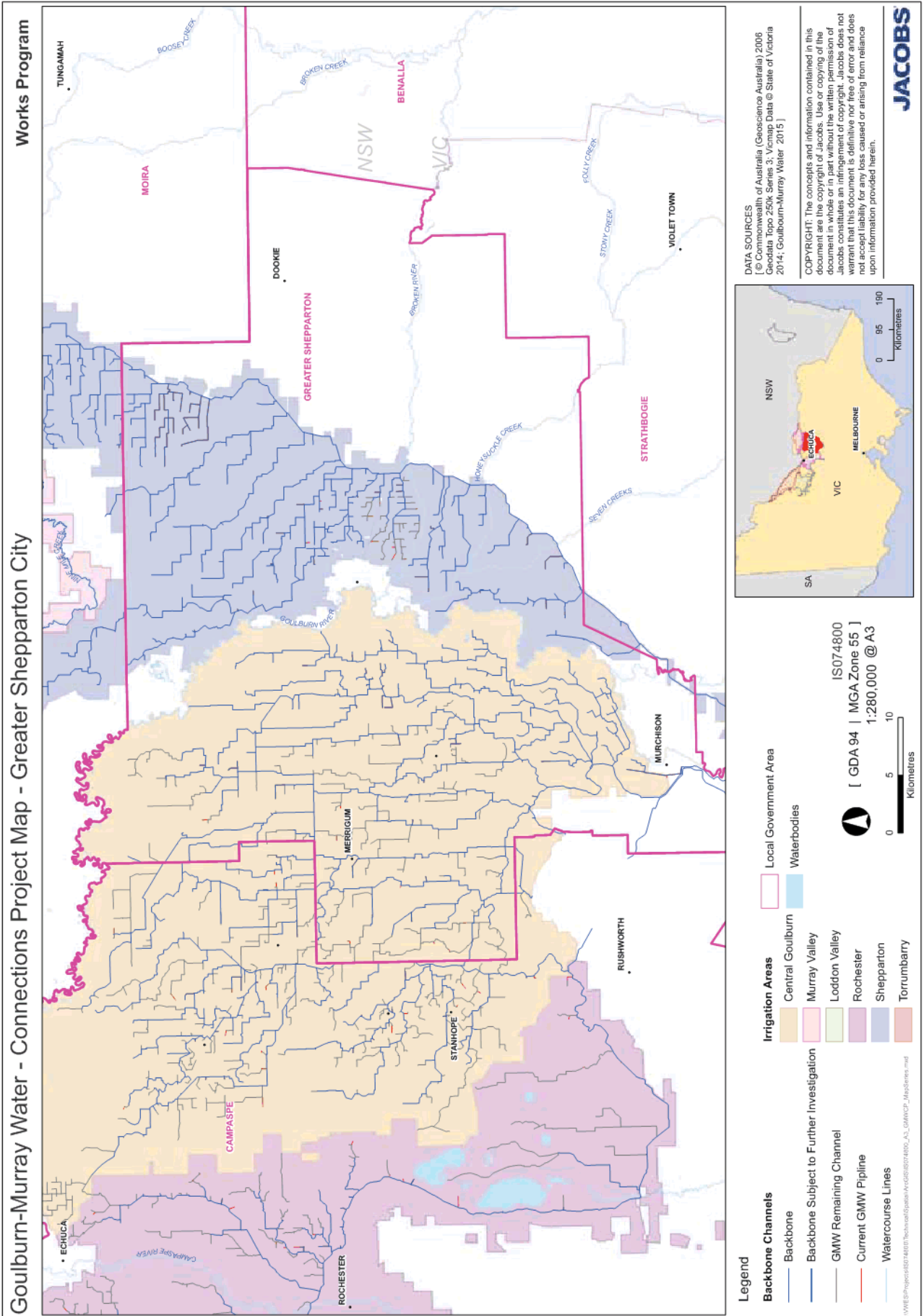
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**DATA SOURCES**  
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2014; Goulburn-Murray Water, 2015 ]

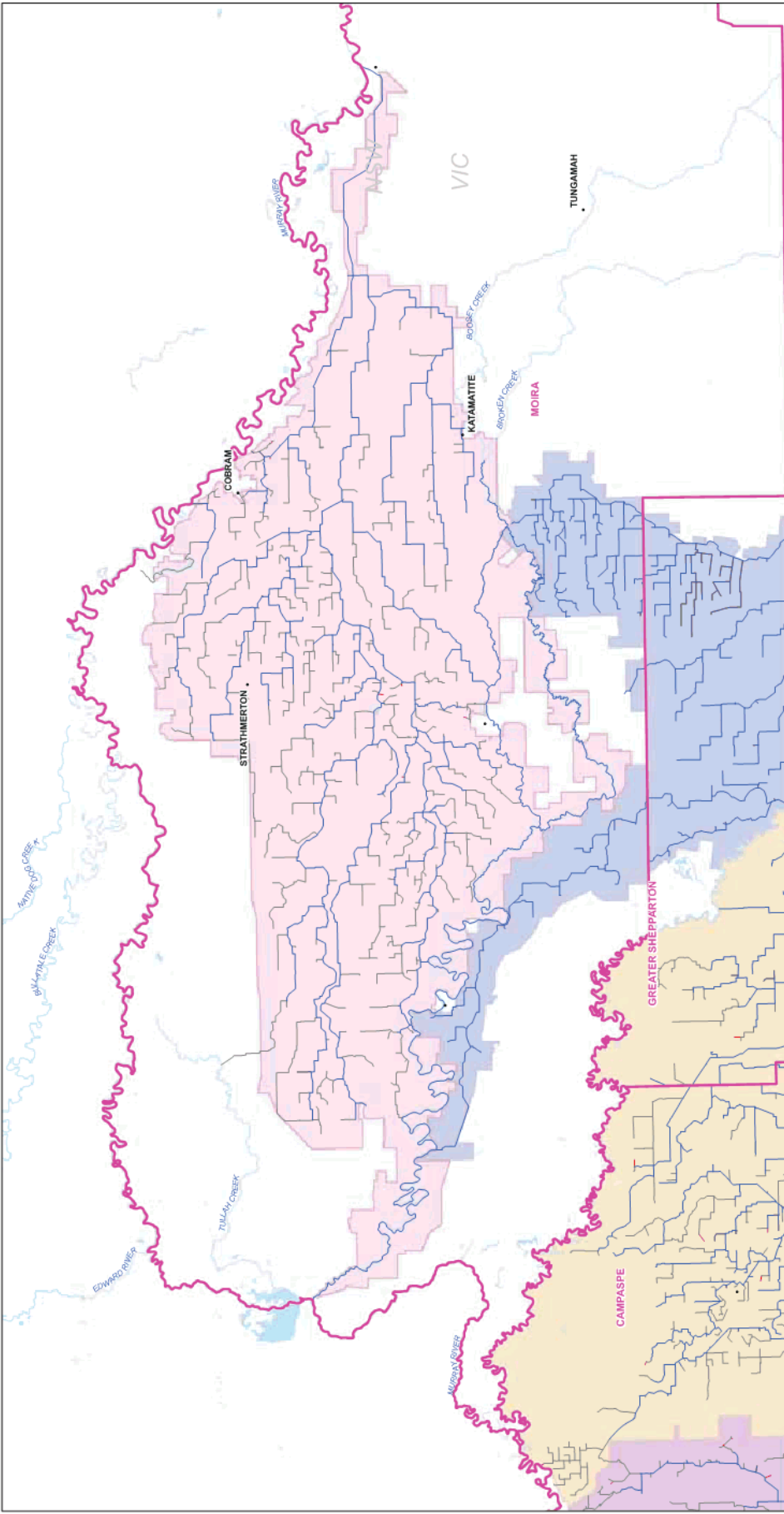
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Works Program

Goulburn-Murray Water - Connections Project Map - Moira Shire



**Legend**

<b>Backbone Channels</b>	<b>Irrigation Areas</b>	<b>Local Government Area</b>
Backbone	Central Goulburn	Waterbodies
Backbone Subject to Further Investigation	Murray Valley	
GMW Remaining Channel	Loddon Valley	
Current GMW Pipeline	Rochester	
Watercourse Lines	Shepparton	
	Torrumbarry	

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0 5 10 Kilometres

0 95 190 Kilometres

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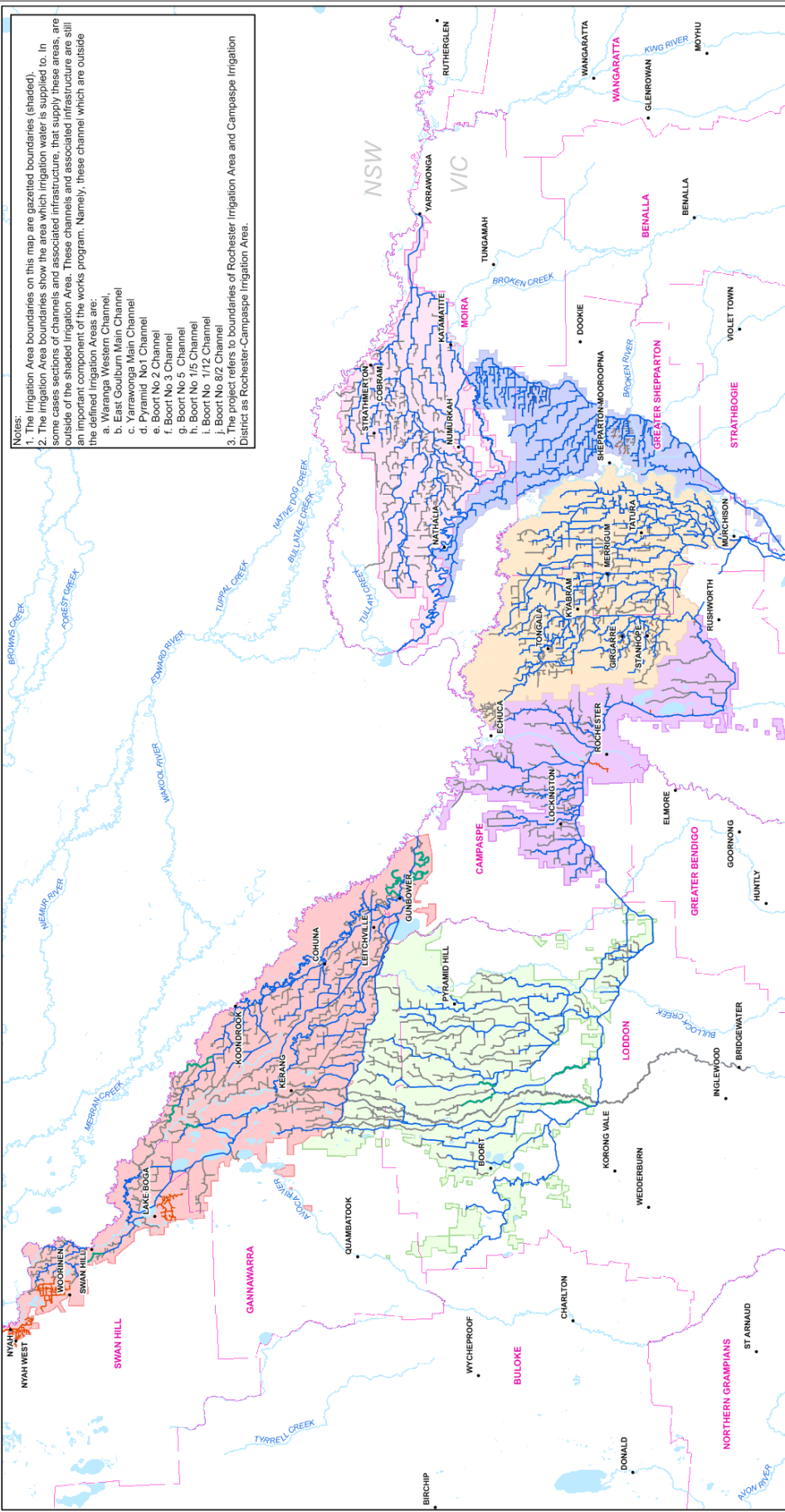
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Goulburn-Murray Water - Connections Project

Works Program



- NOTES:**
- The Irrigation Area boundaries on this map are gazetted boundaries (shaded).
  - The Irrigation Area boundaries show the area which irrigation water is supplied to. In some cases sections of channels and associated infrastructure, that supply these areas, are outside of the shaded Irrigation Area. These channels and associated infrastructure are still an important component of the works program. Namely, these channels which are outside the defined Irrigation Areas are:
    - Waranga Western Channel,
    - East Goulburn Main Channel
    - Pyramid Not Channel
    - Pyramid No 1 Channel
    - Boort No 2 Channel
    - Boort No 3 Channel
    - Boort No 1/5 Channel
    - Boort No 1/7 Channel
    - Boort No 6/2 Channel
  - The project refers to boundaries of Rochester Irrigation Area and Campaspe Irrigation District as Rochester-Campaspe Irrigation Area.

**Legend**

**Backbone Channels**

- Backbone
- Backbone Subject to Further Investigation
- GMW Remaining Channel
- Current GMW Pipeline
- Watercourse Lines

**Irrigation Areas**

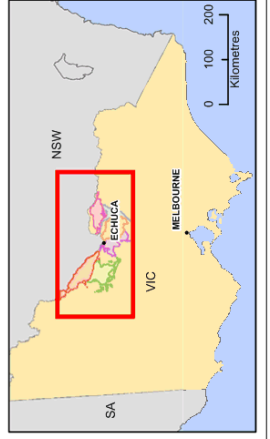
- Central Goulburn
- Murray Valley
- Loddon Valley
- Rochester
- Shepparton
- Torrumberry

**Local Government Area**

- Waterbodies

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Kilometres



**DATA SOURCES**

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## **B.21.6 ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Infrastructure  
**File Number:** S11-25-02  
**Attachments:** 1 Asset Management Policy CPOL/INFRA516

### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

### **Summary**

The Asset Management Policy provides the guidelines for implementing consistent asset management processes throughout Council to ensure adequate provision is made for the long term replacement of assets.

### **Discussion**

The draft Policy has been significantly amended to bring Council into alignment with ISO 55000 series of Asset Management standards.

The purpose of the draft policy has been expanded to emphasise the importance of financially sustainable practices, strategies and asset management awareness within the organisation and to ensure that adequate provision is made for long-term replacements of assets.

The scope of the draft policy has been tightened to apply to the people responsible for the construction, renewal, and maintenance or decommissioning of assets rather than the assets themselves. A "Responsibilities" section has also been added to highlight the different roles within the system.

The draft policy includes many elements of the existing policy but has further expanded to include items to assist in achieving long-term strategic and financial objectives in a sustainable and informed manner. The additional items are:

- Ensure that the Council's capital assets are provided in a manner that respects financial, cultural, economic and environmental sustainability;
- Meet all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements;
- Demonstrate transparent and responsible Asset Management processes that align with best-practices;
- Regularly and systematically review all asset plans to ensure that assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice.
- Regularly inspect assets as part of the asset management process to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.

- Future life cycle costs to be reported and considered in all decisions relation to upgraded or new services and assets.
- Ensuring necessary capacity and other operational capabilities are provided and Asset Management responsibilities are effectively allocated;
- Creating a corporate culture where all employees play a part in overall care for the Organisation's assets by providing necessary awareness, training and professional development; and
- Providing those we serve with services and levels of service for which they are willing and able to pay.

### **Consultation**

The Draft Policy has been circulated amongst internal stakeholders for comment and modified accordingly.

### **Financial Implications**

The additional policy statements highlighted above are best practice. Following best practice asset management principals helps ensure that money is being spent where it is most needed and that Council is not over-servicing some areas to the detriment of others.

### **Social Implications**

This policy will lead to better engagement with stakeholders to determining suitable levels of service and asset performance. This combined with long-term financial planning and asset modelling will ensure sustainable delivery of assets that will benefit all ratepayers and residents.

### **Economic Implications**

Well serviced and well maintained public assets such as roads, streetscapes, parks, gardens, public conveniences and community services has significant social and economic benefits. Sound asset management practices will help Council and the Community know that money is being spent appropriately and targeted to areas with the greatest benefit or need.

### **Environmental Implications**

Consideration of environmental implications, risks and opportunities are part of Asset Plan development and align with best-practices.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Consideration of risks are part of Asset Plan development.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

*Infrastructure* - Infrastructure that is provided and appropriately maintained in accordance with agreed standards.

### **Options**

1. Council adopt the Draft Asset Management Policy as presented.
2. Council adopt the Draft Asset Management Policy with amendments.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council Adopt the draft Asset Management Policy as presented.**

### **14/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Jeffery**

**That Council Adopt the draft Asset Management Policy as presented.**

**SECONDED Cr Young**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**POLICY TITLE            ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY**

**POLICY NUMBER        CPOL/INFRA516**

## **1. PURPOSE**

The Asset Management Policy provides guidelines for implementing consistent asset management process throughout Swan Hill Rural City Council (Council) to ensure adequate provision is made for the long-term replacement of major assets by:

- Ensuring that services and infrastructure are provided in a financially sustainable manner, with the appropriate levels of service to customers and the environment.
- Safeguarding infrastructure assets including physical assets and employees by implementing appropriate asset management strategies and appropriate financial resources for those assets.
- Creating an environment where all employees take an integral part in overall management of infrastructure assets by creating and sustaining asset management awareness throughout the organisation by training and development.
- Meeting legislative requirements for asset management.
- Ensuring resources and operational capabilities are identified and responsibility for asset management is allocated.
- Demonstrating transparent and responsible asset management processes that align with demonstrated best practice.

## **2. SCOPE**

This policy applies to all Council's departments, officers, employees and contractors.

## **3. RESPONSIBILITIES**

Council recognises that asset management requires input and interaction between many facets of the organisation, including departments that do not have specific responsibility for managing assets but utilise Council assets in the delivery of services.

The key responsibilities and relationships associated with asset management within Council are:

**Councillors** are responsible for adopting the policy, allocating resources, and providing high level oversight of the delivery of the organisation's asset management strategy and plans. Council is also responsible for ensuring that organisational resources are appropriately allocated to ensure sustainable service delivery.

The **Chief Executive Officer** has overall responsibility for developing an asset management strategy, plans and procedures through appropriate resourcing and leadership. That is demonstrated through reporting on the status and effectiveness of asset management within the organisation.

The **Enterprise Assets Manager (EAM)** is responsible for preparing, implementing and reviewing Asset Management policy, plans and strategies, as well as the maintenance of asset registers and systems.

The **Asset Management team** is responsible for the day to day upkeep of the Asset systems and registers including spatial, aspatial and condition data.

All **Council Staff** have a role in Asset Management by contributing to asset management strategies and considering future costs of assets prior to renewal, upgrade or construction. All staff need to be innovative in asset management by identifying and communicating opportunities for improvement or changes in asset status to the EAM.

#### 4. POLICY

Asset management practices impact directly on the core business of Council and appropriate asset management is required to achieve our strategic service delivery objectives.

Adopting asset management principles will assist in achieving Strategic Long-Term Plan and Long-Term Financial objectives.

Sustainable Service Delivery ensures that services are delivered in a socially, economically and environmentally responsible manner in such a way that does not compromise the ability of future generations to make their own choices.

Sound Asset Management practices enable sustainable service delivery by integrating customer values, priorities and an informed understanding of the trade-offs between risks, costs and service performance.

Council will:

- Ensure that the Council's capital assets are provided in a manner that respects financial, cultural, economic and environmental sustainability;
- Meet all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements;
- Demonstrate transparent and responsible Asset Management processes that align with best-practices;
- Prepare a Strategic Asset Management Plan that will provide a road map for the delivery of the objectives under this policy;
- Utilise a cross functional Asset Management Steering Committee (AMSC) to maintain, coordinate, advise and facilitate the implementation of the adopted Asset Management Strategy;
- Implement sound Asset Management Plans and Strategies for all infrastructure categories, informed by community input, and local government financial reporting frameworks by:
  - Completing Asset Management Plans for all major asset/service areas.
  - Incorporating expenditure projections from Asset Management Plans into the development of maintenance programs, operational plans, capital works programs, annual budget and the Long Term Financial Plan.
  - Regularly and systematically review all asset plans to ensure that assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice.
  - Regularly inspect assets as part of the asset management process to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.
  - Future life cycle costs to be reported and considered in all decisions relation to upgraded or new services and assets.
  - Engaging with all stakeholders, especially the community, to determine levels of service and asset performance. Customer satisfaction will be monitored to ensure service levels are appropriate.

- Require the preparation of project scopes and business cases for each new and upgrade project which will be presented to the Executive Leadership Team for their consideration and prioritisation;

## RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS

CPOLPRO/INFRA520 Asset Disposal  
 PRO/CORP240 Asset Recognition and Valuation Procedure  
 POL/CORP221 Attractive Assets  
 POLPRO/INFRA510 Project Scope and Business Case  
 POL/CORP242 Discontinuance and Disposal of Roads  
 POLPRO/GOV002 Public Participation  
 POLPRO/INFRA509 Control of Damage to Council Infrastructure at Building Sites  
 POLPRO/INFRA503 Environmental Management  
 POLPRO/CORP231 Grants Application  
 POLPRO/INFRA502 Infrastructure Contributions  
 POL/CORP229 Procurement  
 POLPRO/CORP216 Risk Management CPOL/OHS901 OH&S Policy  
 Long term financial plan  
 Council Plan 2017- 2021  
 Council Asset Management Strategy

## 5. RELATED LEGISLATION

Australian Accounting Standards – AASB 116  
 Local Government Act 2020  
 Australian Infrastructure Financial Management Guidelines (2012)  
 Road Management Act 2004

## 6. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version Number	Issue Date	Description of Change
1.0	June 2005	Initial release
1.1	December 2017	Review
0.1 DRAFT		

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

## **B.21.7 LOCAL ROADS COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND ROUND 2 - PROPOSED PROJECTS**

**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**

This report seeks to inform Council on a range of project options for the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund Round 2. The value of the fund is \$1,498,902.

### **Discussion**

A series of projects have been proposed by Officers for delivery as part of this funding allocation. Some of these projects are already listed in the 10 Year Capital Major Projects Plan as unallocated, or they have been identified independently as opportunities to improve/renew infrastructure and benefit community.

Phase 2 of the LRCI Program will run from 14 December 2020 to 30 June 2022. Project construction can commence once Work Schedules are approved by the Department with projects required to be physically completed by 31 December 2021.

Under the second round, the following types of projects are eligible for funding:

#### Local Roads Projects

Eligible Local Road Projects are projects that involve the construction or maintenance of roads managed by local governments. Local governments are encouraged to consider works that support improved road safety outcomes. This could include projects 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 ie: a rest area or weigh station
- facilities off the road that support the visitor economy
- road and footpath maintenance that may be in addition to the normal capital works schedules

#### Community Infrastructure Projects

Eligible Community Infrastructure Projects are projects that involve the construction, maintenance and/or improvements to council-owned assets (including natural assets) that are generally accessible to the public.



'Generally accessible to the public' means that the project, or the amenity provided by the project, is generally accessible to the public at large. Some areas are clearly publicly accessible as they are areas that are open to all members of the public such as parks, playgrounds, footpaths and roads.

Projects will also be considered generally publically accessible if they are in a location that is:

- generally publically accessible to the wider public undertaking a specific activity (for example council operated sporting fields)
- generally publically accessible for a limited age group of the Community as a whole ie: a kindergarten building
- used for the provision of an essential service or community service, as determined by the Department and the amenity of the asset is publicly accessible and benefits the community

All projects, whether carried out on council owned land, or another type of public land, must deliver benefits to the community, such as improved accessibility, visual amenity, and/or safety.

Examples include:

- 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;
- community/public art associated with an Eligible Project (Eligible Funding Recipients are required to provide a clear description of the conceptual basis of the artwork);
- 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).

**List of Project Options – (note: Total Funding available is \$1,498,902)**

<b>TABLE OF PROJECT OPTIONS (RECOMMENDED PROJECTS IN BOLD)</b>				
<b>Project</b>	<b>Greater Community Benefit</b>	<b>Proposed Allocation</b>	<b>Likelihood of alternative funding</b>	<b>December 2021 Delivery</b>
Catalina Carpark Upgrade	High	\$570,000	Low	Yes
Riverside Park Irrigation Renewal	High	\$500,000	Low	Yes
Swan Hill Leisure Centre Dry Fitness Upgrade	Medium	\$150,000	High	Yes
Robinvale Riverside Park and Leisure Centre Vehicle Access	Medium	\$99,902	Low	Yes
Tower Hill Tower Lighting Infrastructure Renewal	Medium	\$53,000	Low	Yes
Tyntynder South Hall Roof Replacement	Low	\$26,000	Low	Yes
Swan Hill Indoor Stadium Basketball Ring/Equipment Renewal	Medium	\$100,000	Low	Yes
Manangatang Community Centre Renewal	High	\$800,000	High	No
Nyah West Community Stage and Toilet	High	\$350,000	High	No
Swan Hill Town Hall exterior refurbishment	Medium	\$275,000	Low	Yes
Municipal Shade Projects	High	\$30,000	Medium	Yes
Karinie Street Reconstruction	Low	\$800,000	High	Yes
McCallum Street Path and Landscaping	High	\$500,000	Low/Medium	Partial
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,498,902</b>		

## Project description

### 1. Karinie Street Reconstruction

**Scope:** Replace kerb and channel and road pavement from Murlong Street to Nyah Road round-about including the Saleyards road intersection and Saleyards entrance upgrade.

**Asking Budget:** \$800,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Sealed Roads (but not specific to this project)

### 2. Catalina Carpark Upgrade

**Scope:** Seal car-park zones on the north and south of the Museum. Formalise parking with linemarking, signage and bollards. Includes bus drop-off zones, bus and long vehicle parking and DDA parking. Minor kerb works, footpaths and CHMP.

**Asking Budget:** \$570,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** No



### 3. Riverside Park Irrigation Renewal



**Scope:** There is an OH&S issue with the operation of the current system and the network is unable to irrigate the area along the river effectively, causing problems with walkers, pedestrians and park users. The pump needs to be relocated to the Wet Lands where future irrigation programming is safer and better able to accommodate future

development. The new system will create efficiency by reducing maintenance/staffing attendance, water will be more accurately targeted to specific zones and it can be controlled remotely. Positioning of water pipes/lines have been considered in relation to future development possibilities in the precinct.

**Asking Budget:** \$500,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Annual Irrigation Renewal - Allocation is insufficient for a project of this scale.

4. Swan Hill Leisure Centre Dry Fitness Expansion Upgrade

**Scope:** Support a future funding application to the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program (CSISP) by increasing councils financial commitment – conditions of the CSISP include 'maximising Councils financial contribution' - towards what could equate to a \$4.6million project. This will provide contingency costs OR offset Council's current funding contribution for Swan Hill Leisure Centre stage 1.

If the CSISP application is unsuccessful the proposed allocation will enhance the existing budget, of \$470,000 for the Swan Hill Leisure Centre expansion project. One of the benefits of this proposal is that delivery aligns with an already scheduled project and no further project management resources (staff) will be required.



**Existing Budget -** \$470,000

**Asking Budget:** \$150,000

**Note:** the new total for the Swan Hill Leisure Centre dry fitness area will be \$620,000 and funding sourced through the CSISP program will directly benefit the Robinvale Leisure Centre expansion.

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** – Swan Hill - Feasibility 18/19 and Delivery 20/21

**10 Year Major Projects Plan** – Robinvale - Highball - Year 6 and year 9

5. McCallum Street Path -

To construct a 900m 2.5m shared path connecting Tower Hill to CBD along the recently filled No.9 channel. The project will include path lighting, native landscaping and rest areas, transforming the 27,500m<sup>2</sup> vacant land into a vibrant, functional and safe precinct, providing significant economic and social benefits to the region.

**Existing Budget:** \$250,000

**Asking Budget:** \$500,000

**TOTAL:** \$750,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Year 6

6. Robinvale Riverside Park and Leisure Centre new vehicle access off Latje Road

**Scope:** The Robinvale Recreation Reserve users have expressed the desire for a formalised entry into the reserve. The sealed entry off Latje Road that also leads to the Leisure Centre is ideal. Plans have already been developed. Enable the delivery of the project as per costs and plans provided



**Asking Budget:** \$99,902

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Year 1

7. Tower Hill Tower Lighting Infrastructure Renewal

Tower Hill Tower lights are over 11 years old. It has been several years since all of the lights have worked and there is only one remaining light that shines to the top of the tower. These lights are a key aesthetic feature for the Tower Hill estate and are used to celebrate/acknowledge occasions; furthermore, with recent IT initiatives, the lighting program can be tied in with Riverside Parks programmable lighting control system.

**Asking Budget:** \$53,000



10



**Year Major Projects Plan: Partial Upgrade and Lighting (ongoing \$37,000 per annum)**

8. Tyntynder South Hall – Roof Replacement

**Scope:** The Tyntynder South Hall requires a new roof. The Hall is used for old time dancing, the occasional community gathering/meeting and for equestrian based events at EF Butler Reserve. In 2019, the committee was successful in securing a Community Grant for \$5,000 to contribute to the cost of a new roof but was unable to source supporting funds and subsequently had to return the Community Grant.



The condition of the Hall is good with original timber flooring an updated kitchen and updated amenities. The roof material is short sheet galvanised iron and is around 70 years old. The Committee was also unsuccessful in the 2017/18 'Pick My Project'

community grants initiative and with several other funding applications. The Hall is on land for which Council is committee of management.

**Asking Budget:** \$26,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** No

9. Manangatang Community Centre Renewal

**Scope:** Design and construct a new centre for the Manangatang Community to accommodate aged care programs (Senior Citizen's and Mallee Track initiatives), Preschool, Maternal Child Health Services, Playgroup and public meetings/functions/gathering. The project includes sufficient sealed car-parking and compliant access. It is intended to demolish the existing Community Centre which will become an increasing maintenance concern over time, including the management of significant metres of ACM.

It is anticipated the building can be constructed in close proximity to the existing centre's footprint which enables the re-use of the existing preschool playground.

**Asking Budget:** \$800,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Year 10 Unallocated

10. Nyah West Community Stage and Toilet

**Scope:** The Community has requested a small sound shell structure with adjoining toilet facilities to be constructed in the median reserve park off Monash Avenue in Nyah West. The project involves removing two of Councils aged assets, the former Maternal Child Health Centre and the existing toilet block. Concepts for this project were developed in August of 2019.

**Asking Budget:** \$350,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Year 5 Implementation of Public Toilet Strategy

11. Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Basketball Equipment Renewal

**Scope:** The basketball users of the facility have requested the replacement of the sets of basketball rings and accompanying assembly's on courts 3 and 4 due to lack of tournament standard compliancy. The rings are also mismatched (swing out mechanisms on the west end of each court and retractable assembly's on the east end). There is a capital major projects provision of



\$100,000 allocated to the facility this year, but the overall benefit of the basketball rings for all of the stadium users is restricted to the basketball association (albeit the largest user). Providing new rings, assembly's and winches provides a tournament compliant and risk free court set up which will improve the overall playing and spectator experience.

**Asking Budget: \$100,000**

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Year Current, 2, 3 – Capital Renewal

#### 12. Swan Hill Town Hall Exterior Refurbishment

**Scope:** The exterior of the Swan Hill Town Hall is in need of refurbishment. The rendering is cracking and the painted surface is faded and worn with paint absent in some areas altogether. The refurbishment will require a high level of risk control and require formal contractor accreditations for all employees (ie: working safely at height). Colours and finishes may be subject to Heritage Advisor advice.

**Asking Budget: \$275,000**

**10 Year Major Projects Plan:** Years 1 – 9 Capital Renewal

#### 13. Municipal Shade Projects



**Scope:** There are various sites in the municipality either in need of shade, or in need of shade sail replacement. The cost of replacement for individual shade sails is typically \$3,000 - \$5,000 depending on size and shape. New shade sail structures can cost \$20,000 - \$30,000. The counter-levered shade structure to be installed over the Riverside Park Skate Park along with an additional shade sail structure over the sand pit has a budget of \$50,000 which was funded through the LRCl round 1.

The asking budget of \$30,000 will enhance the 2021/22 Major Capital Projects allocation of \$50,000 bringing a total budget of \$80,000 for shade related projects which can be implemented after July of this year.

**Asking Budget:** \$30,000

**10 Year Major Projects Plan Year 1, 3, 5 – 9 Capital Renewal**

### **Consultation**

Some of the proposed projects are unallocated in Council's Ten Year Major Projects Plan. Others are to strengthen the outcome of existing projects, others are difficult to find funding for yet have been long terms desires of the community.

Consultation across Council Departments has also occurred to ensure there is a collaborative and empathetic approach to long term outstanding, difficult to fund works.

### **Financial Implications**

Local Roads Community Infrastructure Fund - \$1,498,902

### **Social Implications**

- Encouraging community connection and social inclusion
- Encourage active lifestyle
- Contributing to a community of which we can all be proud

### **Economic Implications**

- Improving community facilities and the liveability of our towns for our communities and visitors
- Enhancing experiences and enticing longer stay of visitors in the municipality, resulting in tourist dollars being spent in our region.
- 

### **Environmental Implications**

- Improvement to car parking will reduce uncontrolled stormwater discharged from the site.
- Irrigation of the river front will enhance plant growth and reduce soil deterioration due to dryness.

### **Risk Management Implications**

- The projects will address risks with inability of assets to provide the required levels of service to the community.
- Address the risk of inability to increase visitor numbers at the Catalina Museum site.
- Replace a failing community hall roof.
- Improve the safe access to the Robinvale leisure centre and recreation reserve
- Improve safety at the Swan Hill Indoor Sports and Recreation Centre
- Reduce the risk of failure of the irrigation infrastructure at the Swan Hill Riverfront.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Infrastructure*** - Infrastructure that appropriately services community needs.

### **Options**

Council can choose to adopt or amend the recommendation.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council submit to the funding body the following projects to be delivered as part of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund Round 2 to the total value of \$1,498,902;**

- 1. Catalina Carpark Upgrade - \$570,000**
- 2. Riverside Park Irrigation Renewal - \$500,000**
- 3. Swan Hill Leisure Centre Dry Fitness Expansion Upgrade - \$150,000**
- 4. Robinvale Riverside Park and Leisure Centre new vehicle access off Latje Road - \$99,902**
- 5. Tower Hill Tower Lighting Infrastructure Renewal - \$53,000**
- 6. Tyntynder South Hall Roof Replacement - \$26,000**
- 7. Swan Hill Indoor Sports and Recreation Centre Basketball Equipment Renewal - \$100,000**

**15/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Benham**

**That Council submit to the funding body the following projects to be delivered as part of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund Round 2 to the total value of \$1,498,902;**

- 1. Catalina Carpark Upgrade - \$570,000**
- 2. Riverside Park Irrigation Renewal - \$500,000**
- 3. Swan Hill Leisure Centre Dry Fitness Expansion Upgrade - \$150,000**
- 4. Robinvale Riverside Park and Leisure Centre new vehicle access off Latje Road - \$99,902**
- 5. Tower Hill *Tower* Lighting Infrastructure Renewal - \$53,000**
- 6. Tyntynder South Hall Roof Replacement - \$26,000**
- 7. Swan Hill Indoor Sports and Recreation Centre Basketball Equipment Renewal - \$100,000**

**SECONDED Cr Jeffery**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

## **B.21.8 COUNCIL PLAN – PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2020/21**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate Services  
**File Number:** S16-28-03  
**Attachments:** 1 Council Plan – Progress Report December 2020

### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to present the second quarter progress update of Council's performance against the Council Plan 2017-2021. The period reported is from 1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020.

The quarterly progress report, provided as an attachment, offers a summary of the progress against the five Council Plan areas; Economic Growth, Community Enrichment, Infrastructure, Governance and Leadership, and Environment. The report also provides updates for any actions carried over from previous years.

The intent of this report is to give Councillors and the community the confidence that Council is on track to meet its published commitments.

### **Discussion**

In accordance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council developed and adopted a four-year Council Plan on 27 June 2017.

The plan is a strategic document outlining what Swan Hill Rural City Council will do to help achieve Council's and the community's vision for the municipality.

The plan describes Council's priorities and outcomes for its four-year term and how these will be resourced.

The plan has been divided into five areas:



Economic Growth



Community Enrichment



Infrastructure



Governance and Leadership



Environment

This report provides the second quarter update in relation to the actions taken and progress made to achieve these goals and strategic objectives in the 2020/21 financial year.

Regular reporting to Councillors and the community is a key principle of transparency and good governance. This report will be provided to Council on a quarterly basis and published online for the community to access.

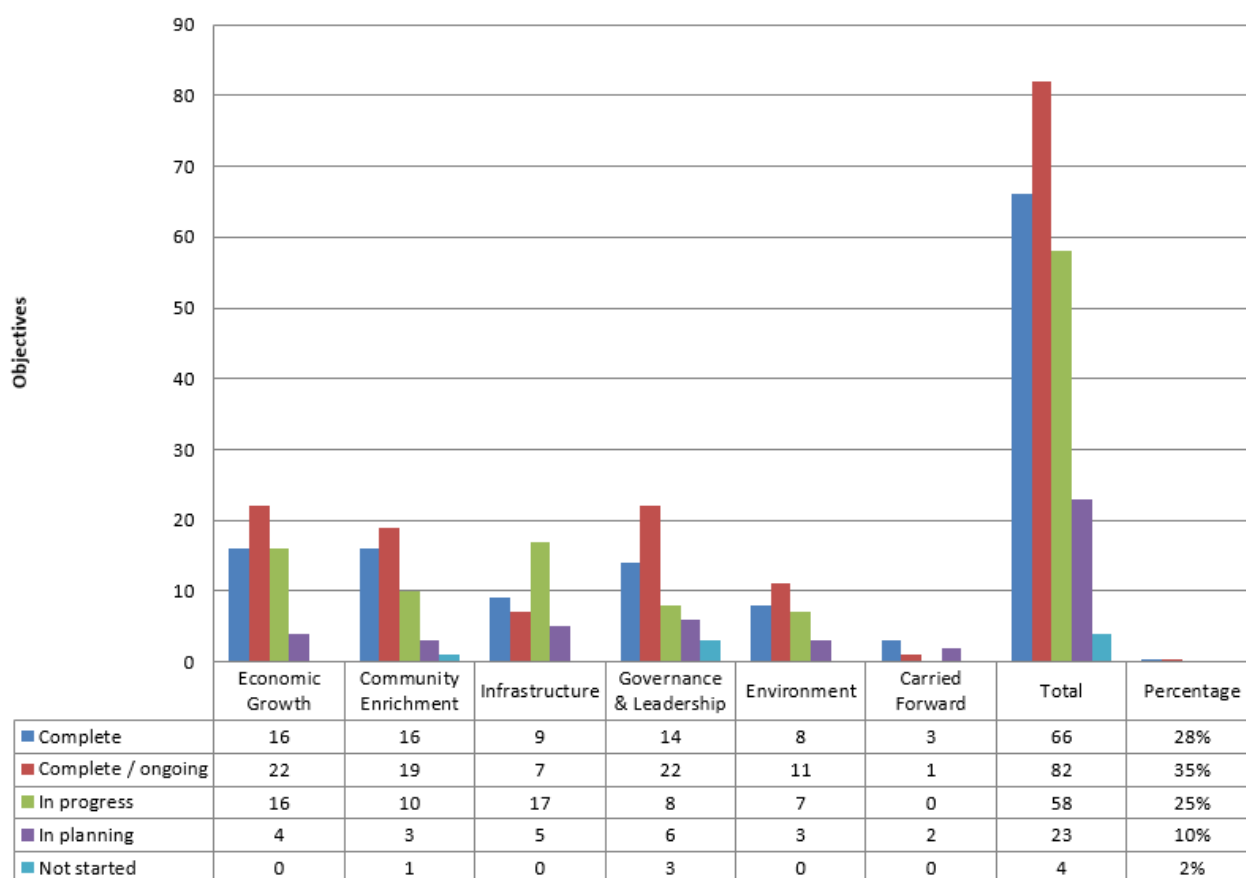
The following objectives were marked as complete during the second quarter:

- Promote and educate industry and the community to encourage the uptake of new technologies through training and workshops (1.5.2).
- Municipal Early - Middle Years Plan was adopted (6.3.1).
- Business plan for regional composting facility between Buloke, Yarriambiack and Swan Hill was completed (16.2.3).

Council has made progress on the following:

- Working on new solar farm project (1.4.2).
- Organising Manufacturers expo in May 2021 (3.2.1).
- Robinvale Library building works have been completed. Library staff have been employed. Preparation is underway for setting up the library ready for opening on 18 January 2021 (6.6.1).
- Council has committed to purchase a community engagement platform: The Hive in line with the new local government act (11.4.2).
- Council has introduced online processes for ordering, payments, changes and incidents for garbage bin services (12.4.4).

### Progress Report Graph



### Consultation

Council consulted the community during the development of the Council Plan 2017/21.

### Financial Implications

This report contains no financial implications, however many of the initiatives contained within the Council Plan requires Council to allocate funds in its 2020/21 budget to implement the Council Plan.

### Social Implications

The report is provided and made available to the community to increase awareness of the activities of Council, provide a mechanism for transparency and could increase community involvement in decision making at Council level.

### Economic Implications

Implementation of the actions will improve a number of economic outcomes for our community.

### **Environmental Implications**

Implementation of the actions will improve a number of environmental outcomes for our community.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Council is required to be compliant with the *Local Government Act 1989* in regards to the Council Plan and annual reporting. This quarterly report supports that compliance.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Governance and leadership*** - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

### **Options**

Not applicable for this report.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council notes the second quarter Council Plan - Progress Report 2020/21 as attached.**

### **16/21 Motion**

#### **MOVED Cr McPhee**

**That Council notes the second quarter Council Plan - Progress Report 2020/21 as attached.**

#### **SECONDED Cr King**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**



# Council Plan Progress Report - December 2020





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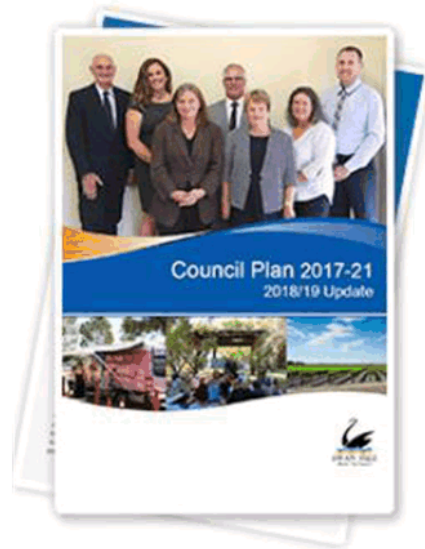
# Introduction

## What is the Council Plan?

The Council Plan is a strategic document outlining what the Swan Hill Rural City Council (Council) will do to achieve Council’s and the community’s vision for the municipality. The 2017-2021 plan describes Council’s Strategic Initiatives for its four-year term.

The Council Plan is an important document that drives everything the Swan Hill Rural City Council does over a four-year period. It sets the vision, priorities and outcomes for Council’s term and lists how progress will be measured. The plan guides Council’s annual budget, which determines the projects, services, events and other initiatives that will be funded and delivered in the next financial year.






Council is held accountable for its progress on the Council Plan’s outcomes through quarterly progress reports, and annually in the Swan Hill Rural City Council’s Annual Report.



## How we will track and measure our progress

Each of the Council Plan Initiatives has a number of objectives that will track Council’s progress. Council will report on its progress in completing the four-year priorities quarterly with updated progress commentary.

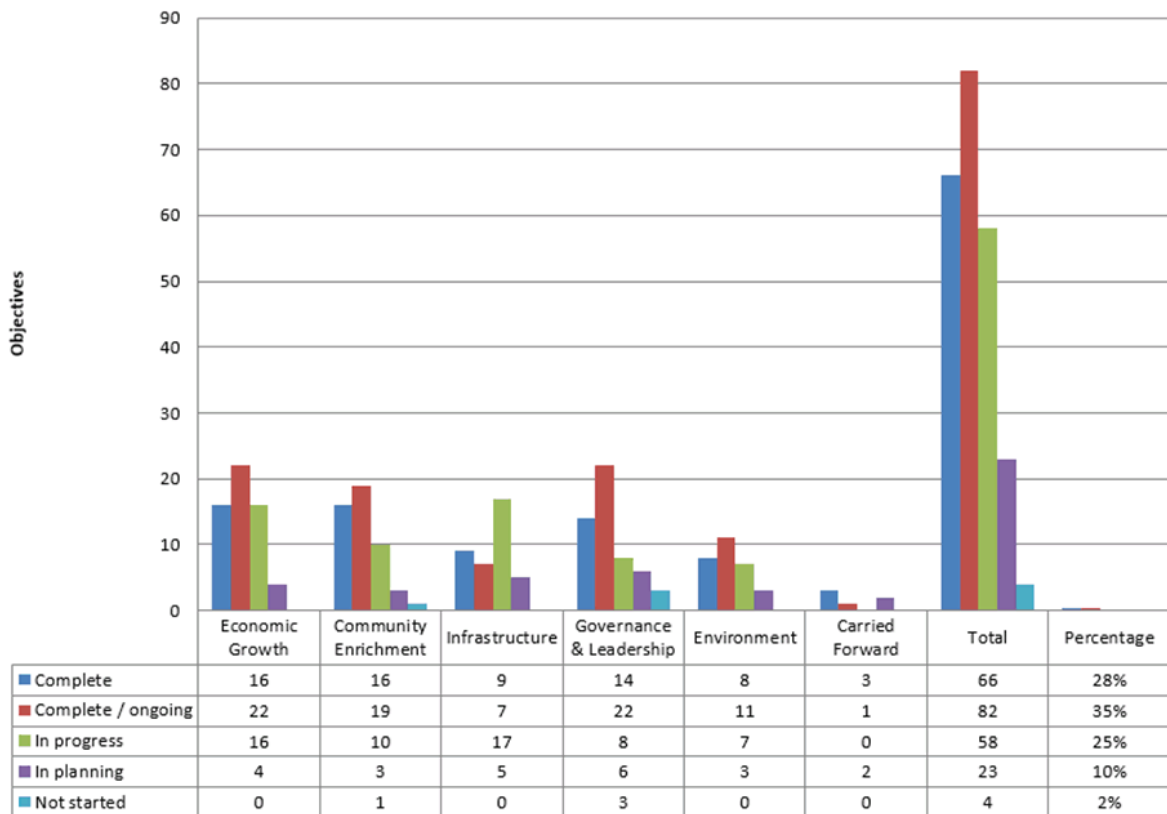
All objectives will be marked with the following symbols to represent their current status:

-  Complete - the objective has been completed.
-  Completed/Ongoing - objectives/actions that span over a number of years that cannot be marked as completed until later years.
-  In progress - these objections are past the planning phase, and are in progress towards completion.
-  In planning - objectives that are not complete or in progress but actions have been taken are marked as in planning stage.
-  Not started - objectives that have not been commenced at the time of reporting.

## Overall results snapshot

The Council Plan 2017-21 includes 92 initiatives and 233 actions through which the achievement of the Council Plan may be measured over its four-year term. Each action has a nominated responsible officer who is a member of the Leadership Team, reflecting the importance placed on achieving targets. As some objectives/actions span over a number of years they cannot be marked as completed until later years.

**Progress Report Graph**







The following objectives were marked as complete during the second quarter:



- Promote and educate industry and the community to encourage the uptake of new technologies through training and workshops (1.5.2).
- Municipal Early - Middle Years Plan was adopted (6.3.1).
- Business plan for regional composting facility between Buloke, Yarriambiack and Swan Hill was completed (16.2.3).

Council has made progress on the following:

- Working on new solar farm project (1.4.2).
- EDU staff are working with TAFE and MMLLEN on 50 jobs in 50 days campaign (3.1.2).
- Organising Manufacturers expo in May 2021 (3.2.1).
- Robinvale Library building works have been completed. Library staff have been employed. Preparation is underway for setting up the library ready for opening on 18 January 2021 (6.6.1).
- Council has committed to purchase a community engagement platform: The Hive in line with the new local government act (11.4.2).
- Council has introduced online processes for ordering, payments, changes and incidents for garbage bin services (12.4.4).

## Objectives carried forward from Council Plan 2013-17

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
12.1 Pursue funding for the redevelopment of the Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery	12.1.1 Provide final designs and all costs and contingencies	Complete 	Our Region Our Rivers funding secured. On 17 September Council endorsed Option 1 concept for further design work by architects, and the project is proceeding. Further opportunities for funding are being sought on an ongoing basis. As of April 2020 two potential sites with two possible designs each have been considered in response to public submissions. Site selected. Designs underway and landscape architects appointed September 2020.
12.5 Develop and implement a Cultural Plan	12.5.3 Development continues	Complete 	October 2018 The Creative Strategy was adopted by Council.
13.1 Review and implement identified actions following the review of Aboriginal Partnership Plan	13.1.2 Implement actions identified in Aboriginal Partnership Plan	Complete/ongoing 	Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy adopted September 2017. The Actions within the Plan will continue to be implemented.
15.3 Review of the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) taking into consideration appropriate accommodation options	15.3.1 Commence MSS review	Complete 	Review of MSS is complete. Amendment C73 has been authorised by the Minister subject to conditions. C73 went to a panel hearing on 19 November 2019 and has been adopted by Council.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
19.2 Actively pursue suitable alternative opportunities arising from decommissioned irrigation infrastructure	19.2.6 Modernisation undertaken, Channel decommissioned.	In planning 	The options were presented to Council for consideration on 29 September 2020. Formal proposal will be presented to Council early in 2021 for approval.
	19.2.7 Gain ownership of the available land for future development	In planning 	Finalising options for opportunities and land ownership. Have received a contract from DHHS for purchase of land. In discussions with Goulburn Murray Water in regards to transfer of their land. Project was presented to Council 29 September 2020. Council has received legal advice concerning acquisition of deceased estates.







## Key result area Economic growth











*“We will encourage new business development, provide support for business expansion and will continuously seek to help our existing businesses”.*

We will:








1. Encourage and attract new business to our region.
2. Assist existing businesses to expand and increase their efficiency.
3. Have a region with an equipped and productive workforce.
4. Provide land use planning that is responsive and which proactively encourages appropriate development.







### What have we done







STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
1.1 Formulate new ways to encourage new business development.	1.1.1 Identify and investigate suitable land parcels for new business.	Complete 	March 2018. Economic and Community Development Unit continue to work with Planning to identify opportunities to expand new businesses.
	1.1.2 Apply for funding through Regional Development Victoria (RDV).	In planning 	Council were successful in obtaining \$3.98M funding from both RDV and Building Better Regions Fund that will support new commercial activities within the Swan Hill Riverfront Precinct. Works include providing improved public access infrastructure from CBD to riverfront and the creation of new public spaces / facilities such as the active play precinct.
	1.1.3 Develop a business expansion or relocation strategy.	Complete 	April 2018 Business Expansion and Retention Strategy completed and presented to Council. Follow up work is being completed by monitoring jobs and talking to employers on barriers. Working with real estate developers and investors on a series of residential and commercial developments in the region
	1.1.4 Commence an Investment Attraction campaign.	Completed/ongoing 	Ongoing through business visits and networking. Working closely with RDV Industry Engagement Officers. Postponed due to COVID-19.





STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
1.2 Identify the types of businesses suited to this region and develop investment prospectuses.	1.2.1 Perform an industry gap analysis.	Completed/ongoing 	The industry gap analysis is scheduled to be presented to Council later this year. Postponed due to COVID-19. Engagement of Sue Anderson for addressing vacant shops.
	1.2.2 Review the Investment Attraction Policy.	In progress 	Currently reviewed and will be presented to Council later this year. Currently consulting with industry to determine what is the best assistance that can be offered
	1.2.3 Develop suite of industry and business prospectuses.	In progress 	Development has commenced. New fact sheets for on farm accommodation developed to help farmers increase their workforce. Power point on Economic Development developed.
	1.2.4 Market the opportunities available.	Completed/ongoing 	Working on possible investment by developers to construct residential and commercial ventures, in particular short term residential. Working with manufacturing industry to attract new businesses to the region. Several accommodation and commercial projects have started in the region.
1.3 Investigate and identify potential export opportunities and facilitate connections.	1.3.1 Analyse the region's products and identify where we have competitive advantages that may provide opportunities for growth.	In progress 	To be completed as part of the Liveability Campaign.
	1.3.2 Investigate what role Council can play with development of new markets.	In progress 	Assistance with agriculture export opportunities.
	1.3.3 Facilitate connections and partnerships to achieve market access.	In progress 	Organised information sessions on labour related issues. Continue to inform the horticulture industry of available export opportunities through grants and training programs
	1.3.4 Encourage the establishment of value adding industries.	In progress 	Assisting horticulture producers to enter the export market or strengthen existing markets through assisting with sourcing funding for new infrastructure and facilitating planning processes. Identifying training and advice opportunities for the agriculture sector.
1.4 Pursue new businesses that are upstream processors for our local produce.	1.4.1 Engage with local industry to identify opportunities.	In progress 	Assisting retail businesses to expand premises. Facilitating for local goods and services industries to be competitive in tendering contracts for new developments such as solar farms.
	1.4.2 Work with industry to establish new businesses.	In progress 	Working with interstate composting business to establish new composting business in Swan Hill region. Working with new businesses in retail, hospitality and construction. Working on new solar farm project.



















STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
1.5 Promote new technologies and new ways of working.	1.5.1 Investigate and market opportunities for internet based business.	Completed/ongoing 	Delivery of a series of training programs for businesses. Information sessions and mentoring also facilitated. Delivered online because of COVID-19.
	1.5.2 Promote and educate industry and the community to encourage the uptake of new technologies through training and workshops.	Complete 	September 2019 Training for job readiness delivered through Connect U. Business training in conjunction with Australian Small Business Advisory Services around Digital Solutions. Workshops held on drone technology and combat online shopping. Delivered ATO workshops with a component explaining new online tools for Businesses.
1.6 Increase the availability of appropriate housing to support growth of industry and agriculture.	1.6.1 Investigate the housing needs and identify appropriate solutions.	Completed/ongoing 	The amount of available housing in both Swan Hill and Robinvale is of concern. A housing strategy is complete for Robinvale. An action plan has been developed and some actions commenced. Officers are working with a range of government agencies to assist in investment. A Planning permit has been issued for the subdivision of land to build houses in Ronald Street Robinvale. Subdivision works have commenced. Tender documents for building 8 houses is being prepared.
	1.6.2 Facilitate combined public and private sector investment to diversify housing stock.	Completed/ongoing 	Officers have been liaising with owners of land ready for development to assist in progressing development - both in Swan Hill and Robinvale. Advocacy is underway with the state government to ensure diversity in housing types is achieved across the municipality. Further stages of development at Tower Hill, are in the planning stage
2.1 Encourage the growth of agriculture through appropriate advocacy and strategic planning.	2.1.1 Advocate for improved transport links.	Complete 	Central Murray Regional Transport Strategy adopted.
	2.1.2 Review the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) to ensure the growth of agriculture is supported.	Completed/ongoing 	Review of MSS is complete. Amendment C73 includes the implementation of the commendations within the Rural Land Use Strategy, which is used to protect agriculture. Amendment C73 has been authorised by the Minister subject to conditions. Exhibition period for C73 has ended. Received 15 submissions. Panel hearing was 19 November 2019. Council adopted the amendment on 17 March 2020. Amendment is sent to the minister for approval. 26/06/2020 - still awaiting on the Minister's approval.
	2.1.3 Implement the Rural Land Use Strategy.	In progress 	Will be implemented as part of Amendment C73 excluding the Rural Living Zone areas.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
2.2 Investigate opportunities for Agricultural businesses to establish new enterprises.	2.2.1 Engage with local industry to identify opportunities, for example clean energy on farms.	Complete 	Working with OLAM to establish telecommunications towers in Wemen and Annuello, and looking at possibility of point-to-point laser technology. Wemen and Bannerton solar farms operating on land leased from farmers. Started the scoping of the Environmental Upgrade Finance project. Working with Mildura Innovation Centre on Hydrogen plant.
	2.2.2 Investigate opportunities for agri-tourism products and experiences e.g. paddock to plate, farm stays.	Completed/ongoing 	Initial audit of Farm Gates between Robinvale and Swan Hill has been undertaken. Next stage is to develop product / experiences based on seasonality and product type and location. Audit to be undertaken in other outlying areas and stage the implementation.
2.3 Encourage organisations to joint tender for works and services.	2.3.1 Investigate, and where possible implement, shared contracts and services with the region's Councils.	Completed/ongoing 	Ongoing discussion and liaison via Loddon Mallee Procurement Excellent Network. Council has recently engaged with 6 other Councils for new procurement contracts. Council are currently participating in a joint Power Purchase Agreement with 47 other Councils. Council has made all Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) contracts available to staff as an alternative to Council's own tender procurement process.
	2.3.2 Conduct workshops and provide advice to local business and tenderers to improve their tendering processes.	Completed/ongoing 	Procurement Policy reviewed and adopted at December 2019 Council Meeting. Several sessions on a range of topics have been conducted by EDU with local businesses. How to do business with Council information sessions held in June 2019. Vendor Panel will make it easier for businesses to quote and tender for Council works and works from all other Vendor Panel members.
2.4 Actively pursue opportunities for regionally focused infrastructure.	2.4.1 Advocate for additional and upgraded infrastructure that will improve efficiency of local businesses e.g. rail freight.	Completed/ongoing 	Council maintains an active role in the Victorian Rail Freight Alliance and is the coordinating member of the Central Murray Regional Transport Forum. Council signed the RFA petition calling for the completion of the Murray Basin Rail Project.
	2.4.2 Advocate for adequate and alternative utilities supplies.	In progress 	Council continues to advocate to both state and federal governments and agencies about major infrastructure requirements for the municipality. Submissions are either made or supported in this regard

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
2.5 Investigate options for investment in renewable energy technologies for the municipality.	2.5.1 Complete and adopt a study.	Completed/ongoing 	The Social Access Solar Garden Project led by the Institute of Sustainable Futures is now complete. However more work is required on site selection and the business model SHRCC was interested in testing was not adequately tested through the project. No further investigation has taken place since November 2018. Opportunities for landholders and businesses do exist however through the Mallee Sun Solar Bulk Buy to lower energy costs.
	2.5.2 Facilitate renewable energy projects.	In planning 	Meetings have been held with State and Federal politicians to raise awareness of the need to fund a network upgrade to allow more solar energy to enter the grid and be used in Melbourne and parts of the state and interstate.
2.6 Encourage and assist existing business to pursue value adding to their industry.	2.6.1 Undertake forums and discussions with industry to understand opportunities.	Completed/ongoing 	The Connect U program has included the manufacturing industry on the website/portal. This portal has been established as an alternative to setting up a committee.
	2.6.2 Complete an analysis of relevant industry data.	Completed/ongoing 	Data recorded and analysed after each business visit.
	2.6.3 Identify and prioritise government grant applications.	Completed/ongoing 	Ongoing Applied for and received the following grants: Federal Government Drought Funding – Round 1 Successful Federal Government Drought Funding – Round 2 Successful Applied for the following grants: Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Fund (pending) Regional Airports Program Successful Victorian Camping Grants (For Robinvale , Swan Hill and Lake Boga) Successful Agrilinks: Upgrade to Winlaton Road Successful
	2.6.4 Develop business prospectus.	In planning 	Refer to comment 1.1.4

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
2.7 Improve the commercial position of the Pioneer Settlement.	2.7.1 Implement the Day Product Review.	Complete 	Works at LMI, Pyap, Towninnie and Iron House now complete.
	2.7.2 Review the promotion plan.	Complete 	Plan presented to Council Assembly in June 2018. Plan now in place for 2018-19 financial year onwards.
	2.7.3 Enhance the Heartbeat of the Murray night time product by improving operational effectiveness and adding additional elements to the visitor experience.	Complete 	New evening soundscapes implemented enhancing the walk to and from the Paragon. Long term plan for new entry building will include the 'Heartbeat holding area'.
2.8 Utilise Swan Hill Incorporated, market and promote the region as a place to live, work and invest.	2.8.1 Continue agreement with Swan Hill Incorporated.	Complete 	A Special Rate for marketing and business development programs in the Swan Hill region was declared at the April 2019 Council Meeting. The agreement between Council and Swan Hill Inc. was adopted by Council at the September Council Meeting.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
3.1 Assist local businesses to up-skill and retrain their workforce.	3.1.1 Identify skills shortages and training gaps.	Completed/ongoing 	Connect U program being reviewed due to resignation of coordinator. Meeting with SuniTAFE and Murray Mallee LLEN to determine direction to happen in new year. SuniTAFE Swan Hill has a new program called Skills and Job Centre that will fulfil some of this object. Economic Development Coordinator (EDC) is on Committee
	3.1.2 Advocate for support for regional training opportunities.	In progress 	EDC attending meeting with SuniTAFE re Nursing training. Council has input in the Skills and Job Centre program. EDU staff working with TAFE and MMLLEN on 50 jobs in 50 days campaign.
	3.1.3 Create partnerships to deliver short courses and training.	Completed/ongoing 	Training for job readiness delivered through Connect U. Business training in conjunction with Australian Small Business Advisory Services around Digital Solutions.
3.2 Promote the benefits of the region as a place to live, work and invest.	3.2.1 Participate in regional expos.	Completed/ongoing 	Attendance at Country Tennis Week in Albury to showcase region. Organising Manufacturers expo in May 2021. Phase 2 Dream Swan Hill commenced.
	3.2.2 Support regional promotion of the municipality.	Completed/ongoing 	Council signed new Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Murray Regional Tourism Board in August 2017 and continues partnership with Swan Hill Inc to leverage and collaborate on regional promotional opportunities. Dream Swan Hill campaign launched in October 2019 and ramping up in 2020
	3.2.3 Advertised all job vacancies with a link to a website that outlines regional information.	Completed 	Job advertisements contain links to the New Residents Guide and Discover Swan Hill sections on Council's website.
	3.2.4 Develop New Residents Guide.	Completed 	Launched in September 2017. Media release published in The Guardian on 27/08/17. Guides available for Swan Hill and Robinvale, printed and online and updated when needed.
3.3 Implement the Workforce Development Strategy.	3.3.1 Complete a project to quantify labour force data from within the municipality, with a particular focus on agricultural sector.	In progress 	Constant monitoring via Agribusiness committee and industry visits. SunRise 21 has completed a report on growth in horticulture which will allow extrapolation of data re employment. Broadacre report due October 2020. December 2020: Broadacre report draft received and being reviewed.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
3.4 Encourage the development of appropriate accommodation for various workforces.	3.4.1 Review the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and Planning Scheme to ensure diverse housing and land is available.	In progress 	Review of MSS is complete. Diverse housing and land availability was considered during this review. Additional land was not required due to the approval of the C58 Amendment: South West Development. Continuing to review rural living land supply, this will form part of the Residential Land Strategy that is currently underway.
	3.4.2 Investigate opportunities for improved public transport.	Completed/ongoing 	Continued support and involvement in Mallee Local Transport Forum.
	3.4.3 Investigate alternative ways to provide accommodation.	Completed/ongoing 	Robinvale Housing Strategy and Population Determination completed and implementation planned. Dec 2019 Council is in the process of subdividing Ronald Street Robinvale and continues with Stage 12 development of Tower Hill. Working with Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to develop accommodation options. Several accommodation projects being supported and grants applied for.
3.5 Improve the employability skills of the long term unemployed and unskilled in Robinvale and district.	3.5.1 Continue to facilitate the Robinvale Employment Network project.	Completed 	Council no longer facilitates the Robinvale Employment Network project.
4.1 Review of the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS).	4.1.1 Revise Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and refer back to the Minister for approval.	Completed 	MSS has been re-written removing the need for a review in 2018.
4.2 Identify and zone appropriate land for future development.	4.2.1 Identified land through strategic work program.	Completed/ongoing 	Rural living land has been identified in the Rural Land Use Strategy to be rezoned. The Minister for Planning requested that the Rural Living Zone areas be taken out of Amendment C73. A further review of the Rural Residential land supply of the municipality will be undertaken to justify rural living rezonings. Residential Land Strategy is underway.
	4.2.2 Rezone land as approved by Council.	In progress 	Rural Living land has been identified in the Rural Land Use Strategy to be rezoned. A further rural residential review will be undertaken to justify any rezoning of land to Rural Living Zone. Prepare a Residential Land Strategy that identifies and recommends rural residential and rural living development opportunities.
	4.2.3. Prepare a Settlement Strategy that identifies and recommends rural residential and rural living development opportunities (included as part of 19/20 review)	In progress 	A brief has been completed and approved by the State Government. Once a consultant is selected work is expected to commence in August 2020.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
4.3 Investigate and develop options for de-watered farming land.	4.3.1 Complete audit of areas with de-watered land.	Complete 	An audit was completed and further strategic work is to be undertaken.
	4.3.2 Develop and implement strategy to address issues.	In planning 	Further strategic work to be undertaken.
4.4 Review of the availability and suitability of industrial land in Swan Hill and Robinvale.	4.4.1 Complete an Industrial Zones Strategy.	Complete 	The review has been completed and adopted by Council.
	4.4.2 Amend planning scheme as appropriate.	Complete 	No amendment required as a result of the strategy.
4.5 Review Small towns for further housing development.	4.5.1 Develop and implement Small Town Strategy.	In progress 	Residential Land Review strategy is underway.





## Key results area Community Enrichment

*“We will provide a range of services to individuals and to the broader community that assist all in our community to live healthy, fulfilling lives. We will embrace our role as a regional centre by providing a range of cultural opportunities ”*







We will:






1. Help all people to 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.







### What have we done










STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
5.1 Review and implement the Aboriginal Partnership Plan.	5.1.1 Undertake initiatives with the intent to work toward developing a Registered Aboriginal Party.	In progress 	<p>Council continues to support the development of the Wandarrah Action Committee - WAC has completed a review of its Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct, Membership policy and nomination forms and is now keen to work towards the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan.</p> <p>Council has enhanced its engagement with the Aboriginal community through the development of Our Place. COVID-19 has impacted on how Council undertakes its meetings and community consultation with the local Aboriginal community however. The Aboriginal Liaison Officer continues to assist to develop Our Place - on a needs base. (Identifying an Aboriginal language name and business model remain the key focus). New Aboriginal Liaison Officer appointed.</p>
5.2 Investigate opportunities to develop Aboriginal leadership capabilities.	5.2.1 Investigate leadership opportunities e.g. scholarship, grants, host a forum with young people and local service providers.	Completed/ ongoing 	<p>Koori Youth Council of Victoria held their Blackout event in Swan Hill in June 2017, and was targeted at engaging young Aboriginal community members. Around 90 attended on the day. Koori traineeship in Business Administration set up in July 2017. Koori scholarships advertised in 2019 with no applications received. Council to look at other options when there are no applicants, such as commencing a Koori trainee position. Scholarship program in 2020 on hold due to COVID-19.</p>














STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
5.3 Establish and maintain partnership with organisations that support Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities.	5.3.1 Participate in the Settlement Services Group to provide support to new arrivals through adapting how services are provided.	Completed/ongoing 	June 2019: Council is represented on local refugee groups, including attendance at forums, consultations with Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council and other groups. Regular updates to refugee groups on Council services, guidance and assistance is provided.
	5.3.2 Assist with the delivery of multi-cultural events.	Completed/ongoing 	Annual Swan Hill Harmony Day community celebrations take place (cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19). The library meeting room is used weekly by a volunteer community group to run English conversation sessions for migrant women.
	5.3.3 Review of service access plans to ensure inclusion.	Complete 	Plans reviewed and adopted in December 2017. Quarterly reports on achievements to be presented to Councillor Assembly, with six-monthly reports to Council Meeting.
	5.3.4 Investigate and advocate for ways of skilled people attaining permanent residency (included as part of 18/19 review).	In Progress 	Council is a partner in the Try Test and Learn program, a Federal initiative auspiced by the Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council to relocate underemployed and unemployed refugees from metropolitan areas to regional Victoria. Three families have been relocated to Mildura with three additional families pending. Council is being updated on the status of DAMA. Letter advocating for safe haven enterprise visa to obtain permanent residency to Department of Immigration.
5.4 Develop and implement Disability Action Plan.	5.4.1 Adopt the plan.	Complete 	Adopted at December 2017 Council Meeting.
	5.4.2 Implement the actions within timelines.	Complete 	The Community Access and Inclusion Strategy (CAIS) and its implementation plan was adopted by Council at the December 2017 meeting. The Community Access and Inclusion Strategy (CAIS) have been integrated into Council's core business. The Rural Access Officers role ceased at 31 December 2019. Council no longer receives external funding for this program. Infrastructure will be inclusive of all abilities as a way of doing things. This was recently exemplified by the Swan hill Riverside Park adventure playground - all abilities status.



STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
5.5 Implement actions from the Youth Strategy 2015-19.	5.5.1 Review make up and role of Youth Council.	Complete 	A review of the make up and role of Youth Council was undertaken by Youth Council and discussed at Council Assembly in July and September 2017.
	5.5.2 Implement actions in the Youth Strategy within budget and timelines.	Completed/ongoing 	2017-2018 Annual Operational Plan prepared and actions for 2017-18 were implemented. 2018-19 Operational Plan prepared and actions being implemented. Operational plan was developed for 2019-2020 and is being implemented.
	5.5.3 Improve partnerships and relationships with other youth services.	Completed/ongoing 	Youth Support Program staff record all activities undertaken on an annual reporting / evaluation template in chronological order that is cross referenced with the 2018-19 Annual Operational Plan. All events are evaluated.
	5.5.4 Hold youth specific events.	Completed/ongoing 	Youth Support Program staff record all activities undertaken on an annual reporting / evaluation template in chronological order that is cross referenced with the 2018-19 Annual Operational Plan. Events held include Youth Week Leadership Camp, Youth Ball, and Empower Project has commenced.
	5.5.5 Review Youth Strategy (included as part of 18/19 review).	Complete 	Local Logic Place has been appointed to conduct the new Youth Strategy 2020-2025. New Strategy complete and adopted by council June 2020.






STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
5.6 Strengthen our connection with youth.	5.6.1 Review the structure of the Youth Council with young people.	Complete 	A review of the make up and role of Youth Council was undertaken by Youth Council and discussed at Council Assembly in July and September 2017.
	5.6.2 Deliver a responsive and relevant program of Youth Services.	Completed/ongoing 	Youth Support Program staff record all activities undertaken on an annual reporting / evaluation template in chronological order that is cross referenced with the 2019-2020 Annual Operational Plan.
	5.6.3 Deliver the actions within the Youth Strategy.	In progress 	Events held include Youth Week Leadership Camp, Youth Ball, and Empower Project has commenced. Up Skilling and leadership opportunities have been delivered to young people.
	5.6.4 Develop work placement and work experience programs.	Completed/ongoing 	2019 - 6 Scholarship places advertised and 5 were awarded into the following workgroups: Engineering, Economic Development x 2, Youth Inc, and Depot.
	5.6.5 Implement the Robinvale Employment Program in accordance with the funding agreement.	Complete 	Council has exited out of the Robinvale Employment Network program.
	5.6.6 Maintain and develop our partnerships with youth agencies.	Completed/ongoing 	Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic) Rural Officer is co-located at Youth Inc. Youth Support Program staff attend relevant network meetings including Southern Mallee Sub Regional Group, Child Youth and Family Network, Victorian Rural Youth Services, and Swan Hill College Wellbeing Team. Empower Project has started and will continue over four years.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
5.7 Develop and implement Cultural Services Plan.	5.7.1 Develop and adopt a plan.	Complete 	The Creative Strategy was adopted by Council at the October 2018 Council meeting.
	5.7.2 Implement initiatives within timeframes and subject to adequate resourcing.	Completed/ongoing 	Sept 2019 The Library, Art Gallery and Performing Arts programs have delivered a range of programs, activities and exhibitions.
6.1 Review and implement actions within the Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.	6.1.1 Review the Plan, including actions, to address violence against women.	Complete 	Adopted at the October 2017 Council Meeting. An annual operational action plan for quarterly reporting has been developed.
	6.1.2 Report on status of actions biannually.	Completed/ongoing 	Reporting undertaken bi-annually, beginning in February 2018. Ongoing: No formal reporting is required linked to funding, but reports to key representative groups are provided.
6.2 Strategically position Council's ongoing role regarding the community-based aged care reforms.	6.2.1 Produce an options paper on integration of Commonwealth Home Support Program to National Standards.	Complete 	Options paper completed - investigation of findings and responses to be developed.
	6.2.2 Ascertain how HACC/Commonwealth Home Support Program services can be delivered within funding levels.	In progress 	In progress, due to uncertainty and lack of definitive information from the Commonwealth.
	6.2.3 Develop positive Aging Plan.	Not started 	
6.3 Review and determine Council's role in early years and child care services.	6.3.1 Review early years services.	Complete 	Local Logic Place was the consultant appointed to undertake the Municipal Early - Middle Years Plan (MEMYP) in August 2019. One of the objectives of this project was to define Council's role and investment in early - middle years services.
	6.3.2 Produce a report on outcomes and provide recommendations.	Complete 	Local Logic Place provided an overview of MEMYP consultation at Council Assembly on 26th November 2019. A draft MEMYP was presented at Council Meeting on 18th February 2020 where it was approved to be circulated for public comment for three weeks. The period for public comment has now passed and the MEMYP was presented and adopted at the April Council Meeting 2020.




STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
6.3 Review and determine Council's role in early years and child care services (continued).	6.3.3 Develop an Early Years Plan (EYP).	Completed 	The engagement commenced in August 2019 and was completed in February 2020. Council's first Municipal Early to Middle Years Plan was adopted at the April 2020 Council Meeting.
	6.3.4 Implement EYP actions within timeframes and resources.	In Progress 	SHRCC adopted the Municipal Early-Middle Years Plan (2020-2029) in April 2020. An Annual Operational Plan has been developed for implementation in 2020/2021.
6.4 Improve personal and community safety by working with partners on community safety issues.	6.4.1 Promote awareness of the Community Charter for the Prevention of Violence against Women.	In planning 	Council participated in the '16 Days of Action' facilitated by the State, and undertook Orange events that were promoted on social media and in the press. Council will be undertaking a gender equity audit and assessing White Ribbon compliance during 2018-19. June 2019: gender equity audit delayed due to lack of resources, but with assistance of Women's Health Loddon Mallee, will take place during 2019-2020. Council will be required to develop a Gender Equity Action Plan (GEAP) during 2020-21, and preliminary work began by engaging with local and state-wide groups during April-May 2020.
	6.4.2 Implement the requirements of Child Safety Standards.	Completed 	Revised Child Safe Standards Policy presented for adoption at the December 2017 Council meeting. Ongoing actions to remain compliant will continue. DHHS conducted an audit of Child Safe Standards in June 2018, and determined Council is compliant.
	6.4.3 Expand and continue CCTV operation.	In progress 	Requirements and opportunities are monitored and investigated with relevant stakeholders.
	6.4.4 Enforce local laws and develop a MOU with Victoria Police to support additional community crime prevention measures.	Completed/ongoing 	Council has attended Police call out sessions to educate and update Officers on the new Local Law No.2 2017 and provided resources in Robinvale and Swan Hill. Council and Police MoU has been updated.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
6.5 Plan for the future provision of sport and recreation facilities and services.	6.5.1 Support the development of sport and recreation clubs across the municipality.	Completed/ongoing 	Swan Hill Recreation Reserves Master Plan was endorsed at the Council meeting in May 2018. A Recreation Implementation Plan was developed and was endorsed by Council on 19 March 2019. Ongoing support is provided via Council's Community Grants Programs. COVID-19 support packages have been provided and assistance with return to play procedures including deferring payment user group annual fee for winter period.
	6.5.2 Complete and implement the Recreation Reserve Master Plan.	In progress 	Prioritising projects for future funding opportunities including Swan Hill Leisure Centre and Robinvale Leisure Centre - detailed designs underway New Facility for Soccer - detailed designs completed Lake Boga Netball Change room - tender awarded Swan Hill Leisure Centre – fitness room -tender awarded Lake Boga Equestrian - works commenced Swan Hill Stadium Renovation - completed Robinvale Netball Court - works commenced Robinvale Netball Change room - tender awarded Manangatang Pool upgrades - works completed
6.6 Expand library services in Robinvale and review the delivery of library services in our small communities.	6.6.1 Scope, fund and complete Robinvale Library Project within limitations.	In progress 	The funding secured by the Education Department. An architectural firm engaged by the Education Department to manage the project. Community survey conducted to determine the library programming and opening hours the Robinvale community would like for the community library. The Design Brief developed. The project continues to remain on track with the schematic design phase completed mid-June and the design development phase completed and signed off in August. Building works commenced in February 2020. Building works have been completed. Library staff have been employed. Preparation is underway for setting up the library ready for opening on 18 January 2021. Review of library services in our smaller communities was completed in 2018. Currently investigating designs for a smaller vehicle to replace the existing mobile library.
	6.6.2 Develop an effective partnership arrangement with Robinvale College.	In planning 	June 2018: Draft Community Joint Use Agreement (CJUA) developed. June 2019: the joint use agreement with the Education Department is nearly completed, and initial concept drawings and schematics are agreed by all parties. The next piece of work is to finalise the operational needs of the facility. Building works commenced in February 2020. with works to be completed in late 2020 and opening in early 2021. At 30 June 2020, the building was on schedule, within budget and set for an October 2020 practical completion, allowing for planning the January 2021 opening.
	6.6.3 Confirm that the new library is meeting the Robinvale community's needs.	In planning 	This can only be completed after the library opens which is expected to be in early 2021. Community consultation to determine the Robinvale community's needs was completed in late 2018 to determine the community's needs and incorporate these in the library design.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
6.7 Investigate the need for an off leash dog park.	6.7.1 Survey community needs for off-leash dog park.	Complete 	Survey completed in May 2017. The survey results were taken to Council in November 2017 and resulted in Council adopting to trial four off leash areas for two years. At the half way point of the trial, a survey was completed to assess how the community thought that the trial was working. The survey was completed online in late January 2019.
	6.7.2 Develop a project scope if the community need is identified.	Completed/ongoing 	In November 2017, Council adopted to trial four off leash areas for two years. Signage, rubbish bins, dog waste dispensers/bags were installed in all areas. Council conducted a media campaign to educate dog and non-dog owners about the use of these areas. Over the two year trial, quarterly assessments will be undertaken to gauge use, compliance and complaints. The community had the opportunity to provide feedback through a survey at the half way point of the trial that was made available through Council's website and Facebook. 103 responses were received from the community. At the September Council meeting Council resolved to cease the trial and continue only with one off leash area. Council also resolved to budget in the future for off leash parks in Robinvale and Swan Hill.  Council received funding from DEWLP in August 2020 of \$80,000 to complete an off-leash dog area in Swan Hill. The funding agreement required \$8,000 contribution from Council in 2020/21 budget. Council also agreed to put in a further \$70,000 in 2021/22 budget to ensure the project can be adequately fenced and landscaped. The off-leash dog park plans were taken out to community consultation again in November 2020. The community consultation was held as an online forum due to COVID-19 restrictions. Construction for the off-leash dog park is expected to begin in March and is expected to be completed by October 2021. The minister will attend in November 2021 to officially open the park.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
7.1 Support the capacity of communities to self-manage and self-regulate.	7.1.1 Review and renew Community plans as appropriate.	Completed/ongoing 	Robinvale Plan - reviewed and updated Aug 2017 Lake Boga - Plan-reviewed and updated Nov 2017 Swan Hill - No review needed, Council does not want a Swan Hill Community Plan Piangil - reviewed 2018 Woorinen - review completed 2018 Nyah - reviewed 2018 Boundary Bend - review complete Feb 2020 Beverford - working to re establishing the group, possibility of joining with Speewa and Tyntynder focus for 2020 Ultima - completed 2017 Manangatang - review complete 2018 Wemen - review complete 2018
	7.1.2 Implement ways to encourage all communities to actively participate in the community grants program.	Completed/ongoing 	All communities are encouraged via email and by Council representatives at Town Representative Group (TRG) meetings to apply for the community grants. TRG are encouraged to distribute the grant info throughout their community and networks encouraging other local community groups to be involved.
	7.1.3 Advocate on behalf of our communities for priority issues and opportunities.	Completed/ongoing 	Continue to work with the TRG to prioritise their projects, updating implementation plans on a yearly basis to reflect their hopes and aspirations. The "Vibrant Villages" funding application was successful, \$500K from RDV. Tenders have been received and are currently being assessed. These plans will guide Council and the TRG for funding applications and provide a structure 5 year plan.
	7.1.4 Sponsor Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program.	Completed/ongoing 	Support is provided on an annual basis, subject to the Annual Budget process.
7.2 Review each of our Community Plans.	7.2.1 Develop and publish new Community Plans.	Completed/ongoing 	Robinvale Plan-reviewed and updated Aug 2017 Lake Boga-Plan-reviewed and updated Nov 2017 Swan Hill - No review needed, Council does not want a SHCP Piangil - reviewed 2018 Woorinen - review completed 2018 Nyah - review completed 2018 Boundary Bend - review complete 2018 Beverford - working to re establishing the group, possibility of joining with Speewa and Tyntynder Ultima completed 2017 Manangatang - review complete 2018 Wemen - review complete 2018.In conjunction to the reviews, each community plan has been vital in the development of the Vibrant Villages milk bar plans. This has provided Council with a mini review of priorities for each of the towns, not including Wemen and Robinvale. The Milk Bar plans will be reviewed annually, keeping priorities up to date. Community groups are currently updating their action plans.



STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
7.3 Plan for the development of the Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery precinct.	7.3.1 Determine the long-term site for Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.	Complete 	Reviewing two potential sites as a result of public concerns and a council resolution. Designs and options are being investigated.
	7.3.2 Prepare final Gallery designs for approval and costed.	In progress 	Sept 2019 Council endorsed Option 1 concept for further design work by architects. Alternative designs on alternative sites are due for Council decisions early in the 2020-21 period. Alternative designs on alternative sites were considered by Council in July and detailed designs for the Pioneer Settlement site have begun.
	7.3.3 Secure funding and complete the project.	In progress 	Funding has been secured.






## Key results area Infrastructure







*“We will provide and maintain publicly accessible infrastructure that is appropriate for the community’s needs in the most effective and efficient manner possible.”*







We will have:






1. Infrastructure that appropriately services community needs.
2. Infrastructure that is provided and appropriately maintained in accordance with agreed
3. standards.
4. A strong focus on asset management systems and planning.








### What have we done








STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
8.1 Manage Council's roads and road related infrastructure in line with the Road Management Plan.	8.1.1 Complete 100% of inspections outlined in Road Management Plan (RMP) by identified time frames.	Completed/ongoing 	New Road Management Plan (RMP) commenced on 1 July 2017. Council Officers are meeting all timeframes set out in the RMP which was updated in November 2019.
	8.1.2 Ensure 100% defects are repaired in line with RMP timeframes	In progress 	All defect repair timeframes are being met in accordance with RMP. An internal 'Safety Action Plan' process has been implemented and shall be used in instances where appropriate warning of a defect is required until a suitable repair or treatment can be completed.
8.2 Advocate for funding for an active trail between Lake Boga and Swan Hill.	8.2.1 Complete project scope and plan to enable future funding submission	In progress 	Preliminary work only undertaken—significant scoping needs to be undertaken before grants could be applied for—eg detailed design, Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP), tree assessment, formal Vic Track Approval.






STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
8.3 Advocate for improved transport routes across the region.	8.3.1 Work with the Central Murray Regional Transport Forum (CMRTF) to identify regional priority projects.	Complete 	Strategy endorsed by Council in September 2018.
	8.3.2 Advocate with CMRTF for funding for identified projects.	In progress 	Advocacy brochures are being finalised to assist in sourcing funding. The projects also have been incorporated in the draft Murray Valley Hwy and Calder Hwy transport corridor strategies developed by the Department of Transport
	8.3.3 Advocate with the Rail Freight Alliance for funding for suitable rail projects.	In progress 	Ongoing as opportunities arise.
	8.3.4 Advocate for the full implementation of the Murray Basin Rail Project.	In progress 	Letters have been written to relevant Ministers and the CEO has spoken with the media.
8.4 Pursue funding for a levee bank at Robinvale.	8.4.1 Complete detailed design.	Complete 	<p>Robinvale Levee Upgrade and Associated drainage works tender closed on Thursday 28 May 2020, good number of response received. Shortlisted tenders evaluation meeting was held on 23 June 2020 and clarification response received on 26 June. Contractor assigned for the Levee construction works.</p> <p>Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) approved by Aboriginal Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning provided Council planning department "No Objection" to issue a planning permit.</p> <p>Out of final 3 License Approval to work on Parks Victoria land Crown Allotment 75, 76 and 77 working license for CA 77 was obtained in Dec 2020 and remaining licenses are expected to be obtained by Jan 21. Contract awarded and construction work expected to start from Feb 2021.</p>
	8.4.2 Lodge funding application.	Complete 	Council secured \$710,000 through the 2016-17 Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (NDRGS) and first instalment of \$355,000 received. Council has applied for additional funding through Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DEWLP), which was successful. Project is at planning permit stage.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
8.5 Review the Swan Hill Active Transport Strategy.	8.5.1 Review the Strategy.	In planning 	The Active Transport Strategy (ATS) is part of the Missing Links Strategy. To support the construction of Anniversary Drive path in Robinvale, this has received funding through the LCIF.
	8.5.2 Adopt the reviewed Strategy.	Complete 	The Missing Links Strategy has been adopted by Council.
8.6 Review the way that we procure and maintain our Infrastructure.	8.6.1 Continuously improve the efficiency of our works and maintenance crew.	In progress 	Tablet computers are progressively being rolled out to Works teams. These enable staff to record daily completion of tasks.
	8.6.2 Identify opportunities to rationalise assets and facilities that do not have an identified service need.	In progress 	Completed and adopted Public Convenience Facilities Strategy and Urban Trees management Plan. Asset rationalisation strategy will be developed following asset management plan development. Asset Disposal policy adopted in September.
	8.6.3 Conduct a review of public facilities including public toilets (included as part of 18/19 review).	Completed/ongoing 	The Public Convenience Strategy was adopted June 2020.
8.7 Maximise community benefits from the opportunities presented at the Chisholm Motor Sports Complex.	8.7.1 Continue to work with Community Groups of Chisholm Motor Sports complex.	Completed/ongoing 	Lease agreement and sub-leases finalised. The CRC have signed the lease agreement and 1 of the 6 motor sports clubs have returned signed sub-leases. Reminders have been sent to return sub-leases by March meeting. Name change to Swan Hill MotorPlex approved and Gazetted. CRC have reviewed master plan and developed an implementation plan 2019/20 which will be presented to Council in April for adoption. External funding was applied for lighting and fencing (unsuccessful)

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
9.1 Implement Swan Hill and Robinvale Riverfront Masterplan.	9.1.1 Identify and successfully apply for funding opportunities.	Completed/ongoing 	In December 2019 SHRCC was successful in obtaining \$260k from the PSIF funding stream to Light Up Riverside Park. Project is progressing as planned, with path construction and light tender awarded to preferred contractor. Robinvale Riverfront Master plan was been awarded to GSA and are currently scoping up engagement plan re:COVID 19.
	9.1.2 Ensure projects complete in accordance with timelines.	In progress 	Active Play Precinct and Skate Park has been completed at Swan Hill Riverside Park.
	9.1.3 Identify and encourage private sector investment.	In progress 	Commercial Development Strategy completed. Currently pursuing land acquisition opportunities.
9.2 Ensure developers comply with the Infrastructure Design Manual where relevant to local standards.	9.2.1 Improve internal and external stakeholders understanding of the Infrastructure Design Manual.	Completed/ongoing 	Ongoing communication with developers and Council's Planning Department through pre-application meetings and post-application Engineering referrals to Planning. Improved engineering process by organising pre-planning permit application meetings with developers to conceptually approve drainage and other infrastructure provisions.
	9.2.2 Develop local policy position in areas where the Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) can be varied.	In planning 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ongoing discussions and consultation with key stakeholders including; IDM Author, Design and Development Consultants and Council Staff.</li> <li>2. A report was presented to Council meeting in this regard.</li> <li>3. Old policy named Footpath on Road Reserve has been cancelled and replaced by the IDM requirement.</li> <li>4. It was recommended that the current IDM is to be reviewed over time to Councils particular needs.</li> </ol> <p>Recently Council requested some improvement in IDM related to road and footpath classification based on traffic volume which was successful.</p>

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
9.3 Upgrade Swan Hill Livestock Selling Complex.	9.3.1 Implement upgrade project.	Complete 	Completed September 2019.
	9.3.2 Identify funding opportunities for future stages.	Complete 	Funding identified and cattle loading ramp update completed.
9.4 Review the Road network and classify each road.	9.4.1 Complete a service review of the road network.	Complete 	Completed and incorporated in the Road Management Plan
	9.4.2 Identify and pursue funding opportunities for upgrades.	In progress 	<p>Round one grants have included: Lake Boga Ultima Road Reconstruction and Dead Horse Lane project design. The total contribution from the State Government to Swan Hill Rural City Council is \$700,000.</p> <p>Round two grants have included: - Dead Horse Lane (construct 2.3km from Sea Lake Swan Hill Road to EOS). \$336,250 has been budgeted for in the 2019/20 financial year. - Kenley Road (widen 4.1m seal to 6.2m for approximately 4km starting from MVH) \$210,000 has been budgeted for in the 2019/20 financial year. - Lutzies Road Ext (resheet 1.2km and realign intersection onto Sea Lake Swan Hill Rd) \$81,550 has been budgeted for in the 2019/20 financial year Council received \$1,200,000 in extra funds from the second round to compliment SHRCC's budget.</p>
9.5 Plan and deliver Council's capital works program and Major Project Plan.	9.5.1 Minimise capital works and major project carry over from year to year.	In planning 	Work in progress.
	9.5.2 Complete Major Projects Plan review each year.	Complete/ongoing 	Major Projects Plan is reviewed annually in Nov/Dec.
	9.5.3 Minimise project budget overruns.	In progress 	Work in progress.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
10.1 Actively pursue opportunities from decommissioned irrigation infrastructure.	10.1.1 Work with Goulburn Murray Water to decommission channel number 9.	Complete 	Work on decommissioning is complete.
	10.1.2 Identify opportunities for land parcels taken over by Council.	In progress 	Initial discussions held with Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and Council. 10-Year Major Projects Plan includes funding for scoping, design and implementation. A list of property owners, easements and Goulburn Murray Water (GMW) intentions for each separate parcel of land has been prepared. Advice has been obtained on the process to acquire unused land with former channels from deceased estates. Concept plan and cost estimates on possible pathway(s) were discussed by ELT June 2020.
	10.1.3 Identify funding opportunities to upgrade newly available land.	In planning 	Concept plans are being prepared for discussion with Council.
10.2 Complete the Recreation Reserve Masterplan.	10.2.1 Adopt the Recreation Reserves Masterplan.	Complete 	Completed and endorsed at May 2018 Council meeting.
	10.2.2 Establish a long term operational maintenance program for Council managed reserves.	In planning 	Working through the Recreation Reserve Masterplan to identify key areas.
	10.2.3 Investigate funding options to implement actions within the Masterplan.	Completed/ongoing 	Cricket practice nets at Robinvale Completed Cricket practice nets at Gurnett Oval Completed Robinvale Moto X Arena Cross Track Funding Variation Request Showgrounds Change Room Upgrade Completed Stadium Renovation Swan Hill Completed New netball courts Nyah Recreation Reserve Under construction Robinvale Netball Precinct Design Completed Aquatics Needs Analysis 2019/29 Completed Indoor Recreation Centres Development Plan Completed (Draft version)
	10.2.4 Review and update user agreements between Council and recreation reserve users groups.	In progress 	Council's User Group Agreements is currently under review - exploring best practice approach in regards to - Risk Management Plan, Covid 19, Risk Management Policy, Medical Emergency Plan, Insurance, Oval inspection report, Building inspection report and collate information.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
10.3 Review current use of council facilities.	10.3.1 Produce usage report, including analysis of non-Council facilities that provide similar services.	In progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ways to better calculate accurate usage are being investigated.</li> <li>The public Convenience Strategy utilised toilet paper usage to better gauge and rank usage to assist with decision making.</li> </ul>
	10.3.2 Identify opportunities to rationalise Council assets.	In progress 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset Management Plans are being developed as assets are conditioned rated for valuation purposes. Asset management plans are to ISO55000 standard and include rationalisation discussion.</li> <li>Toilet Strategy has been approved and a number of rationalisations have been identified</li> <li>Multi-use options are considered for all new facilities.</li> <li>Road network assessment currently being conducted and will be incorporated into the RMP due within 6 months of Council. This assessment will include downgrades and rationalisation.</li> </ol>
10.4 Plan and deliver assets for the current and future needs of our growing community and changing environment.	10.4.1 Implement an effective asset management system.	Completed/ongoing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset Policy has been reviewed to bring it into alignment with ISO55000 and includes a number of statements which consider the needs of the community</li> <li>Strategic Asset management in progress that creates an Asset Framework that will drive the asset systems.</li> <li>Demand drivers and trends are an important consideration in the SAMP and AMP's</li> </ol>
	10.4.2 Develop and update policies, strategies and registers.	In progress 	<p>Asset Management Plan adopted in December 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asset Naming Policy and Procedure approved 2019</li> <li>- Public Convenience Strategy - completed</li> </ul> <p>Further discussions and development of policy being undertake to incorporate Recreation Reserve Agreements.</p> <p>The following policies, plans and strategies are being finalised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transport Asset Management Plan - expected completion NOV 2020</li> <li>- Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan</li> <li>- Asset Framework</li> <li>- Asset Data Dictionary - in progress</li> </ul> <p>The Asset Framework will lead to reviewed Asset Policy and strategies.</p>
	10.4.3 Complete a centralised asset register.	In progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ways to better calculate accurate usage are being investigated.</li> <li>- An Asset Data Dictionary will be developed over 2020-2021 and the Asset Register cleaned up to ensure that the data is accurate and usable. An asset data dictionary will consider all reporting requirements and what data is required to make good decisions.</li> </ul>





## Key results area Governance and Leadership








*“We will represent the interests of our community, conduct our affairs openly, with integrity, reflecting the high levels of governance expected by our community. We will plan for the long term growth and development of our municipality by committing to a robust program of strategic planning.”*







We will have:






1. Positive community engagement through appropriate and constructive consultation.
2. Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.
3. Effective partnerships and relationships with key stakeholders and staff.
4. Effective advocacy and strategic planning.









### What have we done








STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
11.1 Develop Council's systems and processes to improve our customer service, efficiency and effectiveness of our operations	11.1.1 Undertake Council Services Review.	In progress 	Staff realignment occurred during November 2018. Ongoing Aged Care Reform. Family Day Care program re-auspiced from July 2019. Multi-purpose building proposed as part of Our Place Development
	11.1.2 Implement the new IT Strategy.	In progress 	Council has completed the improved Customer Services processes for Statutory Planning applications and are continually improving the web based solution for planning applications. Council has introduced online payment methods for various Council processes and have also installed a new web based Chat function and Customer Service model.
	11.1.3 Implement Customer Service Strategy actions.	Completed/ongoing 	Ongoing.









STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
11.2 Use social media as a medium for community consultation and communication.	11.2.1 Introduce Facebook advertising.	Complete 	Facebook advertising is regularly used and posts are continuing to be used to consult and communicate with the public. A new Facebook page for the Swan Hill Big Green Shed was launched in June 2019.
	11.2.2 Increase the use of online survey tools.	Completed/ongoing 	Online surveys have been used as a community consultation tool for Council's - Communication and Engagement Strategy 2019-22 - 212 responses, Off-leash Dog Park - 103 responses, and Robinvale Community Library - 146 responses.
11.3 Establish new and alternative methods of consultation.	11.3.1 Research and report to council on contemporary consultation methods.	Completed/ongoing 	A discussion paper has been developed and was presented to Council Assembly in October 2017.
	11.3.2 Investigate the use of multilingual publications.	Not started 	
	11.3.3 Increase the use of social media, online survey tools.	Complete 	Council has been increasing the use of social media for public information (Facebook), an online survey was used effectively for the consultation regarding the communication strategy in July 2018. This will continue to occur. Council are also investigating use of other social media platforms, like Twitter and Instagram.
	11.3.4 Increase the use of current and professional networks and contacts to canvass opinion and share information.	In planning 	Murray River Group of Councils CEOs continues to be a useful forum.
	11.3.5 Review Councils Communication strategy.	Complete 	A Communication Survey was completed in July 2018 with 212 responses from the community. New Communication and Engagement Strategy adopted by Council in December 2018.










STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
11.4 Champion a culture that values strong community engagement.	11.4.1 Include effective community engagement processes in all planning and project delivery plans.	Completed/ongoing 	As an organisation Council are increasing our commitment to engage with the community affected by our projects. Nyah Road reconstruction and line- marking are recent examples. An online survey was used to consult with the community regarding the recently adopted Communication and Engagement Strategy.
	11.4.2 Conduct training for staff.	In planning 	Council has committed to purchase a community engagement platform: The Hive in line with the new Local Government Act 2020.
	11.4.3 Implement a project management system.	In planning 	The workflow and policies and procedures are currently under review.
11.5 Develop a strong positive message and image for Council and the region.	11.5.1 Publish two community newsletters a year.	Completed/ongoing 	Winter newsletters published and distributed in July 2019. Summer newsletter distributed 2020.
	11.5.2 Use Facebook advertising and social media to promote Council.	Complete 	Promotion continues through regular use of Council's Facebook page. A new Facebook page was created for the Swan Hill Big Green Shed was launched in June 2019.
	11.5.3 Use established connections/partnerships to promote a positive Council image.	Complete 	Council seek opportunities to reinforce the message that Council are here for the community through our media engagement and in our Mayoral Columns in local newspapers.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
12.1 Continually improve workplace safety and staff health and wellbeing.	12.1.1 Participate in MAV Workcover self-insurance scheme.	Complete 	Officially commenced in this scheme November 2017.
	12.1.2 Develop and implement an OH&S framework.	Completed/ongoing 	Initial audit has been completed. OHS Management plan adopted by ELT and OHS committee in August 2018. Worksafe occupational health and safety management system (OHSMS) audit in November 2019, 68% conformance. Remedial Action plan submitted and approved. February and May actions completed for desk Audit. OHS Framework and OHS Management Plan 2020-2022 endorsed by ELT and the OHS committee June 2020.
	12.1.3 Implement National Assessment Tool (NAT) auditing across the organisation.	Complete 	Auditing schedule adopted by ELT October 2017. Four internal audits completed to date.
	12.1.4 Test the Business Continuity Plan.	Complete 	Business Continuity Plan testing Completed November 2017 and November 2019.
	12.1.5 Review and develop Councils Risk Framework and Strategy.	Complete 	Council's Risk Management Framework adopted by Council in July 2019 , Policy, and Risk Register have been reviewed. Council's Business Continuity Management Framework and plans have been reviewed and approved by ELT. Risk Management for Risk Owners training has commenced. Risk management roles and responsibilities have been included in induction training for all staff and risk management responsibility statements for position descriptions have been developed. Risk reporting to the Audit Committee continues.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
12.2 Review results of community satisfaction survey, submissions and community consultations to identify and respond to changes in service demand or expectations.	12.2.1 Participate in annual community satisfaction survey.	Completed/ongoing 	Community survey completed March 2019. Results presented to Council in August 2019
	12.2.2 Review, report and act as appropriate on survey results, formal submissions and specific consultations.	Completed/ongoing 	Community Satisfaction Survey results are analysed and reported to Council annually. Complete for 2017, 2018 and 2019.
12.3 Implement a Project Management System.	12.3.1 Review and improve current processes.	In planning 	The workflow and policies and procedures are currently under review.
	12.3.2 Implement a centralised Project Management System utilised throughout the organisation.	In planning 	The workflow and policies and procedures are currently under review.
12.4 Review council services for efficiency, effectiveness and quality.	12.4.1 Prioritise services for a detailed review.	In progress 	Staff realignment occurred during November 2018. Councils involvement in Family Day Care ceased on 30 June 2019. Ongoing review of Councils role in Aged Care.
	12.4.2 Identify relevant benchmarks for a service review.	Not started 	
	12.4.3 Implement an improvement plan.	Not started 	
	12.4.4 Implement the IT Strategy.	Completed/ongoing 	Council are continually reviewing and improving Council's external facing business processes, the community portal, planning processes and an online payment methods, Council has introduced a online rostering system for staff at the Pioneer Settlement, Council now capture all calls coming into Council for Customer Service and are working to integrate existing corporate applications. Council has also introduced online processes for ordering, payments, changes and incidents for garbage bin services.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
13.1 Engage and partner with organisations, business and individuals to increase co-operation and avoid duplication of resources when common objectives are identified.	13.1.1 Conduct skills audit of community organisations.	In planning 	Work with community organisations to identify gaps.
	13.1.2 Identify areas in which to increase co-operation.	In progress 	Council has engaged and partnered with organisations and businesses, holding business breakfasts and training sessions.
	13.1.3 Form strategies and partnerships for key issues / projects.	Completed/ongoing 	Some examples include the Saleyards redevelopment, advocacy for the Swan Hill Bridge replacement, housing in Robinvale, and the Swan Hill hospital.
13.2 Encourage and support Council representatives to obtain positions on relevant boards that support council's activities, providing these duties do not conflict with Council responsibilities.	13.2.1 Identify Key Board positions.	Completed/ongoing 	Council has a number of staff on boards including the Swan Hill Hospital Board, Robinvale Hospital Board, the local school boards and community sporting group boards. Councillors sit on a variety of boards which is determined following Mayoral elections each November.
	13.2.2 Discuss Board position opportunities regularly at Councillor Assemblies and Management meetings.	In progress 	As opportunities arise these are discussed and relevant officers identified.
	13.2.3 Develop advocacy strategies.	Complete 	A number of advocacy strategies have been developed including Our River – Our Region, Our Hospital, Central Murray Region Central Transport Strategy, and Our Top Five Projects. These documents are used when advocating for strategic projects with government bodies.
	13.2.4 Train staff and Councillors on Governance responsibilities and industry based awareness.	Completed/ongoing 	Presentations given to Councillors on Conflict of Interest and Principal Conduct Officer provisions of Local Government Act in November 2017, and draft new Local Government Bill in February 2018. Audit of Returns of Interest conducted in January 2018. Presentation on return of Interest forms conducted in June 2018. Training session on Local Law No. 1 delivered to Councillors in May 2019. Review of Local Law No 1 was presented to Council Assembly in March 2020.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
13.3 Ensure regular dialogue with neighbouring municipalities and other stakeholders.	13.3.1 Schedule regular meetings with Murray River Shire, Balranald Shire and Murray River Group of Councils.	Complete/ongoing 	The CEO regularly attends Murray River Group of Councils meetings. Latest meeting was held in June 2019.
	13.3.2 Schedule meetings with State Government Representatives.	In progress 	Meeting held regularly with local members. Meetings held prior to recent elections. CEO and Councillors attend the National General Assembly in June each year.
13.4 Ensure we have appropriately skilled staff that are aligned to the organisational values of Council and are recognised accordingly.	13.4.1 Implement ongoing training and education program.	Completed/ongoing 	Training needs database developed post annual performance reviews in July each year and organisational training plan implemented. More than 4,500 hours of organisational training was provided to staff during the 2018-19 year, or 22 hours per EFT, this is due to additional online learning modules being assigned to staff.
	13.4.2 Recognise achievements in innovation and best practice, including through the staff awards.	Completed/ongoing 	Staff awards were held in August 2017, 2018 and 2019. Commenced a regular innovation section in the Staff Matters Newsletter. Two staff recognised in December 2017 for innovative Occupational Health and Safety practices. 2019 Staff Awards held August 2019.
	13.4.3 Pursue industry and professional recognition for staff.	Completed/ongoing 	2018 Councils Youth Support Co-ordinator was inducted into the Youth Affairs Council Victoria Hall of Fame. 2018 and 19 recognition in the Premiers Active April. Recognition in the Vic Health Healthy Workplaces Program for Smoking, Physical Activity and Mental Health and Wellbeing.
	13.4.4 Utilise management and leadership development programs.	Completed/ongoing 	The CEO, Directors and Managers were engaged in a leadership development program for 2017/18. Coordinators completed a Leadership Development program in 2017/18. Senior Accountant participating in LGFin Pro mentoring program.
	13.4.5 Increase cross-organisational awareness and resource sharing.	In progress 	Staff short term vacancies filled internally in the first instance. Resource sharing occurs on an ongoing basis. Staff filling in across different work groups to up-skill.
	13.4.6 Invite Councillors to all staff recognition events.	Completed/ongoing 	Councillors attended Staff Recognition Awards 2017, 2018, 2019 and the Staff/Councillor Christmas event in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
13.5 Council to lead the conversation on Bridge placement with the community.	13.5.1 Represent councils views at stakeholder meeting.	In progress 	Council has requested a review of the heritage values of the Swan Hill bridge and has requested authorities review the location of a new bridge in light of the BPAC Engineers Australia Report.
	13.5.2 Conduct public engagement and awareness campaign.	In progress 	Council regularly issues media releases. The Swan Hill bridge is part of Councils state and federal advocacy strategy.
14.1 Improve effectiveness of Council's advocacy.	14.1.1 Identify the key issues to be advocated for.	Complete 	The Advocacy Strategy outlining key issues was adopted by Council in May 2019.
	14.1.2 Develop and implement an Advocacy Strategy.	Complete 	The Advocacy Strategy outlining key issues was adopted by Council in May 2019.
14.2 Work with Swan Hill District Health and Robinvale District Health Services to develop joint advocacy strategies for improved health services for our community.	14.2.1 Adopt the health precinct plan into the Swan Hill Planning Scheme.	Complete 	Council adopted Health Precinct Plan into Swan Hill Planning Scheme in November 2017.
	14.2.2 Regular meetings with relevant bodies to determine needs.	Completed/ongoing 	A 'Swan Hill needs a new Hospital' group has been operational for some time and includes officers and Councillors working with the community to advocate for a new hospital. The Group will continue to advocate to the newly elected State and Federal Government as appropriate.
	14.2.3 Advocate State and Federal Government.	Completed/ongoing 	Swan Hill District Health and the proposed redevelopment is a key part of Council's Advocacy Strategy. Swan Hill Needs a New Hospital campaign was initiated in June 2018, and the process has continued with various activities, and presentation of petition/letters to Minister, post-June.
14.3 Advocate to State and Federal governments to fund priorities in Community Plans, Major Projects Plan and other key Council plans and strategies.	14.3.1 Develop marketing material on key issues.	Complete 	A prospectus of potential government investment opportunities has been prepared and will continue to be updated.
	14.3.2 Strategically meet with key stakeholders and policy makers.	Completed/ongoing 	The Murray River Group of Councils has been particularly useful for Council in regional advocacy.









## Key results area Environment






*“We will adopt work practices and implement policies that reduce the environmental impact, advocate for the protection of our environment and fulfil our regulatory obligations.”*



We will have:




1. Sound policies and practices that protect and enhance our environment.
2. A waste management program that is environmentally and financially sustainable.





### What have we done




STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
15.1 Be actively involved in external discussions that affect the Murray River, its tributaries and lake systems.	15.1.1 Nominate a Councillor to represent Council on the Murray Darling Association.	Complete 	Swan Hill Rural City Council has withdrawn its membership to the Murray Darling Association.
	15.1.2 Lodge submissions to Federal agencies via Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC) and report to Council.	In progress 	CEO has contributed to the Murray River Group of Councils advocacy campaign ACT 2017. MRGC continues to have a voice on the socio-economic impacts of the Murray Darling Basin Plan.
15.2 Maintain and improve the condition of Lake Boga foreshore and its environs within our area of control in collaboration with other stakeholders.	15.2.1 Continue restoration works.	In planning 	Discussions with other stakeholders will begin on who is responsible for certain areas.
	15.2.2 Chair and attend Lake Boga Land and On Water Management Plan meetings.	Completed/ongoing 	Meetings of the committee have been less regular with a significant number of projects completed. Goulburn Murray Water is considering a review of the Lake Boga land and on Water Management Plan.








STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
15.3 Seek to influence how environmental water is used within the municipality.	15.3.1 Attain membership to Catchment Management Authorities (CMA).	In progress 	A Council position on Murray-Darling Basin Plan (MDBP) is under development.
	15.3.2 Seek a position on CMA committees.	In progress 	No positions were filled at the last CMA elections.
15.4 Investigate opportunities to improve stormwater runoff from townships into the River.	15.4.1 Complete an investigation.	Completed/ongoing 	<p>Updates on Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) adoptions, issues and progress were provided to Council Assembly on 9 June 2020.</p> <p>2. To further assists developers, surveyors and consultants a stormwater engineering guide was widely circulated in May 2020 to further clarify the IDM requirements in an easy to follow steps.</p> <p>3. No further actions requested by the Council.</p>
	15.4.2 Action recommendations.	In progress 	<p>1. On-going improvement of stormwater networks</p> <p>2. Completed stormwater network design for Butterworth Street, Graemar Drive, Suttie drive, Berry Bank drive and Yvonne Close to support growth in Swan Hill.</p>
	15.4.3 Identify funding opportunities and submit applications.	Complete 	Successful funding application for \$410,000 from Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (NDRGS) with \$205,000 from Council.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
15.5 Investigate alternative energy for council buildings, and a community solar option.	15.5.1 Identify additional buildings to connect to renewable energies.	Complete 	Council has joined Sustainability Victoria Local Government Energy Saver Program to take advantage of initiatives targeted at identified resource constrained municipalities. Stream 1: Establish Local Government Corporate Emissions Profile and Reduction Plan. Stream 2: Local Government owned facility energy audits. Stream 3: Implementation of Retrofit Work (funding opportunities of up to \$100,000). Ongoing investigation into solar options for facilities. Investigation of natural gas connection to Council owned buildings where possible. Detailed audits on selected facilities have now been completed ELT have approved priority works.
	15.5.2 Prepare a business case for each option.	In progress 	Sustainability Victoria has made available funding to identified resource constrained councils including the Swan Hill Rural City Council to participate in the Local Government Energy Saver Program and Council has accepted the invitation to participate. Stream 3 works are now underway and is expected to completed by June 2020. Works include solar installs on Swan Hill Depot, Nyah Community Centre, Lake Boga Community Centre, Robinvale Community Centre and Swan Hill Basket Ball Stadium. LED lighting installs will occur on main office building in Splatt St, Swan Hill Depot and Robinvale community centre. Variable speed drives will be installed at Nyah Pool and Manangatang Pool. The Splatt St main office also receive 30kWh battery install. Finally all sites that have upgrades will have installed a Solar Analytics monitoring system that will enable staff to monitor electricity systems to help quantify the benefits of the upgrades and provide useful data on where further improvements can occur. The monitoring install is expected to be completed by the 26 June 2020. All installations are completed but reporting still needs to be finalised.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
15.6 Advocate for improved control on private and public land of feral pests and weeds (continued)	15.6.1 Engage with local Landcare groups	Completed/ongoing 	Continue to provide support to landcare groups through landcare facilitators to support landholders in controlling pests and weeds. Council has also partnered with the Mallee Catchment Management Authority to undertake pest and weed works on roadsides that support on farm control. Most of this work is concentrated around Robinvale, Sea Lake and Waitche area to support identified Biodiversity Corridors. Rabbit, African Boxthorn and Cactus are the main targets with other minor weed species.
	15.6.2 Identify and reduce box thorn infestations.	Completed/ongoing 	Boxthorn control between Piangil and Swan Hill west of the Murray Valley Hwy has been undertaken with over 10,000 individual plants being treated. Currently the area between Swan Hill - Ultima and Lake Boga west of the Murray Valley Hwy is being treated.
	15.6.3 Extend fruit fly program.	Completed/ongoing 	New funding applied for at local and regional level. Good results with the tree removal program. SHRCC staff on executive committee board. Funding received. Ongoing collaboration with the Greater Sunraysia QFF committee.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
15.7 Review our work methods to reduce the environmental impact of what we do.	15.7.1 Review our fuel usage.	Completed/ongoing 	Fuel consumption figures captured and reports being established within fleet management system. Consumption data provided to Council's Environmental Officer for inclusion in energy and green house gas reduction study. Preliminary report received and discussed. Main recommendation to replace 32 vehicles with electric (impractical). Other suggestions for reduction of fuel will be further investigated.
	15.7.2 Review plant and corporate fleet requirements.	Complete 	Established plant committee to review plant and equipment requirements, current and future. Utilisation of all plant and vehicles captured and reports being established. Car pool booking system established and accessible for all Council staff. Adjusted replacement program to reflect altered priorities. Identifying potentially underutilised plant, for discussion and action.
15.7 Review our work methods to reduce the environmental impact of what we do (continued).	15.7.3 Investigate and use where possible sustainable building practices.	In progress 	Council are electing to use (where possible) less obtrusive means of auguring so as to minimise damage to earth integrity and use compaction rather than concrete. Removing excess sprinklers to eliminate excessive watering, ongoing investigations into reclaiming storm water.
	15.7.4 Investigate and use where possible recycled materials.	Complete/ongoing 	Recycled materials used in Nyah Road median strip, (recycled material borders, drought tolerant plants, low maintenance landscaping). In April 2019, the resurfacing of Perrin Street, Robinvale was completed with asphalt incorporating crumbed rubber, made from recycled tyres. This material comes with a predicted life span of five to 10 extra years, compared with traditional asphalt.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
15.8 Define Councils approach to fulfilling our environmental enforcement obligations.	15.8.1 Develop a clear Policy.	Complete/ongoing 	The planning scheme covers all the requirements for Council's environmental enforcement obligations. The Senior Environmental Officer assists the Planning Department with illegal native vegetation removal. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) have developed amended native vegetation management rules which are now in force. The Planning Scheme will need to be amended to incorporate all relevant changes. Council staff have completed training to acquaint themselves with the new regulations. Additional training has been provided to field staff and Council was successful in securing the Roadside Maintenance Exemption within defined envelopes depending on classification assigned to particular roads throughout the municipality.
16.1 Review and implement the Waste Management Plan.	16.1.1 Approve a revised and updated Waste Management Plan.	Complete/ongoing 	<p>Victorian Government's release of the State's circular economy policy - Recycling Victoria. The policy outlines a 10-year action plan, with more than \$300 million committed to fundamentally transform Victoria's recycling sector, reduce waste, and set Victoria up for a more sustainable future.</p> <p>Recycling Victoria commits \$49.5 million in new funding to target infrastructure for priority materials; paper and cardboard, plastic, glass and hazardous waste (solvents). This commitment builds on the \$28 million already committed in the 2019- 20 budget delivering a record investment in Victoria's recycling infrastructure.</p> <p>The Recycling Victoria Infrastructure Fund is designed to assist businesses to improve the quality of materials recovered and increase the capacity and capability of Victoria's resource recovery sector.</p> <p>Council currently reviewing its position with respect to circular economy policy and in discussion with Veolia to explore short-term extension of the current contract.</p> <p>The joint procurement process has been discontinued by the Regional Waste Management Group as limited benefit to any Council.</p>
	16.1.2 Implement identified actions.	Complete/ongoing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ongoing progressive capping</li> <li>2. Ongoing investigation into relocating the Materials Recycling Facility from Gray Street to the Swan Hill Landfill site.</li> <li>3. Construction of the e-waste sheds is completed.</li> <li>4. Ongoing works to ensure compliance with EPA/ Licence conditions.</li> <li>5. Ongoing works with DELWP to support circular economy policy.</li> </ol>

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTION	PROGRESS	COMMENTARY
16.2 Investigate opportunities for green waste and organic collection service.	16.2.1 Review data for current green waste service.	Complete 	Green waste service in place and it is expanding. Organics has been investigated by EDU. (Ongoing).
	16.2.2 Develop and implement a green waste information campaign.	Complete 	Council officers are running a green waste management media campaign in September each year. A plan in place for promoting free green waste disposal at Robinvale and Swan Hill Landfill one weekend per year. Council need to launch new campaign in Lake Boga and Robinvale townships. Calendar of Green waste collection circulated to the participated residents every year.
	16.2.3 Investigate organic waste disposal opportunities.	Complete 	Grant applied for to fund a business plan for regional composting facility between Buloke, Yarriambiack and Swan Hill to be completed April 2020. Completed.
16.3 Continue to lobby for a state-wide container deposit scheme.	16.3.1 Have the container deposit scheme identified as a priority in the Loddon Mallee Waste Resource Recovery Forum	Complete 	Loddon Mallee Waste Resource Recovery Forum continues to lobby government. Now this has been announced as state wide policy to be implemented by 2023.
16.4 Develop projects that can be funded from the Victoria Sustainability Fund that provide environmental benefits for our community.	16.4.1 Identify projects.	In planning 	No viable projects identified at this stage.
	16.4.2 Secure funding for identified projects.	In planning 	No viable projects identified at this stage.
	16.4.3 Investigate opportunities for recycling industry within the municipality (included as part of 18/19 review).	Completed/ongoing 	Working with a new business trying to establish a demolition recycling business in Swan Hill. Business was established.



**Swan Hill Rural City Council**

**Postal Address**

PO Box 488, Swan Hill, Victoria 3585

**Swan Hill Business Centre**

45 Splatt Street Swan Hill, Victoria 3585

Phone: (03) 5036 2333 Fax: (03) 5036 2340



**17/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Benham**

**That Council move items:**

- **B.21.9 Councillor Code of Conduct,**
- **B.21.10 Gifts, Benefits And Hospitality Policy And Procedure, and**
- **B.21.11 Community Engagement Policy And Guidelines**

**as a block.**

**SECONDED Cr Young**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**18/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McPhee**

**That Council move items:**

- **B.21.9 Councillor Code of Conduct,**
- **B.21.10 Gifts, Benefits And Hospitality Policy And Procedure, and**
- **B.21.11 Community Engagement Policy And Guidelines**

**as per recommendations.**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**B.21.9 COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate Services  
**File Number:** S16-04-06  
**Attachments:** 1 Councillor Code of Conduct

**Declarations of Interest:**

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

**Summary**

It is a requirement under the Local Government Act 2020 that the Councillor Code of Conduct be reviewed and accepted by Council within four months of a general election.

### **Discussion**

The Councillor Code of Conduct has been reviewed and updated to be compliant with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations. The names of the sitting Councillors have also been updated.

### **Consultation**

The Councillor Code of Conduct has been discussed with Councillors, members of the Executive Leadership Team and the Governance Unit.

### **Financial Implications**

Not applicable

### **Social Implications**

Not applicable

### **Economic Implications**

Not applicable

### **Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

### **Risk Management Implications**

The Councillor Code of Conduct is an important tool to help ensure Council complies with its obligations under the Local Government Act.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Governance and leadership*** - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

### **Options**

1. That Council adopts the Councillor Code of Conduct as attached.
2. That Council does not adopt the Councillor Code of Conduct.

### **Recommendations**

**That Council adopts the Councillor Code of Conduct as attached.**

**Recommendations**

**That Council adopts the Councillor Code of Conduct as attached.**



## **Swan Hill Rural City Council Councillor Code of Conduct**

This Code, which incorporates the statutory requirements specified for a Code of Conduct in accordance with section 139 of the Local Government Act 2020, was adopted by the Swan Hill Rural City Council on 16 February 2021.

## DOCUMENT INFORMATION

<b>Document type:</b>	Councillor Code of Conduct
<b>Document status:</b>	DRAFT
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Organisational Development Manager
<b>Last review:</b>	February 2021
<b>Next review:</b>	February 2025
	(Subject to changes in legislation or prompted by a change in policy and/or procedure)
<b>Related policy, procedures and documents:</b>	<p>Governance Rules CPOL/GOV022          Public Transparency Policy CPOL/GOV023          Record Management Policy POL/CORP214          Councillor and Staff Interactions Policy CPOL/GOV010          Media Policy POL/GOV 003          Social Media Policy POL/GOV017          Child Safe Policy POL/STAFF615          Council Expenses Policy POL/GOV004          Charter of Human Rights Policy CPOL/GOV008          Privacy Policy POL/CORP211          Travel by Councillors Policy CPOL/GOV013          Fraud Control Policy POL/CORP226          Gifts and Benefits Policy CPOL/GOV027          Councillor Attendance at Functions Policy CPOL/GOV009          Civic Receptions, Receptions and the Provision of Hospitality Policy CPOL/GOV014          Equal Opportunity Policy POL/STAFF105          Public Interest Disclosure Policy POL/GOV018          Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy</p>
<b>Related legislation:</b>	<p>Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)          Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020          Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)          Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic)          Information Privacy Act 2000 (Vic)          Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013 (Vic)          Public Records Act 1973 (Vic)          Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)          Health Records Act 2001 (Vic)          Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)          Gender Equality Act 2020 (Vic)          Defamation Act 2005 (Vic)          Privacy Act 1988 (Cmwltth)</p>

### DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version Number	Issue Date	Description of Change

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Overview

The role of Council and Councillors, and governance arrangements that cover Swan Hill Rural City Council (Council), are set out in the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act). The primary objective for Council is to endeavour to achieve the best outcomes for the local community having regard to the long term cumulative effect of its decisions. Further objectives are set out in the Act. Good governance is fundamental to the achievement of Council's objectives.

The Act requires Council to have a Councillor Code of Conduct (Code) and prescribes certain requirements. The Code sets expected standards of Councillor behaviour and provides guidance in the event of any Councillor breach of the Code.

The Code was adopted by Swan Hill Rural City Council (Council) on 16 February 2021 and is required to be reviewed within four months after a general election.

Councillors must understand and commit to complying with the standards of conduct and obligations of Councillors in accordance with section 139 of the Act, as well as the standards of conduct set out in this Code of Conduct.

### 1.2 Purpose

The Code of Conduct sets out the standards of conduct expected of Councillors when carrying out their roles, responsibilities and obligations as elected representatives for their communities.

By adhering to the conduct set out in the Code of Conduct, Councillors will increase public confidence in local government and Council decisions.

### 1.3 Scope

This Code applies to Councillors of the Swan Hill Rural City Council. For the purposes of this Code, the term 'Councillors' includes the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and all other Councillors of Council.

Legislative obligations of Council and Councillors are set out in the Code where required by legislation. Council and Councillor obligations in the Act, and other applicable legislation (as amended), apply to Council and Councillors, even if not expressly set out in the Code.

This Code should be read alongside other Council documents, including the Council Plan, Council policies, Governance Rules, protocols and Council's local laws, as applicable and as amended from time to time, which all form part of Council's governance framework.

This Code should not be read as an exhaustive statement on the rights and obligations of individuals that ordinarily apply under the law, including any avenues of reporting and redress that may be available in specific circumstances.

### 1.4 Our values

Swan Hill Rural City Council has five core values that drive us in our dealings with the people we serve, our stakeholders and the community.

In pursuing Council's objectives Councillors should demonstrate:

**Community engagement** - We will ensure that our communities are consulted, listened to and informed.

**Leadership** - We will be at the centre of our community and by actively engaging our community we will form the collective view on strategic issues and will then express our views through strong advocacy.



**Fairness** - We will value and embrace the diversity of our community and ensure that all people are treated equally.

**Accountability** - We will be transparent and efficient in our activities and we will always value feedback.

**Trust** - We will act with integrity and earn the community's trust by being a reliable partner in delivering services and providing facilities.

## 2. Councillor conduct obligations

The following section sets out conduct obligations that are agreed by all Councillors. I acknowledge and agree that Council policies and procedures referred to below apply to me as a Councillor and I commit to compliance with them and with my legislative obligations.

### 2.1 Standards of conduct

I have read and understood the standards of conduct in Schedule 1 of the Local Government (Governance and integrity) Regulations 2020 and in performing my role of a Councillor I will:

- treat other Councillors, members of Council staff, the municipal community and members of the public with dignity, fairness, objectivity, courtesy and respect;
- do everything reasonably necessary to ensure I perform the role of a Councillor effectively and responsibly;
- ensure compliance with good governance measures;
- ensure my behaviour does not discredit or mislead Council or the public; and
- ensure that the standards of conduct do not limit, restrict or detract from robust political debate.

I understand that a breach of the conduct standards constitutes misconduct as defined under the Act.

### 2.2 Decision making

I am committed to making all decisions impartially and in the best interests of the community. I will actively participate in the decision-making process and appropriately inform myself of the matter at hand. I will give proper consideration to human rights when making decisions. Once a decision has been made, I will respect the making of that decision.

I recognise that collaborative discussion and planning is essential to the effective governance of the municipality, and will attend and participate in planning sessions and workshops organised by the Chief Executive Officer for the purpose of strategy and budget.

The Governance Rules sets out the procedures for decision making by Council. I agree to abide by the obligations set out in the Governance Rules.

### 2.3 Discrimination, harassment and victimisation

Discrimination, harassment and victimisation are against the law and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. I will:

- not harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, or support others who harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, on the grounds of age, disability, race (including colour, national or ethnic origin or immigrant status), sex, pregnancy, marital or relationship status, family responsibilities or breastfeeding, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status or political, religious or other affiliation.

- not engage in any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature towards another individual where a reasonable person, having regard to all the circumstances, would have anticipated the possibility that the individual harassed would be offended, humiliated or intimidated.
- endeavour to take positive action to eliminate discrimination, sexual harassment and victimisation in accordance with the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010*.

## 2.4 Bullying

Council is committed to maintaining a workplace that is free from bullying and where all people are treated with dignity and respect. I will:

- endeavour to work collaboratively and respectfully with my fellow Councillors and Council officers.
- uphold my obligations under Occupational Health and Safety legislation and support a safe workplace.
- not engage in repeated unreasonable behaviour toward another Councillor or member of Council staff that creates a risk to the health and safety of that other Councillor or member of Council staff.
- not engage in abusive, obscene or threatening behaviour in their dealings with members of the public, Council staff and Councillors.

Unreasonable behaviour and definitions of bullying are contained in the relevant legislation and Council's Equal Opportunity Policy.

## 2.5 Human rights and inclusion

I acknowledge the human rights that are protected under the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and undertake to exercise my duties in a manner that is compatible with the rights set out in the Charter and Council's Charter of Human Rights Policy.

I acknowledge this undertaking extends to all my relationships as a Councillor, including with other Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer and Council staff, as well as any member of the public with whom I may have contact, and any decisions I participate in as a Councillor.

I am committed always be inclusive, collaborative and supportive and treat all persons with respect and have due regard for their opinions, beliefs, rights and responsibilities.

Represent the interests of the municipal community in performing the role of a Councillor by considering and being responsive to the diversity of interests and needs of the municipal community.

## 2.6 Gender equality

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* requires councils to consider gender equality not only in their workforce but in the policies, programs and services that they deliver.

Council is committed to taking positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality and I commit to supporting the Council in fulfilling its obligation to achieve and promote gender equality.

## 2.7 Safety, health and wellbeing

Council is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and mentally healthy workplace for all and recognises the provisions of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* (the OHS Act) apply to Council and Councillors. The Chief Executive Officer has a clear accountability for OHS matters, given their mandate under the OHS Act and will put policies and procedures in place from time to time to ensure a safe workplace for Councillors to carry out their civic duties.

As a Councillor, I understand that occupational health and safety is a shared responsibility. Accordingly, I will:

- Comply with the OHS Act and incident and hazard reporting procedures.
- Take reasonable care to protect my own health and safety as well as the health and safety of others in the workplace.
- Undertake training, through Council, in order to obtain an understanding of the duties and obligations imposed by the OHS Act and their application to the duties of a Councillor.
- Consider any health and safety implications of Council decisions.

## 2.8 Interacting with children and young people

Council prides itself on being a child safe organisation and has zero tolerance for child abuse. Council adheres to the Victorian Child Safe Standards and related legislation which governs the protection of children and young people and deals with the failure to report harm, failure to protect and grooming offenses. Accordingly, I undertake to:

- Maintain the highest standards of professional conduct in my attitude, behaviour and interactions with children and young people.
- Support and maintain Council's commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people, including through any decision I participate in as a Councillor.
- Take all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from harm, including complying with Council's obligations under State and Federal child protection legislation, including completing appropriate working with children checks.
- Undertake training, through Council, in order to obtain an understanding of the duties and obligations imposed by the Victorian Child Safe Standards and their application to the duties of a Councillor.

## 2.9 Cultural awareness

Council recognises the traditional rights of indigenous peoples and acknowledge their right to maintain their culture, identity, traditions and customs. Accordingly I will:

- be aware of relevant cultural considerations and demonstrate respect when working with others from other cultural backgrounds.
- exercise cultural sensitivity and recognise and respect sites, places, structures and objects that are culturally or traditionally significant.
- ensure traditional owners are acknowledged at Council meetings and civic receptions accordance with the Aboriginal Community Partnership Strategy.

## 2.10 Fitness for duties

In respect of Council's commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment and the standards of conduct I acknowledge that I must be fit to conscientiously perform the role of a Councillor when acting in that capacity or purporting to act in that capacity.

I also acknowledge that a range of factors and circumstances can impact on the satisfactory performance of my duties, including the consumption of alcohol and other drugs, even if legal and prescribed.

I will advise the Mayor/Chief Executive Officer of any relevant matter or thing related to my physical or psychological wellbeing that will, or has the potential to, impede or otherwise impact on my ability to undertake my role, as soon as I become aware of it.

## 2.11 Communications and media

Councillors have an obligation to effectively communicate the decisions of Council, and to respond to the community as appropriate. To ensure that clear and consistent messages are communicated, the Council's Media Policy sets out the management of media enquiries, release of information and nominated spokespersons and the Social Media Policy provides guidelines for Councillors about the personal and professional use of social media platforms.

I will comply with the Media Policy and Social Media Policy and respect the roles of Council's official spokespersons. I will also:

- Respect Council's decisions by not criticising or actively undermining any decisions which have been made by Council, and not bring Council into disrepute through any of my words or actions.
- Not speak on behalf of Council without authority, in accordance with the Media Policy.
- Ensure any personal opinions or views I express publicly are identified as my own and does not represent a position of Council. In addition, if I choose to express a personal view or opinion, I will not do so in the context of a spokesperson opportunity facilitated by Council.
- Ensure any communications I make are not offensive, derogatory, insulting or otherwise damaging to the reputation of Council. Councillors must show respect for others if making comments publicly and ensure that any such comments are devoid of comments that could reasonably be construed as being derogatory, offensive or insulting to any person.

## 2.12 Misuse of position

Councillors must ensure they do not misuse their position to gain, or attempt to gain, directly or indirectly an advantage for themselves or for another person, or to cause, or attempt to cause detriment to the Council or another person. Accordingly I will not:

- make improper use of information acquired as a result of the position I hold; or
- disclose information that is confidential information;
- deliberately mislead the Council or the public about any matter related to the performance of my public duties;
- direct, or improperly influence, or seek to direct or improperly influence, a member of Council staff;
- exercise or perform, or appear to exercise or perform, a power, duty or function that I am not authorised to exercise or perform; or
- use public funds or resources in a manner that is improper or unauthorised; or
- fail to disclose a conflict of interest as required under the Act.

## 2.13 Use of Council resources

I commit to using Council resources effectively and economically and in accordance with the IT Acceptable Use Policy and all other relevant policies. In particular, I will:

- use Council resources, which may include equipment, information, staff resources, property of any kind and other assets, which have been provided to me only for the purposes of my duties as a Councillor and not for private purposes unless properly authorised to do so;
- maintain adequate security over Council property, facilities and resources in my possession or control to prevent theft, misappropriation, damage, unauthorised disclosure or misuse;
- report any potential waste, damage, misuse, loss, fraud or theft of council resources; and

- not use public funds or resources in a manner that is improper or unauthorised.

I will also ensure that any claim for support expenses that I may make will be in accordance with all legislative obligations and the Council Expenses Policy.

## 2.14 Access to council buildings

Councillors are entitled access to the council chamber (subject to availability) and public areas of Council's buildings during normal business hours and for meetings. Councillors needing access to these facilities at other times must obtain authority from the Chief Executive Officer.

I understand that I must not enter staff-only areas of Council buildings without the approval of the Chief Executive Officer (or their delegate) or as provided for in the procedures governing the interaction of Councillors and Council staff.

## 2.15 Councillor and member of staff interactions

I have read and understood the requirements of Section 124 of the Act and I will not seek to improperly direct or influence members of Council staff in the exercise of their duties.

I will follow the Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy which sets out interaction between Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer, senior management and other employees.

## 2.16 Land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions

Councillors must ensure that land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory decisions are properly made, and that all parties are dealt with fairly.

In exercising land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions, I will ensure that no action, statement or communication between me and others conveys any suggestion of willingness to improperly provide concessions or preferential or unduly unfavourable treatment.

## 2.17 Use of Council information

Councillors have access to Council information necessary for them to carry out their roles properly. However a Councillor must remain impartial and must not use Council information to gain advantage for themselves or any other person.

I acknowledge that information which is "confidential information" within the meaning of section 125 of the Act may not be disclosed by me except in certain specified circumstances. I am aware that Council information may also be subject to other legislation including the *Health Records Act 2001*, *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

I will comply with any legislative provisions and Council policies concerning my access to, use of, or disclosure of Council information, whether confidential or otherwise.

I will comply with the requirements of the *Public Records Act 1973* and Council's Records Management Policy and will not destroy, alter, or dispose of Council information or records, unless authorised to do so.

## 2.18 Conflict of interest

Sections 130 and 131 of the Act require each Councillor to identify, manage and disclose any conflicts of interest they may have.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand these provisions and will abide by them. In the event that I consider that I have a general or material conflict of interest in relation to a matter, I will declare and identify

this at the commencement of any discussion on the matter. I will seek advice from the appropriate person if I need assistance on interpretation of the legislative provisions.

I understand that I must disclose any conflict of interests at any Council meeting, meeting of a delegated committee, meeting of a community asset committee or meeting at which a majority of Councillors and a Councillor Officer is present, at which the matter is to be discussed in the manner required by Council's Governance Rules.

I acknowledge that considering, determining, and declaring a conflict of interest is my personal legal obligation as a Councillor. I understand Councillors are able to seek their own independent legal advice in relation to any of their conflict of interest matters.

## 2.19 Significant and/or intimate relationships

I understand that conflict and bias can arise from situations where relatives or people with significant and/or intimate relationships work together, and this can potentially lead or be seen to lead to decisions I make as a Councillor being made for reasons other than the public interest.

If I am involved in a relationship of a significant or intimate nature with another Councillor or an employee, I undertake to disclose the fact of this relationship to the Chief Executive Officer.

## 2.20 Personal interest returns

I have read and understood the requirements of Sections 132 - 136 of the Act and I will lodge with the Council a complete and accurate personal interest return and subsequent biannual interest returns, as required by legislation.

## 2.21 Gifts, benefits and hospitality

I commit to compliance with my statutory obligations in relation to gifts and hospitality. I also undertake to comply with Council's policy to disclose all gifts, benefits or hospitality offered and/or accepted in my capacity as a Councillor, in accordance with the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy and procedure. In addition, I commit to notify the Chief Executive Officer if in the conduct of my duties, I receive an inappropriate offer of a gift or hospitality of any kind.

## 2.22 Reporting fraud and corruption

Ethical behaviour is an integral part of responsible, effective and accountable government. I will immediately report to the Chief Executive Officer, in line with the Council's Fraud Control Policy any suspected, potential or actual fraudulent, criminal, unethical, corrupt or other unacceptable behaviour that comes to my knowledge. The preceding behaviour is not confined to Councillors, Council staff or contractors, third parties who seek to unlawfully influence or mislead Council staff can fall within this category. I will participate as required to the best of my ability in any subsequent investigation whether undertaken internally or externally.

## 2.23 Elections

I am committed to ensuring that elections conducted by the Swan Hill Rural City Council are conducted fairly and democratically and in accordance with the highest standards of governance. Where I am a sitting Councillor during an election period I will abide by the requirements of the applicable legislation and the Council-endorsed Election Period Policy (which forms part of the Council's adopted Governance Rules) and, whether or not I am standing for re-election, I will at all times act respectfully towards all candidates for the election.

I understand that if I become a Nominated Candidate for a State or Federal election I must apply for leave of absence from the Council and during my leave of absence period I must not attend meetings of the council or otherwise act as a Councillor.

## 2.24 Other policies, procedures and protocols

I acknowledge that in fulfilling the statutory requirements of our role, a shared understanding of our obligation and the practical ways that we perform our duties is necessary for good governance. To achieve this shared understanding, I commit to the development and adoption of other operational policies and procedures that help define how we will work together and create a safe and positive work environment. These will, from time-to-time, require renewal to reflect contemporary best practice. Accordingly, I undertake to:

- Take all reasonable steps to become familiar with Councillor policies and procedures
- Participate in any reviews of these supporting documents
- Commit to adhere to these policies and procedures as agreed.

### 3. Key roles and responsibilities

#### 3.1 Role of Council

The role of a Council is to provide good governance in its municipal district for the benefit and wellbeing of the municipal community.

A Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the following overarching governance principles:

- (a) council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- (b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- (c) the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- (d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- (e) innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
- (f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- (g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- (h) regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- (i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

#### 3.2 Role of a Councillor

The role of a Councillor is to:

- (a) participate in the decision making of the Council; and
- (b) represent the interests of the municipal community in that decision making; and
- (c) contribute to the strategic direction of the Council through the development and review of key strategic documents of the Council, including the Council Plan.

In performing the role of a Councillor, a Councillor must:

- (a) comply with Council procedures for good governance; and
- (b) support the role of the Council and the Mayor; and
- (c) act lawfully and in accordance with the oath or affirmation of office; and
- (d) act in accordance with the standards of conduct; and
- (e) undertake any training or professional development activities the Council decides it is necessary for Councillors to undertake in order to effectively perform the role of a Councillor; and
- (f) diligently use Council processes to become informed about matters which are subject to Council decisions; and
- (g) is fit to conscientiously perform the role of a Councillor when acting in that capacity or purporting to act in that capacity; and
- (h) represent the interests of the municipal community by considering and being responsive to the diversity of interests and needs of the municipal community.

The role of a Councillor does not include the performance of any responsibilities or functions of the CEO.



### 3.3 Role of the Mayor

The role of the Mayor is to:

- (a) chair Council meetings; and
- (b) be the principal spokesperson for the Council; and
- (c) lead engagement with the municipal community on the development of the Council Plan; and
- (d) report to the municipal community, at least once each year, on the implementation of the Council Plan; and
- (e) promote behaviour among Councillors that meets the standards of conduct set out in the Councillor Code of Conduct; and
- (f) assist Councillors to understand their role; and
- (g) take a leadership role in ensuring the regular review of the performance of the CEO; and
- (h) provide advice to the CEO when the CEO is setting the agenda for Council meetings; and
- (i) perform civic and ceremonial duties on behalf of the Council.

### 3.4 Role of Deputy Mayor

The role of Deputy Mayor may exercise any of the powers of the Mayor if:

- (a) the Mayor is unable for any reason to attend a Council meeting or part of a Council meeting;
- (b) the Mayor is incapable of performing the duties of the office of Mayor for any reason, including illness; or
- (c) the office of Mayor is vacant.

### 3.5 Role of the Chief Executive Officer

A Chief Executive Officer is responsible for supporting the Mayor and the Councillors in the performance of their roles; and ensuring the effective and efficient management of the day to day operations of the Council.

This responsibility includes:

- (a) ensuring that the decisions of the Council are implemented without undue delay; and
- (b) ensuring that the Council receives timely and reliable advice about its obligations under this Act or any other Act; and
- (c) supporting the Mayor in the performance of the Mayor's role as Mayor; and
- (d) setting the agenda for Council meetings after consulting the Mayor; and
- (e) when requested by the Mayor, reporting to the Council in respect of the implementation of a Council decision; and
- (f) carrying out the Council's responsibilities as a deemed employer with respect to Councillors, as deemed workers, which arise under or with respect to the *Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013*; and
- (g) establishing and maintaining an organisational structure for the Council; and
- (h) being responsible for all staffing matters, including appointing, directing, managing and dismissing members of Council staff; and
- (i) managing interactions between members of Council staff and Councillors and ensuring that policies, practices and protocols that support arrangements for interaction between members of Council staff and Councillors are developed and implemented; and
- (j) performing any other function or duty of the Chief Executive Officer specified in LG Act or any other Act.

## 4. Maintaining the integrity of the code

### 4.1 Resolving disputes

The democratic process of local government involves holding, and expressing, different and sometimes opposing viewpoints. It is a normal, and vital, function of this process that these different views are shared in a considered and informed way. Although all Councillors strive to engage in positive, constructive and respectful interactions, conflict and/or disputes may arise.

Councillors hold an individual and collective responsibility to resolve disputes in a proactive, positive and courteous manner before they are escalated, to avoid such disputes threatening the effective operation of Council.

Section 5 – Dispute resolution procedure describes the processes for Councillors who wish to report and resolve a dispute with another Councillor under the Code.

### 4.2 Complaints alleging breaches of the prescribed standards of conduct included in the Code

The Act establishes a councillor conduct framework that provides a clear hierarchy for the management of councillor conduct issues.

Under the councillor conduct framework:

- complaints of misconduct by a councillor are heard and determined under the council's internal arbitration process by an independent arbiter;
- complaints of serious misconduct by a councillor are heard and determined by councillor conduct panels; and
- allegations of gross misconduct are dealt with by VCAT

In the first instance, issues and complaints should be raised under the dispute resolution procedure as detailed in the following section.

Some allegations of Councillor misconduct under this Code may constitute serious misconduct under the Act. In these instances, it is open to Council, a Councillor, or a group of Councillors, to make an application for a Councillor Conduct Panel in accordance with Section 154 of the Act.

For allegations of gross misconduct, Council, a Councillor(s) or members of the public can raise complaints to the Local Government Inspectorate.

Councillors can also raise a specific issues or complaints with any of the independent organisations that can consider complaints relating to a council, for example the Victorian Ombudsman and Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC).

### 4.3 Consequences of failing to comply with the Code

Failure to comply with the prescribed standards of conduct or other conduct prescribed in this Code of Conduct may lead to action under the councilor conduct framework or external avenues provided for by legislation and in the most serious cases may lead to suspension or removal from any positions where the Councillor represents the Council.

## 5. Dispute resolution procedure

### 5.1 Purpose

This section describes the processes for Councillors who wish to report and resolve a dispute with another Councillor under the Code.

The primary purpose of an internal resolution procedure is to provide Councillors with support and mechanisms to resolve conflicts and disputes in a manner that enables them to move forward and establish and maintain effective working relationships.

This procedure:

- is not intended to resolve differences in policy or decision making, which are appropriately resolved through discussion and voting in council and committee meetings
- does not include a complaint made against a Councillor or Councillors by a member or members of Council staff, or by any other person, or a "disclosure" under the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012*.

### 5.2 Scope

This procedure operates alongside, and does not displace, any external avenues provided for by legislation for the reporting and resolution of issues and disputes. It should be read in conjunction with the Act which sets out avenues for reporting matters of Councillor misconduct and establishes external authorities to hear, investigate, prosecute and make findings of Councillor misconduct, serious misconduct and gross misconduct.

For the purposes of the dispute resolution procedure:

- 'Councillor Conduct Officer' refers to an appointee of the Chief Executive Officer under section 150 of the Act who assists Council in the implementation and conduct of the internal arbitration process in the Code
- This procedure does not deal with allegations of criminal misconduct as they are envisaged to be raised with Victoria Police or other relevant mechanisms
- Nothing in this procedure prevents an individual Councillor with a specific issue or dispute from pursuing other avenues available to them under the law

### 5.3 Responsibilities

The **Mayor** and **Deputy Mayor** are responsible for:

- establishing and promoting appropriate standards of conduct
- supporting good working relations between Councillors; and
- supporting Councillors in dispute resolution.

The **Chief Executive Officer** has a responsibility to:

- ensure that support and assistance is available to all Councillors where it is required
- take all reasonable steps to ensure the consistent and accountable application of this procedure across Council
- comply with all relevant legislation as the senior officer within Council administration

The **Councillor Conduct Officer** is responsible for:

- Assisting Council in the implementation of, and conduct of, the internal arbitration process of a Council;
- Assisting the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar to perform the functions specified in section 149(1) of the Act; and
- Assisting the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar in relation to any request for information under section 149(3) of the Act.

**Councillors** have a responsibility to co-operate with any investigation into, or arbitration of, a complaint made under this procedure and to maintain confidentiality regarding any complaint.

#### 5.4 Informal resolution between parties to a dispute

Before commencing any formal dispute resolution process, the Councillors who are parties to a dispute are expected to use their best endeavours to resolve the matter in a courteous and respectful manner between themselves.

Where, after these endeavours have been exhausted, the matter still remains unresolved, the parties may resort to any or all of Council's internal dispute resolution processes set out below.

#### 5.5 Formal dispute resolution

Council has three formal internal dispute resolution options:

- **Resolution discussion** - direct negotiation between the parties in dispute with a Convenor (the Mayor or Deputy Mayor) in attendance to provide guidance. See section 5.5.1 for detailed information.
- **Mediation** – with an external mediator, via an application to the Councillor Conduct Officer. See section 5.5.2 for detailed information.
- **Arbitration** - with an independent arbiter, via an application to the Councillor Conduct Officer. See section 5.5.3 for detailed information.

##### 5.5.1 Resolution discussion

Where Councillors who are in dispute have not been able to resolve the dispute between them a party may request in writing that the Mayor (the 'Convenor'), to convene a meeting of the parties to discuss the dispute.

Where the Mayor is a party to the dispute, the request is to be made to the Deputy Mayor or the immediate past Mayor.

##### i) Request for a resolution discussion meeting

The party requesting the meeting is to provide the Convenor with the name of the other party and the details of the dispute in writing. The written request is to indicate that it is for a resolution discussion.

Where the request relates to an alleged contravention of the Councillor Code of Conduct, the request must:

- Specify the name of the Councillor alleged to have contravened the Code.
- Specify the provision(s) of the Code that is alleged to have been contravened.
- Include evidence in support of the allegation.

- Name the Councillor appointed to be their representative where the request is made by a group of Councillors.
- Be signed and dated by the requestor or the requestor's representative.

The party requesting the meeting is to notify the other party of the request and provide him or her with a copy of the written request either at the same time as it is provided to the Mayor or as soon as practicable thereafter (but not later than 2 days).

Alternatively, the Mayor may intervene to convene a meeting of both parties to support good working relations between parties.

**ii) Agreement to attend meeting**

The Convenor is to ascertain whether or not the other party is prepared to attend the meeting.

If the other party is not prepared to attend the meeting, the Convenor is to advise the party seeking the meeting. No further action is required of the Convenor. If the other party declines to participate in a meeting, this does not constitute a contravention of this Councillor Code of Conduct.

**iii) Arranging the meeting**

If the other party consents to a meeting, the Convenor is to convene a meeting of the parties at the earliest available opportunity. Unless one or both parties are unavailable, this should be within five working days of receiving the consent of the other party.

The Convenor may provide the parties with guidelines in advance of the meeting or at the meeting, to help facilitate the meeting.

**iv) Holding the meeting**

The role of the Convenor at the meeting is to assist the parties to resolve the dispute. In the process of doing this they may provide guidance about what is expected of a Councillor including in relation to the role of a Councillor under section 28 of the Act and the Code.

If the parties cannot resolve the dispute at the meeting, a further meeting may be convened.

**v) Meeting outcomes**

The Convenor is to document any agreement reached at the meeting. Copies of the agreement are to be provided to both parties and a copy kept by the Councillor Conduct Officer.

Where the dispute remains unresolved, including circumstances where one party does not comply with the agreement, a party may request mediation or arbitration.

**5.5.2 Mediation**

A Councillor, or a group of Councillors, may make an application for a dispute to be referred for mediation. The mediation would be conducted by an external accredited mediator.

**i) Application for mediation**

The party seeking the mediation is to submit a written application to the Councillor Conduct Officer setting out the name of the Councillor, the details of the dispute and that the application is for mediation.

Where the application relates to an alleged contravention of the Councillor Code of Conduct, the application must:

- Specify the name of the Councillor alleged to have contravened the Code.
- Specify the provision(s) of the Code that is alleged to have been contravened.

- Include evidence in support of the allegation.
- Name the Councillor appointed to be their representative where the application is made by a group of Councillors.
- Be signed and dated by the applicant or the applicant's representative.

The applicant is to notify the other party of the request and provide him or her with a copy of the application either at the same time that it is submitted to the Councillor Conduct Officer or as soon as practical thereafter.

**ii) Agreement to attend mediation**

The Councillor Conduct Officer is to ascertain (in writing) whether or not the other party is prepared to attend mediation. If the other party declines to participate in mediation, he or she is to provide their reasons for doing so in writing to the Councillor Conduct Officer. These reasons may be taken into account if the matter is, subsequently, the subject of an application for a Councillor Conduct Panel.

If the other party agrees to participate in an external mediation, the Councillor Conduct Officer is to advise the applicant, the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

**iii) Engagement of mediator**

If the other party consents to mediation the Chief Executive Officer will engage the services of an external mediator to conduct the mediation at the earliest practicable opportunity.

All parties will cooperate with the dispute resolution process and provide reasonable assistance to the external mediator and the Councillor Conduct Officer.

**iv) Mediation outcomes**

The mediator is to document any agreement reached at the meeting. Copies of the agreement are to be provided to the Councillor Conduct Officer and both parties.

Where the dispute remains unresolved, a Councillor may request the appointment of an arbiter.

**5.5.3 Internal arbitration process**

An internal arbitration involves a party (the Applicant) to a dispute requesting the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar to appoint an impartial third party (the Arbiter) to make findings in the relation to allegations concerning another Councillor(s) (the Respondent) and whether they have engaged in misconduct under the Act.

The role of the arbiter is to:

- Consider applications alleging a contravention of the Councillor Code of Conduct or breach of Council's policies or procedures by a Councillor.
- Make findings in relation to the application.
- Provide a written statement of reasons supporting the findings to the Council at the same time as it gives its findings to the Council.
- Recommend an appropriate sanction or sanctions where the arbiter makes a finding of misconduct against a Councillor.

Note: An application cannot be made for an internal resolution by arbitration during the election period for a general election. Any internal resolution procedure that is in progress is to be suspended during the election period for a general election.

**i) Application for arbitration**

An application for an internal arbitration process to make a finding of misconduct against a Councillor can be made by:

- the Council following a resolution of the Council, or
- Councillor or a group of Councillors.

The application can be obtained from the Councillor Conduct Officer and must:

- be made within three months of the alleged misconduct occurring;
- specify the name of the Councillor alleged to have contravened the Code;
- specify the provision(s) of the Code that is alleged to have been contravened;
- include evidence in support of the allegation;
- name the Councillor appointed to be their representative where the application is made by a group of Councillors;
- be signed and dated by the applicant or the applicant's representative; and
- be given to the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar in the manner specified by the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar in the manner specified by the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar in any guidelines published under section 149(1)(c) of the Act.

An applicant may withdraw an application for arbitration at any time. Once an application has been withdrawn, the same or a similar application relating to the same instance in relation to the respondent Councillor cannot be resubmitted by the applicant.

If the respondent to an application for an internal resolution procedure is not returned to office as a Councillor at the next election, the application will lapse. If the respondent is returned to office in the election, the application may resume if:

- The application was made by the Council and the Council so resolves; or
- The application was made by a group of Councillors and any one (or more) of those Councillors who has been returned to office wishes to proceed with the application; or
- The applicant (individual Councillor) is returned to office and wishes to proceed with the application.

On receiving an application, the Councillor Conduct Officer will:

- Advise the Mayor and CEO of the application without undue delay.
- Provide a copy of the application to the respondent Councillor at the earliest practical opportunity, but not later than two working days from receipt of the application.

**ii) Identification and appointment of a suitable arbiter**

The Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar, after examining an application, will appoint an arbiter to Council to hear the matter if satisfied that:

- The application is not frivolous, vexatious, misconceived or lacking in substance
- There is sufficient evidence to support an allegation of a breach of the Councillor Code of Conduct as specified in the application

In identifying an arbiter to hear the application, the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar will select and arbiter suitably independent and able to carry out the role fairly. The arbiter must be selected

from a panel of eligible persons established by the Secretary to conduct an internal arbitration process.

Once a suitable arbiter is identified the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar will:

- Obtain from the arbiter written advice that they have no conflict of interest in relation to the Councillors involved.
- Notify the parties of the name of the proposed arbiter and provide them with the opportunity (two working days) to object to the person proposed to be the arbiter.
- Consider the grounds of any objection and appoint the proposed arbiter or identify another arbiter.
- Provide a copy of the application to the arbiter as soon as practicable after the opportunity for the parties to object to an arbiter has expired.
- After consultation with the arbiter, advise the applicant and the respondent of the time and place for the hearing.
- Attend the hearing(s) and assist the arbiter in the administration of the process.

**iii) Arbitration hearing(s)**

The Councillor Conduct Officer will attend the hearing(s) and assist the arbiter in the administration of the process.

In considering an application alleging a contravention of the Councillor Code of Conduct, an arbiter will:

- in consultation with the Councillor Conduct Officer, fix a time and place to hear the application;
- authorise the Councillor Conduct Officer to formally notify the applicant and the respondent of the time and place of the hearing;
- hold as many meetings he or she considers necessary to properly consider the application. The arbiter may hold a directions hearing;
- have discretion to conduct the hearings he or she deems fit, while ensuring that the hearings are conducted with as little formality and technicality as due and proper consideration of the application allows;
- ensure that the parties to and affected by an application are given an opportunity to be heard by the arbiter;
- consider an application by a respondent to have legal representation at the hearing to ensure that the hearing is conducted fairly and may, in his or her absolute discretion, grant the application or deny the application;
- ensure that the rules of natural justice are observed and applied in the hearing of the application;
- ensure that the hearings are closed to the public.

Where an application to have legal representation is granted by an arbiter, the costs of the respondent's legal representation are to be borne by the respondent in their entirety.



**iv) Arbitration outcomes**

An arbiter:

- May find that a Councillor, who is a respondent to an internal resolution procedure application, has not engaged in misconduct.
- May find that a Councillor, who is a respondent to an internal resolution procedure, has engaged in misconduct.
- Will suspend consideration of an internal resolution procedure during the election period for a general election.
- May hear each party to the matter in person or solely by written or electronic means of communication.
- Is not bound by the rules of evidence and may be informed in any manner the arbiter sees fit.
- May at any time discontinue the hearing if the arbiter considers that the application is vexatious, misconceived, frivolous or lacking in substance or the applicant has not responded, or has responded inadequately, to a request for further information.
- Must refer the matter in writing to the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar if the arbiter believes that the conduct that is the subject of the application for an internal arbitration process appears to involve serious misconduct and would more appropriately be dealt with as an application to the Councillor Conduct Panel under section 154 of the Act.

The arbiter is to give a copy of his or her findings and the statement of reasons to: Council; the applicant; the respondent; and the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar.

A copy of the arbiter's findings, statement of reasons and any recommended sanctions is to be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of Council for its consideration. If the arbiter's decision and statement of reasons contains any confidential information, the confidential information must be redacted before submission to the Council meeting.

If an arbiter has found that a Councillor has engaged in misconduct, the Council may, after considering the arbiter's findings, statement of reasons and recommendation on sanctions, give any or all of the following written directions to the Councillor:

- Direct the Councillor to make an apology in a form or manner specified by the arbiter.
- Suspend the Councillor from the office of Councillor for a period specified by the arbiter not exceeding one month.
- Direct that the Councillor be removed from any position where the Councillor represents the Council for the period determined by the arbiter.
- Direct that the Councillor is removed from being the chair of a delegated committee for the period determined by the arbiter.
- Direct a Councillor to attend or undergo training or counseling specified by the arbiter.

**v) Failure to participate in the internal arbitration process**

A Councillor who does not participate in the internal arbitration process may be guilty of serious misconduct under the Act. Allegations of serious misconduct are heard on application by a Councillor Conduct Panel. Refer to the Councillor Conduct Officer for more information on this process.

## 6. Our commitment

### 6.1 Working together

We commit to upholding the spirit of the Code of Conduct and wish the Code to be always read and interpreted through this Statement of Intent.

Our express intention in adopting and being bound by the Code is to:

- always act with the highest levels of integrity, care and diligence to promote the best interests of the community as a whole, never for the benefit of one or more businesses, individuals, political parties or groups of people, in accordance with the law and governance principles applicable to our role as Councillors;
- develop and monitor the execution of the Council Plan but be mindful not to interfere in the operational execution of the Plan;
- act in accordance with agreed communication processes and channels (as approved Council) in a clear, respectful, patient manner designed to be mindful to minimise the impact upon the Council's resources and employees' time;
- welcome and listen to differing views and advice of Councillors, Council employees and other people attending Council related meetings of any kind and be open to constructive feedback;
- make decisions impartially and on the best evidence available; and
- accept accountability for our actions.

### 6.2 Councillor commitment to the Code of Conduct

I, as an elected representative of the community charged with decision making for Swan Hill Rural City Council, am committed to undertaking the duties and responsibilities of my office by working together with my fellow Councillors in a respectful and constructive manner to achieve the goals and vision for our municipality.

I recognise the importance of acting in accordance with the highest standards of governance, and that this is essential to honest, accountable and effective government. My behaviour towards my colleagues, the employees of Council and the community is critical to the teamwork required to be a successful and highly functioning public authority.

I acknowledge that I have been elected by the community to a position of significant responsibility with the expectation that I will act in accordance with accepted values of our society.

I also acknowledge that Council is committed to the values of community engagement, leadership, fairness, accountability and trust.

These values and associated obligations are set out in this Code together with additional conduct requirements and processes for the management of behaviour which does not meet the required standards.

The Code also incorporates specified policies and procedures which underpin the values and provide guidance for the implementation and management of Councillor conduct.

As a Councillor of Swan Hill Rural City Council I agree to:

- Act in accordance with the Standards of Conduct set out in the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) regulations 2020.
- Act in accordance with the principles of good governance and respectful conduct and associated obligations set out in the Code and legislation
- Provide civic leadership and contribute effectively to the interests and advancement of Council and its community

- Contribute to the strategic vision for Council and the community
- Uphold the public trust in the office of Councillor by refraining from any action or behaviour that would bring Council into disrepute
- Act in accordance with all my obligations to the best of my skill and judgement.

This Code sets out my commitment to my fellow Councillors and the community to govern the municipality in a manner that accords with the expressed behaviours, standards and values. This Code will be reviewed in accordance with relevant legislative obligations.

**By signing below, I declare to my fellow Councillors, and to the community, that I have read, understood and will abide by this Code of Conduct.**

I, Councillor Bill Moar, will abide by this Councillor Code of Conduct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Bill Moar

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, Councillor Chris Jeffery, will abide by this Councillor Code of Conduct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Chris Jeffery

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, Councillor Nicole Mckay, will abide by this Councillor Code of Conduct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Nicole Mckay

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, Councillor Ann Young, will abide by this Councillor Code of Conduct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Ann Young

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, Councillor Jade Benham, will abide by this Councillor Code of Conduct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Jade Benham

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, Councillor Les McPhee, will abide by this Councillor Code of Conduct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Les McPhee

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, Councillor Stuart King, will abide by this Councillor Code of Conduct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Stuart King

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Witnessed by:**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX 1 - GLOSSARY

<b>Act:</b>	All references to the 'Act' are to the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
<b>Arbiter:</b>	An arbiter is a person or institution that judges and settles a quarrel between two other people or groups.
<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b>	The Chief Executive Officer of Council.
<b>Chief Municipal Inspector:</b>	head of the Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate.
<b>Conflict of Interest:</b>	A relevant person has a conflict of interest if the relevant person has— (a) a general conflict of interest within the meaning of section 127; or (b) a material conflict of interest within the meaning of section 128.
<b>Council:</b>	Swan Hill Rural City Council.
<b>Councillor:</b>	All references to 'Councillor' include the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and elected members of Council.
<b>Councillor Conduct Panel:</b>	Means a panel formed by the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar under section 156 of the Act.
<b>Employee:</b>	An employee of Council includes all members of staff, contractors and volunteers under the direct control or supervision of the Council.
<b>Material conflict of interest:</b>	A relevant person has a material conflict of interest in respect of a matter if an affected person would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter
<b>Misconduct:</b>	Misconduct by a Councillor means any breach by a Councillor of the prescribed standards of conduct included in the Councillor Code of Conduct.
<b>General conflict of interest:</b>	A relevant person has a general conflict of interest in a matter if an impartial, fair-minded person would consider that the person's private interests could result in that person acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty.
<b>Gross misconduct:</b>	Gross misconduct by a Councillor means behaviour that demonstrates that a Councillor is not of good character or is otherwise not a fit and proper person to hold the office of Councillor, including behaviour that is sexual harassment and that is of an egregious nature.
<b>Serious misconduct:</b>	Serious misconduct by a Councillor means: (a) the failure by a Councillor to comply with the Council's internal arbitration process; (b) the failure by a Councillor to comply with a direction given to the Councillor by an arbiter under section 147; (c) the failure of a Councillor to attend a Councillor Conduct Panel hearing in respect of that Councillor; (d) the failure of a Councillor to comply with a direction of a Councillor Conduct Panel;

- (e) continued or repeated misconduct by a Councillor after a finding of misconduct has already been made in respect of the Councillor by an arbiter or by a Councillor Conduct Panel under section 167(1)(b);
- (f) bullying by a Councillor of another Councillor or a member of Council staff;
- (g) conduct by a Councillor that is conduct of the type that is sexual harassment of a Councillor or a member of Council staff;
- (h) the disclosure by a Councillor of information the Councillor knows, or should reasonably know, is confidential information;
- (i) conduct by a Councillor that contravenes the requirement that a Councillor must not direct, or seek to direct, a member of Council staff;
- (j) the failure by a Councillor to disclose a conflict of interest and to exclude themselves from the decision making process when required to do so in accordance with the Act.

**Councillor Conduct Officer:**

A person appointed by the Chief Executive Officer to assist Council in implementing its internal resolution procedure.

**Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar:**

an employee of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning whose role is to administer all Councillor conduct panel processes and appeals of panel decisions.

**VCAT:**

Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

**VEC:**

the Victorian Electoral Commission is the statutory election service provider for all Victorian council elections and Victorian State elections.

## **B.21.10 GIFTS, BENEFITS AND HOSPITALITY POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate Services  
**File Number:** S16-25P-02-027  
**Attachments:** 1 Draft Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy and Procedure

### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

### **Summary**

The Local Government Act 2020 requires Council to adopt a Gifts Policy by April 2021.

The proposed Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy and supporting Procedure have been developed in consultation with Council staff and are fully compliant with the new Act.

The Policy will enable consistently across the organisation of how the gifts, benefits and hospitality process is managed. The Policy provides clear expectations to Councillors and staff about what is required in relation to gifts, benefits and hospitality and provides transparency for the public about Council's approach to receipt of those items.

### **Discussion**

A Gifts Policy is required to be established by Council under section 138 of the Local Government Act 2020 on or before 24 April 2021. This Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy and Procedure have been developed in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

The Policy / Procedure includes:

- A clear outline Council's position responding to offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality including Councillor and staff obligations;
- Clear definitions of what constitutes a gift / benefit / hospitality;
- The Policy allows individuals to accept some offers of gifts, benefits or hospitality (such as a box of chocolates) and establishes clear processes for acceptance;
- The GIFT test which is intended to help guide the decision whether to accept or decline the gift;
- A requirement that the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Notification Form must be completed regardless of whether the gift was accepted or declined and its value, with the exception of declined token gifts;
- Introduction of a public register of gifts offered to Councillors and Nominated Officers with the exception of declined token gifts. The public register will be available on Council's website;

- Behavior consistent with the Councillor Code of Conduct and Staff Code of Conduct.

### **Consultation**

Consultation has occurred with the Chief Executive Officer, ELT, relevant Council staff and the Governance Unit.

### **Financial Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Social Implications**

The Policy supports Council in its ongoing drive for good governance and the importance of openness and transparency with the community.

### **Economic Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Environmental Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Risk Management Implications**

A Gifts Policy is required to be established by Council under section 138 of the Local Government Act 2020 on or before 24 April 2021. A delay in endorsing and implementing the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy may result non-compliance with the Act.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Governance and leadership*** - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

### **Options**

That the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy is:

- 1- adopted as attached.
- 2- not adopted

### **Recommendation**

**That Council adopts the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy as attached.**

**Recommendation**

**That Council adopts the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy as attached.**



Date adopted	February 2021
Last review	
Next review	February 2022
Responsible Officer	Director Corporate Services

Fully compliant with Victorian  
Charter of Human Rights and  
Responsibilities Act 2006



**POLICY TITLE**      **GIFTS, BENEFITS AND HOSPITALITY POLICY**

**POLICY NUMBER**    **CPOL/GOV027**

## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline Swan Hill Rural City Council's (Council) position on responding to offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality.

The intent of this policy is to support individuals and Council to avoid conflicts of interest and maintain high levels of integrity and public trust.

This policy supports behavior consistent with the Councillor Code of Conduct and Staff Code of Conduct.

## 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Councillors, Council committee members, employees and any individuals undertaking activity for or on behalf of Council.

## 3. DEFINITIONS

**Benefits:** Benefits include preferential treatment, privileged access, favours or other advantage offered to an individual. They may include invitations to sporting, cultural or social events, access to discounts and loyalty programs and promises of a new job.

The value of benefits may be difficult to define in dollars, but as they are valued by the individual, they may be used to influence the individual's behaviour.

**Bribe:** To give money or some other form of consideration to a public official so as to persuade the official not to exercise his or her common law or statutory powers or to bestow some privilege or favour.

**Conflict of interest:** Conflicts may be a:

- general conflict of interest within the meaning of section 127 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act); or a
- material conflict of interest within the meaning of section 128 of the Act.

A general conflict of interest is where an impartial, fair-minded person would consider that a person's private interests could result in that person acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty.

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A material conflict of interest is where an affected person would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter. The benefit may arise or the loss incurred either directly or indirectly and in a pecuniary or non-pecuniary form.

**Gifts:** Gifts are free or discounted items or services and any item or service that would generally be seen by the public as a gift. These include items of high value (e.g. artwork, jewellery, or expensive pens), low value (e.g. small bunch of flowers), consumables (e.g. chocolates) and services (e.g. painting and repairs).

**Hospitality:** Hospitality is the friendly reception and entertainment of guests. Hospitality may range from light refreshments at a business meeting to expensive restaurant meals and sponsored travel and accommodation.

**Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register:** A record of all declarable gifts, benefits and hospitality.

**Nominated Officer:** Means a member of Council staff who—  
 (a) has a statutory or delegated power, duty or function; and  
 (b) is nominated by the Chief Executive Officer because of the nature of that power, duty or function.

**Token offer:** A token offer is a gift, benefit or hospitality offered as courtesy or is inconsequential or trivial in value (ie equal to or less than \$50 for a Council employee of equal to or less than \$200 for a Councillor) to both the person making offer and the individual. Such gift would not be reasonably perceived as influencing a Councillor or Council Officer or raising an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest. (excludes cumulative offers from same source over 12 month period).

**Non-token offer:** A non-token offer is a gift, benefit or hospitality that is, or may be perceived to be by the recipient, the person making the offer or by the wider community, of more than inconsequential value. All offers of more than \$50 for a Council employee of more than \$200 for a Councillor must be recorded on Council’s Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register.

**4. POLICY**

Council is committed to and will uphold the following principles in applying this policy:

- **Impartiality** - individuals have a duty to place the public interest above their private interests when carrying out their official functions. They will not accept gifts, benefits or hospitality that could raise a reasonable perception of, or actual, bias or preferential treatment. Individuals do not accept offers from those about whom they are likely to make business decisions.

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- **Accountability** - individuals are accountable for:
  - declaring all non-token offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality; and
  - declining non-token offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality
- **Integrity** - individuals strive to earn and sustain public trust through providing or responding to offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality in a manner that is consistent with community expectations. Individuals will refuse any offer that may lead to a conflict of interest.
- **Risk-based approach:** Council through its policies and processes will ensure gifts, benefits and hospitality risks are appropriately assessed and managed.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

**Councillors', council committee members and staff** offered gifts, benefits and hospitality:

- Do not, for themselves or others, seek or solicit gifts, benefits and hospitality.
- Refuse all offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality that:
  - are money, items used in a similar way to money, or items easily converted to money;
  - give rise to an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest;
  - may adversely affect their standing as a public official or which may bring Council into disrepute; or
  - are non-token offers without a legitimate business benefit.
- Declare all offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality (whether accepted or declined) on Council's Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register in accordance with the attached Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Procedure.
- Refuse bribes or inducements and report inducements and bribery attempts in accordance with the attached Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Procedure.
- Ensure that a person, company or organisation is not placed in a position in which they feel obliged to offer gifts, benefits or hospitality in order to secure or retain Council business.

**Supervisory staff** are responsible for overseeing management of their direct reports' acceptance or refusal of non-token gifts, benefits and hospitality, modelling good practice and promoting awareness of gifts, benefits and hospitality policies and processes.

## 6. RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS

CPOL/GOV027 Councillor Code of Conduct  
 POL/STAFF100 Staff Code of Conduct  
 POL/CORP217 Tendering Policy  
 CPOL/CORP229 Procurement Policy  
 POL/STAFF123 Serious Misconduct, Negligence and Fraud Policy  
 CPOL/GOV022 Governance Rules  
 POL/STAFF104 Disciplinary Policy  
 PRO/GOV018 Public Interest Disclosure Procedure  
 CPOL/GOV023 Public Transparency Policy

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**7. RELATED LEGISLATION**

Local Government Act 2020 (VIC)

**8. DOCUMENT HISTORY**

Version Number	Issue Date	Description of Change
0.1 DRAFT		

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

Date adopted February 2021  
 Last review  
 Next review February 2022  
 Responsible Officer

Fully compliant with Victorian  
 Charter of Human Rights and  
 Responsibilities Act 2006



**PROCEDURE TITLE GIFTS, BENEFITS AND HOSPITALITY PROCEDURE**

**PROCEDURE NUMBER PRO/GOV027**

### **ENABLING POLICY**

Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy CPOL/GOV027

### **ENABLING LEGISLATION**

*Local Government Act 2020*

### **1. PURPOSE**

This procedure sets out the process for accepting, declining and recording offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality.

### **2. SCOPE**

This procedure applies to all gifts, benefits or hospitality offered to, or received by all Councillors, Council committee members, employees and any individuals undertaking activity for or on behalf of Council.

### **3. DEFINITION**

**Benefits:** Benefits include preferential treatment, privileged access, favours or other advantage offered to an individual. They may include invitations to sporting, cultural or social events, access to discounts and loyalty programs and promises of a new job.

The value of benefits may be difficult to define in dollars, but as they are valued by the individual, they may be used to influence the individual's behaviour.

**Bribe:** To give money or some other form of consideration to a public official so as to persuade the official not to exercise his or her common law or statutory powers or to bestow some privilege or favour.

**Conflict of interest:** Conflicts may be a:

- general conflict of interest within the meaning of section 127 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act); or a

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A material conflict of interest is where an affected person would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter. The benefit may arise or the loss incurred either directly or indirectly and in a pecuniary or non-pecuniary form.

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 (a) has a statutory or delegated power, duty or function; and  
 (b) is nominated by the Chief Executive Officer because of the nature of that power, duty or function.

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#### 4. RESPONSIBILITIES

**Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** is responsible for establishing and implementing processes for the effective management of gifts, benefits and hospitality.

**Supervisory staff** are responsible for overseeing management of their direct reports' acceptance or refusal of non-token gifts, benefits and hospitality, modelling good practice and promoting awareness of gifts, benefits and hospitality policies and processes.

**Councillors, council committee members and staff** are responsible for:

- Not seeking or soliciting offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality.
- Refusing all offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality that:
  - are money, items used in a similar way to money, or items easily converted to money;
  - give rise to an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest;
  - may adversely affect their standing as a public official or which may bring Council into disrepute; or
  - are non-token offers without a legitimate business benefit.
- Declaring all offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality on Council's Gift, Benefit and Hospitality Register
- Refuse bribes or inducements and report inducements and bribery attempts.

The **Executive Support Officer** is responsible for maintenance and reporting of the Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Register.

#### 5. PROCEDURE

##### 5.1. Offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality

As a general principle Council, Councillors and staff will not request the provision of gifts, benefits or hospitality, nor will they be made a condition of financial or other support being provided.

When deciding whether to accept an offer, individuals should first consider if the offer could be perceived as influencing them in performing their duties, or lead to reputational damage. The more valuable the offer, the more likely that a conflict of interest or reputational risk will be created. Similarly, the cumulative effect of regular offers of smaller gifts can also be perceived as creating conflicts or reputational risk. The 'GIFT' test in Figure 1 is intended to help guide the decision whether to accept or decline the gift.

A conflict of interest resulting from the acceptance of a gift, benefit or hospitality is not always clear to those who have them. Individuals who are unsure about accepting a gift, benefit or hospitality, or the application of this procedure, should ask their manager or the Governance Unit for advice.

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Figure 1: GIFT test

<b>G</b>	<b>Giver</b>	Who is providing the gift, benefit or hospitality and what is their relationship to me? Does my role require me to select suppliers, award grants, regulate industries or determine government policies? Could the person or organisation benefit from a decision I make?
<b>I</b>	<b>Influence</b>	Are they seeking to gain an advantage or influence my decisions or actions? Has the gift, benefit or hospitality been offered to me publicly or privately? Is it a courtesy or a token of appreciation or a valuable non-token offer? Does its timing coincide with a decision I am about to make?
<b>F</b>	<b>Favour</b>	Are they seeking a favour in return for the gift, benefit or hospitality? Has the gift, benefit or hospitality been offered honestly? Has the person or organisation made several offers over the last 12 months? Would accepting it create an obligation to return a favour?
<b>T</b>	<b>Trust</b>	Would accepting the gift, benefit or hospitality diminish public trust? How would the public view acceptance of this gift, benefit or hospitality? What would my colleagues, family, friends or associates think?

## 5.2. Requirements for refusing offers

Individuals should consider the GIFT test at Figure 1 and the requirements below to help decide whether to refuse an offer.

Individuals are to refuse offers:

- likely to influence them, or be perceived to influence them, in the course of their duties or that raise an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest;
- that could bring them or Council into disrepute;
- made by a person or organisation about which they will likely make or influence a decision (this also applies to processes involving grants, sponsorship, regulation, enforcement or licensing), particularly offers:
  - made by a current or prospective supplier;
  - made during a procurement or tender process by a person or organisation involved in the process;
- likely to be a bribe or inducement to make a decision or act in a particular way;
- that extend to their relatives or friends;
- that are repeat offers from the same source if they create a conflict of interest or may lead to reputational damage;
- of money, or used in a similar way to money, or something easily converted to money; or
- made in secret.



### 5.3. Reporting of offering of bribes or inducements

If an individual considers they have been offered a bribe or inducement, the offer must be reported to the Chief Executive Officer who will report any suspected criminal or corrupt conduct to Victoria Police or the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC). Alternatively a report can be made under section 5.10.1.

### 5.4. Refusing an offer

Where a staff member or Councillor has decided not to accept the offer of a gift, benefit or hospitality, it is important that the offer is declined in a way that does not cause offence to the donor or damage relationships. This can be achieved by explaining Council's policy and ensuring the donor understands that the offer is appreciated.

Where the gift would likely bring the person or the organisation into disrepute, the organisation should return the gift. If it represents a conflict of interest, the organisation should either return the gift or transfer ownership to the organisation to mitigate this risk.

In some cases it would be inappropriate to refuse an offer e.g. official gift from government officials. In this case the gift should be accepted on behalf of Council and passed over to the CEO.

Where staff or Councillors are offered gifts for speaking at conferences or meetings it is reasonable to accept a modest gift in recognition of this, as to refuse such an offer could cause offence or embarrassment. All such gifts should be recorded in the normal way on a Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality form.

In all circumstances offers of money, bribes or other offers prohibited through this policy or by legislation should be refused and reported where applicable.

### 5.5. Token offers

A token offer is an offer of a gift, benefit or hospitality that is of inconsequential or trivial value to both the person making the offer and the individual. It may include promotional items such as pens and note pads, and modest hospitality that would be considered a basic courtesy, such as light refreshments during a meeting.

Token offers cannot be worth more than:

- \$50 for a Council Staff member; or
- \$200 for a Councillor

Individuals may generally accept token offers without approval as long as the offer does not create a conflict of interest or lead to reputational damage.

Accepted token gifts must be declared and recorded on Council's Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register as detailed in section 5.9.

### 5.6. Non-token offers

As a general rule Councillors or staff members should not accept non-token offers of gifts, benefits or hospitality.

Individuals can only accept non-token offers if they have a legitimate business benefit. All accepted non-token offers must be recorded in the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register and be consistent with the following requirements:

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- it does not raise conflict of interest or have the potential to bring the individual or Council into disrepute; and
- there is a legitimate business reason for acceptance. It is offered in the course of the individual's official duties, relates to the individual's responsibilities and has a benefit to Council

Where the gift represents a conflict of interest or would likely bring the individual or Council into disrepute, Council should return the gift.

#### 5.7. Ownership of gifts

Non-token gifts received will become the property of Council.

Council may choose to retain the gift for Council use or dispose of the gift in accordance with this procedure.

#### 5.8. Disposal of gifts

When a gift is received that should not be accepted and cannot be returned by the individual, Council must dispose of the gift in an appropriate manner.

When a non-token gift is received, and Council does not wish to retain the gift, the gift will be disposed of by donating the gift to charity or by arranging to conduct a raffle, with the gift as a prize and the proceeds being donated to charity.

Councillors must dispose of any anonymous gifts within 30 days of the gift being received in line with the requirement in section 137 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### 5.9. Recording offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality

All offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality (excluding of declined token offers) must be recorded in Council's Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Register within seven days.

Council staff and Councillors must submit this information via the electronic Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Notification Form, available on the staff portal and on Councillor's phones.

The Executive Support Officer is responsible for the maintenance and reporting of the Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Register.

##### 5.9.1. Public Register

Council is committed to public transparency and will maintain a Public Register of all offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality (excluding declined token offers) that have been offered to Councillors and Nominated Officers. This Public Register will be available on Council's website.

The Executive Support Officer is responsible for the maintenance and reporting of the Public Register.

#### 5.10. Breaches

Failure to comply with the Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Policy and this procedure may lead to disciplinary action in accordance with Council's Disciplinary Policy and Serious Misconduct, Negligence and Fraud Policy for Council staff; and action under the Councillor Conduct Framework under the *Local Government Act 2020* or external avenues provided for by legislation for Councillors.

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5.10.1. Reporting of breaches

Individuals who consider that gifts, benefits and hospitality or a conflict of interest within Council may not have been declared or is not being appropriately managed should speak up and notify their manager or the Organisational Development Manager.

Individuals who believe they have observed corrupt conduct by:

- **Council staff** can make a disclosure to Council's Public Interest Disclosures Coordinator; or
- **Councillors**, should make a disclosure to the Chief Executive Officer who has the duty to disclose corrupt matters to the IBAC or make a disclosure under Council's Public Interest Disclosure Procedure.

6. RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS

- CPOL/GOV027 Councillor Code of Conduct
- POL/STAFF100 Staff Code of Conduct
- POL/CORP217 Tendering Policy
- CPOL/CORP229 Procurement Policy
- POL/STAFF123 Serious Misconduct, Negligence and Fraud Policy
- CPOL/GOV022 Governance Rules
- POL/STAFF104 Disciplinary Policy
- PRO/GOV018 Public Interest Disclosure Procedure
- CPOL/GOV023 Public Transparency Policy

7. RELATED LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2020

8. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version Number	Issue Date	Description of Change

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ CEO Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B.21.11 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND GUIDELINES**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate Services  
**File Number:** S16-25P-03  
**Attachments:** 1 Draft Community Engagement Policy

### **Declarations of Interest:**

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

### **Summary**

The Local Government Act 2020 requires Council to adopt a Community Engagement Policy by March 2021.

A policy and supporting guidelines have been developed in consultation with Council staff. The policy documents were developed promptly in order to provide timely guidance on the forthcoming community engagement on the Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan, also prescribed by the Act.

The policy and guidelines build on the organisation's current community engagement practice and have been developed in line with the requirements of the Act, which specifies engagement principles and deliberative engagement processes, and mandates use of the policy to inform community engagement on a number of strategic documents.

The Community Engagement Policy replaces the Public Participation Policy CPOL/GOV002.

### **Discussion**

According to the Local Government Act 2020, a Community Engagement Policy must be endorsed by March 2021, and must include reference to engagement principles and deliberative engagement processes. The Act specifies that the policy should inform community engagement on a number of strategic documents, including the Council Plan, Community Vision, Financial Plan and Asset Plan.

The policy needs to clearly provide guidance to Council and staff on the intention of community engagement and compliance with the Act.

The Act specifies a policy that meets the requirements set out in section 55(2). Consistent with that provision, the draft policy will, if adopted:

- a) Be capable of being applied to the making of local laws
- b) Be capable of being applied in relation to Council's 'budget and policy development'

**SECTION B - REPORTS**

23 February 2021

- c) Describe the type and form of community engagement proposed, having regard to the significance and complexity of the matter and the level of resourcing required
- d) Include 'deliberative engagement practices'
- e) Give effect to the community engagement principles outlines in s56, and
- f) Specify a process for informing the municipal community of the outcome of the community engagement.

**Consultation**

Consultation has occurred with the Community, Chief Executive Officer, ELT, Councillors and the Governance Unit.

Draft Policy went out for a period of community consultation. Consultation for the policy closed on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 8 submissions have been received for the policy.

Community Engagement Policy Feedback

Question 1 - What does good community engagement mean to you?
Respondent 1 - facilitating information to and from the community and those making decisions for and about the community
Respondent 2 - Listening to the community that you work for. Any major decisions such as the new building at the Pioneer Settlement and demolishing the old Heritage Bridge for a new one (when it could be built further down the road) should be voted on by the people you work for. "Not" just by the council
Respondent 3 - Open and transparent communication from council, not to find out things after the horse has bolted and then have to fight hard with petitions etc. NO TOP SECRET!!
Respondent 4 - Means getting along well sharing thoughts and letting everyone have their say in things as a community together
Respondent 5 - Being open and transparent, and willing to actually listen to community. Also not relying on social media, which (rightly so) a swath of the community avoids like the plague. Look at alternative platforms like Tribe which don't have the privacy and security issues around them that Facebook/Instagram/Twitter do.
Respondent 6 - open and honest communication
Respondent 7 - When councillors and council staff actually listen to the community's wishes and aspirations and take them into consideration when making decisions.
Respondent 8 - Provision of honest information. Provision of supporting data and information. Early engagement. Timely responses from Council. Acknowledge receipt immediately and provide a written response within 10 working days. Enables quantitative KPIs. 'If you can't measure it you can't manage it.' Ease of ability to provide feedback.

Question 2 - Tell us what you like about the Policy
Respondent 1 - it is attempting to improve communication
Respondent 2 -That you actually "might" talk and listen to the people you "work" for
Respondent 3 - Looks good on paper but past history suggests nothing will change
Respondent 4 - To be able to fix our public toilets

**SECTION B - REPORTS**

23 February 2021

Respondent 5 -Someone spent a lot of time regurgitating "standards" with little to no apparent consideration for what's relevant for our region.

Respondent 6 - Seems to cover all bases

Respondent 7 - That you are going to have one.

Respondent 8 - Policies are of no use unless they are embedded, and outcomes are measured and managed. They tick a mandated box but add nothing to the purpose of the business of council.

**Question 3 - Tell us how you think we could improve the Policy**

Respondent 1 - built into the policy there must be attempts to communicate effectively with those not familiar with the English language and the established structural arrangements in our society that many are unfamiliar with and therefore not involved in.

Respondent 2 - "Big" decisions should be voted on by the people the council "works" for

Respondent 3 - Just make sure it happens

Respondent 4 - Nothing to be improved at this moment

Respondent 5 - Less words. Get to the point. "A picture is worth a thousand words" - but have the wordy document as a backup for when people want more detail.

Respondent 6 - It's very thorough and comprehensive so doesn't need improvement

Respondent 7 - Do what you say you are going to do.

Respondent 8 - Include meaningful KPIs.

**Question 4 - After reading the Policy, what do you think Council needs to consider when engaging with our community?**

Respondent 1 - multi language communication and advocates/cultural officers on the ground to assist with the communication

Respondent 2 - Actually listen to them

Respondent 3 - Need to consider those voices who have experience in what is being proposed. For example the Chinese Pilot Training school, if not for being told about it by another source it would have gone ahead but we still have them flying in our air space

Respondent 4 - Lake Boga block 5 toilets around lake need fixing for the residents staying at the caravan park around the lake and to make them better and so the cleaners can keep them clean up to standards

Respondent 5 - Stop relying on the cesspool that is social media. Be innovative - look at alternative platforms like Tribe, which could really open up digital engagement.

Respondent 6 - Listen to the "silent majority" not the "vocal minority". eg Just get on and build the "My Place" at the Pioneer Settlement. It will be a great asset to Swan Hill and surrounds.

Respondent 7 - As for answer to Q1, listen and then make it happen how the community want it.

Respondent 8 - Provide feedback to the community. How many enquiries were responded to in the mandated timeframe? Were updates provided so the community wasn't left hanging, wondering what is going on. For example, the levee bank for Robinvale, what is happening? For example, misinformation about the sale and settlement of Bromley Road land. The information is publicly available through Land Data but Council failed to keep the community updated. Explain to the community why Kikuyu was planted for Bromley Road rather than Buffalo (in the tender). Kikuyu requires more maintenance than Buffalo and Council has created a nightmare for the gardening crew. It is cheaper but requires more maintenance, a long term cost to Council.

Question 5 - Are there any other comments or suggestions you would like to make in relation to the Policy?

Respondent 1 - Robinvale is in dire need of help in communication with and between residents and authorities or decision makers. Residents are keen to know and to "fit in" but assistance is not there.

Respondent 2 - It looks like a reasonable policy. Don't just talk about it, GO and actually do it. I'm tired of councils that Bullshit all the time

Respondent 3 - Just make sure it is adhered to by council. I remember going to meetings about the main street, lots of butcher paper suggestions with good ideas but none were used, instead we have ridiculous seats that do not match the town and trees up the middle that belong in the centre of the Simpson desert! Swan Hill is losing its identity and council have had a lot to do with that!

Respondent 4 - Yes why can't all swan hill have green bins for garden waste only like Mildura council have and make an extra day for just that collection and save people more room in there red bins as grass sticks to inside the bin so I was told by cleanaway and it makes a mess

Respondent 5 - Meh.

Respondent 6 - Well written. Thank you.

Respondent 7 - No.

Respondent 8 - Who determines 'meaningful' and 'inclusive'? Councillors lack knowledge of major projects so can't provide any worthwhile information. Do they receive briefings?

Question 6 - What is your postcode?

3549

4221

3585

3585

3597

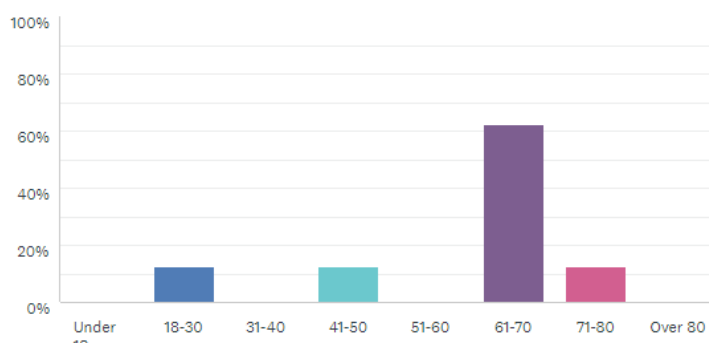
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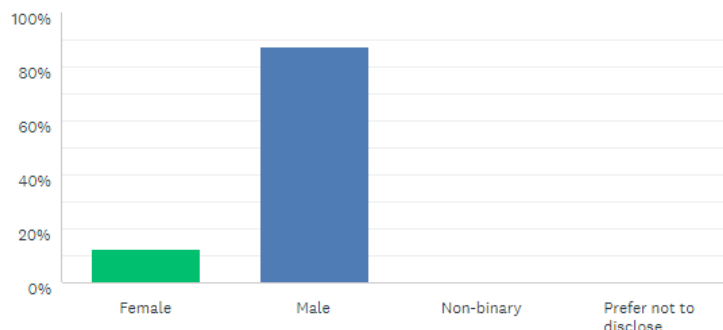
Please indicate your age group

Answered: 8 Skipped: 0

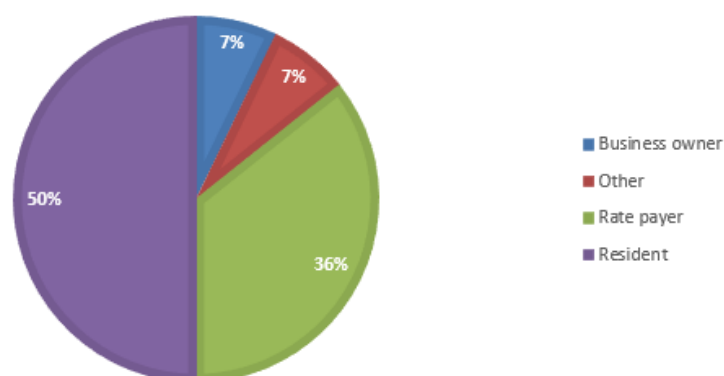


### What gender do you identify with?

Answered: 8 Skipped: 0



### WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBES YOUR CONNECTION TO THE SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.



Council appreciates and values community feedback, Council has collated all feedback and consideration has been made to the following themes:

#### Open and Transparent Communication

Council's Public Transparency Policy and Community Engagement Policy will allow Council to improved public participation and awareness in decision making through both deliberative engagement and participatory engagement.

#### Communicating effectively with a variety of different people

Council has developed Community Engagement Guidelines which complement the Policy, in the guidelines Council states that we will use a variety of methods and tools to cater for the different purposes of engagement and the broad range of groups and individuals in the community. Council will identify issues and the best communication channels when framing up engagement activities and promote inclusion, participation and accessibility to stakeholder groups.

#### Community Engagement platform/method

Council is currently considering options for a community engagement platform to



help facilitate meaningful and timely community engagement.

#### Commitment to Community Engagement

The Local Government Act 2020 requires Council to implement a community engagement policy and mandates use of the policy to inform community engagement on a number of strategic documents.

#### **Financial Implications**

The cost of Council Officer's time to engage with the community.

#### **Social Implications**

The Policy supports Council in its ongoing drive for good governance and the importance of open and transparent decision making, and has been created to provide Council consistency and clarity when engaging with the community.

#### **Economic Implications**

Not applicable.

#### **Environmental Implications**

Not applicable.

#### **Risk Management Implications**

The Engagement Policy is a requirement of the Local Government Act 2020. A delay in endorsing and implementing the policy may result non-compliance with the Act.

#### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

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

#### **Options**

That the Community Engagement Policy is:

- 1- Adopted as attached.
- 2- Not adopted.

#### **Recommendations**

**That Council discontinues the Public Participation Policy CPOL/GOV002 and adopts the Community Engagement Policy as attached.**

### **Recommendations**

**That Council discontinues the Public Participation Policy CPOL/GOV002 and adopts the Community Engagement Policy as attached.**

Date adopted  
 Last review January 2021  
 Next review January 2022  
 Responsible Officer

Fully compliant with Victorian  
 Charter of Human Rights and  
 Responsibilities Act 2006



**POLICY TITLE** COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

**POLICY NUMBER** CPOL/GOV025

## 1. PURPOSE

Swan Hill Rural City Council is committed to providing genuine and transparent opportunities for the community to participate in purposeful and planned community engagement processes to inform Council's planning and decision-making processes that affect, impact or interest them.

The purpose of this policy is to outline Council's approach to:

- create a consistent best practice approach to engagement;
- facilitate informed and sustainable decision making;
- improve information delivery and sharing; and
- promote a consistent inclusive and accessible approach to engagement.

## 2. SCOPE

The policy applies to Councillors, all Council officers, volunteers, consultants and contractors associated with Council and should be used to inform all stages of a community engagement process.

## 3. DEFINITIONS

**Community:** Includes individuals, groups of people, stakeholders, special interest groups, business groups, community groups and community organisations. A community can refer to a geographic location (community of place), a community of similar interest (community of practice) or a community of affiliation or identity (such as an industry or sporting club).

**Community engagement:** Community engagement is a planned process that supports public decision-making. It includes:

- Sharing information and providing updates
- Seeking feedback and gathering input
- Dialogue and deliberation

It is also sometimes referred to as public participation.

**Council:** Can refer to the Swan Hill Rural City Council as an organisation as well as the Mayor, Councillors, Administrators, Council staff, Executive Council Officers, consultants, and contractors working on behalf of the Swan Hill Rural City Council.

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**International Association for Public Participation (IAP2):** The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) is an international organisation dedicated to advancing the practice of public participation.

#### 4. POLICY

Community engagement enables the public to participate in decisions that impact on their lives. Councillors will make decisions based on legislative requirements, the expert advice of Council officers and community inputs gathered through formal and informal engagement.

Council will:

- ensure that the purpose of community engagement is genuine and adheres to the principles of this policy;
- use the IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum to assist with selecting the level of participation;
- ensure there is consideration given to value for money, principles and scale of engagement required, in line with the IAP2 spectrum;
- ensure the information provided to the community is clear, easy to understand and accessible to all people;
- clearly communicate which aspects of the engagement are negotiable, and which are not negotiable;
- use various techniques and approaches to maximise public participation within reasonable timeframes;
- inform the community about how their input has influenced the final outcome or decision; and
- undertake evaluation processes to learn from each community engagement experience to ensure continuous improvement of our consultation practices.

#### 5. PRINCIPLES

Council's community and stakeholder engagement approach is guided by the five community engagement principles set out under Local Government Act 2020, including:

- a community engagement process must have a clearly defined objective and scope;
- participants in community engagement must have access to objective, relevant and timely information to inform their participation;
- participants in community engagement must be representative of the persons and groups affected by the matter that is the subject of the community engagement;
- participants in community engagement are entitled to reasonable support to enable meaningful and informed engagement; and
- participants in community engagement are informed of the ways in which the community engagement process will influence Council decision making.

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## 6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Councillors and all staff are responsible for the planning, design and delivery of community engagement suitable to the scope and scale of the issues, strategy or plan and in line with principles and commitments in this policy.

Strategies such as the Council Plan and Municipal Strategic Statement engagement may require establishing or use of advisory groups and steering committees or special one-off forums/conferences to be a part of appropriate engagement. Local issues including site specific master plans or specific issues such as emergency awareness may require specific engagement plans this may include community forums, working groups, surveys or other engagement tools.

The Community Engagement Policy should be applied at the planning stage of any project or initiative, when a change in service, activities or infrastructure is considered, when an issue is raised and requires a decision or when more information or evidence is required. Engagement may be required at multiple stages within a project, program or development.

We will identify and manage community engagement activities associated with core business and projects approved in Council's budget. We will only consult on those aspects of core business that are negotiable and where the community can have meaningful input.

## 7. RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS

POL/GOV017 Social Media Policy  
 CPOL/GOV026 Councillor Code of Conduct  
 CPOL/GOV003 Media Policy  
 POL/CORP211 Privacy Policy  
 POL/STAFF127 Staff Code of Conduct  
 PRO/GOV025 Community Engagement Guidelines  
 Customer Service Charter  
 Communication and Engagement Strategy

## 8. RELATED LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2020  
 Local Government Act 1989  
 Equal Opportunity Act 2010  
 Disability Act 2006  
 Privacy and Data Protection Act 2004  
 Planning and Environment Act 1987  
 Road Management Act 2004  
 Multicultural Victoria Act 2011  
 Subordinate Legislation Act 1994  
 Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008  
 Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006  
 Gender Equality Act 2020  
 Public Administration Act 2004  
 Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005

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9. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version Number	Issue Date	Description of Change
0.1 DRAFT		

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

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

### **C.21.1 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
1025	173 Agreement – Subdivision of land - Lot LP:141495, 131 Murlong Street Swan Hill	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and M.J.Robertson and J.R.Robertson.	15/12/2020
1026	173 Agreement – Subdivision of land – Lot 1LP:148324, 109 Werril Street Swan Hill	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water Corporation and J.S.Taverna and T.Taverna.	15/12/2020
1027	173 Agreement – ongoing maintenance responsibilities for irrigation pipeline in Hodges and Algje Road, Wood Wood.	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Immuto Fleur Nominees Pty Ltd of 38 Byrnes Road, Woorinen VIC 3589.	15/12/2020

**DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION**

23 February 2021

1028	Deed of variation of lease – Swan Hill Aerodrome Aircraft Hanger	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and A.Middleton.	15/12/2020
1029	Deed of variation of lease – Catalina Museum	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Lake Boga Lions Club Inc and Rebecca Hart.	22/12/2020
1030	173 Agreement – Planning Permit 2020-36 Condition No5, Bael Bael Road, Lake Boga.	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and G.J.King.	12/01/2021
1031	Deed of variation of lease – 45 Monash Drive Swan Hill	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Little Murray Pty Ltd trading as O'Bryan Trading Trust.	12/01/2021
1032	Deed of variation of lease – 4 Logan Street, Swan Hill.	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Swan Hill Child Care Co-operative Limited.	12/01/2021
1033	Australia Day Community Event of the Year for 2020	Citation	12/01/2021
1034	Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year for 2020	Citation	12/01/2021
1035	Australia Day Citizen of the Year for 2020	Citation	12/01/2021
1036	Deed of Variation of Lease 8869 Murray Valley Highway, Boundary Bend	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Boundary Bend Progress Association Inc	20/01/2021
1037	Section 173 Agreement – 3145 Murray Valley Highway	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and M.Cordoma	02/02/2021

**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.**



**19/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Jeffery**

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

**SECONDED Cr Young**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

## **C.21.2 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 following report provides details of Councillor Assemblies on a monthly basis.

### **Discussion**

Whilst Minutes have not been recorded, Agenda items and those in attendance are reported and 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 Assemblies are reported to ensure good governance and transparency.

### **Recommendation**

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

### **20/21 Motion**

#### **MOVED Cr McKay**

**That Council note the contents of the report with an amendment (Cr Les McPhee was an apology at the 8 December 2020 Councillor Assembly).**

#### **SECONDED Cr Jeffery**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA  
24 November 2020 at 1pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- Annual Report
- Councillors initial discussion/review of Projects (possible finalisation of plan)
- Councillor Delegates
- Planning Application 202046 Royston Road Tol Tol (call Roy 03 5021 0031)
- Our Place Up-Date
- Aquatic Needs Analysis Engagement
- Indoor Stadiums Future Development Report
- Private Assets in Road Reserves policy
- Release of Draft Transition Plan for Household Recycling Reforms
- Domestic Animal Management Plan
- Australian Statistician re Population of Robinvale
- COVID-19 Small Business Grants
- Charter of Human Rights policy
- Staff and Council's Interaction Policy
- Parklets
- Thrive by Five

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Nil

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Stuart King

**Apologies**

- Nil

**OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Joel Lieschke, Director Corporate Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Helen Morris, Organisational Manager
- Warren Snyder, Finance Manager
- Stefan Louw, Development Manager
- Candis Fraser, Project Manager Our Place
- Dione Heppell, Construction Project Manager Regional Livestock Exchange Redevelopment
- Nathan Keighran, Liveability and Project Development Coordinator

- Gaye Cutajar, Technical Officer – Engineering
- Nazrul Islam, Engineering and Capital Projects Manager
- Trish Ficarra, Public and Regulatory Services Coordinator
- Anthony Duffin, Information Coordinator
- Jessica Warburton, Temp - Economic and Community Development Manager
- Jan McEwan, Family Youth & Children's Services Manager

Other

- Nil

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA  
1 December 2020 at 1pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- Councillor Induction
- Limestone extraction planning report - Cocamba-Miralie Rd
- Chain of Responsibility
- Our Place – update
- Councillors agree on changes to 10 Year Major Projects Plan
- Procurement Policy and Procedures
- South West Development Precinct
- Swan Hill Aerodrome – Regional Aerodrome Program – Round 2

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Nil

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Stuart King

**Apologies**

- Nil

**OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Joel Lieschke, Director Corporate Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Helen Morris, Organisational Manager
- Warren Snyder, Finance Manager
- Stefan Louw, Development Manager
- Dallas Free, Works Manager
- Julie Wiggins, Procurement and Properties Coordinator
- Candis Fraser, Project Manager Our Place
- Dione Heppell, Construction Project Manager Regional Livestock Exchange Redevelopment
- Nazrul Islam, Engineering and Capital Projects Manager

Other

- Nil

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA  
8 December 2020 at 8.45am, Tour Robinvale**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- Murray Street, Piangil
- Robinvale Library
- Robinvale Recreation Reserve
- Robinvale Leisure Centre
- Muracca Engineering
- F&L Tassone Family Trust – Table Grapes
- Objectors to Planning Application #2020-025, 71-77 Bromley Road (Subway proposal)

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Nil

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Stuart King

**Apologies**

- Cr Les McPhee

**OFFICERS**

- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Joel Lieschke, Director Corporate Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Stefan Louw, Development Manager
- Joyline Rovere, Planning Officer

Other

- Nil

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA**

**15 December 2020 at 12.30pm, Swan Hill Town Hall**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- Tim Quilty MP

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Nil

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Stuart King

**Apologies**

- Nil

**OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Joel Lieschke, Director Corporate Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure

Other

- Tim Quilty MP, Chiquita Johnson - Electorate Officer and Graham Springett - Senior Media Adviser

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil



**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA**

**12 January 2021 at 1.30pm, Swan Hill Town Hall**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- Australia Day arrangements
- CEO employment contract

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Nil

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Chris Jeffery

**Apologies**

- Cr Stuart King
- Cr Bill Moar

**OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Joel Lieschke, Director Corporate Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Helen Morris, Organisational Manager

Other

- 

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA  
2 February 2021 at 1.00pm, Swan Hill Town Hall  
AGENDA ITEMS**

- Future of the drag strip
- Aerodrome User Charges Final Position Paper
- Asset Management Policy
- Our Place
- Local Roads Community Infrastructure Fund Round 2 – Proposed Projects/Grant program opportunities
- Swan Hill Leisure Centre Gym Expansion
- KSI 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- Councillor Code of Conduct
- Community Engagement Policy & Guidelines

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Nil

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Stuart King
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Chris Jeffery

**Apologies**

- Cr Les McPhee

**OFFICERS**

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Joel Lieschke, Director Corporate Services
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Helen Morris, Organisational Manager
- Dione Heppell, Construction Project Manager Regional Livestock Exchange Redevelopment
- Nathan Keighran, Liveability and Project Development Coordinator
- Nazrul Islam, Engineering and Capital Projects Manager
- Laura O'Dwyer, Enterprise Assets Manager

Other

- 

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

## **COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA**

**9 February 2021 at 1.00pm, Swan Hill Town Hall**

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

- The State Government Rating Review and the Governments response and the "Rate Gate campaign by the Member for Mildura, Ali Cupper
- Our Place Update
- Curlewis Street Carpark
- Rail Freight Alliance Policy Statement
- Community Garden Policy
- Gifts and Benefits Policy
- Limestone Quarry – Cocamba-Miralie Road, request for amendment to permit conditions
- Swan Hill Drag Club

### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Nil

### **ATTENDANCE**

Councillors

- Cr Bill Moar
- Cr Stuart King
- Cr Jade Benham
- Cr Nicole McKay
- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Chris Jeffery

### **Apologies**

- Cr Les McPhee

### **OFFICERS**

- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Joel Lieschke, Acting Chief Executive Officer (Director Corporate Services)
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Helen Morris, Organisational Manager
- Dione Heppell, Construction Project Manager Regional Livestock Exchange Redevelopment
- Nazrul Islam, Engineering and Capital Projects Manager

Other

- 

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Nil

## **SECTION D – NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **D.21.3 SWAN HILL DRAG STRIP**

Having given due notice, **Councillor Stuart King MOVED that Council:**

- 1. Acknowledge the errors made in scoping and the construction of the Swan Hill dragstrip, noting that the finished strip does not and will not provide an acceptable racing surface for some race categories.**
- 2. Be provided with a report detailing the cost of and a proposal to:**
  - Accurately scope a project for the reconstruction of the Swan Hill dragstrip including associated motorplex infrastructure**
  - Prepare a functional design and accurate cost estimate**
  - Pursue multiple avenues for funding for this project**
- 3. Work with the Swan Hill Drag Racing Club to enable the running of allowable motorsport activities on the current dragstrip in the interim period to support the club to remain viable.**

#### ***Preamble***

The Swan Hill drag racing strip has been plagued with problems since its construction despite spending in excess of \$3 million in the construction phase and an additional \$500,000 in repairs and maintenance. The track continues to perform poorly.

Recent geotechnical investigations have shown that the subgrade supporting the finished surface of the track continues to move and does not have a stable moisture environment. The concrete surface of the track continues to move and crack and the asphalt and flexible pavement portion of the track continues to heave and move. This results in a track that is unsuitable for top-class drag racing and geotechnical investigations have indicated that it is inevitable that this track will continue to move and will never be suitable for top fuel racing.

The failures of this project have received significant attention from the Swan Hill community who have expressed concerns that the cost of this project and its failure to deliver any tangible results to the Swan Hill economy. This is in fact the case and the situation will remain until such time as the track is repaired, rebuilt or replaced. The three motions that I propose as listed above are intended to spell out a way forward for Council to address this ongoing problem. Council needs to acknowledge the errors made and to move forward to resolve this significant issue.

Having given due notice, **Councillor Stuart King MOVED** that Council:

- 1. Acknowledge the errors made in scoping and the construction of the Swan Hill dragstrip, noting that the finished strip does not and will not provide an acceptable racing surface for some race categories.**
- 2. Be provided with a report detailing the cost of and a proposal to:**
  - Accurately scope a project for the reconstruction of the Swan Hill dragstrip including associated motorplex infrastructure**
  - Prepare a functional design and accurate cost estimate**
  - Investigate avenues for funding for this project**
- 3. Work with the Swan Hill Drag Racing Club to enable the running of allowable motorsport activities on the current dragstrip in the interim period to support the club to remain viable.**

Cr McPhee called for a separation of the motion.

#### **21/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr King**

**That Council acknowledge the errors made in scoping and the construction of the Swan Hill dragstrip, noting that the finished strip does not and will not provide an acceptable racing surface for some race categories.**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

#### **22/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr King**

**That Council provide a report detailing the cost of and a proposal to:**

- Accurately scope a project for the reconstruction of the Swan Hill dragstrip including associated motorplex infrastructure**
- Prepare a functional design and accurate cost estimate**
- Investigate avenues for funding for this project**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

Cr Les McPhee called for a division

**For:** Crs McKay, JB Benham, Jeffery, King, Moar and Young

**Against:** Cr LM McPhee

**23/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Jeffery an amendment to the motion**

**That Council encourage the Swan Hill Drag Racing Club to enable the running of allowable motorsport activities on the current dragstrip in the interim period to support the club to remain viable.**

**SECONDED Cr McKay**

**The Amendment was put and CARRIED**

**24/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Jeffery**

**That Council encourage the Swan Hill Drag Racing Club to enable the running of allowable motorsport activities on the current dragstrip in the interim period to support the club to remain viable.**

**SECONDED Cr McKay**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**D.21.4 INVESTIGATE THE VIABILITY OF SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL AND THE MURRAY RIVER GROUP OF COUNCILS BECOMING A DESIGNATED AREA MIGRATION AREA (DAMA)**

Having given due notice, **Councillor Jade Benham MOVED that Council:**

- 1. Re-investigate the strengths and challenges associated with Designated Area Migration Area (DAMA) program.**
- 2. Investigate the willingness and practicality of the Murray River Group of Councils collaborating on this project**
- 3. Provide a report to a future Council meeting on the above two matters making clear recommendations and addressing:**
  - The ability of the program to help alleviate some of the labour shortages in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors.**
  - The view of the Murray River Group of Councils**
  - The costs associated with the implementation of the program**

***Preamble***

A designated area migration agreement (DAMA) is a formal agreement between the Australian Government and a regional, state or territory authority. It provides access to more overseas workers than the standard skilled migration program. DAMAs operate under an agreement-based framework, providing flexibility for regions to respond to their unique economic and labour market conditions.

A DAMA is a two-tier framework covering a defined regional area. The first tier is an overarching five-year deed of agreement (head agreement) with the region's representative. The second tier comprises individual labour agreements with employers under the settings of the head agreement for that region.

DAMA labour agreements are between the Australian Government and endorsed employers operating within the relevant region. They:

- are generally in effect for five years, and
- use the subclass 482 Temporary Skills Shortage (TSS), subclass 494 Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (Provisional)\*, and subclass 186 Employer Nominated Scheme (ENS) visa programs.

Employers must seek and gain endorsement from the Designated Area Representative before lodging a labour agreement request.

Employers must seek and gain endorsement from the Designated Area Representative before lodging a labour agreement request.

Under the DAMA framework, employers in designated areas experiencing skills and labour shortages can sponsor skilled and semi-skilled overseas workers. Individuals cannot directly access a DAMA. Individuals need to be sponsored:

- by an employer operating in a designated region
- for an occupation that is specified in the head agreement.

DAMAs ensure employers recruit Australian citizens and permanent residents as a first priority. Among other things, employers must demonstrate a genuine attempt to recruit Australians prior to getting access to a DAMA labour agreement.

There are currently seven DAMAs in place:

- Northern Territory: [Northern Territory Designated Area Migration Agreement](#)
- The Goldfields, WA: [City of Kalgoorlie Boulder](#)
- Great South Coast, VIC: [Warrnambool City Council](#)
- Adelaide City Technology and Innovation Advancement: [Skilled & Business Migration](#)
- South Australia Regional: [Skilled & Business Migration](#)
- Orana, NSW: [Regional Development Australia - Orana, NSW](#)
- Far North Queensland: [Cairns Chamber of Commerce DAMA – Cairns Chamber of Commerce, FNQ](#)

\*Available under the Adelaide City and SA Regional DAMAs only.

If your region is interested in a DAMA,  
email [labour.agreement.section@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:labour.agreement.section@homeaffairs.gov.au).

For information about labour agreements or other options for regional areas, the following resources are available:

- [Regional migration](#)
- [Labour agreements](#)

**25/21**

**MOVED Cr Benham**

Having given due notice, **Councillor Jade Benham MOVED that Council:**

- 1. Re-investigate the strengths and challenges associated with Designated Area Migration Area (DAMA) program.**
- 2. Investigate the willingness and practicality of the Murray River Group of**



**Councils collaborating on this project**

- 3. Provide a report to a future Council meeting on the above two matters making clear recommendations and addressing:**
- **The ability of the program to help alleviate some of the labour shortages in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors.**
  - **The view of the Murray River Group of Councils**
  - **The costs associated with the implementation of the program**

**SECONDED Cr McKay**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

### **D.21.5 SUPPORT OF RATE GATE AND STATE GOVERNMENT RATE REFORM**

Having given due notice, **Councillor Jade Benham MOVED that: Council give in principal support to the Rate Gate team and write to Ali Cupper's office in support of rate reform and e-petition supporting this issue.**

#### ***Preamble***

A fair and equitable distribution of tax revenue should come back to Councils such as ours to help promote financial sustainability and asset renewal.

The State Government has created municipal councils with functions and powers required to effectively service the needs of their communities. Despite the rigour and precision applied in determining councils and their boundaries; substantial geographic, demographic, and economic differences exist, and will always exist between them. These inherent structural characteristics such as population size, population density and community income levels, are externally imposed and virtually beyond council control. These factors determine capacity to raise revenue and contain costs (sustainable capacity) and hence have a substantial impact on council financial sustainability.

Their impact has long been recognised by many organisations associated with analysis of local government performance including the Australian Productivity Commission, the Victoria Grants Commission, and several studies conducted by major consulting firms such as Access Economics and Pricewaterhouse Coopers. It is widely acknowledged that metropolitan and large regional councils have greater financial capacity to meet their service needs. This is because they possess the geographic and economic capacities and community income levels to support them. Conversely most rural municipalities, particularly the smaller more remote rural councils, experience the greatest difficulty in doing so. They have been forced to cope in two ways; by greatly increasing rate levels of communities less able to afford them, and by reducing service standards because of the much higher costs they incur to deliver them. The only means of satisfactorily addressing the inherent disadvantages confronting these councils is to provide them with long term, guaranteed financial support in the form of recurrent grants.

In 2011 the State Government recognised this disparity by allocating a grant of \$160 million (\$40m per year for 4 years) to rural councils. The grant was broadly based on a report titled "Local Government Financial Sustainability, Focus on Small Rural Councils, May 2010," compiled by Merv and Rohan Whelan, that accurately and objectively assessed the relative financial sustainability of all Victorian Councils.

This grant ceased following a change of Government.

It is essential that the State Government take action to address the imbalance in the capacity of rural councils to service the needs of their communities, thereby lessening the difference in sustainable capacity between rural and metropolitan councils.

Long-term recurrent grants are required for this purpose.

Questions to be resolved in implementing the program include:

- the total amount to be provided annually by the State Government
- the means of determining those rural councils that will participate,
- and the level of grant to be made to each of them.

**26/21**

**MOVED Cr Benham**

Having given due notice, **Councillor Jade Benham MOVED that:**

**Council give in principal support to the Rate Gate team and write to Ali Cupper's office in support of rate reform and e-petition supporting this issue.**

**SECONDED Cr McKay**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**SECTION E – FORESHADOWED ITEMS**

Nil

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

Nil

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

**Cr McKay**

Australia Day Breakfast at Nyah West  
Australia Day Swimming Pool event at Nyah  
Survival Day Rally  
Nyah District Action Group Meeting  
Manangatang Improvement Group Meeting  
Boundary Bend Community Meeting  
Piangil Community Meeting

**Cr McPhee**

Australia Day breakfast – Ultima  
Win TV interview re: Swan Hill Hospital

**Cr King**

Swan Hill Inc Board Meeting  
Swan Hill Inc – Industrial/Commercial Marketing campaign launch  
Swan Hill Motorplex AGM and general meeting  
Interview with Tessa Ackerman – The Australian Newspaper re: Victorian lockdown  
and cancellation of Country Week Tennis  
Interview with Alan Jones – Sky News re: cancellation of Country Week Tennis

**Cr Young**

Tennis – Event replacing opening  
MASH Artists AGM  
BPW meeting  
Opening K-Hub

**Cr Jeffery**

Nil to report

**Cr Benham**

WAC meeting via Teams  
REBA meeting  
Australia Day ceremony at Robinvale  
Meeting with Swan Hill Rotary Club  
Meeting with Northern Mallee Leadership program  
Congratulations to Seamus Mitchell who was drafted to Hawthorn Football Club

**Cr Moar**

Numerous school presentations of leadership badges and Australia Days Awards  
Piangil Community Group  
Residents and Ratepayers  
Citizenship Ceremony in Swan Hill and Robinvale on Australia Day  
Swan Hill Inc Meeting – Greater Shepparton Campaign  
Opening K-Hub

## **SECTION H – IN CAMERA ITEMS**

### **27/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McPhee at 4.10pm**

**That Council, pursuant to section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* , resolve to close the meeting to members of the public to consider the following items which relate to matters specified under section 3(1), as specified below:**

#### **B.21.2 IN CAMERA CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

**(c) industrial matters**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**28/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McPhee**

**That the meeting move out of closed session**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

**SECTION I – DECISIONS MADE IN CAMERA**

**B.21.2 REAPPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**29/21 Motion**

**MOVED Cr McPhee**

**That Council determine their intention to reappoint the CEO for a further two-year period in accordance with requirements under the Local Government Act 1989 and authorise Officers to arrange a public notice of its intention to reappoint the CEO without advertising.**

**SECONDED Cr Benham**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

There being no further business the Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar closed the meeting at 4.13pm.