



**Macedon  
Ranges**  
Shire Council

# **ATTACHMENTS**

**Council Meeting  
Under Separate Cover**

**Wednesday 22 May 2024**





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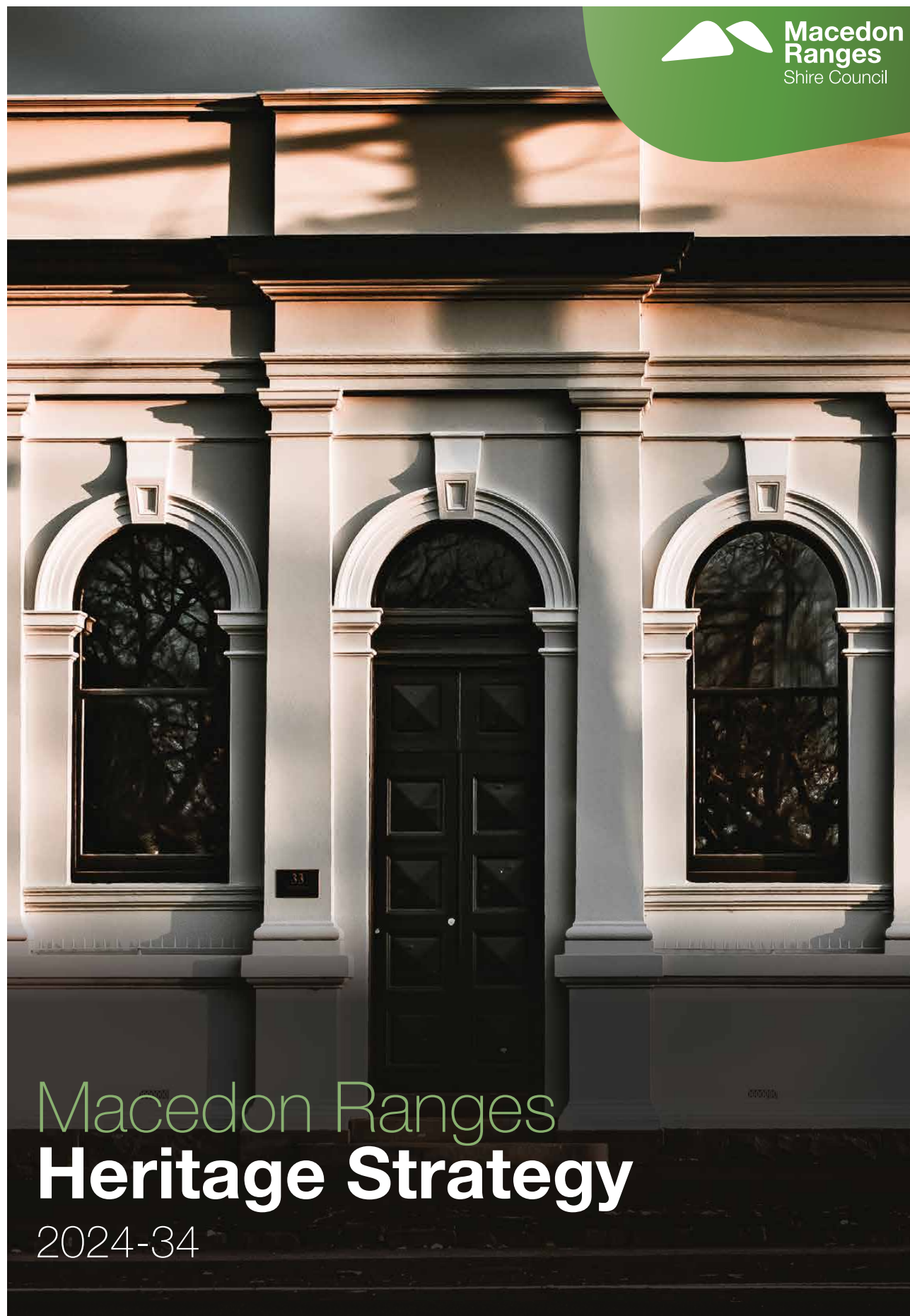
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Macedon  
Ranges  
Shire Council



# Macedon Ranges Heritage Strategy

2024-34



**Cover Image: Lancefield Old Bank**  
 "I love how the morning and afternoon light hits these old buildings. They hold so much character and so many stories, and even if you're not aware of the history of these old buildings, there is always something that will make you pause in awe. These old buildings are a constant source of inspiration and I hope to see them kept, restored and honored for many years to come" – Tamika Petersen

## Strategy endorsement

Date of Adoption	TBC
Adoption Method	Council
CEO Signature   Date	TBC
Manager	Rob Ball, Manager – Strategic Planning and Environment
Department	Planning and Environment Directorate
Unit	Strategic Planning
Term	Ten years
Last Endorsement Date	TBC
Nominated Review Period	Progress report annually / Strategy reviewed every 4 years
Next Endorsement Date	TBC

# Acknowledgement of Country

Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the **Dja Dja Wurrung**, **Taungurung** and **Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung** Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.

**Artwork by Taungurung artist Maddi Moser. Artwork used with permission.**

"[The artwork talks about] our connection, connection to Country, connection to places and connection to each other. This is signified by the whimsical circles that form the 'rivers'; that wrap around our lands and ourselves. It reminds us that we should look out for one another."





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### Photo and word credits

The images and words in this document are used with thanks, from community members who participated in the 'Love our Heritage' photo survey in May and June 2023.



**Image: Living Heritage Tree, Main Street, Romsey**

"The branches of this magnificent tree once inspired a young Vincent Buckley. Keeping our living heritage is critical for future generations to enjoy"  
– Peter Golding

## Introduction

We protect heritage because it connects us to the past, gives us a sense of place in the present, and preserves what we value for future generations to enjoy. It belongs to all of us, and we are all responsible for caring for it.

The heritage of Macedon Ranges is rich and unique to our area. There are many types of heritage, from the natural, Aboriginal, and historic places we have created and inherited, to plantings of mature trees and avenues, or manipulation of landscapes for water, travel, agriculture, and industry. Evidence of the shire's past is present in objects and collections, records and stories, passed on to us from the First Peoples who have lived here for thousands of years as well as those who have migrated here in colonial settlement and since. The Macedon Ranges is fortunate to have a community who champion the heritage we love and who advocate and work to preserve and protect it.

Council has several important roles regarding the heritage of the Macedon Ranges:

- Council **protects** heritage that is of significance at a local, state, national and even global level under different legislative mechanisms. This is done through strategic planning to identify, assess and then implement controls for places through heritage studies and planning scheme amendments.
- Council is a **custodian** of the municipality's heritage – Council owns or manages many heritage assets, collects and maintains records and objects, and names places on behalf of the Macedon Ranges community.
- Council has a **regulatory** role permitting and advising owners to manage their private heritage assets through statutory processes.
- Council works to **promote** the value of heritage across the shire, supporting the community by building awareness and understanding of heritage matters.



**Image: Pioneer Park, Gisborne**  
 "Gisborne Pioneer Wall, designed by the Historical Society as part of a LEAP programme, currently contains 130 plaques to recognise early settlers of this district" – Phyllis Boyd

# Heritage in the Macedon Ranges at a glance



## Planning

We plan for heritage with this Heritage Strategy, which sets Council direction from this strategic work.

**1**  
Thematic Environmental History, which tells us what themes are unique and important in the Macedon Ranges' land use history

**6**  
Heritage studies and reviews, which have been implemented through:

**+**  
A number of council led heritage and correction amendments, which has resulted in:

**Over 2,100**  
properties, which are protected for their heritage and managed through:

**Approx one-third**  
of planning permits, which include heritage considerations



## Places and objects

**49**  
State heritage places

**292**  
Local Heritage Overlay precinct and individual places

**91**  
Archaeological places

**Over 800**  
Potential heritage places

**+**  
Aboriginal sites that are nationally or state significant

**+**  
Kyneton Museum and collections

**+**  
Public, historical and community records

**More than \$170 million**  
Council-owned / managed assets, including heritage buildings, gardens and streetscapes



## People

**3**  
Recognised Aboriginal Parties

**5**  
Heritage and historical societies

**1**  
Museum Friends group

**+**  
Specially trained Council officers for heritage places, collections, records and plants



# Macedon Ranges Heritage Strategy 2024-34

## Purpose

The Heritage Council of Victoria's 2020 state-wide review of local heritage, the State of Heritage Review, identified that most of the heritage places in Victoria – more than 186,000 places – are protected by local government authorities, such as Macedon Ranges Shire Council. The Macedon Ranges Heritage Strategy 2024-34 (the Heritage Strategy) sets out Council's approach to the management of heritage within the municipality. It is a key strategic tool for assisting the organisation to meet our obligations under different pieces of heritage legislation.

The Heritage Strategy identifies some of the work already being done on heritage matters and makes recommendations for the critical and urgent work that needs to be done in the future, to protect the rich history and heritage of the Macedon Ranges.

## Background

The inaugural Macedon Ranges Heritage Strategy 2014-18 was adopted in June 2014. The 2014-18 strategy contained 55 actions organised under the four objectives – Knowing, Protecting, Supporting, and Communicating and Promoting. Of these, in the four-year strategy cycle around a third were completed, the majority were not commenced, and a small number have since become redundant. The insights from this have influenced this new Heritage Strategy; as a result, fewer actions will be recommended over a longer cycle, to have a greater chance of successful implementation and completion and provide a more realistic plan for what can be achieved.



**Image: Corner of Mollison Street and Ellesmere Place, Malmsbury**  
"Absolutely love this historic, quiet, contemplative, open space that attracts locals and visitors alike. Easy to access off the freeway. Home to fauna and flora" – Christine Barker



# Consultation

The new Heritage Strategy project was launched in March 2023. It began with a review of the previous strategy and two rounds of consultation and engagement:

## Community consultation – ‘Love our heritage’ photo survey

In May and June 2023, Council asked the community to tell us what they love about the heritage of the Macedon Ranges, in pictures and words. In response, more than 40 photos were submitted, telling us what community members love and want to keep, or would change for the better about our heritage.

The photos and words covered a range of topics, including:

- specific heritage places or features that are valued such as Woodend Court House and the Annis and George Bills Trough in Kyneton
- types of heritage – historic collections, farming heritage, streetscapes and town centres, architecture and infrastructure, mature trees and plantings, landscapes, and the natural environment
- places or issues that are of concern to the community – heritage that is undervalued such as bluestone pavements or shepherds’ huts, and issues such as demolition by neglect.

## Organisation engagement

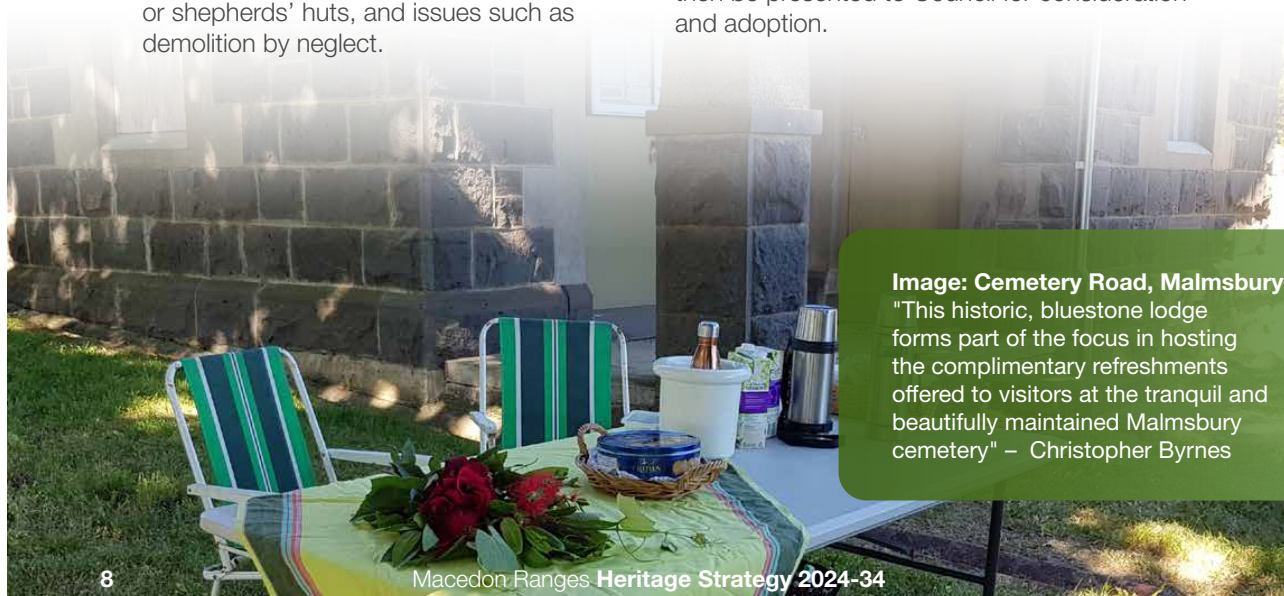
Officers from across the organisation were engaged on the project, following the community consultation.

The three key outcomes from the organisation engagement are:

- the need for training due to a lack of awareness of heritage legislation and practices
- that the organisation itself needs to lead by example, as one of the largest owners / managers of heritage assets in the municipality, and this should therefore be the focus of the Heritage Strategy
- the need to refine the project scope to 1) include climate change as an issue that disastrously impacts our heritage; and 2) to change our approach from the previous strategy, including reassessing the number of actions and how we track progress on these.

## Draft Heritage Strategy 2024-34

This draft Heritage Strategy document has been prepared for community consultation, and feedback will be reviewed and addressed or incorporated. The final Heritage Strategy will then be presented to Council for consideration and adoption.



**Image: Cemetery Road, Malmsbury**  
 "This historic, bluestone lodge forms part of the focus in hosting the complimentary refreshments offered to visitors at the tranquil and beautifully maintained Malmsbury cemetery" – Christopher Byrnes

# Council Plan Objective

## Strategic objective 1: Connecting communities

A connected community is where people have access to the services they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging.



# Council Plan Priority

Progress the Heritage Strategy to guide Council's priorities for further heritage protection (2021-2031 Year Three 2023-2024).

# Our goal for heritage in the Macedon Ranges

Our goal is to value, protect, and celebrate the rich and diverse natural, Aboriginal, and historic heritage of the Macedon Ranges and its places, plantings, records, collections, and peoples.

## Objectives and Strategies

The Heritage Strategy is organised by these five objectives:



Knowing



Protecting



Supporting



Communicating and Promoting



Preparing



**Image: Shopfronts & verandahs High Street Woodend**

"I love the old shopfronts and verandahs and would like them to be retained and maintained as a valued shire asset" – Jen Whiddon





## Objective 1 – **Knowing**



**Image: Stone stables and garden at historic farm, Carlsruhe**

"I love the rural aspect and small towns with heritage buildings, the natural wonders such as Hanging Rock, the Jim Jim, the Cobaws and Mount Macedon. I love the clean air, the kangaroos, koalas, wombats and bird life that abound, the tang of the bush and the sense of community" – Jannyse Williams

## Knowing: Programming heritage studies to identify, assess and document our heritage places

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has three legacy heritage studies from the 1990s that provide the basis for much of our current heritage provisions:

- Shire of Kyneton Conservation (Heritage) Study 1990
- Macedon Ranges Cultural Heritage and Landscape Study 1994
- Macedon Ranges Pre-Contact Pilot Study Victoria 1996

These studies were ground-breaking in their time in their approach to the documentation of Aboriginal, landscape, natural and historic heritage, and between them they cover the extent of the municipality. The studies documented some 2,110 places and 36 precincts in total, with recommendations for protection or further study. But of these, only about 250 Heritage Overlays were implemented through the New Format Planning Scheme process in the late 1990s.

Council's heritage advisory program commenced in the late 2000s and began the process of reviewing the outstanding recommendations to continue implementing the 1990 and 1994 studies. This program achieved the following:

- Heritage study reviews of Lancefield, Riddells Creek, Romsey and Woodend in 2010-12, Gisborne and Kyneton in 2017-19, and Woodend, Lancefield, Macedon, and Mount Macedon in 2019-23, with associated planning scheme amendments putting in place Heritage Overlays for four new precincts and 110 new individual places.

- Initial entries for all legacy study places and precincts loaded into the Hermes Orion database of the Victorian Heritage Database in 2010-13.
- Mapping of the remaining potential heritage places and precincts (i.e. those not yet protected) in Council's internal mapping system.

Places having Aboriginal cultural heritage values in the municipality were drawn from the 1996 pre-contact study. These places were entered into the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register by the Victorian Government authority, now known as First Peoples – State Relations.



**Image: Malsbury Mechanics Institute**

"This beautiful, bluestone building houses the collection and is the venue for MHS committee meetings... Building needs to be heritage listed and a commitment to repairs provided" – Christine Barker

Council has recently adopted the Macedon Ranges Shire Thematic Environmental History (2023). This strategic tool is used for understanding the land use development that has created the municipality that we know and value today. The report is organised around nine themes localised to the Macedon Ranges, for how the environment was shaped, to how people came to live here, travel, manage the





land, build industries, towns, and communities, and govern.

The next step is to analyse our current heritage protections and to determine what themes are already represented, and what the gaps might be to guide future heritage study work to protect under-represented themes and places.

Mapping is a key tool used to identify distinct types of heritage. Recently, a state-wide improvement has been the provision of archaeological mapping by Heritage Victoria, to improve awareness of protected underground sites. Several mapping refinements and changes have also been made within the organisation to improve awareness of heritage, such as:

- clearer and more accurate mapping of archaeological, Aboriginal, local, and state heritage sites
- ensuring different areas of the organisation have access to heritage mapping
- ongoing tree audits and mapping of Council-owned / managed mature trees, including heritage avenues and botanic gardens
- ongoing updating of places that have the potential to be of heritage significance.

A range of other information technology systems are used by the organisation to undertake asset management and capital works programming. Many Council assets have heritage significance, however these specialised computer programs are not currently designed to take heritage considerations into account. Ensuring heritage compliance and considerations are integrated into these programs will result in better outcomes for these heritage assets.

### Strategy actions – Knowing

**We will complete** an analysis of the heritage controls in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme against the themes listed in the Thematic Environmental History, to identify the main gaps to inform the heritage studies to be undertaken over the next decade.

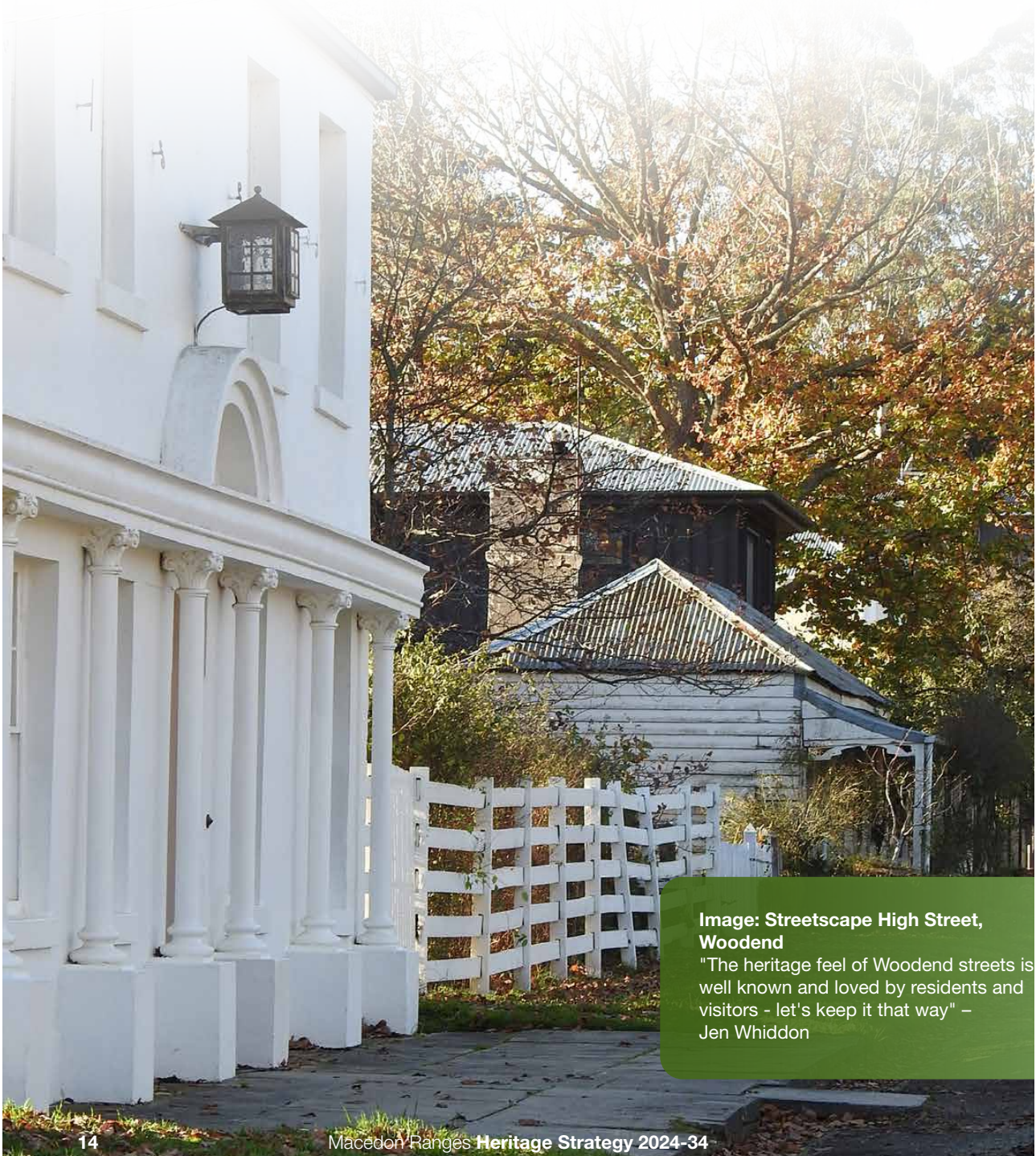
**We will commence** the heritage studies in order of priority and protect these places through an amendment to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.

**We will integrate** compliance, conservation considerations, and period / type of heritage into the asset management system for Council-owned / managed assets.





## Objective 2 – **Protecting**



**Image: Streetscape High Street, Woodend**

"The heritage feel of Woodend streets is well known and loved by residents and visitors - let's keep it that way" – Jen Whiddon



## Protecting: Securing statutory protection for significant places; developing policy and guidelines to assist decision making; appropriate management of Council’s heritage assets

The Heritage Overlay controls we have today in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme were introduced by the New Format Planning Scheme process in June 2000. Since then, it has been identified that many of these Heritage Overlays contained mapping mistakes where the location or extent of an overlay was incorrect. Several amendments have been run in the past decade to make corrections, but errors are still present in approximately two-thirds of the current Heritage Overlay controls. This means that the planning permit process is not as accurate, efficient, or sensitive to heritage places as it could be, and further work is required to improve the accuracy of our heritage controls.

There are also some anomalies with other areas of heritage protection in the municipality. Some of the state heritage places are inaccurate, and in the past three years Council has worked with Heritage Victoria to correctly identify these places, such as the Walter Burley Griffin house in Woodend. Additionally, some Aboriginal heritage places are protected by mechanisms other than Aboriginal heritage controls. This requires discussion with the relevant Aboriginal parties to ensure these sites are appropriately and sensitively managed through the appropriate legislation and authorities.

Council is responsible for the protection and management of many heritage assets

and material. Recently, streamlining of organisational processes has meant that heritage considerations are now routinely included in day-to-day business. Examples include:

- the introduction of due diligence processes for compliance with Aboriginal, state, local and archaeological heritage regulations in capital works project management
- the revision of the Macedon Ranges Community Local Law 2023 on dilapidated buildings.

All of these present opportunities for officers to develop processes for monitoring heritage, such as dilapidated heritage buildings, which can cause a great deal of concern in the community.

Other projects have been identified to ensure better protection of heritage material in Council ownership. For example, there is a large collection of historic Council records that requires transferring to the Public Records Office of Victoria, to be stored in protective archival conditions for future generations.



**Image: Annis & George Bills trough, Kyneton**  
"The Annis and George Bills watering trough has a unique story. It needs conservation because only a portion of the name plate survives" – Susanne Meier





**Strategy actions – Protecting**

**We will commence** a planning scheme amendment to correct Heritage Overlay errors and anomalies.

**We will engage** with relevant Aboriginal parties and First Peoples – State Relations to clarify the appropriate mechanism for the protection of Aboriginal heritage places in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.

**We will engage** with Public Records Office of Victoria to develop a project for dealing with the records held by Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

**We will develop** a Local Laws process for monitoring dilapidated heritage buildings.

**We will continue to facilitate** heritage compliance in the capital works project management process.



**Image: Kyneton Museum**

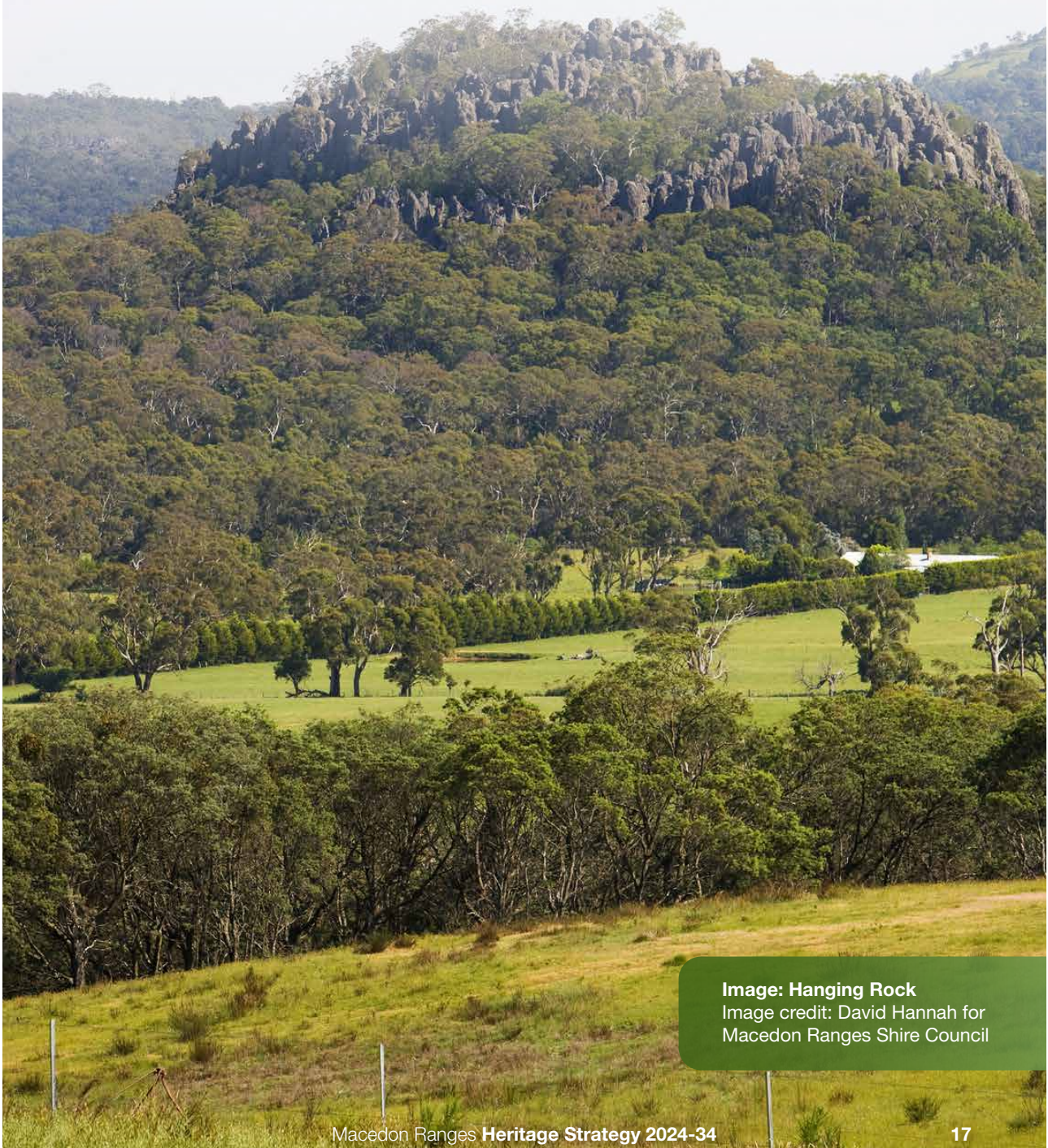
"Kyneton Museum was set up by the Shire of Kyneton in 1958. It now holds an important collection of over 8,000 objects, showing Macedon Ranges heritage circa 1840 to 1930" – Ronda Walker







## Objective 3 – Supporting



**Image: Hanging Rock**  
Image credit: David Hannah for  
Macedon Ranges Shire Council

## Supporting: Helping Council and the community to manage heritage projects and assets through incentives, advisory services, and financial assistance

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has been funding a heritage advisory service from around 2010. It is a part-time service provided to the organisation for Council works and activities, permit applicants through referrals, and the community through pre-application advice on key sites and projects. Currently heritage advice is needed for around one-third of planning permit applications, and building permits and compliance matters can also require heritage advice.

One-on-one pre-application advice is provided for key sites and projects on a case-by-case basis, such as the Old Kyneton Primary School redevelopment. The Heritage Planner also supports the organisation, as the largest owner and manager of heritage assets, through a hotdesk service providing regular on-the-spot heritage advice at the three main Council offices.

An opportunity exists however to boost awareness of heritage more broadly, through the development of training and resources both for the organisation and the Macedon Ranges community, such as:

- training for Council officers on best practice compliance and management for Aboriginal and historic heritage
- development of guidelines and information packs for property owners on caring for heritage places, navigating the planning permit process and good design outcomes.

Other types of support for heritage are available from grants and financial assistance schemes, including the 'Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honour' and 'Local History' grant programs funded by the Victorian Government. The heritage advisory service assists both Council and community groups with applications for these external grant sources and other targeted heritage funding.

These supportive measures could be reviewed to identify where the organisation can best improve funding for heritage assets, whether it be improvements in organisational process for accessing grants, supporting community and business applications and projects, or distributing funding directly through dedicated heritage schemes. Examples of direct support could include:

- support for groups and businesses that will deliver a positive heritage or history project
- incentivising heritage restoration of private properties through grant, loan or rebate schemes, similar to models such as the Victorian Heritage Restoration Fund.

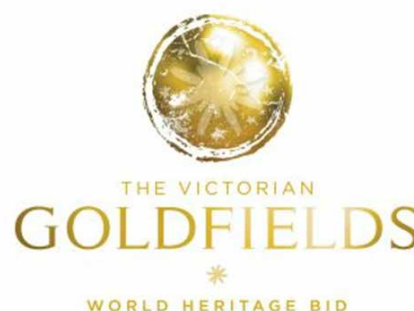


Image: The Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid logo

On a wider scale, Macedon Ranges Shire Council is also a participant in projects with a state-wide, national, or even global context and impact. Council is represented on the





Heritage Council's Local Government Specialist Committee which oversees implementation of the recommendations of the State of Heritage Review: Local Heritage report (2020). These include practical improvements to strengthen the current heritage protection system in Victoria, address persistent problems such as demolition by neglect, and develop programs for highlighting the values of local heritage.

Council is also a key partner in Victorian Government projects to develop the Hanging Rock Strategic Plan and Precinct Master Plan, and a new master plan for Victorian Mineral Springs including the nationally significant Kyneton Mineral Springs. On a global scale, Macedon Ranges Shire Council is one of 15 local government and other authorities that have been working since 2016 on the Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid.



**Image: The Lodge, Malmsbury Cemetery**  
 "...In particular the lodge itself should be listed as a historic building to enable the Malmsbury Cemetery Trust to apply for grants to restore the building to a good condition. As a small cemetery the trust does not have the finances to fund this work and so relies on grants to carry out the work needed to ensure that the cemetery is able to meet the current and future demands of the local community" – Christopher Byrnes

**Strategy actions – Supporting**

**We will develop** training and professional development for the organisation on Aboriginal, local, and state heritage legislation.

**We will develop** heritage guidelines or information packs for applicants and owners on sympathetic design for heritage places and best practice heritage advice.

**We will review** external and internal grants and funding assistance schemes, to identify where improvements can be made in accessing, supporting, or distributing funding for Council, community, and privately owned heritage assets.

**We will continue to provide** a heritage advisory service to assist the organisation and community with permits, major projects and compliance with Aboriginal, state, and local heritage legislation.

**We will continue to support** national and state heritage key projects: World Heritage Listing of the Victorian Goldfields, master planning for Kyneton Mineral Springs and implementing the strategic plan for Hanging Rock.





## Objective 4 – Communicating and Promoting



**Image: Lancefield Mechanics Garage**  
 "I would love to see a form of "Heritage building trail", an APP that allows you to find heritage buildings. There is a 'Silo Art Trail' and a 'Rail Trail', so perhaps the 'Heritage building trail' could be added to the mix. A real-life treasure hunt of sorts" – Tamika Petersen

## Communicating and Promoting: Raising awareness and appreciation of the heritage of Macedon Ranges

Aboriginal heritage of the Macedon Ranges is managed and protected by three Aboriginal parties, the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung, and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung. Each of the Aboriginal parties provide information about their history and heritage through cultural awareness training, tours on Country, and on their websites. Opportunities exist to expand on this by providing more information for visitors at Macedon Ranges tourist sites and visitor information centres which receive numerous requests for information about the heritage of our First Peoples. Each of these First Peoples also collaborate and contribute, along with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who live in the municipality, in developing the Macedon Ranges Reconciliation Action Plan. This Heritage Strategy deals specifically with Aboriginal heritage, protected by the Aboriginal Heritage Act, but supports the broader strategic work of the Reconciliation Action Plan and process.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council promotes the use of names that are historically related to our municipality through the recently formed Naming Committee. Naming for large developments for new subdivisions could be stronger and the Committee is working on processes to collaborate with and improve this process for developers. More recently, the state-wide Naming Rules have been revised to set targets for Aboriginal and gender naming inclusion, which needs to be reflected in the Council's Naming Protocol for Roads and Places (2016).

The organisation also holds a range of information about the heritage of the

municipality and Council's web pages have undergone a substantial review in the last few years, to ensure heritage reports, strategies and plans are publicly available and accessible. However, many of these documents are large and can be unwieldy when trying to find information on individual places. This information could be made accessible through the public Victorian Heritage Database, joining other users such as Heritage Victoria, the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), and other councils to provide valuable information to all residents, owners, and managers of heritage assets in the municipality. To date, over 2,000 individual entries for the Macedon Ranges have been loaded into Hermes Orion, the Victorian Heritage Database used by heritage professionals and government. There is the opportunity to communicate this information by reviewing these entries for accuracy, adding new data from Council's more recent heritage studies, and making all entries available via the public Victorian Heritage Database.

The heritage of the Macedon Ranges has been supported by community advocacy for many decades, and groups such as the Macedon Ranges Heritage Council play a vital role in promoting the heritage of the municipality. The Heritage Council was formed in 1995 and is made up of five historical and heritage groups and one friends group, with two Councillors and Council officers. These groups celebrate and promote local heritage and history information through publications, websites, self-guided tours and brochures, and heritage festival events. Some of these groups also hold objects in collections, as does the Kyneton Museum, which holds a valuable collection of nineteenth century everyday objects related to ordinary life. There are also significant tree collections at the two state-listed botanic gardens in Kyneton and Malmsbury; all of these important objects, botanical and local history collections could be made accessible to everyone through digital collection management archives such as Victorian Collections, to communicate the unique values of our heritage to current and future generations.





**Strategy actions – Communicating and Promoting**

**We will review** Aboriginal heritage material produced by Macedon Ranges Shire Council for tourism and visitor information centres, and **engage** with relevant Aboriginal parties for consent, support, and review to update and promote.

**We will update** the Naming Protocol for Roads and Places to include recent measures regarding Aboriginal and gender naming.

**We will review and update** online information for heritage places in the Macedon Ranges and **publish** these on the Victorian Heritage Database.

**We will publish online** collections information for Council-owned / managed botanic and object collections.

**We will continue to support** the implementation of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Reconciliation Action Plan.

**We will continue to support** the Macedon Ranges Heritage Council in their advocacy, promotion, and celebration activities.

**We will continue to improve** the heritage information made available to residents, owners, and community on Council's web pages.

**We will continue to strengthen** the process for historic naming in subdivisions and large developments.



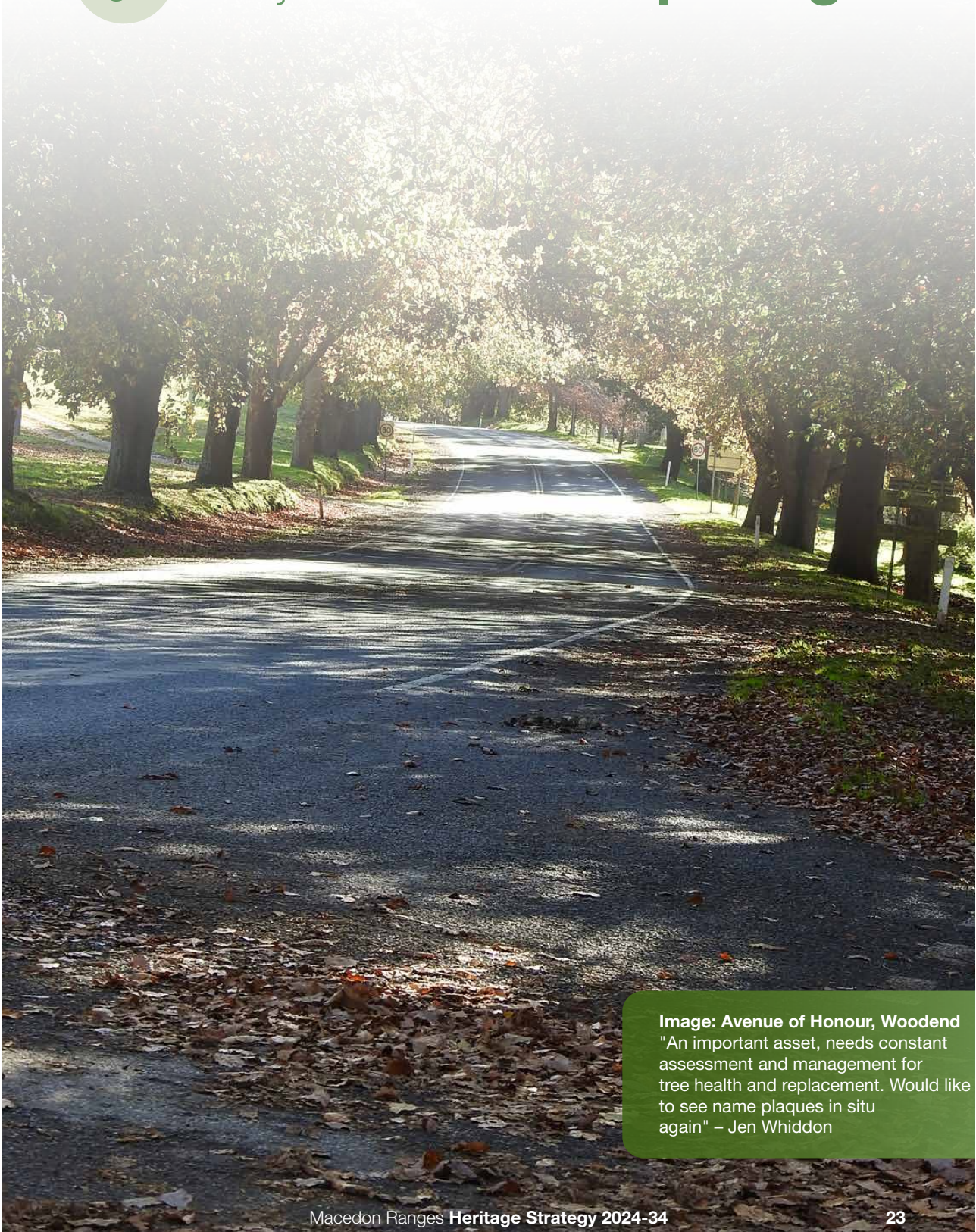
**Image: From Kyneton Museum collection**  
 "Wonderful to see the recent renovations. Could we have greater promotion of this significant collection with more days open each week" – Ronda Walker







## Objective 5 – Preparing



**Image: Avenue of Honour, Woodend**  
"An important asset, needs constant assessment and management for tree health and replacement. Would like to see name plaques in situ again" – Jen Whiddon



## Preparing: Getting ready for how climate change will impact the heritage of the Macedon Ranges

Heritage contributes to the broader climate change discussion in several ways. Heritage helps connect us to place and supports our resilience and wellbeing in times of change. But heritage assets are also highly vulnerable, and can be severely impacted, damaged or even suffer total loss in disaster events and emergencies. In the Macedon Ranges, a number of state-listed and locally protected heritage places have been damaged, some beyond repair, in climate events over the past few years. These heritage assets have a better chance for continuation and survival if we are proactive in adapting and preparing them for climate change.

Climate change adaptation applies not only to built heritage, but also to our heritage trees which can be impacted by high temperatures, floods and drought, and storm damage. This is relevant for all of the shire's mature trees and plantings but will be particularly crucial for state heritage Avenues of Honour that are a key tourist attraction for our municipality. It will be important to consider which species are the most suitable to replace trees that die through natural attrition or are lost to damage, that complement the heritage landscape while being more resilient to changing weather patterns.

Other measures will include identifying the number of heritage assets Council owns or manages, and whether we can realistically prepare these assets for climate change. In some cases, the transfer of the heritage asset out of Council ownership or management will enable groups or owners to better care for these assets and prepare them for the future. Retrofitting and adapting assets is another option for climate change and heritage conservation.

The Counting Down to ZERO plan, developed to guide the organisation to net zero emissions in its operations by 2030, is already seeing results with installing appropriately sized solar panels on heritage buildings, such as the Kyneton Town Hall. This resulted in both an emissions reduction, as well as helping to make this significant heritage building sustainable in the future. This work will continue with other Council heritage assets with upgrades such as gas appliance removal, energy efficiency improvements, and insulation to boost thermal comfort for users.



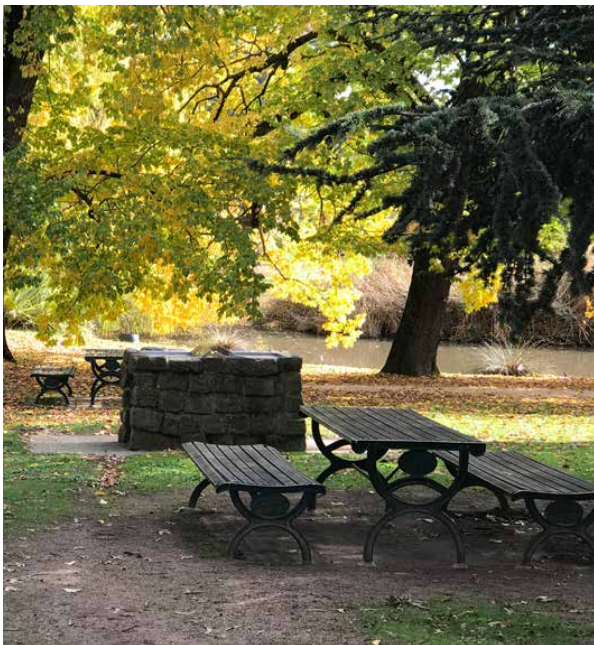
**Image: Old bluestone hospital in Kyneton**

"I love the rich cultural heritage and historical landmarks of Shire, and want to preserve them for future generations to appreciate and learn from" – Sharon Timmermans

It has been identified that during climate disasters, Council officers require more training and access to specialised heritage databases, so they can identify Aboriginal and historic heritage assets and plan for their protection. A post-disaster process also needs to be developed to ensure heritage structures that have been damaged or destroyed are dealt with in a way that engages and respects the community value for that heritage. There are several options after a disaster – repairing, making safe, or memorialising the lost heritage – and these choices need to be considered in partnership with the community to agree on the most appropriate way to honour that history and heritage.



A good range of information and resources have been developed in relation to heritage and climate change, on topics such as retrofitting heritage places for sustainability. After the Black Summer fires, guidelines and toolkits were developed by Heritage Victoria and the Heritage Council of Victoria on how to deal with climate disasters. Opportunities exist to improve community awareness of these resources so that residents and owners can future proof their heritage assets.



**Image: Malmsbury Gardens Autumn**  
 "We are so lucky in Malmsbury to have Botanical Gardens full of amazing trees, overlooking the Viaduct. Majestic, delightful, soul filling. Keeping the amenity of Gardens, nature keeps our lungs full of fresh oxygenated air and beauty" – Belinda Saltmarsh-Kram

**Strategy actions – Preparing**

**We will establish** long-term planning and future-proofing for Council-owned / managed heritage assets.

**We will engage** with VicRoads and Heritage Victoria to develop a project for preparing state heritage Avenues of Honour for climate change.

**We will promote** Heritage Victoria and Heritage Council of Victoria climate change guides through Council’s website and events to assist the community with disaster preparedness for heritage.

**We will engage** with relevant stakeholders to develop a training program for emergency officers to plan for and protect Aboriginal, local, and state heritage assets.

**We will continue to support** 'Counting down to ZERO: Our plan to reach ZERO net emissions by 2030' in considering works on heritage assets owned or managed by Council.



# Action Plan

## Guide to the action plan

### Actions

Actions from the Knowing, Protecting, Supporting, Communicating and Protecting, and Preparing objectives are listed here.

### Responsibility

Designates the area of Council that will take the lead for that action.

### Role

#### Continue

Activities or processes that are already established and should be maintained.

#### Deliver

A new action, directed by Council.

#### Facilitate

An action that could be initiated by Council, but could be extended to include community, groups or other stakeholders.

#### Support

An action led by external stakeholders, community, or groups but which Council can encourage or assist.

### Resourcing and budget

#### Resourcing

- Current capacity – there is an officer or project within the organisation that could accommodate the action within an existing work program.
- Additional resourcing – a contract officer, consultant or external expertise will be required.

#### Budget:

- Ongoing – budget that is already allocated, established or part of routine business.
- New initiative – the action would require a new budget allocation to complete.
  - Low cost – less than \$10,000
  - Medium cost – \$10,000 to \$100,000
  - High cost – \$100,000+

(High-level estimates only; more detailed costing will be required at scoping stage).

#### Timeframe

- Ongoing – activities or processes that are to be carried on as usual, part of routine business.
- Short term 1-3 years – new actions that should be prioritised as urgent, or that are the first step in a multi-phase program.
- Medium term 3-5 years – actions that build on previous work, require a sufficient understanding of heritage to be successful, and that will take several years to complete.
- Long term 5-10 years – actions that see previous work through to completion, require a high degree of understanding about heritage, and are considerable commitment over many years to finalise.



## Knowing

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
K1	<b>Complete</b> an analysis of the heritage controls in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme against the themes listed in the Macedon Ranges Thematic Environmental History, to identify the main gaps for the heritage studies to be undertaken over the next decade.	Strategic Planning	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing - no additional budget required</li> </ul>	Short term 1-3 years
K2	<b>Commence</b> the heritage studies in order of priority and protect these places through an amendment to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.	Strategic Planning	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – high cost</li> <li>Budget will be required for studies, amendment costs, Panel, and consultation</li> </ul>	Long term 5-10 years
K3	<b>Integrate</b> compliance, conservation considerations, and period / type of heritage into the asset management system for Council-owned / managed assets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assets and Operations</li> <li>Strategic Planning</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing - no additional budget required</li> </ul>	Short term 1-3 years



## Protecting

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
P1	<b>Commence</b> a planning scheme amendment to correct Heritage Overlay errors and anomalies.	Strategic Planning	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – medium cost</li> <li>Budget will be required for amendment costs, Panel, and consultation</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
P2	<b>Engage</b> with relevant Aboriginal parties and First Peoples – State Relations to clarify the appropriate mechanism for the protection of Aboriginal heritage places in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Community Strengthening</li> </ul>	Facilitate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – low cost</li> <li>Budget will be required for consultation with Recognised Aboriginal Parties.</li> <li>Further stages:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New initiative - medium cost if strategic work is required</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Short term 1-3 years



## Protecting

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
P3	<p><b>Engage</b> with Public Records Office of Victoria to develop a project for dealing with the records held by Macedon Ranges Shire Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanent public records to be transferred to the Public Records Office of Victoria Archives.</li> <li>Temporary public records and other records of historic or community interest to be deposited with the Bendigo Regional Archives Centre or Places of Deposit in the municipality.</li> <li>Assessment of the remaining temporary records to ensure they have no unique or significant attributes before destruction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information Management</li> <li>Strategic Planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver</li> <li>Facilitate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – no additional budget required for engaging.</li> <li>Further stages:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New initiative – medium cost, for a consultant / contract position to complete</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Short term 1-3 years
P4	<p><b>Develop</b> a Local Laws process for monitoring dilapidated heritage buildings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safer Communities</li> <li>Strategic Planning</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing - no additional budget required</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
P5	<p><b>Facilitate</b> heritage compliance in the capital works project management process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assets and Operations</li> <li>Strategic Planning</li> </ul>	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing - no additional budget required</li> </ul>	Ongoing



## Supporting

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
S1	<b>Develop</b> training and professional development for the organisation on Aboriginal, local, and state heritage legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Whole of organisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver</li> <li>Facilitate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – low cost</li> <li>Budget required for Recognised Aboriginal Parties</li> </ul>	Short term 1-3 years
S2	<b>Develop</b> heritage guidelines or information packs for applicants and owners on sympathetic design for heritage places and best practice heritage advice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Statutory Planning</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – low cost</li> <li>Budget required for production and communications</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
S3	<b>Review</b> external and internal grants and funding assistance schemes, to identify where improvements can be made in accessing, supporting, or distributing funding for Council, community, and privately owned heritage assets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assets and Operations</li> <li>Community</li> <li>Strategic Planning</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – no additional budget required for review</li> <li>Further stages:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New initiative – medium cost if grants or funding assistance are introduced by Council</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
S4	<b>Provide</b> a heritage advisory service to assist the organisation and community with permits, major projects and compliance with Aboriginal, state, and local heritage legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Whole of organisation</li> </ul>	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – no additional budget required</li> </ul>	Ongoing

 **Supporting**

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
S5	<b>Support</b> national and state heritage key projects: World Heritage Listing of the Victorian Goldfields, master planning for Kyneton Mineral Springs and implementing the strategic plan for Hanging Rock.	Whole of organisation	Continue	Resourcing is already provided and budget allocated for these projects	Ongoing





## Communicating and Promoting

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
CP1	<b>Review</b> Aboriginal heritage material produced by Macedon Ranges Shire Council for tourism and visitor information centres, and <b>engage</b> with relevant Aboriginal parties for consent, support, and review to update and promote.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Development and Visitor Economy</li> <li>Community</li> <li>Strategic Planning</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – medium cost</li> <li>Budget required for consultation with Recognised Aboriginal Parties, production, and communications</li> </ul>	Short term 1-3 years
CP2	<b>Update</b> the Naming Protocol for Roads and Places to include recent measures regarding Aboriginal and gender naming.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Naming Committee</li> <li>Governance</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – low cost</li> <li>Budget required for consultation with Recognised Aboriginal Parties</li> </ul>	Short term 1-3 years
CP3	<b>Review and update</b> online information for heritage places in the Macedon Ranges and <b>publish</b> these on Victorian Heritage Database.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Business Systems</li> <li>Communications</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – low cost</li> <li>Budget required for software integration</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years



## Communicating and Promoting

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
CP4	<p><b>Publish online</b> collections information for Council-owned / managed botanic and object collections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council-owned / managed collections, such as the Kyneton Museum collections, onto Victorian Collections</li> <li>Council-owned / managed significant trees in the Kyneton and Malmsbury Botanic Gardens on the Victorian Heritage Database.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Open Space</li> <li>Community</li> <li>Business Systems</li> <li>Communications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver</li> <li>Facilitate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – low cost</li> <li>Budget required for software integration</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
CP5	<p><b>Support</b> the implementation of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Reconciliation Action Plan.</p>	Whole of organisation	Continue	Resourcing is already provided and budget allocated for this plan	Ongoing
CP6	<p><b>Support</b> the Macedon Ranges Heritage Council in their advocacy, promotion, and celebration activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Community</li> </ul>	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – within current capacity</li> <li>No additional budget required</li> </ul>	Ongoing
CP7	<p><b>Improve</b> the heritage information made available to residents, owners, and community on Council's web pages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Community</li> </ul>	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – within current capacity</li> <li>No additional budget required</li> </ul>	Ongoing



## Communicating and Promoting

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
CP8	<b>Strengthen</b> the process for historic naming in subdivisions and large developments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governance</li> <li>Statutory Planning</li> </ul>	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – no additional budget required</li> </ul>	Ongoing



## Preparing

Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Role	Resourcing and budget	Timeframe
Prep1	<b>Establish</b> long-term planning and future-proofing for Council-owned / managed heritage assets.	Whole of organisation	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – no additional budget required for review and assessment stages</li> <li>Further stages:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New initiative – medium cost, for strategic and capital works as required</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Long term 5-10 years
Prep2	<b>Engage</b> with VicRoads and Heritage Victoria to develop a project for preparing state heritage Avenues of Honour for climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning and Environment</li> <li>Assets and Operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver</li> <li>Facilitate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – medium cost</li> <li>Budget required for consultant arborist expertise</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
Prep3	<b>Promote</b> Heritage Victoria and Heritage Council of Victoria climate change guides through Council's website and events to assist the community with disaster preparedness for heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Planning and Environment</li> <li>Emergency Management</li> <li>Communications</li> </ul>	Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – low cost</li> <li>Budget required for speaker fees, events, and communications</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
Prep4	<b>Engage</b> with relevant stakeholders to develop a training program for emergency officers to plan for and protect Aboriginal, local, and state heritage assets.	Whole of organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver</li> <li>Facilitate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>New initiative – medium cost</li> <li>Budget required for Recognised Aboriginal Parties</li> </ul>	Medium term 3-5 years
Prep5	<b>Support</b> Macedon Ranges Shire Council 'Counting Down to ZERO: Our plan to reach ZERO net emissions by 2030'.	Whole of organisation	Continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current capacity</li> <li>Ongoing – no additional budget required</li> </ul>	Ongoing

## Monitoring and Review

Progress on actions will be checked annually, and a progress report will be presented to Council and the community. The Heritage Strategy plans for the period 2024-34 but should be reviewed every four years, in line with other long term Council planning, such as the Council Plan.

## Related Legislation and Agreements

- » *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and Regulations (Victoria)
- » *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth)
- » *Geographic Place Names Act 1998* (Victoria) and Naming Rules for Places in Victoria 2022
- » *Heritage Act 2017* and Regulations (Victoria)
- » *Local Government Act 2020* (Victoria)
- » *Memorandum of Understanding for Heritage Data Sharing with State of Victoria*, Heritage Victoria, and Macedon Ranges Shire Council 2009
- » *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and Regulations (Victoria), and Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme
- » *Public Records Act 1973* (Victoria)

## Related Policies

- » Macedon Ranges Shire Council Plan 2021-2031
- » Macedon Ranges Shire Council Asset Plan 2021-2031
- » Macedon Ranges Shire Council's 'Counting Down to ZERO: Our plan to reach ZERO net emissions by 2030'
- » Macedon Ranges Shire Council Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-23
- » (superseded) Macedon Ranges Shire Council Heritage Strategy 2014-18

## Related Projects

- » Hanging Rock Project, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Victorian Government
- » Old Kyneton Primary School Redevelopment; Creative Victoria, Development Victoria, and Working Heritage
- » Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid; Ararat Rural City, Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Baw Baw Shire Council, Campaspe Shire Council, Central Goldfields Shire Council, City of Ballarat, City of Greater Bendigo, Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation, Golden Plains Shire, The Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, Hepburn Shire Council, Indigo Shire Council, Loddon Shire Council, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Moorabool Shire Council, Mount Alexander Shire Council, Northern Grampians Shire Council, Pyrenees Shire Council, Taungurung Land and Waters Council Aboriginal Corporation, Victorian Goldfields Tourism Executive, Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation.
- » Victoria's Mineral Springs Project, Victorian Government

## References

- » Macedon Ranges Cultural Heritage and Landscape Study 1994
- » Macedon Ranges New Format Planning Scheme: Report of the Advisory Committee and Panel, March 1999
- » Macedon Ranges Pre-Contact Pilot Study Victoria 1996
- » Macedon Ranges Shire Council Stage 1 – Heritage Review Citations 2010 (revised April 2011)
- » Macedon Ranges Shire - Gisborne and Kyneton Heritage Study 2017
- » Macedon Ranges Shire Heritage Study: Woodend, Lancefield, Macedon and Mount Macedon 2019 (Adopted 2022)
- » Macedon Ranges Shire Thematic Environmental History 2023 (Adopted)
- » Shire of Kyneton Conservation (Heritage) Study 1990
- » State of Heritage Review: Local Heritage, Heritage Council of Victoria, 2020



**Macedon Ranges Shire Council**  
(03) 5422 0333 | [mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au)  
[mrsc.vic.gov.au](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au)



Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

**Section 1 – Submissions review**

Submission	Summary of Submission	Officer Response to Submission.
1	Seeks rejection of RSP for community consultation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1.a.</b> A review of the documents for accuracy and ensure clarity in what data is shown and where the information has come from.</li> </ul>
1.1	<p>Supports the vision, range of housing styles within walking distance of town centre, infill development reflecting neighbourhood character, enhancing rural township character, walkable town centre, employment precinct separate of town centre, boosting tourism. Does not support unsustainable development, lack of response to climate change, no actual support for tourism and small business, sprawl of town centre in the area between Pohlman St, Barry St, Stawell St which should be residential. Lack of open space connections, a buffer between Monegeetta and Romsey, not removing trucks from town centre and increasing safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Raises growth of Clarkefield as an option. Questions who determined Romsey was fit for development, concern with GWW investment on the wastewater treatment facility and raises a number of questions about the operation and plans around this facility. Questions why infill which was the most popular growth option as part of EOP was not carried forward. Concern with the influence of the EMRBATA, Minister for Planning and amendment C150macr, Romsey Football and Netball Club and the opening of the Romsey Hotel with gaming. Raised wider concerns about the Football and Netball club operation. Concern with</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1.1.a.</b> Council has reviewed the growth directions and extent. Infill will continue to play an important role in providing housing supply in Romsey but cannot completely remove the need for greenfield supply. Due to the treatment buffer area being unresolved, the area north of Romsey Road east of Tickawarra Road has been identified as the next suitable location. There has been a slight reduction in the overall area required for residential housing. Infill will continue to play an important role but cannot reduce the overall need for further land supply.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.b.</b> Growth of Romsey has been set out in previous documents and the draft is aligned with the expected growth rate of Romsey. The Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme sets the status of Romsey as growing to a Large District Town by 2036. The draft Structure Plan needs to set out a protected settlement boundary until 2050. The growth boundary has been set with this horizon. The Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy also outlines Romsey is to grow into a Large District Town. Amendment C84 which implemented the Macedon Ranges Settlement Strategy reviewed settlement growth for Romsey and the Panel made direction on recommended population caps being removed from the planning scheme and that the population estimates are to be used as a guide rather than a rule. Furthermore, it was also expected additional growth in Romsey would be expected to 2036 and that the Romsey ODP provides adequate guidance to this matter. The Romsey ODP estimated approximately 46ha of land between 2021 and 2031 if growth continued its trajectory. The ODP also nominated south or east as preferable. Council has reviewed these matters in a 2024 context and have maintained a southern growth option with a future eastern growth adjacent to Tickawarra Road. The uncertainty around any growth around the wastewater treatment plant excludes this area until the buffer area is</li> </ul>



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	<p>the influence of developers and landholders to the process. Lack of State and Federal government plans for infrastructure investment. Concern with what real estate agents / investment firms are pushing a particular narrative about Romsey. Consultation to date has not been reflected within the plan. Concern with activation of vacant commercial land - ask on how to leverage development in this area. Cobaw community health have not been running sufficient services. Raise inconsistencies in supporting documents particularly population forecasts. Raise housing affordability and the need for local residents to be able to afford locally. Raise town boundary should not move, address concerns, invest in community assets and only consider growth from 2050 to areas 1, 2 and 4. Second draft should be out for community consultation after documents are corrected and consistent.</p>	<p>resolved. Land east of Tickawarra Road has also been identified for growth to provide sufficient land until 2050. This area was identified as the next most suitable land area in the Investigations Area Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1.1.c.</b> Review documents for accuracy and ensure clarity in what data is shown and where the information has come from.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.d.</b> Growth directions of Clarkefield are out of scope for this project. No changes will occur or be recommended.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.e.</b> A review of the strategies around climate change has occurred and it is considered the strategies and actions provide support for addressing urban cooling, urban design and alternative energy supply which are all related to climate change.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.f.</b> A review of the tourism / economic strategies 5,6,7,8 has been undertaken in light of comments. The relocation of the location of the industrial land to the corner of Greens Lane has resulted in a change to these strategies. Council seeks to maintain retail in the centre of Romsey but allow for other uses to occur within the southern industrial zone land area.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.g.</b> Council continues to work with Greater Western Water (GWW) to finalise issues around Romsey Recycled Water plant and buffer area extent required. The buffer area has not been finalised to date. A conservative approach around the treatment plan forms part of the reasoning behind the revised protected settlement boundary. It is considered the plant will have capacity to accommodate growth with planned upgrades into the future.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.h.</b> A review of the strategies and actions around housing to balance housing density has occurred in supporting neighbourhood character outcomes, efficient land supply use and housing affordability. A review of the guidelines and strategies 1,2,3 &amp; 4 has also occurred.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.i.</b> Clarification on why an only infill option is not viable for the housing need in Romsey has been included with the revised structure plan.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.j.</b> Influence of various submitters, developers or community groups is no more impactful than any other submission but rather the contents of their submission and if there are legitimate reasons to edit the draft structure plan. This document examines submissions and the changes proposed in a transparent way. Furthermore, it is considered the draft structure plan has been influenced by community consultation and a clear process and explanation has been provided to date.</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1.1.k.</b> Vacancy tax is not a strategic planning matter but a rating issue. This matter was considered by Council previously but not supported as an outcome. The Romsey Structure Plan is seeking to reinforce the role of the Romsey town centre and ensure enough land is available to support timely development of retail and employment land. Strategy 5, 6, 7 and 8 have been updated to reflect supporting retail and employment in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.l.</b> Sufficient commercial and industrial land will be key in providing local employment. In response to feedback and further review, the Romsey industrial park has been moved south the location of the currently zoned Industrial 1 Zone area on the corner of Greens Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road. The buffer of the treatment plant being unresolved is part of the reasoning for this and the uncertainty regarding intensity of odour and limiting outcomes for any employment precinct. The land is also be rezoned Industrial 3 Zone (IN3Z) to better align with sensitive interfaces with residential land. Mitchell Court will is also zoned IN3Z to better reflect its light industrial use located adjacent to sensitive uses. The area of the southern employment precinct will be reduced to 15 hectares. Aligned commercial/industrial uses can be permitted in the southern employment precinct. All commercial land will be maintained within the central area of Romsey to ensure centralisation of services and retail. All commercial land will be zoned Commercial 1 Zone to ensure sufficient area is provided for future demand.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.m.</b> Council needs to ensure adequate housing supply is provided. An updated review by Tim Nott Economic Analysis + Strategy has occurred in line with updated forecasting using the latest data. Residential, industrial and commercial land has been allocated in light of these updated forecasts. Council views that stopping growth will not support affordability due to constraining land supply. New infrastructure will be provided to accommodate any new growth.</li> <li>• <b>1.1.n.</b> Council has engaged with Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health in the services held within Romsey. This is separate from the Romsey Structure Plan project and remains ongoing.</li> </ul>
2	Seeks rejection of RSP for community consolation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2.a.</b> Romsey Structure Plan was put on consultation to receive feedback from the community. Community concerns have been reviewed and responded to as necessary.</li> </ul>

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3	Concerns with growth to the east, buffer area, concern with eastern business park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>3.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>3.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.f.</b> response regarding the business park location and zoning.</li> <li>• <b>3.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> response regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant.</li> <li>• <b>3.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b.</b> regarding issues of policy around growth in Romsey.</li> </ul>
4	Supports more growth to eastern side of Romsey over reducing southern growth further away from town centre - but supports larger lots to south. There is need to provide infrastructure for school and open space. Maintain a buffer zone around waste water treatment plant. Proposes a town layout. Support natural features such as Five Mile Creek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>4.b.</b> A review of strategies and actions around waterways, open space infrastructure and the Framework Plan has occurred. Several changes have occurred relating these matters. Please see revised strategy 15 regarding open space provision and waterways.</li> <li>• <b>4.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> response regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant</li> </ul>
4.1	Comments on investigation areas report and recommends changes to assessment to support previous submission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4.1.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>4.1.b.</b> A review of the Investigation Areas Report has occurred, but no significant changes are expected. It is considered the report is suitable for its purpose to inform growth area selection.</li> <li>• <b>4.1.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> response regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant.</li> </ul>
5	Comments on eastern growth front being viable with better connections to town centre, improving Five Mile Creek, proposes a town layout.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>5.b.</b> A review of the Investigation Areas Report has occurred, but no significant changes are expected to this report. It is considered the report is suitable for its purpose to inform growth area selection.</li> <li>• <b>5.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> response regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant</li> </ul>
5.1	Rezone 122 Tickawarra Road. Leave Romsey business park in current location. Improve open space along Five Mile Creek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5.1.a</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>5.1.b</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding industrial land and business park locations and zoning.</li> </ul>
6	Seeks rezoning of land east of Tickawarra Road as opposed to south of Romsey. Outlines the need good walkability and connections, infrastructure and suitability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>6.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>6.b.</b> Refer to response <b>5.b.</b> No significant changes are expected to the Investigation Areas Report.</li> <li>• <b>6.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> response regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>6.d.</b> The structure plan is seeking to ensure the infrastructure and connections are provided in any new development.</li> </ul>
6.1	Rezoning 34 Tickawarra Road. Leave Romsey business park in current location. Improve open space along Five Mile Creek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>6.1.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>6.1.b</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding industrial land and business park locations and zoning.</li> </ul>
7	Submission seeking improvements to Romsey Tennis club facilities. Population growth will mean improvements are needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>7.a</b> Review strategies and actions around open space areas. Given the support of the draft structure plan for the Romsey Park Master Plan, the internal matters of the sports grounds are considered to be covered. Therefore, no changes are proposed.</li> <li>• <b>7.b</b> Referred Tennis Club to budget submission process.</li> </ul>
8	Increasing Romsey boundary is not consistent with existing state and local policy. Not to move town boundary before 2036.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.a</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>8.b</b> Refer to response <b>5.b</b> regarding the Investigations Areas report.</li> <li>• <b>8.c</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant.</li> </ul>
8.1	Comments on transport and public transport issues. Not to move township boundary before 2036.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.1.a</b> A review of strategies and actions around strategy 16 which deals with transport and public transport has occurred. No major changes are proposed, and the actions contained are considered suitable for the level of a structure plan. Council will continue discussions with DTP around transport issues moving forward. Development will account for suitable upgrades which will be informed through work under the Development Plan Overlay.</li> </ul>
8.2	Comments on need for improving wastewater treatment. Supports improving reuse of wastewater.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.2.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> response regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant.</li> <li>• <b>8.2.b.</b> Support for reuse of wastewater is an action supported by the Romsey Structure Plan.</li> <li>• <b>8.2.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment.</li> </ul>
8.3	Supports business park located on Greens Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road and not in proposed location.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.3.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.f.</b> regarding the revised location of the business park.</li> <li>• <b>8.3.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations and zoning.</li> </ul>



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8.4	<p>Raises Clause 11.03-2S and Romsey’s lack of public transport. Outlines a need for infrastructure before growth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.4.a</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>8.4.b</b> Clause 11.03-2S is a clause in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme which sets out State policy regarding high level strategies for growth areas. Romsey is not located within a growth area but rather Clause 11.03-3S is more applicable to the Macedon Ranges. The Romsey Structure Plan is aware of State policy including the need for locating development in appropriate locations. Policy needs to be considered holistically and not picked and interpreted individually without context of wider strategies. The Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme already considered the limitations of transport connections when outlining Romsey suitable for moderate growth and the structure plan is aware of this limitation. The plan seeks to also enable greater local employment opportunities along with alternative movement networks to reduce the need for car usage. Bus services and connections seek to be improved to support an individuals choice in transport.</li> </ul>
8.5	<p>Current advocacy has not produced a secondary school. Council need to not grow the current boundary to leverage a secondary school from State Government to support growth. Need for an education vision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.5.a</b> Council cannot use the lack of a secondary school to not undertake providing land supply for Romsey. Sufficient area has been provided in the revised plan for a potential secondary school along with supporting the extension of the Romsey primary school as needed. Forecasts by SGS in the Community Infrastructure Assessment (June 2023) outline a lesser need in the long term given the limited growth to Romsey and surrounds in the future. Land has been set aside on the basis for a secondary school to permit the possible provision of a social and community aspiration basis.</li> </ul>
8.6	<p>Does not address climate emergency adequately. Growth of the town will result in loss to the environment, biodiversity and rural town values. Need for biolinks to protect fauna and flora, provide pockets of native vegetation, animal movements, sequester carbon and offset emissions produced by the town while creating recreation areas. It will also provide visual buffers and connections. Do not move the town until biolinks are required in the planning scheme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.6.a.</b> The role of a structure plan is not the same as a climate emergency plan. Council has reviewed the strategies and actions around climate change to ensure alignment with the Climate Emergency Plan where those actions can be actioned as part of a structure plan. It is considered they align. The Romsey Structure Plan cannot stop the supply of residential land on a climate change basis but respond to these challenges with actions and strategies. It is considered the strategies and actions within the Romsey Structure Plan adequately respond to climate risk.</li> <li>• <b>8.6.b.</b> Refer to response 1.1b regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>8.6.c.</b> Council seeks to have vegetation surveys undertaken once greenfield areas are finalised in the structure plan. Open space connections are proposed within the draft Structure Plan. Biolinks are to be accounted for once vegetation surveys have been undertaken during detailed planning of any greenfield development. Balance must be</li> </ul>

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		<p>made in light of the CFA comments to ensure bushfire risk is not created through creating biolinks through Romsey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.6.d.</b> Council and the Romsey Structure Plan are not seeking to provide for carbon offsets or capture. It is out of scope for the purposes of a strategic planning document.</li> <li>• <b>8.6.e.</b> Alternative energy and micro-grids have been accounted for within Strategy 22 and 23.</li> <li>• <b>8.6.f.</b> Council continues to have discussions with Powercor regarding energy supply in Romsey.</li> </ul>
8.7	<p>Five Mile Creek has deteriorated since 2009. No budget has been provided to improve creek. DCP needs to provide funding to upgrade creek and the township boundary should not move until a biolink and natural reserve corridor with walking and cycling facilities is completed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.7.a</b> Council’s Five Mile Creek Masterplan sets out a vision for the existing reserve. The draft Structure Plan aspires to extend the reserve to east of Melbourne-Lancefield Road. The management of the reserve is an operational matter and cannot be addressed via a strategic planning level document. Pedestrian linkages along the reserve are supported by the revised plan. The Romsey Structure Plan seeks to acquire open space along Five Mile Creek if opportunities arise rather than compulsory acquiring the land. Areas along the creek are flood prone and may not be suitable for development and therefore acquired by Council as encumbered land.</li> <li>• <b>8.7.b.</b> Budgeting of works within the masterplan are separate from a structure plan but the structure plan confirms the need to upgrade this reserve.</li> <li>• <b>8.7.c.</b> A Development Contributions Plan (DCP) or general open space funding are appropriate tools that could be used for required improvements. Further work is required to support DCP implementations as part of the structure plan DCP review. Furthermore, Council is also in the process of finalising its Open Space Strategy draft which will inform funding and works programs for the Macedon Ranges Council.</li> <li>• <b>8.7.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> </ul>
8.8	<p>Romsey and Lancefield have some of the best quality farmland in Victoria. Support protecting farmland but not to the point it is not being used. Land is being land banked and not farmed for profit. The township boundary should not move until productive farming is established between Romsey and Lancefield.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.8.a</b> There are no powers within the Planning and Environment Act or Local Government Act to compel someone to farmland. A protected settlement boundary set until 2050 sets out clear policy outcomes but would not force development.</li> <li>• <b>8.8.b.</b> The scope of the draft structure plan does not extend to a rural land use strategy. The structure plan can address interfaces with farmland and urban areas but cannot not force development. The draft currently does not seek major changes to the northern interface of Romsey. The Protected Settlement Boundary now addresses the aged care north of Hutchinsons Lane. It is considered this should be the only area</li> </ul>

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		north of Hutchinsons Lane given a previous Council decision to approve the permit. The area will only apply to the building site and not the adjoining undeveloped area.
8.9	There has been a lack of consultation with First Nations People. The development of Romsey without public transport. Proposal creates urban sprawl – needs wetlands, biolinks, nature buffers, waste/recycling/alternative energy precinct and food security zones. Does not protect biodiversity or natural habitats. No response on waterways management. Does not mention carbon sequestration. Does not provide additional funding or commitments to the Romsey Structure Plan toward waterways. No plan to address land banking, issue with rezoning farmland and rural living zone to residential, no farmers market, no food forests and no zoning for market gardens. No transport plan and inadequate solutions to transport no plans for community renewable energy or where they should be located. Does not address lack of mental health support in town. Plan does not address repair cafes and no plants for improving waste management by reutilisation of waste locally. No plans for climate ready housing, micro-grids or energy trading and no plans for portable telecommunications or improve connections for public transport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.9.a</b> Council continues to communicate with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung and a Cultural Values Report has been completed and informed the Romsey Structure Plan. Work continues with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung to ensure the structure plan captures their views and recommendations.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.b.</b> Refer to response 8.6.c regarding vegetation surveys.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.c.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.d.</b> regarding carbon sequestration, offsets or capture.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.e.</b> regarding micro-grids and energy trading.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.f.</b> regarding energy supply in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.g.</b> There are no powers within the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> or <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> to force someone to develop land.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.8.b</b> regarding rural land use policies.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.i</b> It is considered there is suitable land for the establishment of health facilities and services in Romsey. Council continues to have ongoing discussions with Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health services offered in Romsey. No changes to the Romsey Structure Plan are required.</li> <li>• <b>8.9.j.</b> The revised plan will not include any standalone wetland to be established on private land. The growth areas have also been revised to reflect the treatment plant buffer areas. A standalone wetland project is unlikely to be affordable for Council to undertake but the use of water-sensitive urban design will be incorporated into any new development to ensure best practice water treatment from development. The use of the DPO could result in suitable wetlands being established if that is a suitable design choice. Council will continue discussions with GWW and MW around improving waterway management and water sensitive urban design outcomes.</li> </ul>
9	Need to improve public transport, lighting, pedestrian infrastructure, bike lanes, need for accommodation, improve power supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>9.a</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.f.</b> regarding energy supply in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>9.b.</b> The draft is seeking to build on cycling and pedestrian infrastructure in Romsey to support connections to the town centre and employment land. New development will contribute to the provision of cycling and pedestrian within greenfield areas. Wider connections will be contributed through DCP items.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>9.c.</b> The Romsey Structure Plan supports the establishment of tourist accommodation that can be accommodated in the Commercial 1 Zone or residential zones.</li> </ul>
10	Concern with lack of infrastructure, loss of agricultural soils, growth should not occur north of town but rather south. Road connections to Melbourne. Concerns with urban sprawl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>10.a.</b> The Romsey Structure Plan seeks that adequate infrastructure is provided for any new growth. The use of a Development Plan Overlay (DPO) and DCP will be used to appropriately provide infrastructure for any new developments that occur. No constraints to drinking water supply or electricity have been identified and can be upgraded as required. Greater Western Water are in the process of upgrading the wastewater treatment plant to accommodate the growing population.</li> <li>• <b>10.b.</b> The loss of productive agricultural soil is raised as a concern and the Romsey Structure Plan has sought to balance the need for greenfield land and this constraint. It is noted the soils to the north are of particular concern. Current growth area is considered to minimise loss of productive farmland by directing it to the south and east in existing Rural Living Zone land or areas adjacent to existing residential land.</li> <li>• <b>10.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>10.d.</b> Further discussions with Department of Transport and Planning around transport will continue. It is considered the Romsey Structure Plan address transport issues at a strategic planning level.</li> </ul>
10.1	Development should be infill around services and a rural break between Romsey and Lancefield should be maintained. Any greenfield development should occur south but not until VicRoads fix the state of the roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>10.1.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
11	Does not support growth in Romsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>11.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
12	Infrastructure is not in place to support growth. No growth until infrastructure is improved. Wastewater treatment plant is of concern. Lack of jobs in town. Need to improve open space. Health services are poor. Need for affordable housing. Provides a proposed town plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>12.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g.</b> response regarding issues around the Romsey Wastewater treatment plant.</li> <li>• <b>12.b.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> response regarding issues around infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>12.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.f.</b> response regarding issues jobs and economic development.</li> <li>• <b>12.d.</b> The Romsey Structure Plan is seeking to ensure sufficient land is made available in Romsey to accommodate a range of housing types and sizes to provide choice for residents. The housing option choice in Romsey is heavily skewed toward large, detached dwellings on large lots. Both infill and greenfield options will provide a needed mix for residents to move through life in Romsey and find the type of housing that supports affordability and choice. Timely and adequate housing supply is part of providing for affordable housing and constraints to land supply would cause housing prices to rise. This is why a mix of infill and greenfield is required which the Romsey Structure Plan provides for. Updated analysis by Tim Nott has found sufficient greenfield land along with allowed infill development will result in sufficient housing land supply.</li> </ul>
13	Supports plan such as business park, alternative bypass, sustainability, improve infrastructure before growth, and suggests improvements. Comments on infrastructure, need for a school, and access to Calder Freeway not addressed, concern with density of housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>13.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>13.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.1.a</b> regarding growth directions and transport issues.</li> <li>• <b>13.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i.</b> regarding land for economic development.</li> <li>• <b>13.d.</b> A bypass is not proposed to occur under the revised plan due to the lack of industrial development east of Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>13.e.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> response regarding issues around infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>13.e.</b> Fine tuning the strategies and actions around housing to balance housing density will be required between supporting neighbourhood character outcomes, efficient land supply use and housing affordability. Higher housing density is required to provide efficient use of land.</li> <li>• <b>13.f.</b> Land has been set aside for a secondary school if required in the future. To date the Dept. of Education has not committed to a secondary school in Romsey. Council cannot force this issue but only advocate and set land aside in the structure plan for this purpose. The location of a secondary school has been relocated due to being unable to finalise the treatment plant buffer area.</li> </ul>
14	No growth until 2036. Concern with town centre and activation and concern with strategy. Supports vacancy tax. Public transport needs improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>14.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>14.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>14.c.</b> See response to <b>1.1.k.</b> regarding vacancy tax and retail activation.</li> <li>• <b>14.d.</b> See response to <b>8.1.a</b> regarding public transport issues raised.</li> </ul>
15	United church not mentioned. Kilmore and Wallan shopping is applicable to Romsey. Concerns with landscaping impact on fences and footpaths. Lions Park incorrectly named.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>15.a</b> Identified United Church in figure 13.</li> <li>• <b>15.b.</b> Correct wording regarding Lions Park.</li> <li>• <b>15.c.</b> Review strategies around landscaping in light of feedback.</li> <li>• <b>15.d.</b> See response to <b>8.1.a</b> regarding public transport issue raised.</li> </ul>
16	Need for clear direction for secondary school, need for improved public transport. Concern with inaccuracies in structure plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>16.a.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>• <b>16.b.</b> See response to <b>8.1.a</b> regarding public transport issue raised.</li> <li>• <b>16.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information.</li> </ul>
17	Need for implementation plan, medium density outcomes are too restrictive as opposed to other areas, comments on Township neighbourhood character type.	<p><b>17.a.</b> A review of character guidelines has been holistically reviewed in light of comments in light of feedback. Changes have occurred including:</p> <p><b>17.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information.</p>
18	Outlines and give reasons why their land is suitable for more intensive development which is proposed under existing policy but not in the draft structure plan. Outcomes sought in structure plan are inconsistent with application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>18.a.</b> Refer to response <b>17.a.</b> regarding changes to character guidelines.</li> <li>• <b>18.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information.</li> </ul>
19	Concerns with waste water treatment, concern with buffer areas proposed - area could be a wetland reserve, improve biolinks, maintain a 1000m buffer. Ensure Five Mile Creek is improved and budgeted for and improve the environment. 20-25% of growth areas should be open space. Barry Street needs to be widened to allow more street trees. South Drain should run into eastern wetland reserve. Need to address tip and waste management. Create a by-pass along Greens Lane and Portingales Lane. Improve public transport - connect to Myki system and Clarkefield - other town connections. Gas supply needs upgrading and an alternative energy precinct. Improve buffer areas and green spaces. Makes suggestions on addressing family violence. Supports business park to south area of town, relocate Mitchell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>19.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>19.b.</b> Providing open space areas of 20-25% of growth areas is unaffordable for Council and result in requiring further land for housing. The planning scheme standard is currently 5%. Council would need to fund the additional 15% through other means. Anything additional to these requirements Council will have to buy open space. Council has sought to strategically identify suitable land for open space including linkages along waterways, a southern open space network and a town centre open space area to be acquired for a town square.</li> <li>• <b>19.c.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>19.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations.</li> <li>• <b>19.e.</b> See response to <b>8.1.a</b> regarding public transport issue raised..</li> </ul>

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	<p>Court precinct, any change to town boundary is conditional on business park. Makes comments on activation of town centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gas supply to residential areas will not be extended due to the State Government requiring new development not connecting new housing to gas.</li> <li>• <b>19.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• Alternative energy precinct has been anticipated under strategy 22. No changes required.</li> <li>• <b>19.g.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>19.h.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.k</b> regarding retail activation and employment.</li> </ul>
20	<p>Maintain boundary in current location until infrastructure is fixed. This includes wastewater treatment, transport, local jobs, walking along Five Mile Creek, biolinks, activation of town centre, tourism, health services, footpaths, affordable housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>20.a</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>20.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>20.c.</b> See response to <b>1.1.k.</b> regarding vacancy tax and retail activation.</li> <li>• <b>20.d</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>20.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>20.f.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>20.g.</b> Refer to response <b>12.d</b> regarding discussion around affordable housing.</li> </ul>
21	<p>Maintain boundary in current location until infrastructure is fixed. This includes wastewater treatment, transport, local jobs, walking along Five Mile Creek, biolinks, activation of town centre, tourism, health services, footpaths, affordable housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>21.a.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>21.b.</b> See response to <b>1.1.k.</b> regarding vacancy tax and retail activation.</li> <li>• <b>21.c.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>21.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>21.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>21.f.</b> Refer to response <b>12.d</b> regarding discussion around affordable housing.</li> </ul>

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22	<p>Supports housing close to centre of town, support enhancing character, compact walkable township and a clear commercial centre to activate it. Supports relocating business park and removing IN1Z and C1Z from entrance of town. Supports township built form objectives. Has issues with population projections across relevant documents, inconsistency with state policies, consistency of the plan with vision and principles. Questions if the rezoning would benefit a single landowner. Questions if growth can occur west of Couzens Lane. Talks to increasing commercial land in the centre of town with residential included.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>22.a.</b> Note points of support.</li> <li>• <b>22.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>22.c</b> The decision for the rezoning of greenfield land is based on sound strategic planning principles rather than to potentially benefit individual landowners financially. The investigation areas report has reviewed the most suitable land for increasing greenfield land supply. The area west of Couzens Lane was discounted due to its lower score than other areas and not required to accommodate Council’s 2050 land supply projections.</li> <li>• <b>22.d.</b> Sufficient commercial land is considered available within the Romsey town centre. See response to <b>1.1.k.</b> regarding vacancy tax and retail activation.</li> <li>• <b>22.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> </ul>
23	<p>Discussion around demographics and changes over the town. Advises the draft Romsey Structure Plan has not captured this correctly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>23.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information.</li> </ul>



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<p>23.1</p>	<p>Support less housing and more environmental plantings and outdoor areas to south and south eastern areas. New estates should allow for more native planting and areas. Drainage needs to be improved within the southern end of the town with walkways and vegetation. Continued work on Five Mile Creek is needed such as weed removal, pathways, bridge. Does not support extending the public area along Five Mile Creek and suggests an alternative walkway. Priority to provide smaller housing types than the standard type. Town centre is suggested an appropriate area. Upgrade of waste treatment plant before new growth and the current issues of discharges on the community and environment. Improving waterways is very important. Supports a southern business park on Greens Lane. Vegetation and walking spaces must be provided for the Portingales development. Walking track along Barry Street should come into the park as the road is very narrow through this section. Supports retaining a site for a secondary school. Community Infrastructure Report does report claimed activities but some of these do not occur - Sunbury Community Health Centre does not provide the services claimed - community house and other locals will have good insights to update the report.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>23.1.a</b> The structure plan deals with a number of actions and strategies to increase canopy plantings and provision of open space areas. This must be balanced with development feasibility, housing affordability, bushfire risk and Council maintenance and open space funding. New key open space areas include an open space network within the southern growth areas of Romsey which include an active open space area, new open space linkages along Five Mile Creek in the growth areas and a central open space area in the town centre.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.c.</b> The structure plan does support infill and smaller housing types within central Romsey. The project team have revised the area due to flood risk and character mapping changes.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.e.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.f.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations and zoning.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.g.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.h.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>• <b>23.1.i.</b> Note suggestion around walking space within Romsey Park reserve along Barry Street. Upgrades are sought within the structure plan along Barry Street to enable better cycling and pedestrian links which will link into public areas.</li> </ul>
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24	<p>Consolidation of existing land preferred over growth. Moving industrial land outside of town centre is an option. Growth will change character of town. Need for improved infrastructure and lack of infrastructure is an issue. GWW treatment plan needs to be improved to ensure no discharge into Deep Creek. Electricity needs improvement. Swimming pool and secondary school needed. Footpaths need improving. Supports WSUD to protect platypus. Wetlands could be created to support this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>24.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>24.b.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>24.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations and zoning.</li> <li>• <b>24.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>24.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.f</b> regarding power upgrades in Romsey.</li> <li>• Noted support for Water Sensitive Urban Design.</li> <li>• <b>24.g.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>• Pool location will be subject to feasibility strategy but land will be reviewed as part of the feasibility strategy. No space will be nominated in the draft Structure Plan.</li> <li>• <b>24.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> </ul>
25	<p>Growth should occur away from treatment plant and the plant needs to be upgraded to service the town. Growth should occur to the west/south for medium density sized housing opportunities. Need medium and smaller houses to cater for demand.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>25.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>25.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> </ul>
26	<p>Concern with discharges into Deep Creek. No growth should occur until infrastructure has been upgraded. Need to provide for rural sized land as part of growth of town - 1-5 acres, 5-10 acres and 20-25 acres. This will support rural outlook. Need for improved active open space at Romsey Park - particularly netball courts. Suggests improvements to open space and facilities. A second sporting precinct with additional facilities near Portingales Road.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>26.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>26.b.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>26.c.</b> Refer to response <b>23.1.a</b> regarding open space initiatives and provision in the revised Romsey Structure Plan.</li> <li>• <b>26.d.</b> It is considered that larger lots between 1 – 25 acres are at odds with the community aspiration to contain growth as much as possible. The draft has sought to balance lot sizes by providing a range in growth areas. It is not recommended to create minimum lot sizes of 4000m<sup>2</sup> as this would greatly increase the land supply needed for Romsey which is considered at odds with community aspirations.</li> <li>• <b>26.e.</b> Open space facilities will be supported under the Romsey Structure Plan including a new active sports precinct to the south of Romsey. The upgrades at Romsey Park will be dictated to via the adopted master plan.</li> </ul>

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27	Support golf club including walking track/facilities within the golf club area. Suggest improvements to Park Lane including parking, crossings and drainage. Suggest separating industrial traffic from sports area. New exit point from Oval 1 during busy periods. Suggest improvements to fencing, parking, dog management, pine trees need replacing and club are open to removing these with other species with native or flowing plants. Suggest a dam being constructed on golf club storing recycled water (could become a water hazard and improve irrigation). Need for a driving range. Improved public toilets. Suggest other changes to master plan. Suggest possibility of increasing golf area toward Portingales Lane. Make suggestions about other areas of town, improved pedestrian crossing, public transport, intersection works, sports facilities, parking. Need to active town centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>27.a</b> Submissions related to inside Romsey Park are out of scope for the Romsey Structure Plan. This plan was adopted by Council and had taken into consideration the views of stakeholders. The structure plan seeks to support this master plan. The Romsey Structure Plan is not the correct document to provide detailed arrangements to the use around Romsey Park spaces.</li> <li>• <b>27.b.</b> Improved connections on Barry Street are sought in support of improved connections to Romsey Park.</li> <li>• <b>27.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.I</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations and zoning.</li> <li>• <b>27.d.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>27.e.</b> Council considers that any extension of the Romsey Golf Club would be at the cost of providing open space and opportunities in Romsey. It is not recommended that the Romsey Golf Club is further extended using development contributions to ensure future public open space can provide for a range of uses and users. Refer to response <b>23.1.a</b> regarding open space initiatives and provision in the revised Romsey Structure Plan.</li> </ul>
28	Support the inclusion of charging stations in Romsey, asks some questions regarding timing of these facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>28.a.</b> The structure plan supports the provision of charging spaces within Romsey around the town centre under strategy 22. However, it does not set a timeframe as this will be dependent on future funding outside of the structure plan process.</li> </ul>
29	On behalf of Coles. Major concerns with rezoning their land from C1Z to C2Z and making it a non-conforming use and make future changes difficult. Coles supermarket is likely to be delivered by 2024. Supermarket will be closer to expansion area south of town and this should be recognised in structure plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>29.a.</b> Concern and comments are noted.</li> <li>• <b>29.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.I</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations and zoning.</li> <li>• <b>29.c.</b> The structure plan has been updated to reflect the ongoing supermarket development and its ultimate location. A review by Tim Nott has resulted in a number of changes which also includes retaining C1Z between the Coles site and Barry Street.</li> </ul>

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30	<p>Makes comment on a number of perceived short comings in draft structure plan. Particularly that growth area is insufficient for long term population growth. Boundary is not fully explained and reasoning for its selection. 6 Greens Lane being included would provide an additional amount of land supply. Land could be zoned commercial, industrial and residential.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>30.a</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>30.b.</b> Current land supply provided in the structure plan is expected to last beyond the year 2050 horizon.</li> <li>• <b>30.c.</b> The project team have reviewed the proposed boundary selection and justification and updated section 1.4 of the Romsey Structure Plan.</li> <li>• <b>30.d.</b> 6 Greens Lane is noted for its proximity to the southern growth front. It is considered that the land can be included within the proposed protected settlement boundary to accommodate the employment precinct. The land contains dual road frontages and the location south of Greens Lane provides suitable area for landscaping and buffers to the residential area proposed to the north. This development area is also suitable to provide a range of industrial uses sought to provide employment outcomes for Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>30.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations and zoning.</li> </ul>
31.1	<p>Submission in support of submission 30. Provides a technical review of the Romsey recycled water treatment plant buffer area under EPA publication 1518 and draft EPA publication 1949. This provides a required separation distance of 1,170m. It outlines no sensitive uses should be established within this area into the future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>31.1.a.</b> Council continues to act on the advice of Greater Western Water regarding ultimate buffer areas of the Romsey recycled water treatment plant. It is noted the buffer within the report extends well into the existing Romsey township. Council has in consideration of GWW and EPA advice. The next suitable area for additional land supply was found north of Romsey Road. Council will continue to work with GWW and EPA to finalise the buffer area applicable to Romsey.</li> </ul>
31	<p>Lack of infrastructure does not support growth for town. Of particular concern is treatment plant and dumping of water in Deep Creek. Lack of employment/jobs and lack of any progress. No budget for extending Five Mile Creek. More biolinks are needed. Town centre needs revitalising before population growth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>31.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>31.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>31.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations.</li> <li>• <b>31.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> </ul>



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32	Lack of public transport for younger people. Need for secondary school. Empty buildings need revitalisation. Town boundary should remain where it is until infrastructure is improved including treatment plant, employment, green spaces, biolinks, revitalisation of town centre, health services and footpaths. Need for affordable housing in town centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>32.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>32.b.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>32.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park locations.</li> <li>• <b>32.d.</b> See response to <b>8.1.a</b> regarding public transport issue raised.</li> <li>• <b>32.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>32.f.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> </ul>
33	Preserve North-west Romsey in the structure plan by not extending town north of Hutchinsons Lane. Any development if it occurs should not be any smaller than 5 acres in area between Cousens Lane, Ochiltrees Rd and Main Street. Supports consolidation of housing around town centre. Support activation and revitalisation of Romsey town centre. Southern growth is supported.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>33.a.</b> Noted support for no growth to the north of Hutchinsons Lane.</li> <li>• <b>33.b.</b> Refer to response <b>17.a.</b> regarding changes to character guidelines. Note support for housing to south of township and infill around town centre.</li> <li>• <b>33.c.</b> Refer to response <b>12.d</b> regarding discussion around affordable housing.</li> <li>• Review strategies regarding town centre activation however there are limited levers strategic planning can achieve. No change is expected.</li> </ul>
34	Concerned they were not consulted about 120 aged care facility but support its development. Concern with any industrial land to the north of the township. Area is prime agricultural land and agree land area should not be included. No township boundary change until infrastructure is provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>34.a.</b> The extent of notice to a past planning permit application cannot be resolved as part of a structure plan process.</li> <li>• <b>34.b.</b> No industrial land is proposed to the north of Hutchinsons Lane. Council has considered this location on balance with other potential locations within Romsey at Greens Lane or Portingales Lane. Greens Lane was selected as the best opportunity given outstanding uncertainty about the wastewater treatment plant buffer area.</li> <li>• <b>34.c.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>

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<p>35</p>	<p>Concern regarding an industrial estate to north of Hutchinsons Lane. It would be inappropriate in regards to distance from residents, aged care facility, landscape, town entrance, contamination risks, air pollution and land values. Support industrial land adjacent to transfer station. Concern with growth without adequate infrastructure. Need for improved treatment plant and protecting Deep Creek, transport infrastructure needed, green space along Five Mile Creek, biolinks, revitalisation of town centre, improved health services and footpath infrastructure. Supports affordable housing close to the centre of town.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>35.a.</b> No industrial land is proposed to the north of Hutchinsons Lane.</li> <li>• <b>35.b.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>35.c.</b> Note support for housing to the south of the township and infill around town centre.</li> <li>• <b>35.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>35.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>35.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>35.g.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>35.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>35.i.</b> Note support for affordable housing around town centre.</li> </ul>
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<p>36</p>	<p>Supports Better Futures Romsey position on draft Structure Plan. This includes not moving town boundary, protecting waterways, improving infrastructure and environmentally sustainable design in housing. East of Romsey should become a protected wetland area with improved water sensitive urban design and buffers. GWW needs to improve treatment facilities to protect waterways. Five Mile Creek needs to be protected. A shared trail should run between Clarkefield and Romsey - this can connect to Lancefield - perhaps along old rail line. ESD applied to greenfield areas. Need for more greenery in development including canopy cover and 25 percent of land being open green space. Keep tree-lined streetscapes with European trees and ensure development builds around these. Infill development should only be single storey, maintain wide open street setbacks and include a European tree per house, only two dwellings per block of land. ESD should be included and light coloured roofs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>36.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>36.b.</b> Refer to response <b>19.b</b> and <b>23.1.a</b> regarding open space initiatives and provision in the revised Romsey Structure Plan.</li> <li>• <b>36.c.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>36.d.</b> WSUD and ESD principles will look to be implemented as part of the structure plan.</li> <li>• <b>36.e.</b> The cycling connections shown between Clarkefield and Romsey/Lancefield is identified within the structure plan. It will be subject to future budgeting but is identified within the framework plan as a first step to further investigation.</li> <li>• <b>36.f.</b> Refer to response <b>17.a.</b> regarding changes to character guidelines. Council considers there are limitations to the amount of infill development considered appropriate to balance the vision of trying to consolidate Romsey’s growth as far as practical and maintaining suitable character outcomes. The neighbourhood character guidelines and strategy 2 seek to address maintaining neighbourhood character. No change is supported to limit development to only two dwellings per lot as this is at odds with the objective of consolidating growth as far as possible.</li> <li>• <b>36.g.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>36.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>36.i.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> </ul>
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<p>37</p>	<p>Structure plan is not accurate or correct without strategic justification or address community concern. Provides a range of comment on various strategies. Does not support over single storey height in new development, supports investment in seniors and affordable housing, not supportive of neighbourhood character assessment, improved built form standards where medium density is to occur. Supports housing above retail areas. Stronger built form controls. NRZ needs greater control over outcomes. LDRZ being retained in North-east supported. Supports infill but needs to be appropriate to character of Romsey. New tree planting must be undertaken. Strongly supports shared paths along every street. EAO to 45A Murphy Street and 11–13 Pohlman Street. Supports PSB but need for biolinks, wetlands (as per Better future Romsey) Need for employment precinct to have public/overnight parking and upgrade Greens Lane and Romsey Road. Greens Lane needs appropriate buffers. DCP for growth areas. Remove PUZ land from stage 1 priority development area. Comments toward greenfield development including no expansion until 2036 and infrastructure is upgraded. Coles needs to be relocated north of Barry Road. Concern with Romsey pub redevelopment including pokies. Move industrial type businesses out of town centre. 103 and 105 Main Street require a HO. Support strategy 8. Recreational vehicles should not be at lions park along Five Mile Creek and could be located on proposed wetlands (BFR submission). Most restrictive zone should replace RLZ under strategy 10. Strategy 11 supported.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>37.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information. Review comments regarding various strategies.</li> <li>• <b>37.b.</b> The project team have reviewed the neighbourhood character guidelines. The structure plan is not supportive of only single storey development particularly if infill housing needs to occur on smaller lots and the aspiration of infill development and limiting greenfield growth are to occur.</li> <li>• <b>37.c.</b> The EAO on 45a Murphy Street and 11-13 Pohlman Street aligns with comments from EPA. The site was old Shire depot and cleaning up of the site occurred when the site was sold to private ownership.</li> <li>• <b>37.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>37.e.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>37.f.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>37.g.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>37.h.</b> Note support for affordable housing around town centre.</li> <li>• Rezoning of land outside of the protected settlement boundary cannot occur due to the scope of the Romsey Structure Plan. A rural land use strategy would need to occur to address rural zoning around Romsey and Lancefield.</li> <li>• <b>37.i.</b> Activation of the Romsey Hotel is supported but gaming machines are subject to other planning controls. Council would need to take a holistic review of gaming machines across the Macedon Ranges Shire area and any ad-hoc work is out of scope for this structure plan. No change is recommended.</li> <li>• <b>37.j.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>37.k.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>37.l.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> </ul>
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<p>38</p>	<p>Written in support of including 34, 35 and 122 Tickawarra Road as part of structure plan and that growth areas currently selected are not as suitable. Decision has been made with a lack of rigorous assessment and the southern growth option does not lend itself to a suitable response to a compact town centre. Area 4 should be included together with parts of 1, 2, and 3. Supports vacancy tax.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>38.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>38.b.</b> Discussion in the Structure Plan around boundary selection and justification should be reviewed to better articulate reasoning in chapter 2.2.</li> <li>• Vacancy tax is not a strategic planning matter but a rating issue. This matter was considered by Council previously but not supported as an outcome.</li> </ul>
<p>39</p>	<p>Need to fix wastewater treatment facility in Romsey and possibly include irrigation to surrounding farmland. Do not move township boundary until 2036 or until there has been revegetation of town centre. Vacant commercial properties need activation. New approach is needed in achieving employment and retail in Romsey. Need to look at a green industrial and commercial precinct (ICP). Land shown in structure plan for new industrial area is not correct and land should be maintained at Melbourne-Lancefield Road - Greens Lane and there will be less infrastructure required. Need improvement to public transport. Previous growth has not resulted in improvement to the limitations of growth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>39.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>39.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>39.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>39.d.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> </ul>

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<p>40</p>	<p>Draft ignores previous community feedback, the investigation area criteria is misleading and should consider the climate change implications, loss of food production, resident conflict with surrounding agricultural land uses and impact on biodiversity. Strategies and actions do not provide enough detail on what will be done to reduce emissions by 2050. This could include an urban forest, biolinks and riparian areas along waterways. Lack of investigation into more housing in existing urban area. Plan creates more emissions toward climate change and provides no analysis. Growth area results in loss of food production for a changing climate in the local area. Nature enhancement is not included in draft, biolinks not provided for. Biolinks should be included along main roads and connections. Need to create buffers between housing and farmland - Lomandra estate is an example of this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>40.a.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>40.b.</b> The Romsey Structure Plan draft does not ignore community feedback and the plan outlines where community feedback was received and where it has been responded to. Chapter 2 outlines past community consultation outcomes.</li> <li>• <b>40.c.</b> Refer to response <b>19.b</b> and <b>23.1.a</b> regarding open space initiatives and provision in the revised Romsey Structure Plan.</li> <li>• <b>40.d.</b> Chapter 9 outlines climate change strategies and actions. A strategic plan is in part a high level document with greater detail coming through the future development plans. The plan provides direction for future planning controls such as the Development Plan Overlay. The strategies and actions are considered suitable.</li> <li>• <b>40.e.</b> The extent of infill areas have been reviewed by the project team along with growth directions following on from community feedback. There are limits to how much the structure plan can rely on infill development to provide sufficient land supply. It is considered the correct balance has been provided between infill and limiting the extent of greenfield growth.</li> <li>• <b>40.f.</b> It is not the role of a structure plan to undertake carbon emissions modelling relating to climate change. It is out of scope for the project.</li> <li>• <b>40.g.</b> The extent of growth around Romsey would have a marginal impact on food production in Romsey and is mainly directed to the south or east which has less productive soils that the north and west of Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>40.h</b> Noting the concern with interfaces with surrounding farmland, the project team has amended the character guidelines to priorities bushfire risk mitigation for any new development.</li> </ul>
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41	<p>Lack of facilities, community infrastructure in Romsey. Do not move boundary until 2036 until waste water is sorted. Impact of Deep Creek. Town centre needs to be reinvigorated. Suggest vacancy tax. Pohlman Street and Murphy Street, Barry should become mixed retail/medium density. Need an alternative pub location. Advocate for a green industrial park on Greens Lane / Melbourne Lancefield Road. Public transport needs improving. Romsey should not grow larger than 6000 by 2036.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>41.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>41.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>41.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>41.d.</b> A pub or hotel could establish within the commercial 1 zone. It is up to the land being available and an application being made. It is considered there is sufficient land for this to occur.</li> <li>• <b>41.e.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>41.f.</b> The Community Infrastructure Assessment prepared to support the Romsey Structure Plan found adequate community infrastructure facilities in Romsey. It outlined these facilities could be better utilised to support the growing community. The revised structure plan outlines the continuation of maintaining and upgrading the existing facilities rather than building new infrastructure in Romsey.</li> </ul>
42	<p>Majority of residents did not want town boundary to move. Lack of facilities and infrastructure. Car dependency will be entrenched and there is no plan for improved public transport which needs improving. Town centre needs rejuvenation. Need a mixed use area between Pohlman St, Murphy St and Barry Street. Need for industrial and commercial land on Greens Lane/Melbourne-Lancefield Road to provide local employment. Need new or improved biolinks with any development and around town. Treatment plan needs upgrade and reuse of wastewater to protect local waterways. Remove housing away from treatment plant. Intersection of Knox Road and Greens Lane need to be upgraded. Knox Road is being used as a by-pass.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>42.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>42.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>42.c.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>42.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>42.e.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>42.f.</b> There is a need to ensure any zoning for a business park is appropriate to capture required uses. The use of the proposed Industrial 3 Zone is considered appropriate as it provides for light industry while considering sensitive interfaces and could allow for large floor retail such as showrooms. Upgrades of the road network will occur along with the development of the business park.</li> </ul>

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42.1	Climate Emergency Plan must inform the draft structure plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>42.1.a.</b> Chapter 9 is considered to adequately capture where it can the outcomes which align with the climate emergency plan. The Hip V Hype – Sustainability Background Report (September 2021) has undertaken a review of sustainability and climate change responses for the Romsey Structure Plan. It is considered the Romsey Structure Plan suitably responds to climate change in consideration of accommodating growth, balancing neighbourhood character outcomes and ensuring available land supply.</li> </ul>
43	No growth until infrastructure is provided. Many shops and businesses have closed despite a growing population. Infill development is the preferred option for growth as there are many blocks of land can be subdivided. Treatment plant needs to be upgraded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>43.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>43.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>43.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>43.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> </ul>
44	Need for local infrastructure including secondary school, aquatic centre, public transport, improvement to treatment plant, create wetland on Portingales Lane. Industrial land should be placed off Greens Road and Melbourne-Lancefield Road. Mitchell Court industrial land should be relocated and land used for secondary school or aquatic centre. New roads should be wide and include suitable tree plantings. Recycled water should be retained and used. Town centre needs to be activated. Do not move town boundary until issues are resolved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>44.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>44.b.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>• <b>44.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>44.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>44.e.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>44.f.</b> It is not at this stage considered appropriate to rezone existing industrial land in Mitchell Court to non-industrial. This would detrimentally impact on existing businesses in Romsey. The land will be rezoned IN3Z to reflect the sensitive nature of the adjoining dwellings, open space and school.</li> <li>• <b>44.g.</b> Council has committed to undertaking a separate future feasibility study will be undertaken to determine an appropriate location for an aquatic centre if it is deemed viable.</li> <li>• <b>44.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> </ul>

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45	Issue with White Avenue being connected into new estate area and increasing traffic. Issue with no investment on pedestrian / cycling path and no improvement of road. Increase speeding traffic past primary school is also an issue. Recommend road is not connected to new estate but also it be upgraded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>45.a.</b> The opportunity to connect White Avenue to an eastern growth outcome is considered appropriate however are unlikely to be required now given the Investigation Area 3 is not marked for further development due to buffer area uncertainty.</li> </ul>
46	Growth in town has not resulted in improved facilities. Town boundary should be maintained which will reduce walkability. This will support infill development outcomes. Need improvements to infrastructure - power and stormwater/wastewater. Improve the road network. Enhance and make the town centre more vibrant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>46.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>46.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>46.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>46.d.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>46.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
47	Growth in town has not resulted in improved facilities. Infrastructure that is provided lags behind when the development occurs. Health services need improvement. Road network needs improvement. No investment in town centre to encourage activation. Feels council is holding community at ransom to permit growth before infrastructure is provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>47.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>47.b.</b> Council will provide adequate land to support growth to address housing supply, employment opportunities and industrial land supply. Infrastructure to support this will be provided along with the development. Investment in Romsey by Council is not dependent on growth occurring. Land supply needs to be provided to account for growth projections and ensure housing affordability, employment opportunities and services in town. Lack of housing supply would result in a gradual fall in population and impact on housing affordability.</li> <li>• <b>47.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>47.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>47.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>47.e.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> </ul>



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48	<p>Submission for land at 68 Knox Road Romsey. Support for new structure plan and it is urgently needed. Not enough land supply in Romsey and new greenfield land must be provided. Agree area 1 is most suitable for development. Suggest some changes to sections of the plan - including design guidelines for greenfield areas. Refutes some argument against the structure plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>48.a.</b> Support for Area 1 development is noted.</li> <li>• <b>48.b.</b> The project team have reviewed the neighbourhood character guidelines and made some changes considered suitable. Please refer to the updated guidelines attached as appendix 2.</li> </ul>
49	<p>Infrastructure has not kept pace with growth. New plan will continue this trend. Lack of commercial land - new land is needed. The supermarket approved south of Barry Street is not appropriate and creates a new retail node rather than consolidating the town centre. Johnston Court industrial land requires better directional signage. South Drain needs maintenance and additional housing has made this worse. Some streets have poor drainage. Startrack do not deliver to Romsey. Poor telecommunications in town. Lack of transport to industrial estate and it needs to be improved. Employment precinct will flood unless corrective works are undertaken. Same owners and it is questioned if they will develop this site. Concern with no commercial land included. Draft will result in less commercial land available. Need to ensure power, postage, telecommunications will be provided.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>49.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>49.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>49.c.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>49.d.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>49.e.</b> The Romsey Structure Plan has adequately considered the risk of flooding and has been provided recommendations from Melbourne Water which have been recommended. The upgrade of the Romsey South Drain is an aspirational goal but no development is proposed due to uncertainty around the treatment plant buffer area.</li> </ul>

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49.1	<p>There is a lack of employment, infrastructure, and commercial. More population has not resulted in improved services. Rezoning of land without owner’s permission. Electric vehicles are a risk and need mitigation due to fire or explosions. Supermarket (Coles) should be located within town centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>49.1.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.1</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>49.1.b.</b> Coles has a planning permit is currently under construction. The structure plan has been reviewed and revised on the advice of Tim Nott regarding the relocation as this will have impacts on the existing Romsey town centre. Future work will need to occur to ensure the town centre retains its function into the future.</li> <li>• <b>49.1.c.</b> Fires and explosions from electric vehicles are not considered a relevant strategic planning matter regarding transport and infrastructure. Electric vehicle charging spaces would be supported toward Main Street in Romsey. It is not considered appropriate to remove actions supporting the installation of this infrastructure and risk factors will be considered in detailed site selection.</li> </ul>
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<p>50</p>	<p>Treatment plant needs to be upgraded. South Drain needs maintenance and if any more development occurs it will make issues worse. Town has infrastructure constraints which mean town is not a growth area. Need for local employment area and this needs to occur before growth. Greenspace and biolinks are needed. Lack of community infrastructure, tourist accommodation and no small business support. Additional population will not fix these things. Health facilities need improving - Cobaw Community Heath is not staffed. Romsey footpaths need improvement. Need for more affordable housing but with enough open space and car parking. No smaller parks for younger children have been built. Need more police in Romsey. Multi-national supermarket is in the wrong area and not the right fit for town. Will create its own hub. Poor planning for secondary school and will cause issues for primary school. Location is a swamp.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>50.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>50.b.</b> Refer to response <b>49.e</b> regarding flooding along Romsey South Drain.</li> <li>• <b>50.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>50.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>50.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks. Development of tourism accommodation is supported within the draft structure plan under strategy 9</li> <li>• Small business is being supported by the appropriate supply of commercial, industrial and housing supply. No changes proposed outside those listed above.</li> <li>• <b>50.g.</b> Refer to response <b>12.d</b> regarding discussion around affordable housing.</li> <li>• <b>50.h.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>50.i.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>50.j.</b> Police staffing is not considered relevant or within the control of local government via a strategic planning document. Romsey currently has a police station and its staffing is dependent on Victoria Police decisions. Council can seek to ensure good urban design outcomes to assist with passive surveillance and greater safety in the use of open space areas and along waterways.</li> <li>• <b>50.k.</b> A structure plan cannot undo a past permit decision for a supermarket location if it is acted on. Given Coles is under construction, the structure plan has been updated to reflect this outcome. Tim Nott has reviewed the changing circumstances and provided advice which has been incorporated by changing the proposed C2Z area to C1Z. This is to allow the continuation of retail to link the Coles site to further retail north of Barry Street rather than larger C2Z retail outcomes.</li> <li>• <b>50.l.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>• <b>50.m.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>50.n.</b> The Structure Plan seek to address adequate housing supply, employment opportunities and industrial land supply. Infrastructure this will be provided to support this growth.</li> <li>• <b>50.o.</b> Refer to response <b>41.f.</b> regarding community infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>
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<p>51</p>	<p>Need for southern town entrance improvement with spacious character along Melbourne-Lancefield Road such as Lomandra. Bike paths are needed along main roads along Greens Lane and Portingales Road. Cost of Five Mile Creek acquisition would be expensive but do support improving habitat along creek and water quality. Old swimming pool cannot be seen anymore. Concerns with waste water treatment plant. 1000m buffer should be maintained. Discharges into creek are problematic and of great concern. Climate change is an issues - shade, lighter coloured building materials and a range of block sizes should be provided.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>51.a.</b> The strategies and actions regarding climate change are considered adequate within the context of a planning structure plan. The plan addresses urban cooling, urban design and alternative energy supply which are all related to climate change. No changes are further proposed.</li> <li>• <b>51.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>51.c.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>51.d.</b> Strategies 2, 3, 4 and 9 seek to address aspects of urban design including an improvement to the Romsey town centre entrance. It is considered the plan appropriately responds to Romsey’s character.</li> </ul>
<p>52</p>	<p>Township should not grow until at least 2036. Improvements needed to wastewater treatment plant which is at/overcapacity. Town centre needs activation and improvement including community infrastructure, no accommodation for tourists and lack of support for small businesses. More population will not fix these issues. Council needs to create new strategies to make this more. More population will not fix these issues. Green Industrial and commercial precinct is needed on corner of Greens Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road. Portingales Lane site is not suitable and more expensive to develop. Lack of transport is a limiting factor to township growth. Draft has poor response to public transport. Car dependency will be locked in if local employment is not increased.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>52.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>52.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>52.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>52.d.</b> Small business support outside of land use planning is out of scope of the Romsey Structure Plan. However, the structure plan is seeking to ensure there is sufficient supply for retail, office and industrial land. It is considered the plan provides for this adequately.</li> <li>• <b>52.f.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.. Furthermore, more local employment is seeking to limit the number of residents required to leave Romsey to work. It is agreed car dependency for the entire township will be locked in if employment opportunities are not provided locally and the structure plan seeks to provide local employment opportunities.</li> <li>• <b>52.g.</b> Refer to response <b>41.f.</b> regarding community infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>

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53	Need for improved infrastructure and services including wastewater treatment plant. Improvement to stormwater to South Drain is needed which could include a wetland. Could improve town tourism. No government departments have committed to anything. Biolinks are needed. No major highways or train line connected to Romsey with poor public transport connections. Direct connection to Melbourne needed and surrounding towns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>53.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>53.b.</b> There have been numerous upgrades to Melbourne-Lancefield Road along with an increase in public transport in Romsey. Ongoing discussions are being undertaken with DTP. It is expected that an increase in local employment and services should in part address car dependency issues within Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>53.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>53.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>53.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>53.f.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>53.g.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> </ul>
54	Need to improve power supply. Water treatment plan needs upgrade and improvement. Discharging wastewater needs to stop. Activation of town centre is needed. Shire entry sign on Melbourne-Lancefield road do not mention Romsey. Need to preserve biodiversity and landscape. New growth areas destroy those systems. Affordable housing should be provided around town centre and new development should commit to affordable housing. Reduce car dependency in town by improving public transport, footpaths and cycling. This includes connections to Melbourne but also other towns. Volunteers are not suitable. Remove large trucks from main street but also to provide suitable truck parking - particularly residential areas. No extending town boundary until issues are fixed. Provides an alternative plan which supports business park on Greens Lane, some infill south of Autumn views estate and area 4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>54.a.</b> Refer to response 8.6.f regarding power upgrades in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>54.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>54.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• Chapter 6, strategies 11, 12 and 13 seek to address waterways, open space and environment responses. No change expected.</li> <li>• <b>54.e.</b> Refer to response <b>19.b</b> and <b>23.1.a</b> regarding open space initiatives and provision in the revised Romsey Structure Plan.</li> <li>• <b>54.f.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>54.g.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>54.h.</b> Reviewed Strategy 16 around a volunteer bus service but noting this service. It has been removed based on Public Transport Victoria functioning the bus services within Romsey. Council will continue to advocate for increased services.</li> <li>• <b>54.i.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
55	Submission for 122 Tickawarra Road, Romsey. Does not want to be rezoned and to remove it from any residential zoning. Wishes to remain Rural Living Zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>55.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review growth directions and extent. 122 Tickawarra Road is not currently located within protected settlement boundary. Note the desire to remain within Rural Living Zone when reviewing Area.</li> </ul>
56	Generally supportive but wants to ensure electricity, sewerage and road infrastructure is all improved and provided before any further development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>56.a.</b> Refer to response 8.6.f regarding power upgrades in Romsey.</li> <li><b>56.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li><b>56.c.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li><b>56.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li><b>56.e.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>
57	Concerns with data and population projections in draft and is significantly higher than what GWW is using for its work. Current town footprint is sufficient for future housing supply. Insufficient buffer for residential land and farming zone land. A biolink could be placed to avoid conflict. There is no infrastructure certainty and developers are selling land promising a secondary school and supermarket only for it to be not eventuate. Need a way to activate town centre and not held locked up by a few land owners. The structure plan has the right intention and strategies but the framework plan does not achieve outcomes sought. Particularly south growth should be abandoned for infill. Easterly growth south of Romsey Road should be considered. Southern growth will not achieve walkability. A wetland development to capture stormwater runoff before Deep Creek and GWW land - it will also provide a recreational facility for residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>57.a.</b> A review of structure plan for mentioned inconsistencies and clarify sources of data has occurred by the project team.</li> <li><b>57.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks. Review setbacks related to residential land and adjoining agricultural land. Review of growth areas and consider adjoining land interfaces.</li> <li><b>57.c.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li><b>57.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li><b>57.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li><b>57.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> </ul>
58	Submission in support of 1811 Romsey Road. Flawed growth area analysis. Land is suitable for residential development. Walkable due to Deep Creek connections from site and other points which are supportive of the land being included.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>58.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>

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59	Submission in support of Hutchinsons Lane being included for a business park. Draft overlooks previous submissions and the subject land is suitable for immediate development for businesses. Other business land has not developed and therefore a new approach is needed. GWW infrastructure could be easily connected. Owner is local business interested in investing in Romsey.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>59.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>59.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
60	Main concern is no infrastructure being provided prior to growth. Deep Creek must be enhanced and protected. GWW treatment plant has repeatedly discharged into Deep Creek. Hoping investment will occur after growth has not occurred with GWW infrastructure. No growth should occur until the upgrade of the treatment plant and all additional infrastructure is provided to align with levels of growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>60.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>60.b.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>60.c.</b> Chapter 6, strategies 11, 12 13 and 14 seek to address waterways, open space and environment responses. A number of changes has occurred in light of consultation feedback.</li> <li>• <b>60.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>60.e.</b> Refer to response <b>19.b</b> and <b>23.1.a</b> regarding open space initiatives and provision in the revised Romsey Structure Plan.</li> </ul>

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<p>61</p>	<p>Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action recommend that a review of native vegetation impact is required by a qualified ecologist - this assessment should then be used to inform future siting and design. Biolinks for threatened species is also important. Further work is needed to ensure linear connections are provided. Urban consolidation is supported by reducing impacts on biodiversity but higher densities along Five Mile Creek should look to minimise impact on waterways. If there are significant vegetation values found - a Native Vegetation Precinct Plan should be included in future work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>61.a.</b> The Romsey Structure Plan has been updated to have vegetation surveys undertaken once growth areas are determined. A review Chapter 6, strategies 11, 12 and 13 seek to address waterways, open space and environment responses to align with feedback of DEECA has been undertaken and incorporated into the plan.</li> </ul>
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<p>62</p>	<p>Wastewater treatment plant at capacity and needs upgrade to cater for growth. Transport infrastructure needs improvement before population growth. Car dependency is high and needs addressing. Need for increase local employment. Need for a technical school. Need to budget for extension of Five Mile Creek. Biolinks are needed to be established. Activation of town centre including accommodation and support for small businesses. Consolidate retail area. Need for a neighbourhood battery for mobile towers which shut down during blackout. Cobaw community health is not staffed and doesn't provide services. Need for improved cycling and footpaths. Affordable housing needed in town centre. Need for improved council community services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>62.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>62.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>62.c.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>62.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>62.e.</b> A technical school is unlikely to be viable for Romsey as concluded in the Community Infrastructure Assessment (June 2023) which outlines that a population of around 150,000 is required for one to be viable. Macedon Ranges is unlikely to have a sufficient population in the foreseeable future and given Romsey's population projections it is unlikely to be the location of a higher education facility if one was to be built in the Macedon Ranges.</li> <li>• <b>62.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>62.g.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>62.h.</b> Council can raise issue of telecommunication towers losing power during a blackout (but this is separate issue from the Romsey Structure Plan. No changes to the plan.</li> <li>• <b>62.j.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>62.k.</b> Refer to response <b>41.f.</b> regarding community infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>62.l.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> </ul>
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<p>63</p>	<p>Wastewater treatment plant at capacity and needs upgrade to cater for growth. Transport infrastructure needs improvement before population growth. Car dependency is high and needs addressing. Need for increase local employment. Need for a technical school. Need to budget for extension of Five Mile Creek. Biolinks are needed to be established. Activation of town centre including accommodation and support for small businesses. Consolidate retail area. Ned for a neighbourhood battery for mobile towers which shut down during blackout. Cobaw community health is not staffed and doesn't provide services. Need for improved cycling and footpaths. Affordable housing needed in town centre. Need for improved council community services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>63.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>63.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>63.c.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>63.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>63.e.</b> Refer to response <b>62.e.</b> regarding the establishment of a technical school.</li> <li>• <b>63.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>63.g.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>63.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.f</b> regarding power upgrades in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>63.i.</b> Refer to response <b>62.h.</b> regarding power upgrades in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>63.j.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>63.k.</b> Refer to response <b>41.f.</b> regarding community infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>63.l.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> </ul>
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<p>64</p>	<p>Framework plan does not reflect community feedback from options paper. Wastewater treatment plant at capacity and needs upgrade to cater for growth. Transport infrastructure needs improvement before population growth. Car dependency is high and needs addressing. Need for increase local employment. Need for a technical school. Need to budget for extension of Five Mile Creek. Biolinks are needed to be established. Activation of town centre including accommodation and support for small businesses. Consolidate retail area. Need for a neighbourhood battery for mobile towers which shut down during blackout. Cobaw community health is not staffed and doesn't provide services. Need for improved cycling and footpaths. Affordable housing needed in town centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>64.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>64.b.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>64.c.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>64.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>64.e.</b> Refer to response <b>62.e.</b> regarding the establishment of a technical school.</li> <li>• <b>64.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.f</b> regarding power upgrades in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>64.g.</b> Refer to response <b>62.h.</b> regarding power upgrades in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>64.h.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>64.i.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>64.j.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>64.k.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> </ul>
<p>65</p>	<p>There is insufficient infrastructure for further development. Concern with flooding and that area around Portingales Lane floods. Buffer of waste water treatment plant should not be reduced. Flooding along Five Mile Creek. Concern with vibrancy of town centre which needs investment and activation. Tourist activation and promotion of Romsey. Cobaw community health is not providing sufficient services. Lack of community restaurants for families. Lack of public transport and need for improvement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>65.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>65.b.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>• <b>65.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>65.d.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>65.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>65.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>65.g.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> </ul>

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66	<p>Supports the establishment of a protected settlement boundary. The northern boundary should not be moved and its extent is sound. Support the rezoning of C1Z land south of Barry Street to C2Z to contain town centre. Raise constraints of infrastructure in relation to township growth. Support eastward expansion if buffer is reduced but need to ensure good connectivity. Growth should not occur more southward than Greens Lane. West growth could be considered and should be identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>66.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>66.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>66.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>66.d.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>
67	<p>Concern with the lack of infrastructure supporting the growth of the town. Particularly the impact of treatment plant being at capacity and recent discharges into Deep Creek. There is also a lack of public transport and more development does not mean better public transport. There needs to be a better response to public transport than provided.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>67.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>67.b.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• Review Chapter 7.1 – strategy 16 in light of discussions with DTP. Make changes as needed.</li> </ul>
68	<p>Request a local hospital, ambulance service and secondary school. There needs to new infrastructure along with growth. Activation of Main Street.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>68.a.</b> No hospital is expected to be provided for Romsey in the near future. A hospital facility is likely to be provided at a rate of 1 hospital per 500,000 residents as per the Romsey Community Infrastructure Assessment. Please refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>68.b.</b> Any upgrade to the Romsey Ambulance service is not for a Council strategy to direct. As Romsey already has a station, and the Romsey Community Infrastructure Assessment outlines provision rate of 1 facility per 55,000 residents, it is considered there is sufficient coverage in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>68.c.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>68.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>68.e.</b> Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> </ul>

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69	Submission for 37 Stawell Street, Romsey. Small commercial site. Request this site is decoupled from the adjoining land to permit development to occur without the development plan as the main landholder is uninterested in progressing development. Some change is required in planning scheme to permit some development. This will support smaller lots to develop in the meantime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>69.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>69.b.</b> A review of DPO15 will be undertaken in relation to 37 Stawell Street and the wider area given the changes of circumstances with the Coles development occurring at 51-53 Main Street. This is also needed considering the relocation of the business park to the corner of Greens Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road. There will not be any removal of C1Z land from central Romsey as it will be needed into the future as the town grows.</li> </ul>
70	Support infill development, affordable housing in town centre, and protection of heritage and town character, bike paths and consideration of biodiversity. Need for budgeting around extending Five Mile Creek. Biolinks in other areas of Romsey are needed - no growth until this is resolved. Romsey is not a growth area and has poor transport issues - including public transport. Romsey wastewater treatment plant needs upgrade. Need to provide affordable housing within centre of town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>70.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>70.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>70.c.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>70.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>70.f.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>70.g.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>70.h.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> </ul>

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71	Submission in support of 2598 Melbourne-Lancefield Road Romsey. Generally support the main themes of the plan however it supports stronger population growth to support self-sufficiency of the town. Advocates for more land being rezoned in stage 1, stronger diversity targets in growth areas. Employment land needs to be at least 21ha or even 30ha. C2Z land should remain in its current location and at least 4ha in area. Site is suitable for aged care/seniors housing, townhouses for support of aging in place and affordability and traditional housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>71.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>71.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>71.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>71.d.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>71.e.</b> Refer to response <b>17.a.</b> regarding changes to character guidelines. The Neighbourhood Character guidelines support that smaller lots in appropriate locations can occur in greenfield locations.</li> </ul>
71.1	Submission in support of submission 71. Reviews planning practice note 92: Managing buffers for land use compatibility. Makes the argument that uses can be placed within the treatment buffer area as opposed to the GWW submission that industrial uses should be located outside of the buffer area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>71.1.a.</b> The submission is noted considering comments from GWW. Council is in a position where deciding on the structure plan is to occur without finalisation of the final buffer area for the treatment plant. Council has taken a conservative approach to remove any change within approximately 1000m of the treatment plant noting the final area is subject to change. Locating the industrial land outside of the vicinity of the treatment plant ensures that the zoning can be used to a greater extent than one which may be subject to odour – particularly when it is still uncertain the levels that could be experienced. The zoning of new industrial land has also been changed in Industrial 3 Zone to permit a more mixed, sensitive industrial outcome as opposed to the original Industrial 1 Zone previously proposed. Council will continue to work with GWW to finalise a buffer area for Romsey.</li> </ul>

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71.2	<p>Submission in support of submission 71. Raises that investigation area 4 and 5 have limited potential and inappropriate to denser development. A buffer needs to be finalised in consultation with the EPA and GWW. Provides analysis of other growth areas if industrial and school land is provided in revised locations. Industrial and commercial land could be moved south of Greens Lane along with land for a secondary school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>71.1.a.</b> Council notes the submission. The project team have undertaken its own analysis regarding land supply outcomes and has drawn a boundary which provides sufficient land for the purposes of a protected settlement boundary. Council has considered the industrial land south of Greens Lane and accepted this location due to its dual road frontage, proximity to Melbourne and separation from adjoining new residential growth area. Refer to response 1.1.i for further detail.</li> <li>• <b>71.1.b.</b> Council will continue to monitor land supply within Romsey and the Macedon Ranges Shire to ensure sufficient land supply if available. Council is of the view that development within Investigation area 4 and 5a are appropriate given the reduction of land in area 3 due to the uncertainty to a final treatment buffer area. Council in setting a protected settlement boundary needs to be sure of a final outcome regarding land supply and the unresolved process leaves uncertainty in setting a final boundary and what may be permitted in this area.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
72	<p>Raises concern with the closing of businesses and the loss of community connection. Concern with the protection of cultural and post-contact heritage and the preservation and enhancement of this. Likes the library, community health building - but raises it underutilised and the Eco therapy park.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>72.a.</b> Refer to response <b>41.f.</b> regarding community infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>72.b.</b> Cultural heritage values work have been captured under chapter 8.3 of the structure plan. Council will continue to work with the Wurundjeri as the project progresses. It is considered the strategies and actions within the plan are adequate.</li> <li>• <b>72.c.</b> Further strategic heritage work is required under Strategy 23 which seeks to direct future work on heritage in Romsey and the surrounding district. No change expected.</li> </ul>
73	<p>Need for improved infrastructure and maintenance of existing infrastructure. Doubling of population will make this worse. Need for more local employment including public transport access. Suggest development of a trade or rural school. Need to protect heritage/rural character. Need to improve sewerage and water supply. Need to protect flora and fauna. Climate change need for reducing carbon footprint and address car dependence and type of housing development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>73.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>73.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>73.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>73.d.</b> The structure plan outlines that further strategic heritage work is required under Strategy 21 which seeks to direct future work on heritage in Romsey and surrounding district. This will be in accordance with Council’s upcoming Heritage Strategy.</li> <li>• <b>73.e.</b> Refer to response <b>62.e.</b> regarding the establishment of a technical school.</li> <li>• <b>73.f.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• Review growth directions and extent.</li> </ul>

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<p>74</p>	<p>EMRBTA submission. Supports draft vision and principles. Concern with its 27 year timeframe and suggest reducing the scope. Supports framework plan shown protected settlement boundary. Supports housing objectives and strategies but stress importance of neighbourhood character and infrastructure is provided. Supports infill development and a range of lot sizes. Supports improving town centre vibrancy but wants more levers to encourage investment and development (different rates). Support further supply of commercial land. Concern with employment precinct including its location, proximity to waste treatment plant and lack of road frontage - infrastructure costs would be higher. Suggest reviewing location such maintaining land on corner of Greens Lane. Support work on Five Mile Creek but note budget bids have not been supported. Public transport needs more tangible outcomes and strategies. Supports providing required community infrastructure but also the Romsey men's shed and uniting church, encourage church are not shown on plans. Concern with waste water treatment plant. Need for upgrade to deal with issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>74.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>74.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>74.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>74.d.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>74.e.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>74.f.</b> Refer to submission <b>8.1.a</b> regarding transport infrastructure and upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>74.g.</b> It is considered there is sufficient commercial land available within the Romsey town centre. See response to <b>1.1.k.</b> regarding vacancy tax and retail activation.</li> </ul>
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75	<p>Need for investment in infrastructure before any movement of the township boundary and growth. This includes wastewater treatment plant, transport issues, employment land, Five Mile Creek/biolinks, and town centre activation, Sunbury Cobaw Community Health lacking services, footpaths and supply of affordable housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>75.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>75.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>75.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>75.d.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>75.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>75.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>75.g.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>75.h.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> </ul>
76	<p>Need for investment in infrastructure before any movement of the township boundary and growth. This includes wastewater treatment plant, transport issues, employment land, Five Mile Creek/biolinks, and town centre activation, Sunbury Cobaw Community Health lacking services, footpaths and supply of affordable housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>76.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>76.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>76.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>76.d.</b> Support for affordable housing around town centre is noted. It is considered the structure plan provides suitable support for affordable housing provision by permitting greater lot diversity within central Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>76.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.i</b> regarding health services in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>76.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>76.g.</b> Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek.</li> <li>• <b>76.h.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> </ul>

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77	<p>Revitalisation of the town centre is needed, a vacancy tax could address this. Greater detail in report is needed on how aims are to be achieved. Upgrade of waste water treatment plant and stop discharges into Deep Creek. Need to create biolinks, appropriate buffers between different zones, providing wetlands east of Romsey Park. Concern with location of business park due to flooding and distance from town centre. Need for a more viable centre. Raised concern with developer influence on Council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>77.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>77.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>77.c.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>77.d.</b> There is a requirement for some buffer areas. However, not all zones require buffers land areas between them but rather managed within the zoned land. Often in the detailed design a road or reserve will be created as necessary. Development Plan Overlays will be used to ensure adequate buffer areas are provided between residential land and the Romsey business park proposed on Greens Lane.</li> <li>• <b>77.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>77.f.</b> Melbourne Water has provided recommendations for the draft Romsey Structure Plan and matters related to flooding. Further flood mapping work is ongoing but not expected until 2025. This information can be considered once it becomes available.</li> <li>• <b>77.g.</b> Submissions by developers have no more influence on Council’s decision-making process and all decisions by Council are transparent. Any meeting of Councillors with developers is recorded. The Romsey Structure Plan is a Council led planning project.</li> </ul>
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<p>78</p>	<p>Submission on behalf of GWW. Raises concern with extent of eastern development. Raises GWW is working on applying a BAO over the ultimate buffer area required. There is an overlap of these areas and concerned about certain uses in close proximity - secondary school and employment precinct. IN1Z issues include type of uses permitted which may have issue with odour emissions - long term occupation of business by workers. There is no concern with the supply of drinking water in the current context. Drinking water supply will not be impacted by development. New development will need new infrastructure to support development. Support the push for integrated water management and provides suggestions on its recommendations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>78.a.</b> The Romsey Structure Plan seeks to maintain a buffer around the treatment plant until it has been confirmed it can be reduced. The Romsey Structure Plan without a confirmed buffer area will have implications for residential land supply within the protected settlement boundary. Given it is unlikely the testing by GWW will not be resolved within the timeframes of the Romsey Structure Plan project, a conservative approach to the buffer area has been undertaken. The structure plan does not now propose any development east toward the treatment plant and a re-design the growth areas around this outcome has occurred. This has resulted in a number of major changes explained elsewhere. Council will continue to work with GWW until a buffer area can be finalised.</li> <li>• <b>78.b.</b> The Romsey business park location has been relocated in light of the comments by GWW. It is considered without any certainty regarding buffer area extent and potency that all land uses bringing people into the buffer area should be avoided. The decision has meant that a number of changes to the framework plan has occurred including investigation areas 4 and 5a being brought into the protected settlement boundary.</li> <li>• <b>78.c.</b> The location of the possible secondary school site has been moved to the corner of Tickawarra Road and Romsey Road within a future growth area.</li> <li>• <b>78.d.</b> Note that drinking water supply is not a concern currently.</li> <li>• <b>78.e.</b> Note the upgrade to the waste water treatment plant and its timing (2027) which will be 4 years off. The implementation of the Romsey structure plan is likely to closely align with this approximate date before development occurs/occupancy.</li> <li>• <b>78.f.</b> Note advice regarding water management and review draft structure plan as advised.</li> </ul>
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<p>79</p>	<p>Submission on behalf of Department of Transport and Planning (Planning section). Needs to revise detail on study area, terminology and population statistics. Include a chapter on how the protected settlement boundary was provided. Need for a monitoring and review section of the report. Abbreviations - make protected settlement boundary to PSB. Outline cultural heritage values in plan. Raises wording on p7 regarding growing to the lower end of large district town by 2036. Makes suggestions around policy drivers on p8. Suggest tabling response to community engagement on p11. Outlines changes needed to framework plan including future investigations area beyond 2050 should be included within PSB. Raises GRZ is not appropriate to keep single and 2 storey development. Outlines concern about such a large substantial change area near town centre. Is there need for aged care in Romsey? DDO18 must be revised at the same time as the structure plan. Ask if there are opportunities to strengthen resilience to the north and west. Questioned no growth to east and north of Romsey Road not being included when it is closer to town centre. Need clarification for PSB. Include a land budget. Unclear why 2041 is used for population examination. Need to merge chapter 4 and 5. Need to confirm character areas. Staging needs to be clearer. Need to outline analysis for 1,600m2 of retail and 3000m2 for supermarket. Key strategic sites should be shown on framework plan. Questions if IN1Z land is sufficient. Question purpose of landscaping if it stops odour. Questions function of this area. Question increase in vegetation planting adds to bushfire risk. Question on how to address bushfire risk from the north-west and south-west to provide fire breaks. What</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>79.a.</b> The project team reviewed the points outlined in the submission and made changes as needed and to include clarification and detail where requested as needed.</li> <li>• <b>79.b.</b> Note advice regarding setting a protected settlement boundary and Council will seek advice from DTP on the process of setting a protected settlement boundary.</li> <li>• <b>79.d.</b> Noted the comments regarding NRZ and GRZ in light of character work. Council will rezone the NRZ over a majority of residential land besides area within the Township character area which will allow for possible three-storey development.</li> <li>• <b>79.c.</b> The location of the possible secondary school site has been moved to the corner of Tickawarra Road and Romsey Road within a future growth area. This is removed from the area adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant.</li> <li>• <b>79.d.</b> Refer to response <b>19.b</b> and <b>23.1.a</b> regarding open space initiatives and provision in the revised Romsey Structure Plan.</li> </ul>
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**Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary**

	<p>open space areas need improvement? Question location of secondary school area in buffer. Question if areas of risk need urban design or lighting response. Need clarification on truck movements and the expectation on how it will avoid truck movements. Suggest locating all emergency services together and question if SES is needed. Identify cultural values in plans - need to discuss with Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung. Need for interpretive signage. Question if suitable heritage controls are in place to protect areas from intensification. Suggest wording around strategy 20 and implementing BAO. Question if existing industrial areas should be transitioned away from existing town centre. Raise need to strategy 22 to address neighbourhood battery and reuse of treated wastewater. Ensure shade, urban cooling and improved riparian health does not exacerbate bushfire risk. Raise if flood mapping is accurate and if LSIO needs to be revised. Need to update guidelines to use correct terminology. Comments around P49-P51. Provides detailed feedback on design guidelines and character types.</p>	
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Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

<p>80</p>	<p>Some growth could be supported but infrastructure must be upgraded to accommodate this. Level of growth within SP is well beyond envisioned levels. Township is not connected to main corridors or major public transport. Concern with escape expenditure and lack of jobs, need to support local businesses. Development should occur within central township and not extended along the main roads. If Romsey is to grow it requires support to build infrastructure in proportion. Concern with the wastewater treatment plant and the discharge into Deep Creek. Issue of wastewater running down Deep Creek.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>80.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>80.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>80.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>80.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> </ul>
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Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

<p>81</p>	<p>The extent of growth lacks justification from previous strategic documents. Lack of infrastructure which will not be provided to support growth. No clearly linked services for infill or greenfield goals. No growth until these are met. Suggest development occurs as proposed by Better Futures Romsey. A wetland should be provided along the Romsey South Drain. Stage 1 residential zoning should only occur if remainder of a wetland is delivered. No future development area provided until post 2036 once infrastructure has been addressed post 2032. Need to improve environmental outcomes such as biolinks, protecting Grassy Plains Woodland EVC, high frequency bus services, street tree planting has been undertaken, all new development is at 9 star energy rating, wetland delivered and footpaths. Concern with character areas including the height of infill development of three storeys. Outline a need of more neighbourhood character areas. Heritage areas should be included in minimal change areas. Incremental change areas need to control change to avoid rapid change. Employment precinct needs to provide suitable truck parking facilities and a suitably upgraded Greens Lane and Romsey Road, provides enough infrastructure, integrates wetlands and green space connections, 9 star energy rating and make it a green technology and business park. Coles should be moved north of Barry Street and Council should facilitate this. Redevelopment of Romsey Hotel should not include pokies or Romsey pub. Need for a vacant land tax, moving existing industrial type businesses to new business park, implement a new mixed retail/medium density precinct along Pohlman St - between Murphy St and Stawell St. HO needs to be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>81.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>81.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>81.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>81.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>81.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>81.f.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information.</li> <li>• <b>81.g.</b> The project team have undertaken a review comments regarding various strategies.</li> <li>• <b>81.h.</b> Review neighbourhood character assessment and guidelines as suggested. Currently not supportive of only single storey development particularly if infill housing needs to occur on smaller lots. Allowing higher build heights will make more efficient use of land in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>81.i.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>81.j.</b> Note support for affordable housing around town centre.</li> <li>• <b>81.k.</b> Rezoning of land outside of the protected settlement boundary cannot occur due to the scope of the Romsey Structure Plan. A rural land use strategy would need to occur to address rural zoning around Romsey and Lancefield.</li> <li>• <b>81.l.</b> The Romsey structure plan supports the activation of Romsey Hotel. However, gaming machines are subject to other planning controls outside of what an individual structure plan can account for. Council would need to take a holistic review of gaming machines across the Macedon Ranges Shire area and individual ad-hoc policy work is out of scope for this structure plan.</li> </ul>
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**Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary**

	<p>applied to trees on 103 Main Street to protect trees from adjoining site. Importance of Strategy 10 to limit non-urban uses and the aged care facility is an example of inappropriate development. Most restrictive rural zone should be applied. The changes should be applied to all RLZ land in all directions of Lancefield and Romsey.</p>	
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Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

<p>82</p>	<p>The extent of growth lacks justification from previous strategic documents. Lack of infrastructure which will not be provided to support growth. No clearly linked services for infill or greenfield goals. No growth until these are met. Suggest development occurs as proposed by Better Futures Romsey. A wetland should be provided along the Romsey South Drain. Stage 1 residential zoning should only occur if remainder of a wetland is delivered. No future development area provided until post 2036 once infrastructure has been addressed post 2032. Need to improve environmental outcomes such as biolinks, protecting Grassy Plains Woodland EVC, high frequency bus services, street tree planting has been undertaken, all new development is at 9 star energy rating, wetland delivered and footpaths. Concern with character areas including the height of infill development of three storeys. Outline a need of more neighbourhood character areas. Heritage areas should be included in minimal change areas. Incremental change areas need to control change to avoid rapid change. Employment precinct needs to provide suitable truck parking facilities and a suitably upgraded Greens Lane and Romsey Road, provides enough infrastructure, integrates wetlands and green space connections, 9 star energy rating and make it a green technology and business park. Coles should be moved north of Barry Street and Council should facilitate this. Redevelopment of Romsey Hotel should not include pokies or Romsey pub. Need for a vacant land tax, moving existing industrial type businesses to new business park, implement a new mixed retail/medium density precinct along Pohlman St - between Murphy St and Stawell St. HO needs to be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>82.a.</b> Refer to response <b>10.a.</b> regarding infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• <b>82.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>82.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.i</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>82.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>82.e.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>82.f.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information. Review comments regarding various strategies. No changes are expected.</li> <li>• <b>82.g.</b> Review neighbourhood character assessment and guidelines as suggested. Currently not supportive of only single storey development particularly if infill housing needs to occur on smaller lots. Allowing higher build heights will make more efficient use of land in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>82.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> </ul>
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**Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary**

	<p>applied to trees on 103 Main Street to protect trees from adjoining site. Importance of Strategy 10 to limit non-urban uses and the aged care facility is an example of inappropriate development. Most restrictive rural zone should be applied. The changes should be applied to all RLZ land in all directions of Lancefield and Romsey.</p>	
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Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

<p>83</p>	<p>1000m separation distance has not been determined with EPA. Must align with PPN92 and EPA Publication 1518 (1949). All open space, secondary school and future urban growth need to be located outside of the separation distances established for the WWTP. Strategy 21 refers to the BAO and this is in the incorrect location. Employment buffer area of 200m needs to be outlined on how it was established and needs to be clarified. Review residential areas interfacing with agricultural areas and the issue with this. Need to identify potentially contaminated land and undertake work in structure plan. Need to review transport noise in relation to Transport Zone Schedule 2 and the impact pollution and noise can have on sensitive uses. Investigation area needs to remove reference to EPA buffer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>83.a.</b> Note comments regarding the identified 1000m buffer. This buffer refers back to the Romsey Outline development plan since at least 2012 and is a long term planning item. Review PPN92 and EPA Publication 1518 and outline distance in accordance with EPA publications. Council continues to rely on advice from GWW who are still confirming the final buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>83.b.</b> Review open space, secondary school and growth areas in review of EPA comments regarding the 1000m buffer area. Council will relocate any new use outside of the potential buffer area (Investigation Area 3) due to uncertainty of outcomes related to this. Council needs to ensure that there is adequate land supply to meet its forecasted growth for Romsey without additional uncertainty regarding if the land can be used an type of use. The revised plan will ensure land supply is met without the reliance of an outcome from the upcoming work by GWW. The structure plan will not show eastern growth towards Portingales Lane due to the buffer area being unresolved. Council understands the EPA are supportive of this approach.</li> <li>• <b>83.c.</b> The location of the possible secondary school site has been moved to the corner of Tickawarra Road and Romsey Road which is within a future growth area. This is 1500m from the treatment plant itself. The buffer area is still required to be finalised but no development is now proposed adjacent to the site.</li> <li>• <b>83.d.</b> The business park location has now been relocated to the current IN1Z land area on the corner of Greens Lane. It is also sought to be rezoned to IN3Z to account for more sensitive uses. The Development Plan Overlay will require the proposed business park to account for adjoining sensitive uses in accordance with EPA guidance documents.</li> <li>• <b>83.e.</b> Council will seek to identify any known contaminated sites within Romsey but this is required future work. A map will not be inserted into the structure plan but form part of additional work.</li> <li>• <b>83.f.</b> A review of traffic noise and pollution risks will occur during detailed design. An action will be included in the structure plan to identify these risks for consideration in the detailed design of development.</li> <li>• <b>83.g.</b> Council notes the request to remove the EPA reference in Investigations Areas report. This document being a background document has not been edited and the new appendix 2 replaces this document.</li> </ul>
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Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

84	<p>Submission on behalf of 2072 Romsey Road, Romsey. Support inclusion of the land and support it being included on a sound basis. Do not support that staging outlined and the subject site should be included in initial rezoning of residential land. Do not agree with Neighbourhood Character Guidelines as it will have a negative impact on the delivery of affordable housing and land product. This will be due to building design, per square metre cost and supply. Support secondary school site on subject site until a time it is not required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>84.a</b> The project team have reviewed the residential staging to the development plan however the subject site has been removed from the growth areas due to concerns around the uncertainty of the buffer area for the wastewater treatment plant.</li> <li>• <b>84.a</b> Refer to response <b>17.a</b>. regarding changes to character guidelines. The structure plan will support a range of suitable lot sizes in greenfield areas which is considered appropriate for the character of Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>84.c</b>. Noting support for school location however the possible secondary school site has been moved to north of Romsey Road to the corner of Tickawarra Road and to be within the revised growth area. The school site was moved due to uncertainty regarding final treatment plant buffer areas and to located it within the revised protected settlement boundary.</li> </ul>
85	<p>Submission on behalf of 2131 Romsey Road and 90 Sheehans Road. Concern with basis of exclusion of land from draft. Do not accept being reviewed post 2050. Land is better located to be supported and included within township and create active transport links along Five Mile Creek. Site does not contain high quality agricultural land. Development of land will not create undesirable visual or environmental impacts. Delivery of an eco-village concept. Adjustment of investigation areas lacks justification and is unfair. Areas 4 and 5 together score higher than other areas. Significant challengers on subject site are unfounded. Lack of transparency between emerging options paper and draft structure plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>85.a</b>. Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>85.d</b>. Council has taken a review of the Investigations Area report in light of comments. This table has been inserted into Appendix 1 of the draft Structure Plan. From the review area 5 has been split to 5A and 5B with area 5A now being included within the protected settlement boundary. While a different score was concluded by the project team, 5A was included to provide additional required land supply.</li> <li>• <b>85.c</b>. Note supporting affordable housing contribution, development contributions, public land and an “eco-village” concept.</li> <li>• <b>85.d</b>. Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek connections.</li> </ul>

Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

85.1	An additional submission in support of submission 85. Submission seeks to address possible changes to the GWW treatment plant buffer area and the loss of land is investigation area 3. Raises matters for supporting including the land within the Protected Settlement Boundary. It also talks to buffer requirements around the treatment plant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>85.1.a.</b> Additional comment has been noted. Council had split investigation Area 5 into 5A and 5B due to advice from GWW and the buffer area. Area 5B contains land east of 2131 Romsey Road, Romsey. This land has not been included into the protected settlement boundary and would remain rural. Council maintains that sufficient land has been included within the recommended protected settlement boundary with a 2050 timeframe horizon.</li> </ul>
86	Supports draft Romsey Structure Plan - does not provide reason.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>86.a.</b> Note support for current draft plan.</li> </ul>
87	Submission on behalf of 68-70 Main Street Romsey. Site is suitable for infill development but DDO18 makes this impossible. Recommends removal of DDO18 from all land. View there is a lack of strategic justification for any changes to the development contributions plans. A clear distinction is needed between infill and greenfield development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>87.a</b> Further review of DDO18 is to occur regarding infill development and minimum lot sizes. Council will be ensuring that the character controls are appropriate to balance protecting Romsey’s character and permitting infill development. The DDO18 will be reviewed or removed as per strategy 2, A12.</li> <li>• <b>87.b.</b> Council will be undertaking further work regarding development contributions for Romsey. The review will include direction between infill and greenfield development contributions as required. The Romsey Structure Plan is seeking to provide the land use framework. Council is currently undertaking a DCP review which will help inform further work.</li> </ul>
88	23 pages of specific comment relating to strategic justification, strategic basis, extent of growth, intensification, character precincts, implementation, issues with strategies and actions, guidelines and other issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>88.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.a.</b> regarding accuracy and clarity of information.</li> <li>• <b>88.b.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>88.c.</b> The project team has reviewed the suggested changes within the structure plan and there have been several changes to the structure plan. The Township character area has been adjusted to better reflect the character and future proposed zoning. A review of this area has resulted in changes for areas subject to future increases of infill development.</li> </ul>

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89	Melbourne Airport submission. Provides information on Melbourne Airport’s plans including Melbourne Airport Master Plan which is a 20 year strategic document. Notes Romsey is subject to aircraft noise and will continue to be impacted. A new runway will mean an increase in noise to town. Romsey is outside of contours but will be subject to this noise. Eastern growth area will be subject to increased long term aircraft noise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>89.a.</b> Noted the information provided in review of growth directions particularly to the east of Romsey. The area most impacted by future airport approaches would be to the south and east of Romsey but outside any of the current growth areas.</li> </ul>
90	CFA submission. Generally in support but requires clear separation of rural and urban areas using roads and public open space. All creeks, waterways and other areas should ensure they do not create a wick for bushfire. Adequate water supply needs to be provided including pressure and flow.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>90.a.</b> Noted comments regarding bushfire risk around open space and waterways to ensure open space does not create areas where bushfire can take hold in chapter 9.2. GWW have advised there are no issues regarding water supply for Romsey.</li> </ul>
91	Better Futures Romsey Submission. Presents alternative vision, values and priorities and provides a proposed plan for the town. This includes turning existing industrial and commercial land into future education sites and applying an EAO. A southern investigation area growth front with a business on the corner of Greens Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road, large biolink areas and a wetland to the east of the township. It outlines growth should not occur until 2036. It also outlines the importance of improving infrastructure and wastewater treatment facilities. Many of these points are expanded on within their submission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>91.a.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>91.b.</b> Council has reviewed strategies around sustainability. It is considered the proposed actions and strategies contained in chapter 9 are suitable within the context of a townwide structure plan only minor changes were required.</li> <li>• <b>91.c.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>• <b>91.d.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.l</b> regarding changes to employment and business park location.</li> <li>• <b>91.e.</b> Refer to response <b>1.1.g</b> regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> <li>• <b>91.f.</b> Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> <li>• <b>91.g.</b> Council has reviewed sections around housing to balance housing density that will supporting infill while protecting neighbourhood character outcomes. It is important that efficient land supply occurs to ensure housing affordability. Please refer</li> </ul>

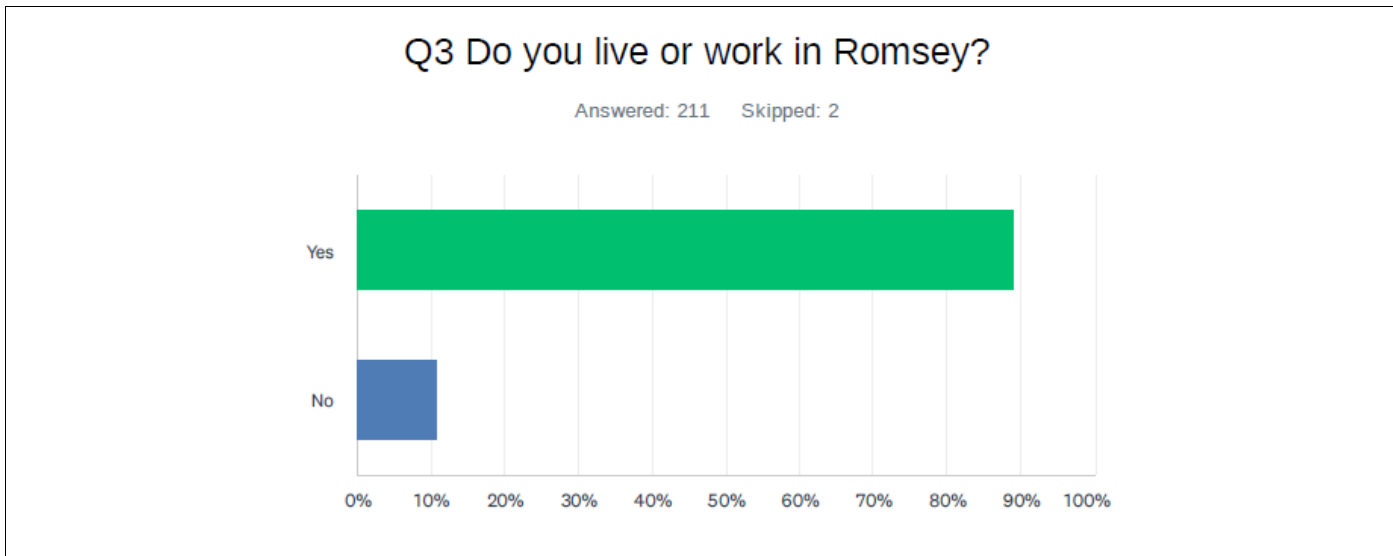


Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

		<p>to the revised <i>Appendix 2 – Neighbourhood Character Guidelines and New Residential Area Subdivision Requirements</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>91.h.</b> Refer to response <b>8.9.j</b> regarding providing a new wetland in Romsey.</li> <li>• <b>91.i.</b> The structure plan already seeks improved WSUD in Romsey and this will be carried over into detailed design.</li> </ul>
92	<p>Outlines the need for further work with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung in planning development. There is a need to identify cultural areas prior to detailed planning (ACHIA) to ensure viability of the development when taking into consideration cultural values.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>92.a.</b> Council has completed a Cultural Values Assessment to inform the draft Romsey Structure Plan. This was undertaken in collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.</li> <li>• <b>92.b.</b> Further work in collaboration with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung is required in finalising the Development Plan Overlays.</li> </ul>
93	<p>There is a need to plan open spaces along natural drainage areas. Stormwater management strategy should be prepared to inform open spaces. Noted some required changes to mapping. Outlines requirements regarding flood risk assessment and ensuring development does not impact on downstream catchment. Provided an action for waterway maintenance. Outlined future flood modelling will occur in 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>93.a.</b> Council notes the comments from Melbourne Water including the requirement for a stormwater management strategy to inform development design and open space location. Council has also implemented suggested action at chapter 6.2, strategy 11.</li> </ul>
93.1	<p>Additional comments from Melbourne Water regarding that Dry Creek is a storm main drain and that there is a requirement of a 5m setback from Melbourne Water drainage assets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>93.1.a.</b> Council notes the additional comments from Melbourne Water.</li> </ul>
94	<p>Submission in support of development at 68 Knox Road and the outlines the reasons for why the development area is appropriate for development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>94.a</b> Submission is noted in support of 68 Knox Road being included within the Protected Settlement Boundary.</li> </ul>

Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

Section 2 – Online Survey outcomes and feedback

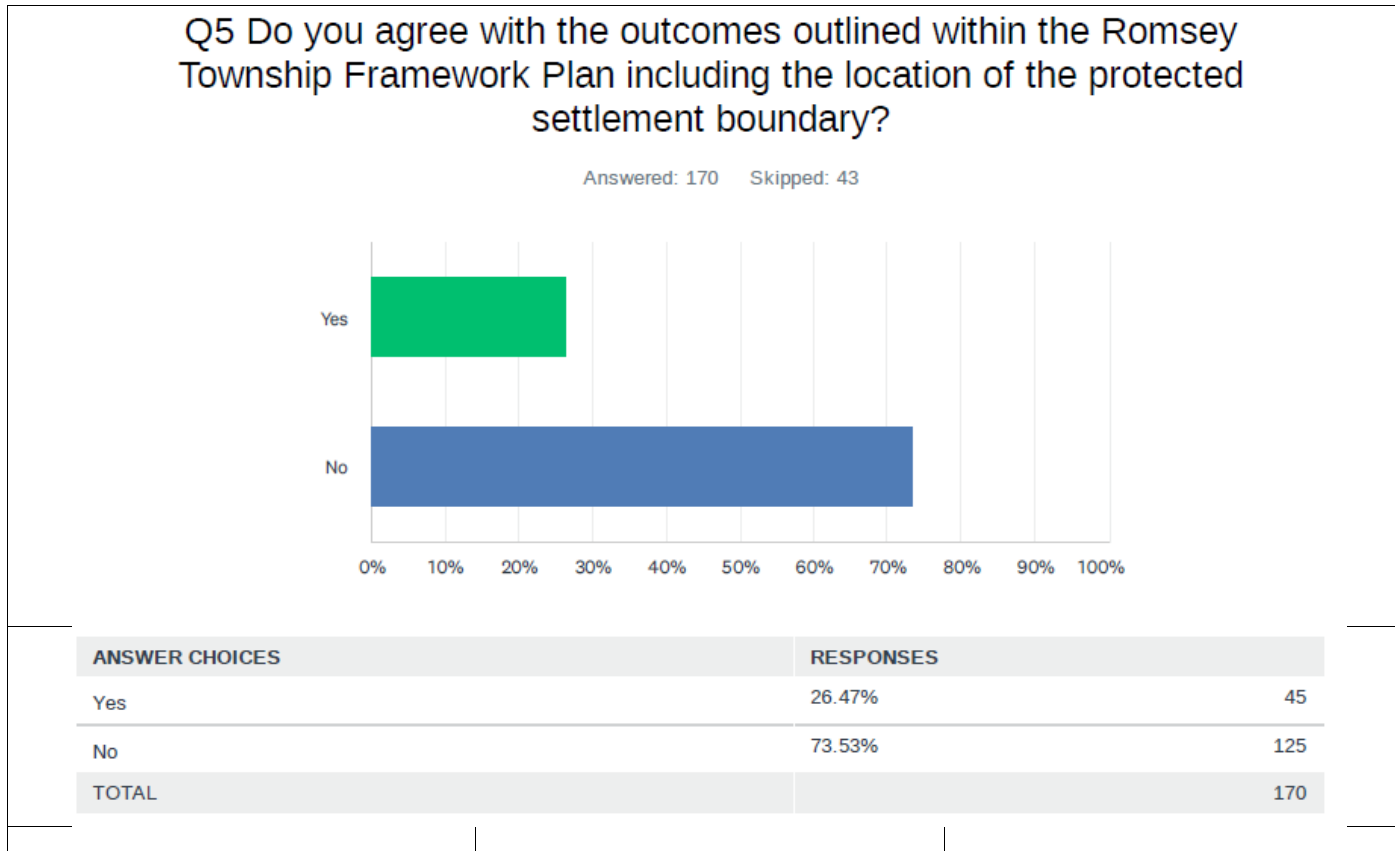


Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	89.10%	188
No	10.90%	23
TOTAL		211

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Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary



**Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary**

<p><b>Q6. Do you have any suggestions about how could we improve this?</b></p> <p>Of the 170 people who provided an answer, 124 surveys provided further comment. Note the survey numbers below are numbered as per the number that survey was received and are not related to survey numbers on the pdf summary and therefore the survey numbers will be higher than 124 (number can be up to 213). The survey answers have been consolidated to main themes a response provided to these themes.</p>		
Submission	Survey No.	Response
Lack of infrastructure, not moving boundary until supporting infrastructure is provided, no infrastructure capacity for growth.	1, 3, 5, 9, 10, 12, 20, 24, 25, 32, 47, 57, 62, 63, 70, 82, 83, 86, 99, 102, 103, 106, 109, 131, 144, 154, 157, 159, 171	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structure plan is seeking to ensure required infrastructure is provided to support growth. The Development Plan Overlay and Development Contributions Plan will be the mechanism used to capture contributions to infrastructure and development.</li> </ul>
Infill development should be supported over greenfield development, support infill	10, 60, 65, 70, 80, 100, 103, 200, 154, 186, 200, 203	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Town centre needs to be revitalised, need for services/retail	51, 83, 86, 88, 99, 103, 129, 135, 157, 159, 165, 172	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient commercial land is considered available within the Romsey town centre. See response to <b>1.1.k.</b> regarding vacancy tax and retail activation.</li> </ul>
Support for eastern growth or area 4 and 5 to be included within township boundary.	17, 21, 27, 29, 36, 37, 38, 42, 48, 49, 52, 66, 67, 72, 73, 78, 79, 84, 85, 90, 91, 92, 97, 107, 101, 110, 111, 123, 127, 128, 133, 136, 137, 138, 161, 189, 190, 192, 194	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Do not change the location of the industrial and commercial land, proposed changes to industrial land or commercial land are in the wrong location.	18, 66, 78, 89, 90, 92, 100, 109, 129, 159	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The business park and strategies and actions related to this have been changed to remove the land from the buffer area of the wastewater treatment plant. It is now located on the corner of Greens Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road.</li> </ul>
Protect farming land	19, 42, 48, 97, 98, 124, 127, 186	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of agricultural soil is noted particularly to the north. Current growth area is considered to minimise loss of productive farmland to the south and east.</li> </ul>

Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

Scale of growth is too much	22, 80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. Adequate land must be provided to accommodate projected growth. The unresolved buffer area impact on Area 3 has been reviewed to determine final land supply.</li> </ul>
Do not support further growth or no change to boundary in Romsey.	6, 12, 32, 46, 47, 55, 56, 60, 62, 65, 87, 93, 103, 139, 151, 187, 200, 203, 209	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. Limiting town growth until 2036 is considered not feasible for the purposes of the Romsey Structure Plan project. This is to ensure adequate land supply for housing, business and industry. Infrastructure needs to be provided along with the applicable development when it occurs.</li> </ul>
Waterway protection, avoid development along waterways, flood prone land	26, 32, 63, 187	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Romsey Structure Plan seeks to protect waterways and consider flood prone land. Council will continue discussions with GWW and Melbourne Water around improving waterway management and water sensitive urban design in new development. Refined design will occur during detailed planning.</li> </ul>
Insufficient growth, not enough greenfield land	34, 53, 74, 82, 193,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. It is considered sufficient land has been made available in consideration of GWW feedback regarding buffer areas. Other land such as within Area 4 and Area 5 has been identified to supply sufficient greenfield land.</li> </ul>
Need for greater buffers, biolinks, need for environment areas or open space	50, 80, 92, 124, 154, 162	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> </ul>
Support growth in area 7 (north)	69, 75, 94,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> <li>Growth to the north was previously discounted coming from the consultation during the Emerging Options Paper. It is not expected land to the north of Romsey is required. Consider including aged care facility land and potentially land on the</li> </ul>

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		corner eastern corner of Hutchinsons Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road for industrial land.
Support growth to south-west of town	170	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. Growth to the south-west was previously discounted coming from the consultation during the Emerging Options Paper. It is not recommended to include this area within the protected settlement boundary.</li> </ul>
Support growth in all directions	207, 208	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Wastewater treatment plant, impact on waterways	57, 63, 165	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Greater Western Water to finalise issues around Romsey Recycled Water plant and buffer area extent required. Implement the findings of this into the final structure plan.</li> </ul>
Neighbourhood character comments, not supportive of proposals	24, 96, 140, 173, 178, 180, 187, 197	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review neighbourhood character assessment and guidelines. The extent of infill area will be reviewed along with growth directions following on from community feedback. There are limits to infill development to ensure the protection of neighbourhood character and ensure timely land supply. Review outcomes, particularly including the use of GRZ and NRZ.</li> </ul>
Listen to the residents	39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public consultation is the intended process to listen to residents.</li> </ul>
Mentions fast food restaurants	59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is unclear on what this is seeking but fast food could be a permissible use within commercial zoned land areas.</li> </ul>
Investigation report is not correct, predetermined	108	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Investigations Area report in light of comments however the outcomes of the report were independently undertaken by Council’s consultants P2P. No change expected.</li> </ul>
Support current proposal	77	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Areas bordering existing residential areas should be zoned NRZ.	141	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review neighbourhood character assessment and guidelines. The extent of infill area will be reviewed along with growth</li> </ul>

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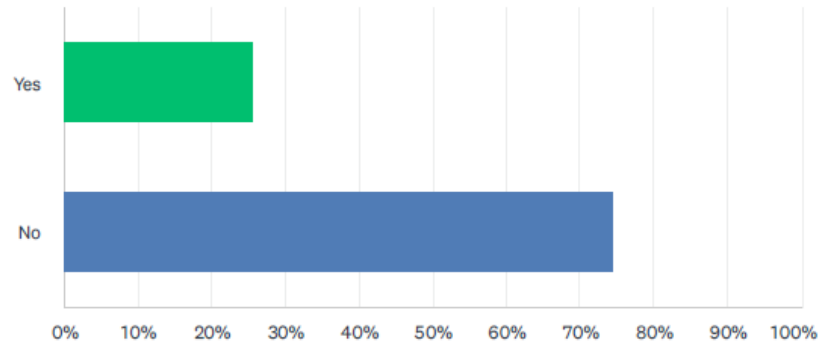
		directions following on from community feedback. There are limits to infill development to ensure the protection of neighbourhood character and ensure timely land supply. Review outcomes, particularly including the use of GRZ and NRZ.
No gambling in Romsey	173	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gambling policy is out of scope for the Romsey Structure Plan project and gambling policy should be approached from a whole of Shire approach.</li> </ul>
Do not support a protected settlement boundary (makes changing boundary difficult)	176	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council must implement a protected settlement boundary and therefore no change is recommended in implementing one.</li> </ul>
Need for greater restrictions on infill	178	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review growth directions and extent. Submissions have favoured infill development and it's not recommended to restrict infill develop.</li> </ul>
Suggest local laws improvements	178	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local law review is out of scope for the Romsey Structure Plan.</li> </ul>
Support better futures Romsey submission	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Better Futures Romsey submission has been noted and will be reviewed along with other submissions.</li> </ul>
Growth areas not correct but does not provide where it would be correct	188	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review growth directions and extent.</li> </ul>



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Q7 The draft structure plan outlines six neighbourhood character types (Figure 6) and five precincts (Figure 15) in Romsey. Do you agree with the findings and outcomes in Chapter 10?

Answered: 152 Skipped: 61



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	25.66%	39
No	74.34%	113
TOTAL		152

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Q8. How could we improve this?		
Of the 152 people who provided an answer, 94 surveys provided further comment. Note the survey numbers below are numbered as per the number that survey was received and are not related to survey numbers on the pdf summary and therefore the survey numbers will be higher than 94 (number can be up to 213). The survey answers have been consolidated to main themes a response provided to these themes.		
Submission	Survey No.	Preferred Response
Focus development in the area within existing town boundary, support infill	1, 6, 25, 32, 47, 63, 80, 165, 176, 186, 200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Lack of infrastructure, not moving boundary until supporting infrastructure is provided, no infrastructure capacity for growth.	5, 32, 86, 144, 154, 171, 178	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structure plan is seeking to ensure required infrastructure is provided to support growth. Development Contributions Plan will be the mechanism used.</li> </ul>
Town centre needs to be revitalised, more services/retail	86	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient commercial land is considered available within the Romsey town centre. See response to <b>1.1.k.</b> regarding vacancy tax and retail activation.</li> </ul>
Support Better Futures Romsey Proposal	6,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Comments on Garden Courts Area	9, 174	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A review of neighbourhood character guidelines has occurred. The extent of infill area has been reviewed along with growth directions following on from community feedback. There are limits to infill development to ensure the protection of neighbourhood character.</li> </ul>
Improve pedestrian and cycling access to town centre	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft is seeking to build on cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. Development</li> </ul>

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		Plans and the DCP will be the mechanism used.
Improve open space, environment areas, biolinks, green wedge area	16, 25, 32,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open space connections are proposed within the draft Structure Plan.</li> <li>Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> </ul>
Delete growth areas, no growth areas, stop growth, reduce growth	12, 32, 46, 63, 65, 100, 103, 139, 151, 162, 186, 193, 209	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Need for limited greenfield growth	36, 111	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes.</li> </ul>
Area 4 or 5 should be included in settlement boundary, more growth eastward, less growth southward.	17, 18, 21, 27, 28, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48, 49, 52, 66, 67, 72, 73, 78, 79, 84, 90, 92, 97, 107, 111, 127, 128, 138, 140, 141, 154, 176, 188, 18, 189, 190, 192, 194	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. Area 4 and 5 are being included now due to unresolved buffer area outcomes for Area 3 and that greenfield land is still required.</li> </ul>
New growth areas should be to the south-west of town	170	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. Growth to the south-west was previously discounted coming from the consultation during the Emerging Options Paper. It is not recommended to include this area within the protected settlement boundary.</li> </ul>
Supportive of draft industrial land park location	24, 36, 100, 192	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The business park has been relocated due to ongoing uncertainty on the buffer areas in light of GWW advice. The former</li> </ul>

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		location has been selected as the revised location.
Not supportive of growth toward treatment plant, avoid buffer	50, 60, 136, 192	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. Due to no resolution and GWW regarding finalisation of the buffer area. Council has taken a conservative approach and avoided any growth in Area 3 to avoid any conflict.</li> </ul>
Supports business park/employment precinct area in its current location / south of Romsey	27, 28, 37, 38, 39, 48, 49, 66, 67, 75, 78, 79, 89, 90, 92, 194	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The business park has been relocated due to ongoing uncertainty on the buffer areas in light of GWW advice. The former location has been selected as the revised location.</li> </ul>
Mitchell Court industrial area needs to change or be relocated	32, 36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is considered not appropriate to back zone an established business park at this stage. The site is now proposed to be rezoned to IN3Z due to the sensitivity of adjoining land uses.</li> </ul>
Growth areas should have a minimum 1000m2 lot size	173	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A blanket 1000m2 minimum lot size is not considered an appropriate response to ensuring a balance of infill development and limiting the growth of Romsey in area.</li> </ul>
Protect farmland	24, 43, 57, 98, 103	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of agricultural soil is noted particularly to the north. Current growth area is considered to minimise loss of productive farmland in permitting greenfield development.</li> </ul>

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Support southward growth	24, 57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support is noted.</li> </ul>
Greenfield lots should be larger than 2500m2, 1 acre.	25, 189	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lots larger than 2500m2 are considered too large for modern greenfield development and to try and limit the greenfield extent around Romsey. This outcome would require vastly more area to be provided around Romsey. A range of lot sizes are proposed within the Romsey Structure Plan.</li> </ul>
Precinct 1 should only be along Main Street	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is considered the land in Precinct 1 along Polhman Street and required to be retained. It is not considered appropriate to adjust Precinct 1 at this stage to capture the Commercial 1 Zone land.</li> </ul>
More land is needed for development	34, 51, 53, 74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>1.1.b</b> regarding growth directions and rational to changes. It is considered adequate area has been provided.</li> </ul>
Need for a bypass	39,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating Greens Lane and Portingales Lane were viewed to provide an alternative route. No bypass is proposed given no development outside of the township is proposed.</li> </ul>
Need to address climate resilience, sustainable development	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy 20, 21 and 22 seek to address climate resilience and sustainable development. A review of these will be undertaken however no changes are recommended.</li> </ul>
Investigation Area report biased to give an outcome Council wants/not correct	91, 108, 175	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report were independently undertaken by Council’s consultants P2P. A review has been undertaken and Area 5</li> </ul>

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		has been split to accommodate required land supply.
Maintain current density and character in new development	96, 163,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The neighbourhood character guidelines have been reviewed and provide a balanced mix of lot sizes. Current guidelines generally reflect built form in greenfield areas currently and minimal changes are expected.</li> </ul>
Development should occur east of Barry Street	123	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unclear on what this means but infill can occur east of Barry Street. Given Barry Street is an east-west aligned road – there is a broad section of area this comment could apply to. No changes expected.</li> </ul>
Need to semi-regularly consult with populace to gauge what services and infrastructure is required and reduce the need for people to travel great distances to meet their needs	131	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council as part of the structure plan project and other projects regularly consult with the community to understand needs and desires. Feedback will be considered before the finalisation of any strategic document.</li> </ul>
“Go behind town where its easy to walk into town and enjoy the fews”	133	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unclear on where behind town is. Unclear on how to respond.</li> </ul>
“Arbitrary nonsense! Based purely on period estate development style. Very little to do with construction design, garden plantings and fencing types.”	156	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is unclear on what this comment relates to or how it is arbitrary. No changes recommended.</li> </ul>
Not supportive of neighbourhood character characterisation	157	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review neighbourhood character assessment and guidelines has occurred. It is considered the characterisations are accurate and no changes are recommended.</li> </ul>

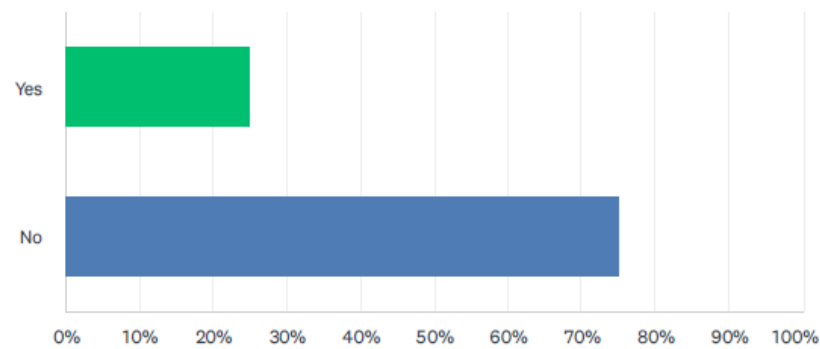
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Need for greater planning controls on development	178	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council is seeking to balance control of development and limit the burden of planning on allowing development to continue. A review of neighbourhood character assessment and guidelines including the extent of infill area will be reviewed along with growth directions following on from community feedback. There will be limits to infill development to ensure the protection of neighbourhood character.</li> </ul>
Document is hard to find	180	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The document was available both online and at the Romsey service area. The survey was after the location of the draft documents. It is considered this comment means it was difficult to view rather than find. No changes recommended.</li> </ul>

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Q9 The structure plan includes new infrastructure directions to meet the needs of Romsey in the future. Have we captured all the infrastructure requirements.

Answered: 148 Skipped: 65



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	25.00% 37
No	75.00% 111
TOTAL	148

Q10. What infrastructure is missing from Romsey and where should it be located?



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Of the 148 people who provided an answer, 104 surveys provided further comment. Note the survey numbers below are numbered as per the number that survey was received and are not related to survey numbers on the pdf summary and therefore the survey numbers will be higher than 104 (number can be up to 213). The survey answers have been consolidated to main themes a response provided to these themes.

Submission	Survey No.	Response
General need for infrastructure improvements	53, 62, 139, 156, 178, 200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structure plan is seeking to ensure required infrastructure is provided to support growth. The Development Plan Overlay and Development Contributions Plan will be the mechanism used. No changes required.</li> </ul>
No growth until infrastructure is in place	5, 9, 87, 88, 178,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structure plan is seeking to ensure required infrastructure is provided to support growth. Development Contributions Plan will be the mechanism used. Development will also provide for infrastructure. No changes required.</li> </ul>
Insufficient “plan” for delivery of infrastructure, timelines	8, 11, 34, 50, 103, 154	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An implementation plan will be prepared once the draft structure plan is adopted. No changes required.</li> </ul>
Romsey public transport improvements	9, 26, 32, 39, 65, 70, 109, 131, 178, 186,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further discussions with Department of Transport and Planning is ongoing regarding public transport. No changes to the structure plan are required at this stage.</li> </ul>
Employment	165, 186,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review location of business park and strategies and actions related to this. The Structure Plan supports employment being provided in Romsey.</li> </ul>
Youth facilities / meeting area	10, 21,32, 100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>41.f.</b> regarding community infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>
Swimming pool	11, 21, 24, 52, 70, 86, 132, 138, 170, 197,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft seeks to rely on the findings of the future Aquatic Facility Feasibility Study (East of the Shire).</li> </ul>

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		This will inform the location and if a pool is provided in Romsey. No changes are required to the structure plan.
Health facilities	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is considered there are suitable amount of Level 2 Community Based Health Care for the projected population in all growth scenarios. Improvement of the services will be important but is beyond the scope of the structure plan to address. No changes are required to the structure plan.</li> </ul>
Leisure/recreation facilities	11,16, 21, 52, 197	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Community Infrastructure Assessment found that there is sufficient recreation facilities in Romsey and surrounds. The provision of a pavilion will be potentially required but is accommodated within the Romsey Park Sports Master Plan 2023. No changes are required to the structure plan.</li> </ul>
Parks and open space areas	51, 132, 163, 197,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open space is sought to be provided with any new development in Romsey. Activation of existing open space is also considered important. A review of open spaces has occurred to reflect changing growth areas.</li> </ul>
Retail/commercial services, pub	32, 36, 58, 59, 60, 83, 86, 109, 131, 132, 143, 165	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient commercial land is currently provided in Romsey and no changes are required to provide retail outcomes or a pub re-opening/opening. No changes to the structure plan are required to address this.</li> </ul>
Road upgrades required	11, 27, 32, 39, 55, 62, 87, 156, 165, 178, 186, 209,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further discussions with Department of Transport and Planning around transport remain ongoing. It is expected no major works are required for Romsey outside of developer led infrastructure development.</li> </ul>

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Do not decrease road speed or add traffic signals	173	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noted. Signalisation and road speeds are considered appropriate to support active transport options and pedestrian movement. Council will continue to work with Department of Transport and Planning</li> </ul>
More opens space, connections, footpaths, parks	16, 62, 156	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open space connections are proposed within the draft Structure Plan.</li> <li>Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> </ul>
Community battery, renewables	17, 172,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy 22 addresses the issue. Work needs to continue with Powercor to address the renewables and battery storage. A whole network approach is likely to be required. No changes required.</li> </ul>
Street lighting	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Street lighting is provided in accordance with engineering requirements. No action is required to finalise the structure plan.</li> </ul>
Footpath improvements	11, 17, 25, 36, 48, 49, 66, 78, 80, 90, 98, 137, 143, 156, 163	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft is seeking to build on pedestrian infrastructure. DCP will be the mechanism used for key projects. Development will contribute to the footpath network. No changes are expected.</li> </ul>
Cycling	24, 26, 48, 49, 72, 73, 78, 80, 90, 156,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft is seeking to build on cycling infrastructure. Development Plan Overlays and DCP will be the mechanism used for key projects.</li> </ul>
Education, secondary school	19, 52, 57, 58, 70, 94, 109, 136, 141, 143, 144, 162, 163, 178, 185,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> </ul>
Industrial land	47,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial land is sought to be provided in Romsey.</li> </ul>
Need for State Government investment	20,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council is seeking to continue working with State Government to provide investment in Romsey and the Macedon Ranges. No changes required.</li> </ul>
Sewerage , wastewater treatment	21, 39, 47, 56, 62, 70, 88, 107, 113, 171, 172,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council continues to work with Greater Western Water to finalise issues around Romsey Recycled Water plant and buffer area extent required.</li> </ul>

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Stormwater	21, 32, 91, 156, 190	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council expects any development to provide adequate stormwater infrastructure. Work will continue to ensure WSUD is provided in new development. No changes to the strategies around stormwater are required.</li> </ul>
Electricity mains supply/connections	21, 209	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy supply is acknowledged to be required and Council will continue to work with Powercor to ensure adequate supply.</li> </ul>
Waterway improvements (Five Mile Creek) is east growth option is realised	27, 28, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48, 49, 66, 67, 73, 78, 79, 92, 97, 110, 111, 123, 194,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These submissions relate to a growth direction opening up Five Mile Creek. Refer to response <b>8.7.a</b> regarding Five Mile Creek connections.</li> </ul>
Waterway improvements other	72, 90, 128, 193	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies 11 and 12 address this issue and Council will continue to work with Melbourne Water in improving waterway health.</li> </ul>
Water supply	32, 39, 209	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Greater Western Water to finalise issues around water supply. No constraints are noted.</li> </ul>
Horse Riding	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No horse riding facilities are being sought to be provided in Romsey under the Romsey Structure Plan. Roads reserves and considered the appropriate area for horse riding along public roads if required. Council has no current capacity or plans to manage a new horse riding area.</li> </ul>
Environmental areas, biolinks	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> </ul>
Outdoor event space	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy 5 seeks to support the establishment of a public meeting and event space within the town centre. Public open space contributions will contribute to this outcome. No changes required.</li> </ul>
Car parking	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car parking is addressed via strategy 5, 7, 14. No changes required./</li> </ul>

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Truck parking	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review location of business park and strategies and actions related to this. Ability to create a truck parking area will depend on these outcomes. Review actions once location of a business park is finalised.</li> </ul>
Truck bypass	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No bypass is proposed at this stage due to the business park being located to the south of Romsey.</li> </ul>
Upgrade Clarkefield Station	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council will need to continue to work with the Dept. of Transport and Planning on the provision of public transport. The draft already is looking to do this and therefore no changes are required.</li> </ul>
Housing, social housing, community housing	36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft seeks to include a range of housing options in Romsey. No changes are expected to the draft structure plan.</li> </ul>
Sustainability initiatives	84, 96, 163	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 9 already addresses these issues in an adequate way. No changes are expected.</li> </ul>
Does not support a solar farm	96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A solar farm is largely dependent on an application which will be open to public review and comment. The draft only seeks that it is an opportunity for Romsey. No changes are expected.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure assessment should not look at areas outside of Romsey township	100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The methodology of the Community Infrastructure Assessment is considered appropriate and that not all services can be expected within Romsey township itself and due to the nature of the type of report. It is not considered a review of the infrastructure assessment is required at this time. No changes expected.</li> </ul>
Childcare	132	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The community infrastructure assessment notes current adequate supply of childcare and kindergartens in Romsey but a review will be required. A strategy action could be included detailing the preferred location of future childcare locations in chapter 8.</li> </ul>

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Aged care	122	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The currently being constructed aged care centre on Hutchinsons Lane is considered to largely be providing the required facility for the Romsey area. A strategy action could be included detailing the preferred location of new aged care facilities within Romsey in chapter 8.</li> </ul>
Improved telecommunications	128	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council will continue to work with telecommunication providers to ensure adequate services. No changes to the current draft are considered necessary.</li> </ul>
“To the north of town”	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is unclear what this point is making regarding infrastructure. The northern area of Romsey is not looking to be included for growth but infrastructure would be required if the town growth direction changes.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure is adequately addressed	176	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment noted.</li> </ul>
“I believe you are structure is on the wrong side of Barry St”	133	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is not relevant to the question and it is unclear on what this comment means.</li> </ul>
Takes issue with question	157	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment noted.</li> </ul>
“Can you please provide the document in the shire maze.”	180	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is unclear on what this comment relates to but the Romsey Structure Plan document was available online and at the Romsey service centre. This was widely publicised.</li> </ul>

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Q11. What elements of the structure plan do you like and/or agree with?		
114 surveys provided comment. Note the survey numbers below are numbered as per the number that survey was received and are not related to survey numbers on the pdf summary and therefore the survey numbers will be higher than 114 (number can be up to 213). The survey answers have been consolidated to main themes a response provided to these themes.		
Submission	Survey No.	Response
Noting the need to upgrade infrastructure	1, 96, 106, 171, 208	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structure plan is seeking to ensure required infrastructure is provided to support growth. Development Contributions Plan will be the mechanism used for key upgrades. Otherwise development will provide the required infrastructure. No changes required.</li> </ul>
Planning for green spaces, open space, tree planting	5, 17, 20, 62, 64, 80, 88, 96, 100, 121, 156, 165, 170, 172	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open space are proposed within the draft Structure Plan. Review open space areas while taking into consideration of bushfire risk and open space planning objectives will need to occur if growth areas change.</li> </ul>
Plans for footpaths and cycling, walkability, active transport	8, 9, 25, 65, 80, 86, 96, 121, 123, 124, 143, 165, 185, 201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft is seeking to build on cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. DCP will be the mechanism used for key projects. No changes expected.</li> </ul>
Advocating for a secondary school	9, 86, 87, 143, 154, 201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>Land has been set aside for a secondary school. To date Dept. of Education has not committed to a secondary school in Romsey. Council cannot force this issue</li> </ul>

Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

		but only advocate and set land aside for this purpose.
Improving the town centre, services, consolidation of Main Street	10, 17, 41, 47, 60, 65, 98, 129, 133, 138, 154, 156, 163, 172	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review strategies regarding town centre activation however there are limited levers strategic planning can achieve. It is considered the structure plan already addresses this issue and no changes are expected.</li> </ul>
Protecting the rural/town character, heritage	10, 47, 123, 124, 170, 200, 209	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is considered the structure plan already addresses these issues and no changes are proposed.</li> </ul>
Providing for employment	9, 154	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structure plan is already seeking to provide for employment opportunities in Romsey. Therefore, no changes are expected.</li> </ul>
Neighbourhood character work	9, 178, 180, 210	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review neighbourhood character assessment and guidelines The extent of infill area will be reviewed along with growth directions following on from community feedback. There are limits to infill development to ensure the protection of neighbourhood character and appropriate densities. No change is expected.</li> </ul>
Having a protected settlement boundary	11, 16, 83, 124	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council will continue to implement a protected settlement boundary once the framework plan and growth extent is finalised.</li> </ul>
The draft growth directions	11, 17, 32, 52, 57, 77, 83, 127, 132, 192	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review growth directions and extent.</li> </ul>
Infill within existing town boundary/town centre	50, 98, 100, 114	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review growth directions and extent.</li> </ul>



**Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary**

General support of the plan/no detail given	21, 34, 51, 53, 91, 108, 175, 188, 189, 190	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments noted.</li> </ul>
Vision	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments noted.</li> </ul>
Location/plan of the industrial estate	25, 36, 90, 92, 100, 114, 193	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review location of business park and strategies and actions related to this. This needs to be considered in light of GWW comments relating to its location.</li> </ul>
Protection of waterways	26, 32, 123	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue discussions with GWW and Melbourne Water around improving waterway management and water sensitive urban design in new development.</li> </ul>
Possible solar farm, alternative energy	26, 165	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments noted.</li> </ul>
More housing, housing diversity	27, 28, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48, 49, 66, 67, 72, 73, 74, 78, 79, 90, 92, 96, 97, 110, 111, 118, 176, 194, 210	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review growth directions and extent. Note support for housing diversity in the structure plan.</li> </ul>
Youth/children facilities	41, 143	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments are noted.</li> </ul>
Protecting farmland to the north	56, 58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of agricultural soil is noted particularly to the north. Current growth area is considered to minimise loss of productive farmland. No changes expected.</li> </ul>
Power supply improvements	65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue discussion with Powercor regarding energy supply in Romsey.</li> </ul>
Not relying on gas	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This action is likely redundant now given changes to the planning scheme and state policy. Comment is noted.</li> </ul>
Water sensitive design, less water use	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment is noted.</li> </ul>
Road improvements	86, 105, 121	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment is noted.</li> </ul>
Mapping is easy to read	109	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment is noted.</li> </ul>

**Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary**

Sustainability, climate change, resilience	131, 162, 165	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments noted.</li> </ul>
Internet upgrades	165	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment is noted.</li> </ul>
Increasing tourism	173,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment is noted.</li> </ul>
Not much, very few, do not like the plan	18, 39, 46, 55, 70, 103, 144, 151, 157, 171,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments noted.</li> </ul>

<b>Q12. What elements of the structure plan don't you like and/or disagree with?</b>		
111 surveys provided comment. Note the survey numbers below are numbered as per the number that survey was received and are not related to survey numbers on the pdf summary and therefore the survey numbers will be higher than 111 (number can be up to 213). The survey answers have been consolidated to main themes a response provided to these themes.		
Submission	Survey No.	Response
Growth directions, changing boundary, greenfield development (includes advocacy that north-east – Tickawarra Road should be included), rate of growth	1, 10, 12, 18, 21, 27, 28, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43, 47, 48, 52, 55, 56, 57, 60, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 72, 73, 78, 79, 80, 84, 86, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93, 97, 100, 110, 111, 113, 127, 128, 133, 136, 138, 141, 151, 154, 157, 161, 162, 163, 175, 176, 185, 188, 189, 190, 192, 193, 200, 208, 209	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review growth directions and extent.</li> </ul>
Not enough planning for infrastructure, no growth without infrastructure	5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 20, 21, 26, 32, 39, 47, 48, 50, 60, 65, 67, 80, 83, 88, 93, 99, 100, 102, 113, 132, 144, 165, 170, 178	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The structure plan is seeking to ensure required infrastructure is provided to support growth. A Development Contributions Plan will be the mechanism used to fund key projects. This will be done as part of the DCP review.</li> </ul>
Lack of open space, green belts, buffer areas	62, 100, 186	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to response <b>8.6.c</b> regarding providing biolinks.</li> </ul>
Changing location of business park	48, 49, 66, 78, 86, 90, 92, 93, 132	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A review of the location of business park and strategies and actions related to this. GWW comments regarding the business park location has resulted in the land being set aside on the corner of Greens Lane and Melbourne-Lancefield Road.</li> </ul>

Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

Not responsive to neighbourhood/town character	5, 24, 57, 100, 105, 109, 115, 173	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent of infill area has been reviewed along with growth directions following on from consultation. There are limits to infill development to ensure the protection of neighbourhood character.</li> </ul>
Rezoning of Robb Drive and Harvest Close to GRZ1	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NRZ could be applied to all of Romsey except in specific inner township areas. The GRZ has been used for Township character areas.</li> </ul>
Status of a secondary school is not clear, incorrect location.	17, 113, 114	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response <b>13.f.</b> response regarding secondary school provision.</li> <li>The site has been revised to a location closer to central Romsey and opposite open space. It is noted the existing primary school site still has land available for possible P-9 education opportunities as well.</li> </ul>
Not improving empty buildings/lack of actions on commercial area, poor commercial outcomes	20, 39, 75, 77, 83, 86, 93, 99, 100, 102, 109, 172, 185	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council has reviewed the strategies around the town centre. Sufficient land is provided for commercial uses to develop.</li> </ul>
Not addressing sustainability/climate change,	186	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The structure plan does address sustainability and climate change under chapter 9. No changes are proposed.</li> </ul>
Clarkefield should grow instead	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growth in Clarkefield is out of scope for the Romsey Structure Plan. Current policy supports a review post 2036.</li> </ul>
Removing farmland	49, 66, 98, 163	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of agricultural soil is noted particularly to the north. Current growth area is considered to minimise loss of productive farmland.</li> </ul>
Not addressing landscape	51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is considered strategy 10, 11 and 12 provide adequate response to this issue. No changes recommended.</li> </ul>

Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

Not providing enough housing supply	74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review growth directions and extent. It is considered sufficient housing supply is provided for in both infill and greenfield areas.</li> </ul>
“The site imprint.”	53	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unclear on what this comment relates to.</li> </ul>
Need for housing to have more parking	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parking policy is set by the state government and is currently being reviewed. It is beyond the scope to change parking policy under 52.06. The State Government is reviewing this clause.</li> </ul>
Moving boundary into 1000m buffer area of treatment plant	89	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response 1.1.g regarding issues around wastewater treatment and buffer areas.</li> </ul>
Higher density outcomes	96, 113, 115, 197	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review growth directions and extent. It is considered the increase of options is a positive outcome but must be balanced with neighbourhood character outcomes. A review of the planning controls – NRZ or GRZ must be decided on as per advice from the Dept. Transport and Planning.</li> </ul>
Impact on waterways	100,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue discussions with GWW and Melbourne Water around improving waterway management and water sensitive urban design in new development. It is considered the structure plan currently adequately responds to waterways and no changes are recommended.</li> </ul>
Lack of consultation, responsiveness to feedback/community concerns	106, 157, 200, 209	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The responses to previous feedback was clearly articulated for the reasons why decisions were made. This is not the same as ignoring feedback. Further review of the structure plan will occur in response to this round of feedback received.</li> </ul>

## Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary

Investigation areas report is not correct/wrong scoring	108, 194	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report were independently undertaken by Council's consultants P2P. A review has occurred with some changes accruing. Refer to Appendix 1.</li> </ul>
Lack of clarity	109, 113, 154	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response 1.a. regarding accuracy and clarity of information.</li> </ul>
Lack of childcare/youth facilities	132, 163	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Community Infrastructure Assessment made recommendations on the supply of childcare and younger people facilities. It relates to the management of these facilities and review rather than the need to set up new facilities. No change to the plan is needed.</li> </ul>
Not addressing car parking	156	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car parking is addressed via strategy 5, 7, 14. No changes are required.</li> </ul>
Not addressing tourism	156	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy 9 seeks to address tourism. A review of this has occurred as part of the review but no changes are required.</li> </ul>
Dislike of reducing car speeds and signalisation	173	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review strategy around reducing car speeds in Romsey. It is considered these options will create a more pedestrian friendly option to support activation of the town centre. No changes are recommended.</li> </ul>
General dislike (no clarity)	171	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment noted.</li> </ul>
Cannot find the document	180	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The document was available both online and at the Romsey service area. The survey was after the location of the draft documents.</li> </ul>

**Attachment Two : Romsey Structure Plan – Consultation Summary**

## Abbreviations

GRZ - General Residential Zone  
NRZ – Neighbourhood Residential Zone  
GWW - Greater Wester Water  
EPA - Environmental Protection Authority  
NRZ - Neighbourhood Residential Zone  
DDO - Design and Development Overlay  
DTP - Department of Transport and Planning  
DPO15 - Development Plan Overlay Schedule 15  
PSA - Planning Scheme Amendment  
DEECA - Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action  
C1Z - Commercial 1 Zone  
FZ - Farm Zone  
IN1Z – Industrial 1 Zone  
IN3Z – Industrial 3 Zone  
C2Z - Commercial 2 Zone  
DCP – Development Contributions Plan  
CFA – Country Fire Authority  
DPO – Development Plan Overlay  
ESD – Environmentally Sustainable Development  
WSUD – Water Sensitive Urban Design  
MW – Melbourne Water





This report is the Romsey Structure Plan (v5) for the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. It has been prepared with expertise, advice and inputs from the consultant team of Plan2Place Consulting, Design Urban, Spatial Vision, HipVHive, Obliqua Pty Ltd, Movement and Place Consulting Pty Ltd, Wayfarer Consulting, Stantec, Peter Boyle\_Urban Design+Landscape Architecture and Tim Nott economic analysis and strategy using background reports and information provided by Council and from other government sources. The report issue date is May 2024.

Every reasonable effort has been made to validate information provided by the client, Council staff, stakeholders and other participants in the preparation of this report throughout the project during 2021 through to 2024.

The report has been prepared in conjunction with the Macedon Ranges Shire Council and is based upon up-to-date information provided at the time of report preparation and finalisation.

No part of the report can be replicated or reproduced in part or whole (other than by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council or the consultant team) without the permission of Plan2Place Consulting – see [www.plan2place.com.au](http://www.plan2place.com.au).



Spatial Vision



**obliqua pty ltd**

sustainable land and bushfire management



Peter Boyle\_Urban Design+Landscape Architecture



**Tim Nott**  
economic analysis + strategy

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

*Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country, and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.*

*Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.*

Version	Date	Notes
V1	5/4/2023	Draft 1 Prepared for Officer Review
V2	26/4/2023	Additional maps and map changes incorporated
V3	31/5/2023	Changes post Council officer and Councillor briefing
V4	23/6/2023	Changes following officer and Councillor review
V5	16/5/24	Changes following community consultation into final structure plan





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DRAFT

## ABBREVIATIONS AND LEGISLATION

### Abbreviations

BAL	Bushfire Attack Level
C1Z	Commercial 1 Zone
C2Z	Commercial 2 Zone
Council	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
DELWP	Department of Land, Environment, Water and Planning
DTP	Department of Transport and Planning
EPAV	Environment Protection Authority Victoria
ESO	Environmental Significance Overlay
ESD	Environmentally Sustainable Development
GRZ	General Residential Zone
GWW	Greater Western Water
HWS 2018	Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018
IWM	Integrated Water Management
LSIO	Land Subject to Inundation Overlay
MRPS	Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme
MRSP	Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy
NRZ	Neighbourhood Residential Zone
PPF	Planning Policy Framework
RRWP	Romsey Recycled Water Plant
RRV	Regional Roads Victoria
RSP	Romsey Structure Plan
RLUS	Rural Land Use Study
SWM	Stormwater Management
UGB	Urban Growth Boundary
UHI	Urban Heat Island
VPP	Victoria Planning Provisions
WSUD	Water Sensitive Urban Design

### Numeric Abbreviations

GL	gigalitres
ha	hectares
%	percent
m <sup>2</sup>	metres squared
kms	kilometres
sqm	square metres

### Related Legislation and Regulations

*Planning and Environment Act 1987 (P&E Act)*





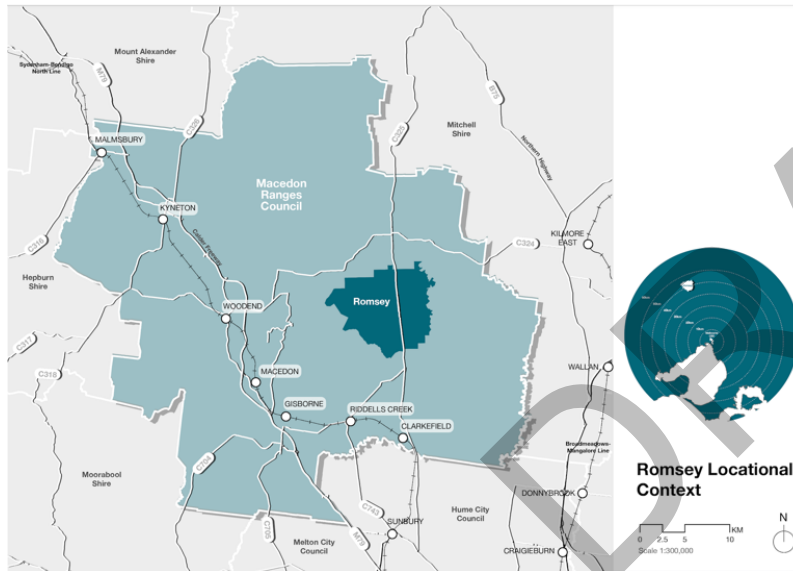


## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

### 1.1 Regional context

Romsey is located within the Macedon Ranges Shire on the Lancefield-Melbourne Road, approximately 63km north-west of the Melbourne CBD.

Romsey sits within the peri-urban region of metropolitan Melbourne. This region has strong economic ties to the Melbourne Airport corridor and Sunbury while being predominantly rural in character.



### 1.2 About Romsey

The Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people are the traditional owners of the land around Romsey with the first European settlers arriving in the early 1850s.

The township is the major urban centre in the east of the municipality providing a regional lifestyle hub and service centre for the region. Surrounded by productive agricultural land, the township supports a range of retail, commercial

and industrial activities. Residential properties range from small historic homes, suburban style development through to larger rural living lots.

The main street is the main spine of activity, and its spacious qualities are enhanced by the historic red-brick buildings and the mature European trees. The Five Mile Creek provides an attractive open space and walking spine east-west and is a valued component of the towns open space network.

### 1.3 Macedon Ranges statement of planning policy and distinctive landscapes

The Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy (MRSP) sets a long-term vision and provides a framework to ensure the outstanding and valuable landscapes, layers of settlement history, impressive landforms, diverse natural environment, catchments and biodiversity of the Macedon Ranges are protected, conserved and enhanced and continue to be of special significance to the people of Victoria.

The MRSP relates to the declared area of the municipal district of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. It was approved on 10 December 2019 and came into effect on 12 December 2019 and is included at Clause 11.035S of the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme (MRPS). The MRSP anticipates that Romsey will grow towards the lower end of a large district town, which is between 6,000 and 10,000 people.

To satisfy the requirements of the MRSP, Council needs to determine a protected settlement boundary for Romsey consistent with section 3AAB of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (P&E Act). The statement has already defined protected township settlement boundaries for Kyneton, Lancefield, Riddells Creek and Woodend that require parliamentary approval to be changed.

This structure plan provides the basis for the protected settlement boundary for Romsey. The MRSP states that rezoning beyond a town boundary for township growth should not be considered until a protected settlement boundary has been finalised.

#### 1.4 Settlement Boundary and a Protected Settlement Boundary

State planning policy at Clause 11.01-1S of the MRPS requires that a settlement boundary be created and reinforced to direct growth and provide compact urban areas. This is to create high-quality, integrated settlements with a strong identity and sense of place that are prosperous, sustainable and support resilient communities and their ability to adapt and change.

This policy requires that sufficient land is provided to meet forecast demands by accommodating projected population growth over at least a 15 year period with clear directions on locations where growth should occur.

A settlement boundary has been identified to protect land required for future urban expansion of Romsey and to help preserve and protect adjoining agricultural land and natural resources and features as well as mitigate impacts from known risk factors.

A protected settlement boundary (PSB) has been identified for the Romsey settlement boundary that responds appropriately to significant planning matters and protects areas of biodiversity and landscape, reduces risk from environmental hazards (the water treatment plant, bushfire and flooding), and retains productive agricultural land and non-urban breaks between nearby townships.

Part 3AAB of the P&E Act includes the legislative mechanisms and requirements in identifying, determining and declaring distinctive areas and landscapes and a PSB for a township (see sections 46AV (2)(b), 46AZD, 46AZE and 46AZI of the Act). This process has been followed for the Romsey PSB.

#### 1.5 Strategy and Policy Drivers

##### *State strategies*

- Plan Melbourne (2017)
- Loddon Mallee Regional Growth Plan (2014)
- Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy (2019)

State Government policy including Plan Melbourne (2017-2050) and the Loddon Mallee Regional Growth Plan (2014) identify Romsey as a town/rural centre providing localised services to rural and commuter communities with growth to be contained within settlement boundaries.

Plan Melbourne states that “development in peri-urban areas must be in keeping with local character, attractiveness and amenity. Growth boundaries should be established for each town to avoid urban sprawl and protect agricultural land and environmental assets”.

The Settlement objective within State Policy is “To plan and manage growth of settlements in the declared area consistent with protection of the area’s significant landscapes, protection of catchments, biodiversity, ecological and environmental values, and consistent with the unique character, role and function of each settlement.” State Policy at Clause 11.03-5S of the MRPS recognises the importance of distinctive areas and landscapes and their valued attributes.

##### *Housing reform and Plan Victoria*

There are many housing reforms and policy work underway at the state level that will impact on future housing. In September 2023 the State Government released *Victoria’s Housing Statement: The decade ahead 2024-2034* (VHS). The VHS establishes a bold housing target of 800,000 homes to be delivered across Victoria over the next 10 years. This also identifies that there will be an additional 426,000 homes expected in regional Victoria to 2051. The Romsey township has a supporting role in the delivery of these additional homes.

The housing statement is supported by Amendments VC242, VC243 and VC253 which aim to facilitate well-located, integrated and diverse housing that meets community needs and supports the delivery of housing in Victoria.

The State Government has commenced the process to update Plan Melbourne 2017-2050, the current metropolitan planning strategy and this will now be expanded to a new plan that encompasses all of Victoria (Plan Victoria).



*Local strategies*

- Macedon Ranges Settlement Strategy (2011)
- Romsey Outline Development Plan (2009)

The Macedon Ranges Settlement Strategy identifies a settlement hierarchy for all towns within the Shire as reflected in Council’s Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS). The MPS identifies that Romsey will grow from a district town to a large district town by 2036.

The Romsey Outline Development Plan identifies a town boundary, various initiatives to manage growth and change and several land rezonings that have now been implemented. The ODP has served its purpose and now needs to be renewed through the preparation of a new structure plan for the town.

Council prepared the Romsey Issues and Opportunities Paper in December 2018 which provided the basis for the Emerging Options Paper in 2022.



Both these documents provide the strategic background for the draft Romsey Structure Plan consulted on in 2023. The stages involved in the development of the structure plan are shown in **Figure 1**.

Key population, demographic and a range of other information for Romsey is provided in the town’s snapshot in **Figure 2**.



Figure 1: Stages in Preparing the Romsey Structure Plan

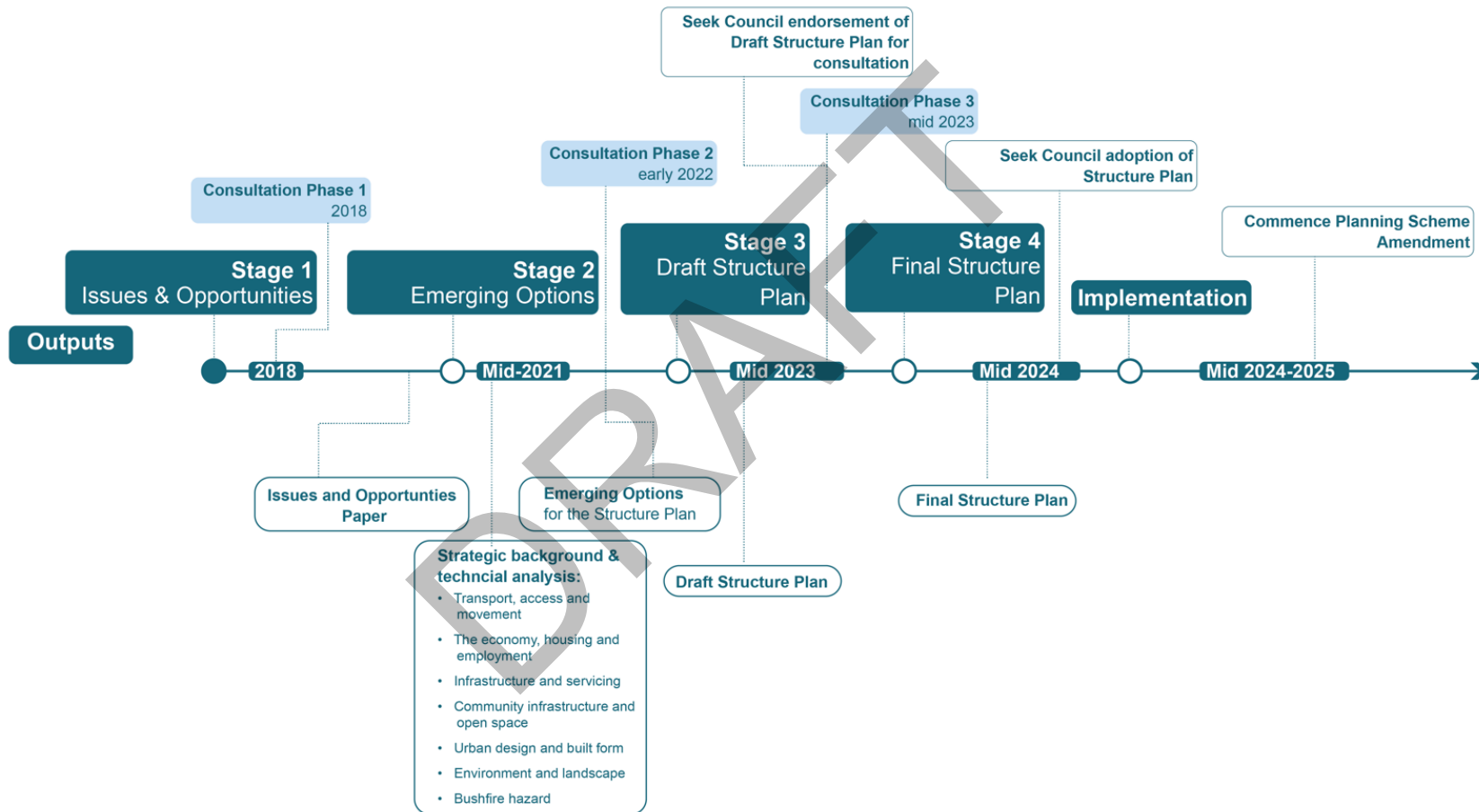
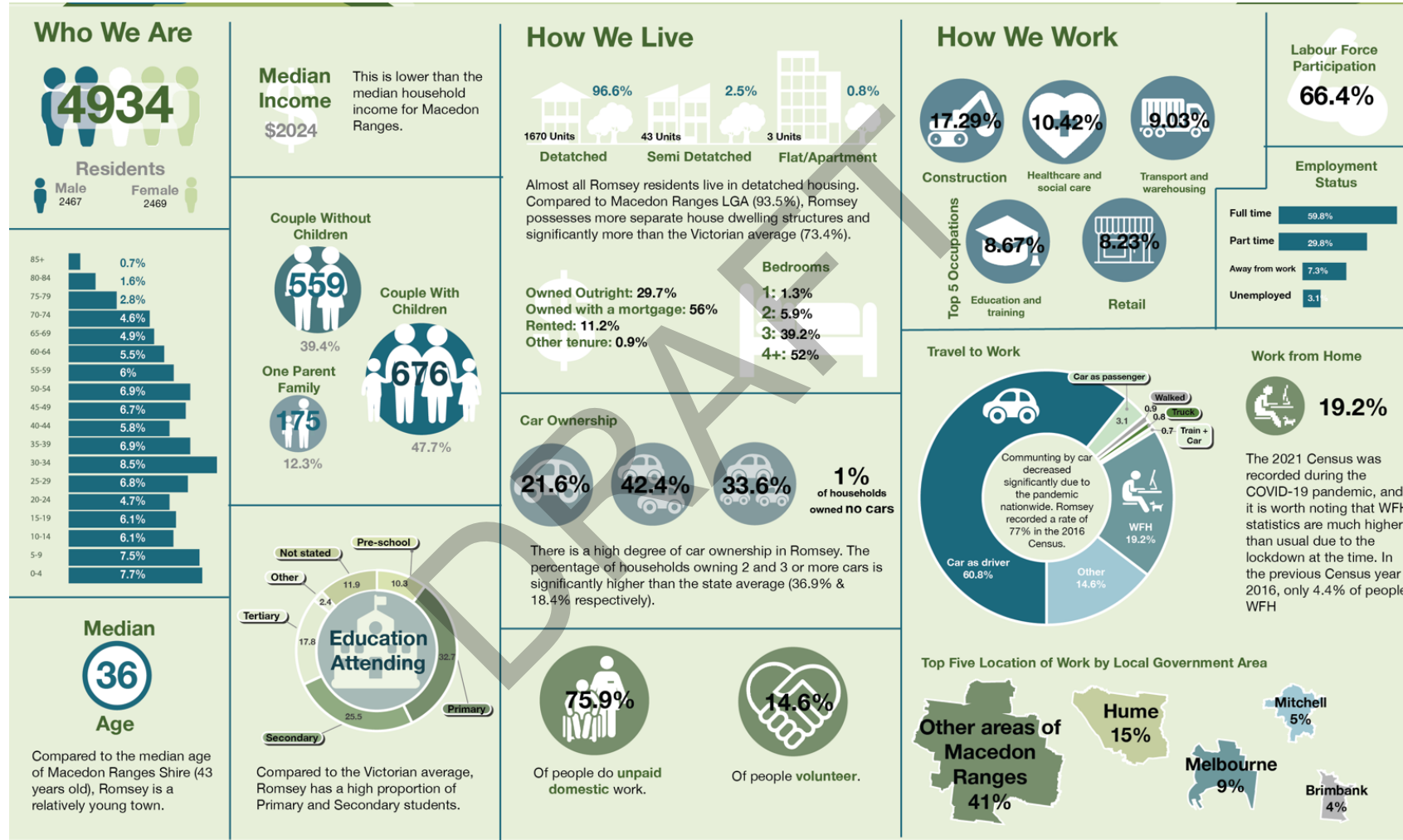




Figure 2: Key Population, Demographic and Other Information, Romsey 2021



## 2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### 2.1 Engagement to date

The Romsey Community has been involved in developing the Structure Plan. There have been three formal opportunities to contribute to date through the:

- Romsey Issues and Opportunities Paper, December 2018.
- Romsey Emerging Options Paper, March 2022.
- Draft Romsey Structure Plan, June 2023

The feedback from each consultation has informed the development of the next stage of the structure plan .

### 2.2 Further work to develop the structure plan

Following the release of the Emerging Options Paper and the feedback from the community, further investigation of the options for expansion was undertaken. This established the areas that best met the settlement principles that were tested and supported by the community through the consultation.

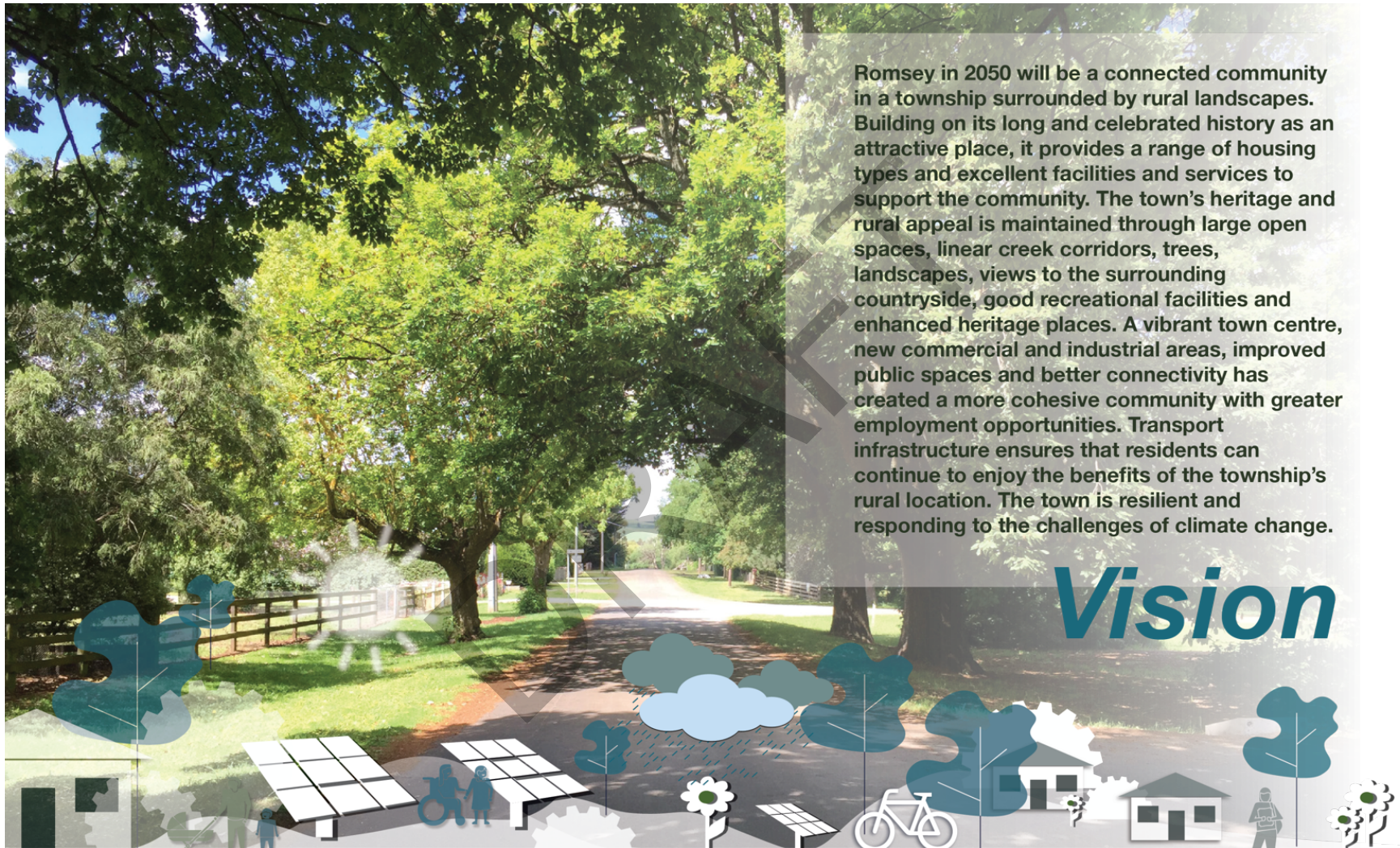
As the Emerging Options Paper outlined, while the existing town boundary could support additional residential, commercial and industrial growth, there was a need for expansion of the town boundary to enable realistic and viable development in the township. Seven investigation areas were assessed against a set of ten criteria. **Appendix 1** shows the location of the investigation areas and provides the list of criteria each area was assessed against.

Following the consultation for the Draft Structure Plan, Council were provided revised advice in regards to process Greater Western Water are pursuing to establish a buffer area overlay for the Romsey Wastewater Treatment Plant and the need to respond to the current buffer requirements specified by the Environment Protection Authority Victoria's (EPAV) guidelines. This has required the further examination of the inclusion of land in Area 3 within the protected settlement boundary and of alternative locations of urban activities in the absence of the resolution of the extent of the buffer area overlay by Greater Western Water and the EPAV. These discussions have shaped the growth areas and protected settlement boundary proposed for Romsey.





Romsey  
Structure Plan



Romsey in 2050 will be a connected community in a township surrounded by rural landscapes. Building on its long and celebrated history as an attractive place, it provides a range of housing types and excellent facilities and services to support the community. The town's heritage and rural appeal is maintained through large open spaces, linear creek corridors, trees, landscapes, views to the surrounding countryside, good recreational facilities and enhanced heritage places. A vibrant town centre, new commercial and industrial areas, improved public spaces and better connectivity has created a more cohesive community with greater employment opportunities. Transport infrastructure ensures that residents can continue to enjoy the benefits of the township's rural location. The town is resilient and responding to the challenges of climate change.

## *Vision*



**Principle 1**



**A town with a defined boundary**

Provide a township settlement boundary with distinct physical breaks that protect surrounding agricultural land and environmental features

**Principle 2**



**A walkable town**

Increase walking and cycling in the town by providing permeable links and connecting development into the existing town structure.

**Principle 3**



**A climate responsive town**

Mitigate climate risk by locating environmentally sustainable development away from the areas of high bushfire and flooding risk.

**Principle 4**



**An environmentally responsible town**

Promote urban consolidation and a town structure that minimises reliance on vehicles and the emission of greenhouse gases.

**Principle 5**



**A town with a vibrant heart and town centre**

Reinforce the town centre as the commercial and civic heart by increasing economic and social activity around Main Street.

**Principle 6**



**A town with a unique rural character**

Protect and enhance the neighbourhood character of the town.

**Principle 7**



**A well serviced town**

Service the town's population by providing community and cultural facilities and sustainable energy and water resources.

**Principle 8**



**A town where people live and work**

Provide additional employment areas to meet the needs of the population.

### 3. ROMSEY TOWNSHIP FRAMEWORK PLAN

#### 3.1 Key objectives

To create a diverse mix of appropriate, affordable, well designed and responsive housing.

To create additional jobs and activity in the township with a vibrant town centre and employment areas.

To ensure development is appropriate to the landscape setting and township character.

To ensure residents are provided with a variety of movement options that are safe, accessible, integrated and do not rely on vehicle ownership within the township.

To ensure the township provides community infrastructure to meet the social and cultural needs of its residents.

To create a more sustainable and climate resilient township.

#### 3.2 Key strategies

##### 3.2.1 Housing

- Facilitate a range of housing types in the township particularly within walking distance of the town centre to enable people to age in place and provide for more affordable housing options.
- Ensure infill development reflects the valued character of Romsey's residential neighbourhoods with respect to built-form, scale, setbacks and vegetation.
- Ensure future urban growth in Romsey respects and enhances the township's rural township character; heritage streetscapes; and Five Mile Creek.
- Manage housing growth and land supply within a protected settlement boundary.

##### 3.2.2 Activities and employment

- Strengthen the role of the Romsey town centre as a local and regional destination for business, retail, entertainment and community activities that provides access to a range of services and facilities.
- Reinforce the town centre as the commercial and civic heart of the town with a high-quality urban realm responsive to the town's character.
- Create a consolidated, compact, walkable town centre that is active day and night.
- Improve access to services in newly developing parts of the Romsey urban area that are beyond a reasonable walk to the town centre.
- Ensure there is adequate land supply for future economic growth and local employment.

##### 3.2.3 Landscape and natural environment

- Maintain settlement boundaries and a non urban break between Romsey and Lancefield.
- Enhance the town's setting within a treed landscape.
- Enhance the biodiversity of Romsey.
- Extend and enhance the Five Mile Creek corridor and environs.
- Create a network of open spaces throughout the town to meet the varied open space requirements of the community.

##### 3.2.4 Movement and transport

- Provide an accessible town with clear and direct movement networks that are safe, connected and designed to meet the capacity requirements of existing and future communities.
- Create a movement network that provides a high level of amenity and safety for pedestrians and bicycle riders.
- Improve public transport opportunities for Romsey.
- Create an urban structure that facilitates movement options that are safe, integrated, accessible and do not rely on vehicle ownership within the township.

### 3.2.5 Community infrastructure and culture

- Ensure the necessary future community facilities are planned to support the growth of the town.
- Ensure community facilities meet the needs of the local community, are accessible, fit for purpose and provide for a range of activities and groups.
- Ensure new development appropriately responds to and celebrates Aboriginal cultural heritage sites, places and values.
- Ensure new development responds to and celebrates post contact cultural heritage sites, places and values.

### 3.2.6 Sustainability and resilience

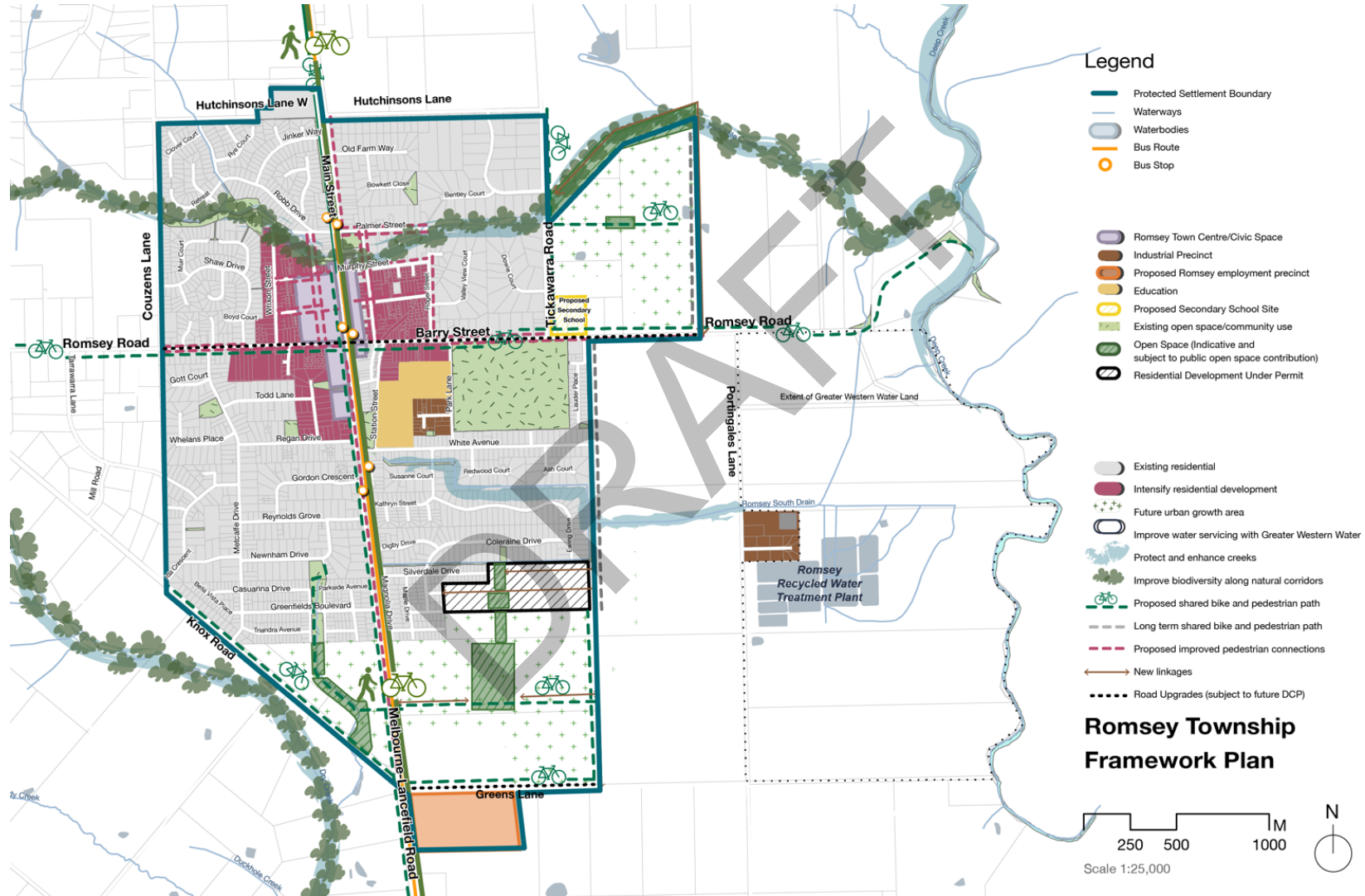
- Ensure new development increases the town's resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- Reduce potable water usage and minimise the volume of urban run-off and pollution that reaches local creeks and waterways.
- Transform the town's energy system and infrastructure to one focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Ensure new development improves the sustainability of communities and reduces impacts on the environment.



The Romsey Township Framework Plan is shown in **Figure 3**.



Figure 3: Romsey Township Framework Plan



## 4. HOUSING

*To create a diverse mix of appropriate, affordable, well designed and responsive housing.*

### 4.1 Housing diversity

Romsey will provide a greater variety of housing opportunities to ensure the needs of the community are met. While Romsey has a relatively young population with an average age of 36, and family types being couples (47.7%) or one parent families with children (12.3%), there are still a significant number of families that have no children (39.4%). Some of these households are part of an ageing cohort with very little housing to match their ongoing needs. Providing housing to enable ageing in place is a significant issue.

Romsey's housing market is attractive to purchasers looking at the Melbourne fringe with opportunities to buy a larger and cheaper lot within commuting distance of Melbourne.

It is anticipated that household size will decline from the existing 2.7 persons per household slightly.

Almost all residents of Romsey live in detached housing with only 3.3% of housing semi-detached or flats and apartments. Significantly 52% of housing is 4+ bedrooms with 39.2% being 3 bedrooms. This lack of housing diversity will mean that as the population changes and family structures change these people will not be able to find appropriate and affordable housing in Romsey. A target of 15% medium density housing was identified in the 2009 Outline Development Plan in order to improve housing choice in the township and to make more effective use of existing infrastructure. This has delivered some additional medium density housing but going forward more is required. Intensifying housing within walking distance of the town centre where there is existing infrastructure will remain the priority for medium density housing. These areas have good access to shops, services, open space, schools and public transport.

Greater housing diversity may be achieved by increasing the range of dwelling types including shop-top apartments, units and townhouses. Detached family

homes of different sizes, and on different sized lots, provides for a range of affordability levels. There are many large and vacant lots in Romsey that provide the opportunity for well-designed multi dwelling development that is not considered medium density.

It will be important for future medium density housing to provide a high level of amenity for residents, with quality buildings designed to reflect the character of its location.

A town such as Romsey should offer a range of housing. Under the Victorian Government's Big Housing Build, \$30M will be invested in social and affordable housing in the Macedon Ranges Shire. Council has adopted an *Affordable Housing Interim Policy* that supports and seeks to extend these initiatives with significant growth in social and affordable housing and renewed housing stock in well serviced locations such as Romsey.

#### Strategy 1

Facilitate a range of housing types in the township particularly within walking distance of the town centre to enable people to age in place and provide for more affordable housing options.

#### Actions

- A1. Promote well designed medium density housing within convenient walking distance of the town centre.
- A2. Retain residential land around the town centre within the township character area in the General Residential Zone (GRZ), to allow for medium density housing up to three storeys.
- A3. Work with State and Federal governments to facilitate investment in Council owned seniors housing which is approaching its end of life.
- A4. Support the subdivision of larger lots within the town centre and incremental change areas into dual occupancies or multi dwelling developments provided that neighbourhood character requirements are met.
- A5. Support the development of housing on upper levels of retail and commercial activities in the town centre.



#### 4.2 Housing change areas

There are many areas around Romsey that have the potential for medium density infill development without impacting on the existing character of the area. The scale, intensity and amount of development will vary depending on a site's location and preferred future character. The following residential change areas have been identified.

##### Minimal change areas

Minimal Change Areas provide for a limited degree of housing growth and change in established residential areas. These areas have a reduced capacity for growth due to factors such as bushfire risk, and lack of sewage or have special characteristics such as heritage overlays reducing development outcomes.

##### Incremental change areas

Incremental Change Areas are where housing growth will occur within the context of existing or preferred neighbourhood character.

##### Substantial change areas

Substantial Change Areas are where housing diversity and intensity will be encouraged due to its location near jobs, services, facilities and public transport.

##### New growth areas

New growth areas are areas proposed to provide additional housing and diversity of housing in new neighbourhoods well linked to the existing township.

Housing change areas are shown in **Figure 4**.

#### 4.3 Future residential growth areas

Township growth will be focused on areas to the south and east of the existing township boundary. Land to the north, and west was considered in the Emerging Options Paper but was ruled out due to a range of factors, most significantly bushfire risk. Growth in any direction highlighted challenges, however growth to the south and east could be managed most efficiently. Further fine grain review highlighted.

#### Strategy 2

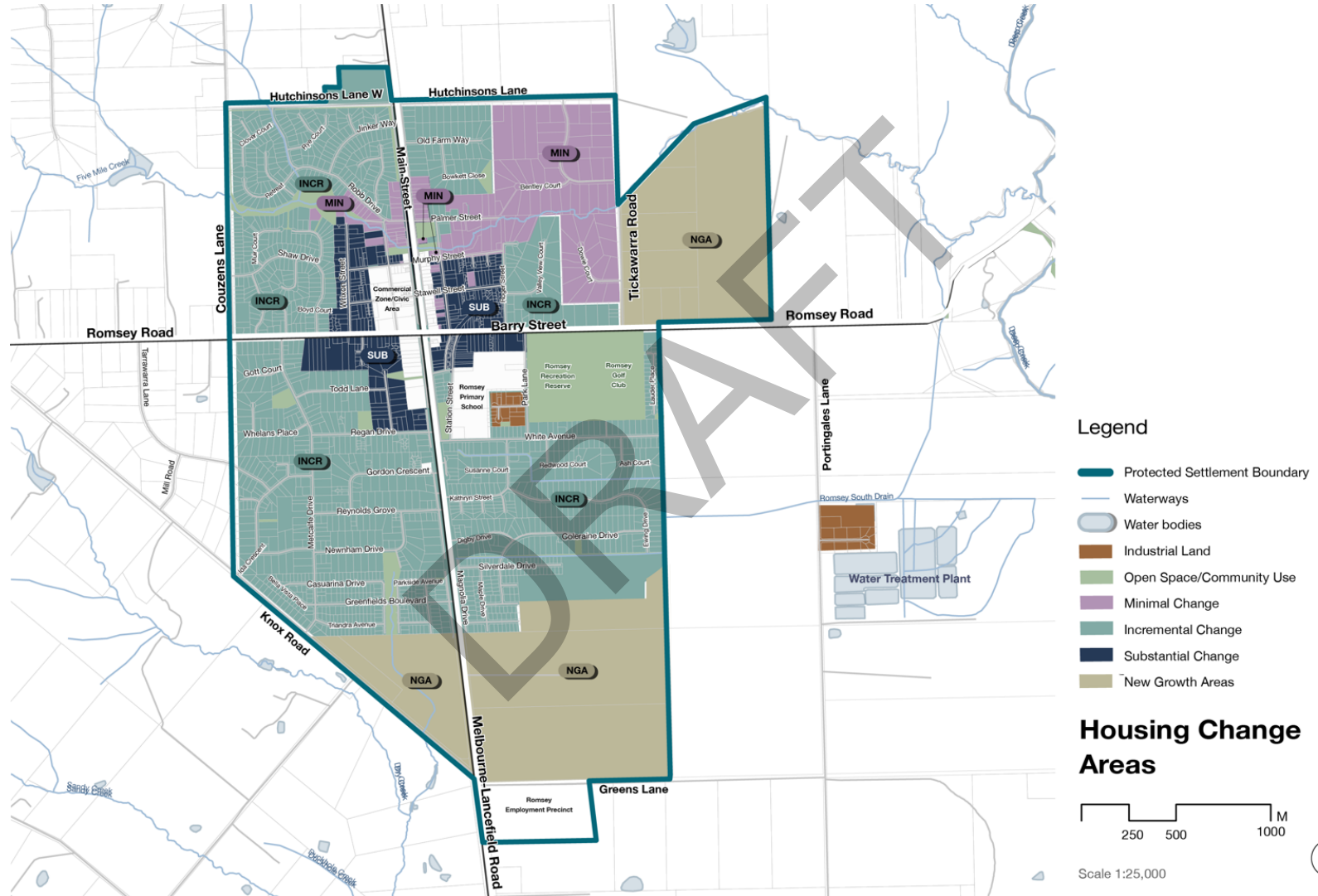
Ensure infill development reflects the valued character of Romsey's residential neighbourhoods with respect to built form, scale, setbacks and vegetation.

##### Actions

- A6. Include a new Neighbourhood Character policy for Romsey and guidance in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme on achieving preferred neighbourhood character in Romsey.
- A7. Retain the General Residential Zone over the substantial change area to enable a range of townhouse, dual occupancy and multi dwelling developments to occur within a built form of 1-3 storeys and improve guidance through a schedule to the zone with additional neighbourhood character direction (See Section 10.4).
- A8. Rezone residential land in incremental and minimal change areas to Neighbourhood Residential Zone to enable a range of dual occupancy and housing to be delivered at 1-2 storeys in line with the preferred neighbourhood character and improve guidance through a schedule to the zone with additional neighbourhood character direction (See Section 10.4).
- A9. Retain the Low Density Residential Zone on land in the Semi-rural character type to reflect its minimal change status and preferred neighbourhood character.
- A10. Remove the redundant DPO14 from land around Desmond Crescent and Tarrawarra Lane and from 27 Pohlman Crescent.
- A11. Revise the controls in DPO14 to facilitate a high quality, higher density residential development in line with structure plan and neighbourhood character guidelines.
- A12. Remove DDO18 following the introduction of neighbourhood character guidance in the residential schedules.
- A13. Encourage development that reinforces Romsey's valued semi-rural built and landscape character.

areas to the south and east of the GRZ zoned land was adequate to meet the towns growth needs to 2050. Land to the east (south of Romsey Road) could be further considered post 2050 and implementation of a buffer by Greater Western Water. Land to the west and north of the town was not considered suitable at all for township expansion.

Figure 4: Housing Change Areas



Community consultation highlighted the desire to keep the footprint of Romsey as small as possible while allowing for population growth. This has resulted in an approach that enables some expansion of the existing township along with greater intensification within the existing boundary.

Growing the town south and east presents the opportunity to provide additional residential growth in light of lot supply becoming limited. Bushfire risk in the west and north makes these areas less safe as locations for urban expansion. Necessary infrastructure to service new dwellings to the east and south is also more readily available.

Romsey has been identified in the MRSPP for a protected settlement boundary. Once in place, the settlement boundary will require approval of both houses of State Parliament to be amended.

The protected settlement boundary for Romsey was extensively examined in the Emerging Options Paper with analysis of the current structure, landscape and environmental features to be protected, bushfire analysis, commercial and industrial growth needs, infrastructure assessment and a review of transport and community infrastructure. The extent of the boundary provides enough land supply to accommodate growth beyond 2050. Areas identified in Figure 6 as Stage 2 and 3 for residential growth, are estimated to deliver around 1065 lots providing supply to until at least the mid 2030s. Land supply will require ongoing monitoring.

Connecting new growth areas into the existing township will require careful attention to the existing street network and provide an opportunity to improve some of the challenges to achieving a walkable town. Building on the existing environmental and landscape features and enhancing those that have been lost due to land clearing will enable sympathetic development in keeping with the rural township character.

Smaller lots will be encouraged around open spaces and key connection streets to the town centre along with a wider range of residential typologies including townhouses, cluster housing and medium density housing.

### Strategy 3

Ensure future urban growth in Romsey respects and enhances the township's rural township character; heritage streetscapes; and Five Mile Creek.

#### Actions

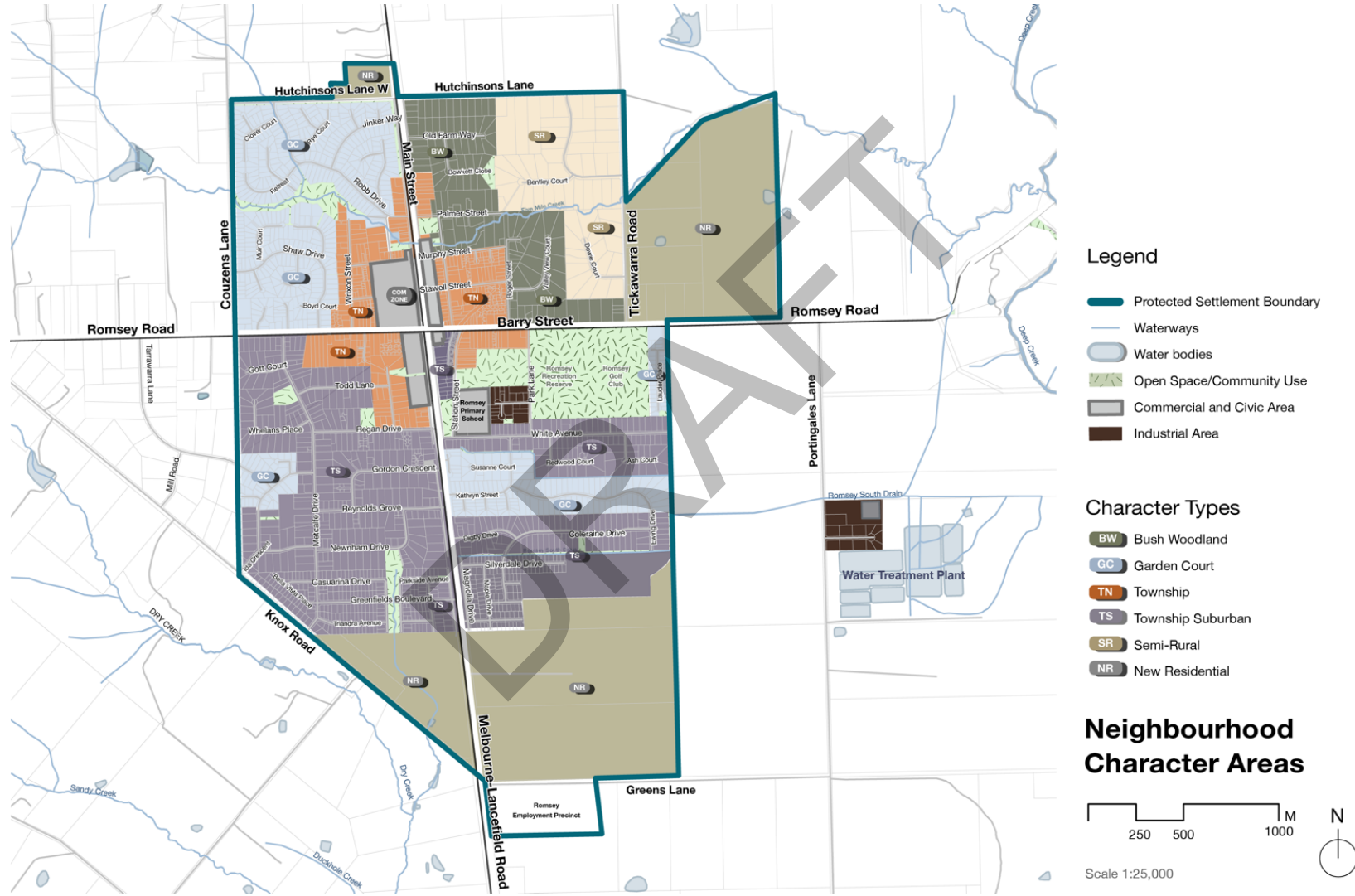
- A14. Develop new residential areas in line with the neighbourhood character guidelines outlined in Section 10 and Appendix 2.
- A15. Connect new roads into the existing street network to form an interconnected network of streets and providing for the future expansion of the township within the protected settlement boundary.
- A16. Ensure new roads are asphalt, sealed and provide opportunity for significant street tree planting within the public realm and opportunity for shared user footpaths to at least one side of the street.
- A17. Ensure road reservation design is to give priority to Water Sensitive Urban Design and a strong vegetation theme.
- A18. Road verges may consist of a combination of swale drains and roll-over kerbs, depending on necessary engineering design response.
- A19. Orient lots to achieve good solar access.
- A20. Have lots on the ends of street blocks oriented to face the short end of the street block to provide passive surveillance and avoid side fencing to these streets.
- A21. Provide a variety of lot sizes.

#### 4.4 Neighbourhood character

The Romsey Residential Character Study (2012) has been used as a basis to reflect the need to link the study to housing change outcomes and that greenfield areas have now been largely developed.

Six character typologies have been developed reflecting the existing and preferred future character and design objectives for each character type. These are outlined in **Chapter 10** and mapped in **Figure 5**.

Figure 5: Neighbourhood Character Map





**Strategy 4**

Manage housing growth and land supply within a protected settlement boundary.

**Actions**

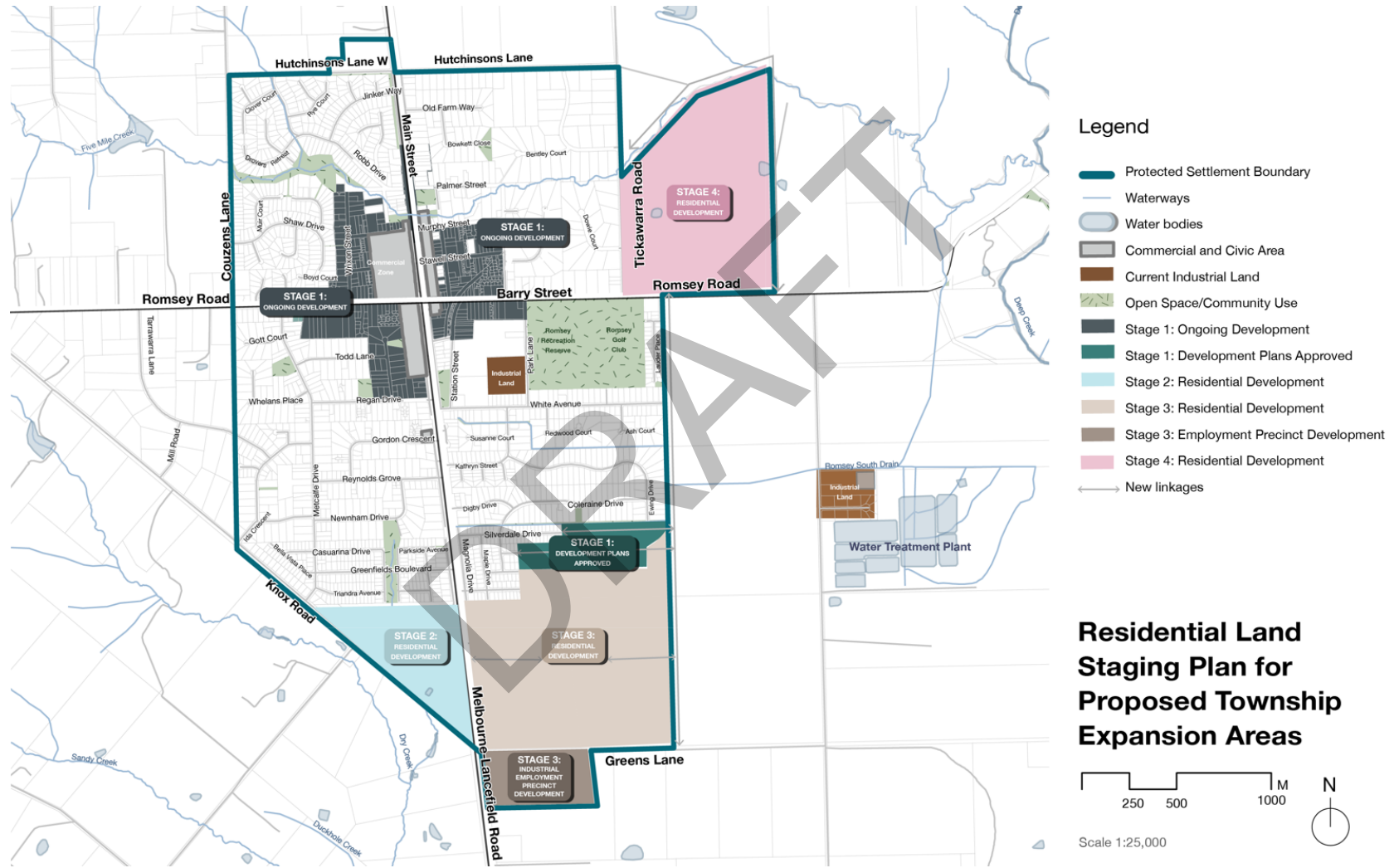
- A22. Amend the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy to include the protected settlement boundary for Romsey.
- A23. Prioritise the development of land for housing within the existing township boundary.
- A24. Rezone land on the east and west sides of Melbourne-Lancefield Road to NRZ to facilitate high quality residential neighbourhoods as outlined in Figure 6.
- A25. Monitor the supply of housing and review if additional land within the protected settlement boundary should be opened up when supply drops below 400 lots or in 2035.
- A26. Apply the DPO to Stages 2 and 3 land on the east and west sides of Romsey-Lancefield Road to guide and stage development and infrastructure.
- A27. Update the Romsey DCP based on the new structure plan.
- A28. Monitor residential growth and land supply on an on-going basis.
- A29. Ensure that any future development considers cultural heritage values, housing diversity, landscape sensitivity, township character and the need for community infrastructure.



Residential land supply for proposed township expansion areas is shown in **Figure 6**.



Figure 6: Residential Land Staging Plan for Proposed Township Expansion Areas



## 5. ACTIVITIES AND EMPLOYMENT

### *To create additional jobs and activity in the township with a vibrant town centre and employment areas.*

The town centre is the focus for activity and employment in Romsey. The centre is supported by the functioning industrial precincts of Mitchell Court near the Romsey Primary School and Johnstone Court next to the Water Treatment Plant (outside the protected settlement boundary).

The town centre straddles the eastern and western sides of Melbourne-Lancefield Road with most business and community activities located between Murphy and Barry Street.

#### 5.1 Town centre

Romsey town centre is in transition from a small neighbourhood centre, providing a limited range of day-to-day goods and services for a local catchment, to a larger neighbourhood centre serving Romsey, Lancefield and surrounds. This expansion will be enabled by a large supermarket and associated shops currently being constructed to the south of the existing centre. Presently the town centre has a retail floorspace of approximately 4,900 sqm and includes a small supermarket and a range of convenience stores, cafes and restaurants. The new supermarket development and associated stores will add 3,500 sqm of retail space although there is likely to be some reorganisation and consolidation of existing retail space. The centre also has a range of civic, community and commercial services that add to its appeal. Locals and visitors are attracted to the centre by its range of services and its historic streetscape.

The centre has a relatively high vacancy rate of approximately 12% of building floorspace (compared with vacancies in typical main street centres in the 5% - 10% range). This includes high profile vacancies such as the former Romsey Hotel and a former small supermarket. In addition, the centre has significant stocks of vacant Commercially zoned land – more than 2 hectares in several parcels.

The new supermarket development will satisfy the demand by the growing local population for additional retail floorspace until the 2030s. The existing vacant

land in the centre will be sufficient to accommodate growth for the foreseeable future. However, while there is unlikely to be net growth in retail floorspace for a decade or more, there will still be demand for new shops and other commercial buildings as the town centre reorganises around the new supermarket and as new activities with specific requirements seek a location in the centre.

The new supermarket is somewhat removed from the existing concentration of activity, with about 600m between the main existing retail offering and the new development, with large non-retail gaps between them. The challenges in the next phase of centre development will be to encourage a more walkable and pedestrian-friendly environment and to develop a new set of functions for the existing centre to make up for any loss of retailing. This will likely revolve around a larger role for hospitality, cultural and community activities, and improved use of the heritage assets of the centre.

Higher density housing in and around the centre as well improving pedestrian and active transport routes into the centre will increase foot traffic which is essential to improving the viability of businesses and the town centre as a whole.

The proposed urban development of the town will create demand for walkable services closer to where people live. There is the potential for development of local activity centres that can provide services such as top-up groceries, take-away food, hairdressing, pharmacies, health services and child-care in areas beyond a reasonable walk to the town centre. Two such centres could be supported in the more densely populated newer suburbs, one to the east and one to the south of the urban area. These centres should have no more than 400 sqm of retail space, in order to preserve the primary shopping role of the town centre. Space for non-retail activities would be in addition. These centres should be well-designed and integrated as a focal point of the active transport network in their area.

Romsey is largely a commuter settlement and relies on jobs in Melbourne and nearby towns. There are 2.3 resident workers for every local job in Romsey with many residents working in construction, transport and warehousing. Creating more jobs in Romsey to limit people's travel times and environmental impacts will benefit the whole town.

**Strategy 5**

Strengthen the role of the Romsey town centre as a local and regional destination for business, retail, entertainment and community activities that provides access to a range of services and facilities.

**Actions**

- A30. Accommodate demand for commercial and retail land in the town centre through the development of existing vacant and development opportunity sites.
- A31. Support development in the town centre which provides opportunities for night-time dining, entertainment, arts, cultural and tourism uses and residences in upper levels.
- A32. Revise DPO15 to reflect the Structure Plan, ensure it is facilitative and gives direction on appropriate uses and built form outcomes and consider removing the DPO from 37 Stawell Street.
- A33. Ensure that new developments reinforce pedestrian amenity, business presentation and streetscape activation through locating buildings and their entries at the front of properties and car parking to the rear or sides. See Chapter 10 for Design Guidelines for the town centre.
- A34. Support adaptive re-use of heritage buildings that contribute to the character of the town centre.
- A35. Work with landowners to facilitate development on key sites such as the Romsey Pub, the former shopping centre on Main Street and the Pohlman Street west development site.
- A36. Explore the creation of a public meeting place/space in the town centre such as near St Mary’s Catholic church or on Pohlman Street.
- A37. Work with traders’ organisations to help improve the vibrancy of the centre and the resilience of its stakeholders.

**Strategy 6**

Reinforce the town centre as the commercial and civic heart of the town with a high-quality urban realm responsive to the town’s character.

**Actions**

- A38. Implement the Precinct 1: Town Centre objectives and design guidelines in Chapter 10 into the MRPS.
- A39. Work with landowners of vacant commercial land in the centre of town to redevelop their land for retail and commercial activities.

- A40. Develop art and place making initiatives in the town centre with input from young people.
- A41. Ensure that substantial new developments within the town centre are predominantly street-based and incorporate well-designed public spaces.

**Strategy 7**

Create a consolidated, compact, walkable town centre that is active day and night.

**Actions**

- A42. Ensure that buildings are built with their main entrance on the property boundary, and any car parking is provided behind the building without direct access into the building.
- A43. Optimize management of on-street parking to maximise commercial turnover.
- A44. Locate on-site parking and longer stay parking to the rear or sides of buildings away from main streets and shop frontages.
- A45. Ensure that dwellings on streets which link to the town centre, face the street, and avoid garages and bedrooms dominating front facades. This is to ensure a high level of passive surveillance is created to support walking to the town centre.

**Strategy 8**

Improve access to services in newly developing parts of the Romsey urban area that are beyond a reasonable walk to the town centre.

**Actions**

- A46. Enable the development of up to two local activity centres as part of newly developing suburbs, one in the east of the town and one to the south.
- A47. Ensure that retail floorspace in local activity centres is limited to 400 sqm.
- A48. Ensure that these centres are located on key nodes in the pedestrian network and make them attractive to access by walking or cycling.



5.2 Industry in Romsey

There are three industrial areas in the town providing for additional employment uses with a variety of businesses including mechanics, auto repairs and gyms. The industrial and commercial land on the corner of Greens Lane has not been occupied or serviced to date.

Although there has been little industrial development over the last several years, growth in industry is anticipated with demand estimates over the next 20 years suggesting that an employment precinct of approximately 15 hectares is required. The precinct should be developed as an integrated whole to create a strong investment location with a common design theme.

Improving the access and amenity of current and future industrial precincts will provide an attractive setting for future private investment into the town.

Strategy 9

Ensure there is adequate land supply for future economic growth and local employment.

Actions

- A49. Develop a new Romsey Employment Precinct on the south side of Greens Lane to support the growth of jobs and employment in the town and rezone to Industrial 3 Zone. Reduce the size of the industrial zone to 15 hectares.
- A50. Ensure that the Greens Lane employment precinct is developed as single coherent investment destination.
- A51. Incorporate a DPO into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme based on the layout shown in **Figure 7** to set out requirements for the Employment Precinct.
- A52. Develop industrial design guidelines for the proposed new Romsey Employment Precinct.
- A53. Provide a 5m landscaped buffer around the new Employment Precinct and any new residential development within proximity (to be managed by the employment precinct land owners).
- A54. Include infrastructure provision to the new Employment Precinct is incorporated into the new DCP for Romsey (such as services, road upgrades, landscaping and other associated public works).



5.3 Growth within the buffer

The Romsey Recycled Water Plant (RRWP) provides opportunities for the further use of recycled water around town. Other opportunities could be explored including those for agricultural and industrial recycled water use. Locating new industrial areas and/or solar energy generators in close proximity to the plant and exploring options in the surrounding farming zoned land will enable this synergy to be capitalised on.

The extent of the separation distance between the RRWP and sensitive uses (such as residential areas, schools and outdoor recreation areas) has been a key determinant of growth options for the town and the eastern most location of the protected settlement boundary. Resolution of an adequate separation distance that meets applicable Environmental Protection Authority Victoria (EPAV) guidelines by Greater Western Water in partnership with the EPAV and Council is a priority.

Ensuring that the buffer area protects the operations of the RRWP and that only compatible land uses/developments are allowed within this area is essential for the growth of Romsey.

#### 5.4 Tourism development

Tourism is important in Macedon Ranges, although the Romsey area attracts a relatively small number of visitors. Lack of accommodation and conference facilities and other infrastructure is contributing to this. The local tourism industry, with its wineries, other food outlets and cultural producers will create job opportunities that may spill over into retailing, accommodation and manufacturing (breweries, distilleries, specialist food production, etc.) within the town. A multi-pronged strategy is needed to attract tourists and tourism to the town.

##### Strategy 10

Facilitate the necessary infrastructure and services to boost tourism opportunities in the town, building on existing tourism providers within the region.

##### Actions

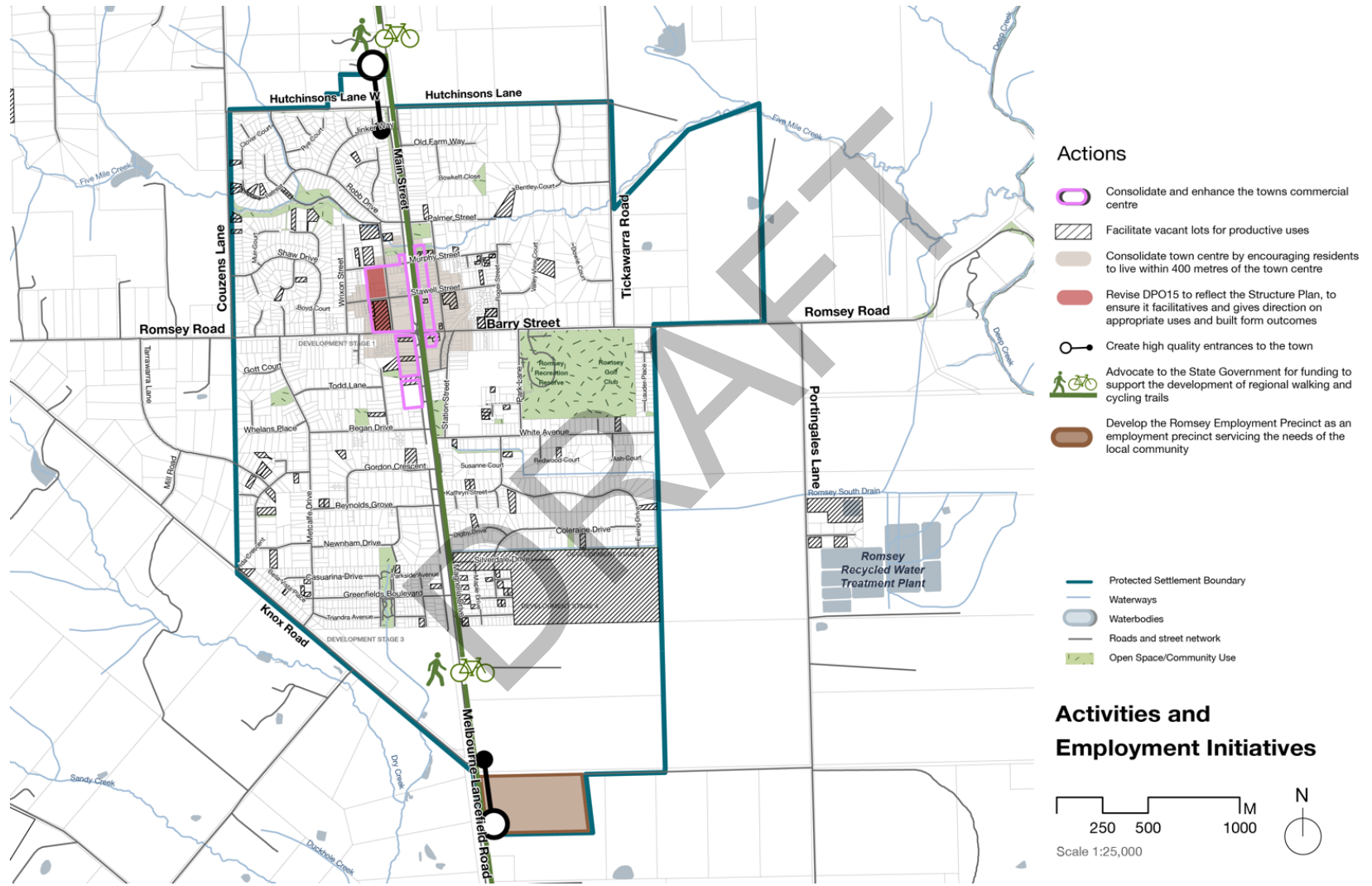
- A55. Continue to implement the Macedon Ranges Visitor Attraction Strategy 2019-2029 working with the Eastern Macedon Ranges Business and Tourism Association.
- A56. Support the development of tourist accommodation and facilities in the town centre to encourage overnight visitation and increased spending in the town.
- A57. Provide overnight recreational vehicle accommodation and a dump point at the Lions Reserve given its key location on major travelling routes through the region.
- A58. Extend and promote the regional walking and cycling trails as a tourism asset, extending the walking and cycling trail development from Romsey to Lancefield and Clarkefield.
- A59. Advocate to the State Government for funding to support the development of the regional walking and cycling trail through programs such as 'Victoria's Great Outdoors Program'.
- A60. Work with Regional Roads Victoria (RRV) to create high quality entrances to the town.
- A61. Improve the town centre and town entrance design to create a sense of arrival and place through public art, landscape and other place making initiatives.

A62. Locate tourism uses and associated tourist accommodation within or adjacent to the town centre.

Activities and employment initiatives for the township are shown in **Figure 7**.



Figure 7: Activities and Employment Initiatives



## 6. LANDSCAPE AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

*To ensure development is appropriate to the landscape setting and township character.*

Romsey is a picturesque town nestled in the shallow valley of Five Mile Creek, between the Macedon Ranges in the west and the hills rising above Deep Creek in the east. The eastern side of the town is relatively flat until it reaches the Deep Creek where rolling hills and deep valleys are found.

The ranges on the eastern and western sides of the township provide a highly visual landscape and visual setting to Romsey. High quality agricultural land to the north of the township is utilised for farming purposes and creates a separation or break between Romsey and Lancefield. Retaining this break has been identified in planning policy and its importance highlighted by the community.

Five Mile Creek traverses the township and is a significant feature and asset of the town used as a passive recreation corridor but public access is limited due to private ownership. Deep Creek is an ephemeral watercourse on the town's eastern boundary. Romsey South Drain is a narrow drain capturing stormwater runoff and directing it to Deep Creek.

### 6.1 Landscape

To the west of Romsey, the landform rises up slowly creating opportunities to view over the town and to the Mt. William ridge and Chinton Hills. The north-west area of town rises to a high point around Ochiltrees Road and falls steeply to the Five Mile Creek. Recent development in this area has required extensive cut and fill.

#### Strategy 11

Maintain settlement boundaries and the non urban break between Romsey and Lancefield.

#### Actions

A63. Ensure the importance of this non urban break is recognised in planning policy and through the establishment of the protected settlement boundary for Romsey.

- A64. Maintain rural zones with 40ha minimum lot sizes between the towns.
- A65. Advocate to the Victorian Government to make changes to the Rural Living Zone to either require a permit or prohibit inappropriate urban uses (such as accommodation, residential aged care facilities, education centres and similar) so that these types of uses are not located within green breaks/urban breaks between townships.
- A66. Ensure that the street interface between Lancefield and Romsey reflects the non urban character including fencing and street trees to maintain the visual separation of the two towns.

Tree canopy cover within Romsey is mainly confined to private property. Roadside trees are found along the main road leading into and through the township contributing to a definable and attractive character. Street trees are present on few of Romsey's other streets and only sporadically. The coordinated and widespread planting of locally appropriate street trees would increase canopy cover and benefit the town's character while also contributing to its climate resilience and biodiversity. A program of street tree planting would also increase climate change resilience and improve biodiversity.

The town setting amongst the rural areas and the range, and the trees along Main Street and throughout the town are recognised elements in the town's attractive character that warrant protection.

#### Strategy 12

Enhance the town's setting within a treed landscape.

#### Actions

- A67. Identify opportunities to use native species to revegetate creeks and encourage restoration in appropriate locations.
- A68. Extend the avenue of trees along the Melbourne - Lancefield Road, and renew awareness of the Avenue of Honour with signage and additional canopy trees.
- A69. Prioritise tree planting along Barry Street to create a new landscape corridor contributing to the rural township identity and character of the town.
- A70. Plant street trees in ultimate locations as part of a vision for Barry Street including dedicated shared path facilities.
- A71. Undertake street tree planting throughout the town prioritising areas shown in **Figure 9**.



- A72. Undertake further studies to investigate protection of large canopy trees in the township to retain the landscape values.
- A73. Encourage the planting of native and indigenous plantings in public and private spaces subject to the consideration of bushfire impacts.



**6.2 Biodiversity**

While the area around the Romsey township is largely cleared, the structure and future growth of the town can make a contribution to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in the Shire. Deep Creek is identified as a waterway link that contains significant habitat patches, support threatened species and has strong community interest. Plans for Five Mile Creek have identified biodiversity as a key role which can assist with creating new connectivity across the landscape.

**Strategy 13**

Enhance the biodiversity of Romsey.

**Actions**

- A74. Increase the planting of local understorey species in street and open space planting.
- A75. Rethink the Romsey South Drain as a biodiversity corridor feeding Deep Creek.
- A76. Ensure any development along the Romsey South Drain contributes to the creation of a naturalised water system.
- A77. Enhance environmental assets of the town such as the Five Mile Creek.
- A78. Manage roadsides as vegetation corridors contributing to biodiversity protection.
- A79. Encourage the planting of species for development at the edges of town that will not become environmental weeds or increase bushfire risk.

- A80. Protect any identified remnant patches of Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC55).
- A81. Require vegetation surveys to be undertaken to inform the development of Development Plan Overlays in new development areas.
- A82. Ensure development is not located on the immediate edges of the creeks to limit impact on water quality.
- A83. Work with Melbourne Water to ensure all development is adequately setback from all waterways and creeks including Romsey South Drain, with native vegetation buffers to improve waterway health and allow for improved access and maintenance.

**6.3 Five Mile Creek**

Five Mile Creek is a valued asset providing a range of biodiversity, health and wellbeing, environmental and social benefits to the community. Opportunities to expand the extent and public ownership of the creek environs to the east while extending the values into the surrounding settlement will be essential.

The Five Mile Creek Masterplan provides a 10-year plan establishing a vision and priorities for improvements to the reserve. The Creek is a priority area for establishment of vegetation buffers along waterways by Melbourne Water and a priority bio-link within the Macedon Ranges Biodiversity Strategy.

**Strategy 14**

Extend and enhance the Five Mile Creek corridor and environs.

**Actions**

- A84. Continue to implement the Five Mile Creek Masterplan.
- A85. Encourage development along Five Mile Creek to interface with the park and trail through strategies such as low fencing, entrance points onto the park and balconies overlooking.
- A86. Explore opportunities to acquire land/rezone land along the Five Mile Creek to the east of Main Street to Tickawarra Road, creating a permanent walking and cycling path along the creek in public ownership.
- A87. Setback development a minimum 10m either side of the top of bank of the waterway to allow for pedestrian and maintenance access along with space for revegetation public open space along Five Mile Creek through new development.

- A88. Preserve the option for a minimum 3 m wide walking and cycling trail from Greens Road through to Five Mile Creek within the buffer area, adjacent to the protected settlement boundary linking new residents in the south to the Five Mile Creek open space network.



#### 6.4 Open space

Open spaces in Romsey currently comprise a range of types including neighbourhood parks, natural and semi-natural spaces, a skate park, sports fields and organised recreation. Increasing the population of the town will result in a need for additional open space and linkages ideally within walking distance of all properties. An important part of the plan is to create a continuous open space

network that ultimately joins all of the new urban areas to the Five Mile Creek corridor.

A range of different types of open space should be provided of a suitable size to meet the different needs of the community. Analysis of existing open space highlights a number of areas where open space provision needs improvement. The disconnected, curvilinear street network impacts access significantly.

Cross sections showing improvements for Romsey’s open space and adjoining, subdivision layouts are detailed in **Figure 8**.

Planning for organised sport has identified the need for increased provision of outdoor netball courts and the need to find a location for a soccer pitch.

#### Strategy 15

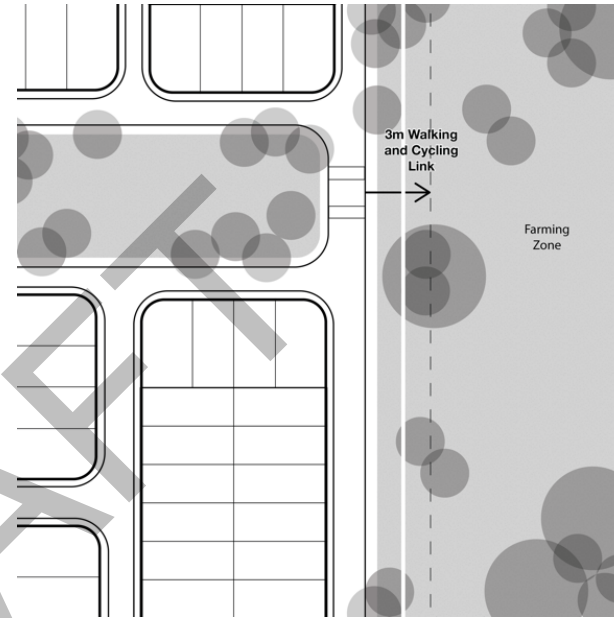
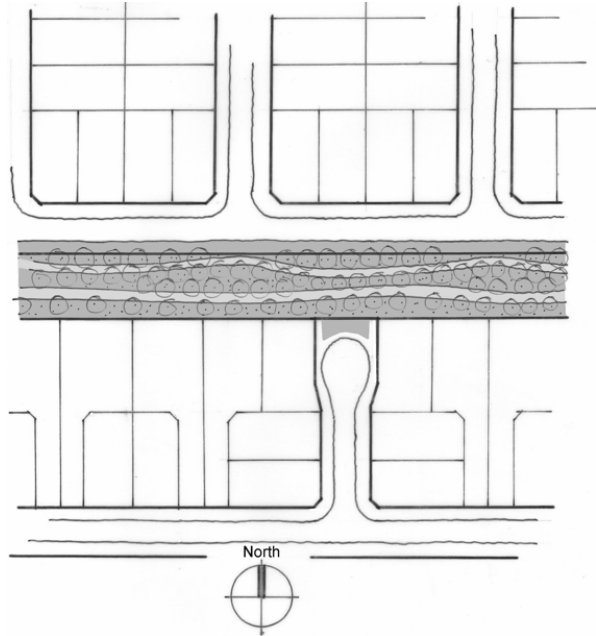
Create a network of open spaces throughout the town to meet the varied open space requirements of the community.

#### Actions

- A89. Create a range of new open spaces as outlined in Figure 9 considering hydrology, topography and natural flow paths/conveyance systems within the proposed layout when determining final location.
- A90. Rezone incorrectly zoned existing open spaces to Public Park and Recreation Zone as outlined in Figure 9.
- A91. Reserve land for a new soccer pitch.
- A92. Provide new outdoor netball courts in line with the Romsey Park Sports Precinct Master Plan.
- A93. Establish new dog off leash areas.
- A94. Ensure young people are engaged in the design process for recreational and open spaces in Romsey that are utilised by young people.
- A95. Ensure new development areas have a stormwater management strategy prepared and submitted to Melbourne Water for review and consideration prior to finalisation of open spaces in Figure 3 as part of the development of a DPO.

Romsey’s landscape and natural environment initiatives are shown in **Figure 9**.

Figure 8: Proposed Cross Sections of the New Open Space Links



North – south open pedestrian and cycling link with lot orientation

East – west open space and lot orientation

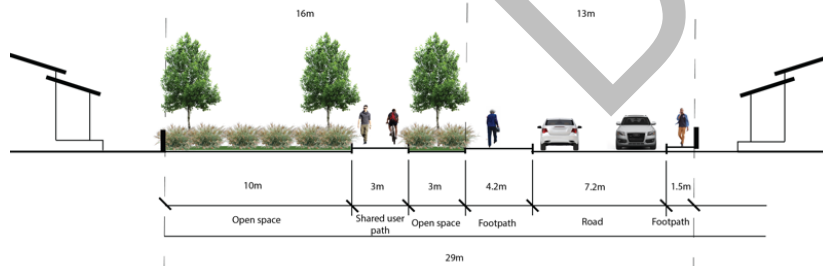
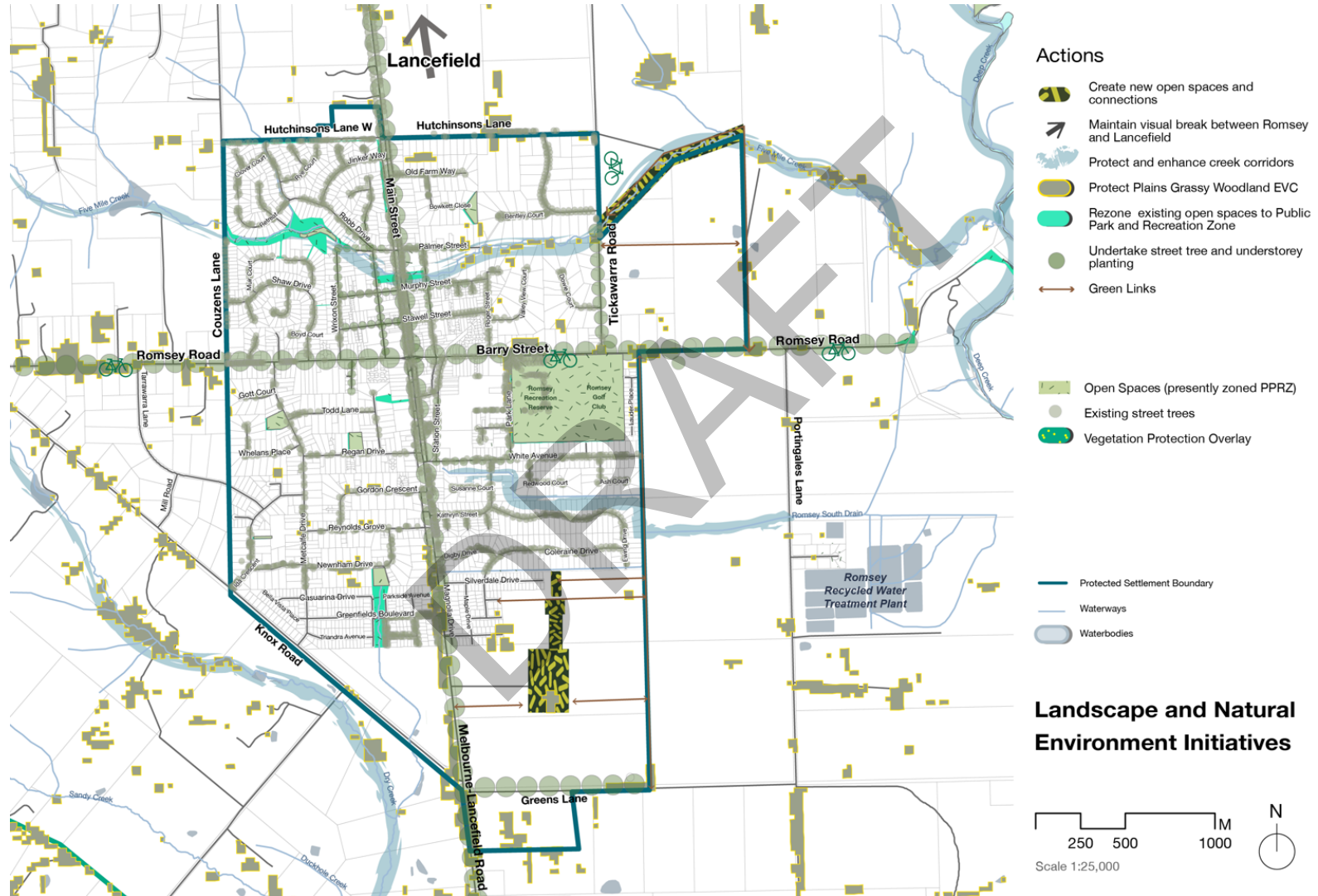






Figure 9: Landscape and Natural Environment Initiatives



## 7. MOVEMENT, TRANSPORT AND ACCESS

*To ensure residents are provided with a variety of movement options that are safe, accessible, integrated and do not rely on vehicle ownership within the township.*

The Romsey township road hierarchy is characteristic of similar regional towns across Victoria. It includes the north-south primary arterial, Melbourne-Lancefield Road (Main Street) along which the town is centred. The hierarchy also includes an east-west secondary arterial road, surrounding collector roads along the town's edges, and local access roads throughout the town.

Romsey is a highly car dependent town. This is mainly influenced by the lack of development intensity in the town centre, resulting in fewer local economic opportunities and an over-reliance on longer distance travel to Woodend, Wallan and Sunbury. Development of the Commercial 2 Zone at the southern edge of the township will increase car use rather than create real options for residents. This suburban form is not helped by fragmented pedestrian networks and minimal opportunities for bicycle riding segregated from vehicles. Reducing car dependence is critical to achieve Macedon Ranges' vision for the area and essential to create local economy, sustainability and community health benefits.

In planning Romsey's growth, it should be noted that maintaining a low-density suburban form will impact the viability of new services, and they will be difficult to access by walking or riding. This will exacerbate existing levels of car ownership and use and entrench the high cost of living for current and future residents. Containing jobs within the town and services including regular shopping, schools, health facilities and eateries and other social places will reduce the need for car dependency. Using the Movement and Place Framework will assist in moving the towns transport network to one that is more focused on active transport.

Managing the impacts of car parking and ensuring that the impacts of oversupply such as reducing opportunities for other uses, inducing more people to drive and the maintenance costs are central to the quality of the town centre and its long-term viability.

### Strategy 16

Provide an accessible town with clear and direct movement networks that are safe, connected and designed to meet the capacity requirements of existing and future communities.

#### Actions

- A96. Increase development intensity in the town centre and specifically along Main Street.
- A97. Ensure any new development on Main Street in the town centre precinct is built up to the property boundary with the main entrance onto Main Street and any car parking at the rear of the building without a public entrance to the main building.
- A98. Review the Romsey Development Contributions Plan to include upgrade works identified in Figure 10.
- A99. Provide opportunities for larger vehicles to park near the town centre to support tourism within the town.
- A100. Investigate limiting speeds on Glenfern and Knox Roads to 80kmh.
- A101. Investigate decreasing speed limits across the town centre to 40km/h to improve safety for pedestrians and bicycle users.
- A102. Consider restricting access to Stawell Street to be from the service lanes only, removing the intersections with the Main Street through lanes as part of a streetscape plan for the service lanes to enhance pedestrian safety, mode shift and quality of the town centre environment.
- A103. Investigate parking provision on Main Street and outside Romsey Primary School on Station Street to determine the best use of road space for the community.

### 7.1 Active transport opportunities

Improving people's choices to walk and ride will rely on growth occurring in the core of Romsey's town centre and improving active transport networks to be useful, safe, comfortable and interesting. A lack of walking and cycling infrastructure beyond Main Street discourages people from travelling around Romsey by foot or bike due to safety concerns.

Based around a linear, grid network with a tree-lined main street, Romsey has the potential to be a very walkable township. Fifty percent of current Romsey households live within 1km of the town centre making errands to Main Street

easily undertaken on foot. For the small number of households located further than 2km from Main Street, walking to any service needs to be really attractive, particularly compared to driving.

In Main Street, walkability is currently hampered by the low-intensity built form and vacant land which reduces pedestrian amenity and attractiveness. A lack of priority pedestrian crossing locations further inhibits walkability around the town. Barry Street's importance will grow connecting community facilities and future growth areas with the town centre. A long term strategy to widen the road in parts and provide improvements for walkers and cyclists will be required.

**Strategy 17**

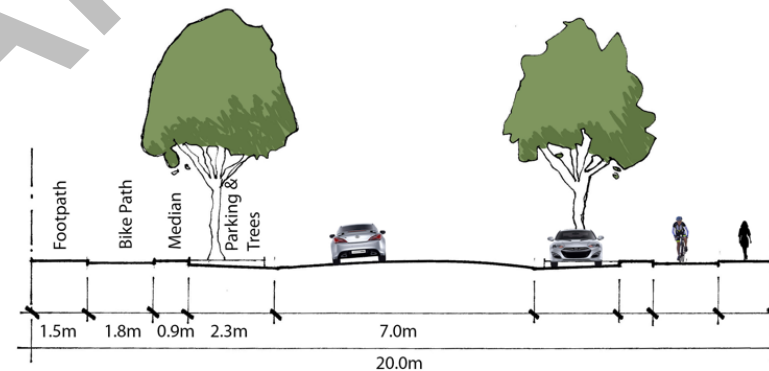
Create a movement network that provides a high level of amenity and safety for pedestrians and bicycle riders.

**Actions**

- A104. Slow traffic on Main Street and provide pedestrian priority crossings in the town centre to improve safety for both drivers and pedestrians as the area becomes busier.
- A105. Investigate locations for additional raised zebra (wombat) crossings around all legs of Barry Street and Main Street including at the intersection of those two streets, and at existing pedestrian refuges to promote pedestrian safety and easy road crossing.
- A106. Work with RRV to install a signalised pedestrian crossing near bus stops in Main Street.
- A107. Develop Barry Street Upgrade Concept including a shared user path along Barry Street with safe crossing points for pedestrians and bicycle riders and implement over time. See potential cross section **Figure 10**.
- A108. Ensure the Upgrade Concept identifies future cycling and walking infrastructure including connections to bus stops.
- A109. Prioritise the development of footpath infrastructure to the town centre, between key community and commercial destinations and around the school and childcare centres (priority being a 400m radius of the town centre).
- A110. Provide an intertown shared user path from Romsey to Monegeeta and Clarkefield similar to the Lancefield connection.
- A111. Improve tree canopy coverage across the whole town improving environmental conditions for walkers and cyclists.

- A112. Conduct a DDA compliance assessment along Main Street and prioritise actions to address shortfalls for those of the community with limited mobility and disabilities.
- A113. Establish an off-road shared user path network, particularly linking the Town Centre with the Recreation Reserve, Primary School, childcare facilities and Five Mile Creek to allow for safe bicycle travel both for transit and recreationally.
- A114. Design and construct a shared user path along Five Mile Creek and work to extend this east and west of the current path in the town.
- A115. Ensure new development areas are connected into the existing and proposed walking and cycling links into the town centre.

**Figure 10: Potential Barry Street cross section**



## 7.2 Public transport

Public transport services in Romsey are insufficient to meet the needs of existing and future residents despite a desire by the community for improved connections. However, the lack of development intensity in the area makes public transport difficult to provide viably and ensures long wait times for funding of additional services. Bus services are provided on weekdays every hour from Lancefield to Sunbury via Romsey. These are not used by the number of people they need to be in order to be improved.

Most people from Romsey commuting to Melbourne either drive or access public transport by driving to Clarkefield Station. The lack of public transport caused by the lack of development intensity in the town centre where the bus stops are located is a significant issue that makes access to education, employment and services difficult for young people.

Focussing residential growth within walking distance of the Main Street corridor will help make public transport viable in future.

### Strategy 18

Improve public transport opportunities for Romsey.

#### Actions

- A116. Continue discussions and advocacy with DTP regarding improved public transport options for Romsey and Macedon Ranges as a whole.
- A117. Advocate to DTP to provide more frequent services and integrated timetables for public transport and improve public transport options for secondary school students.
- A118. Work with DTP to improve the bus service to Clarkefield Station to provide services which align with the V/Line train timetable.
- A119. Consider working with non-profit community transport service providers such as Link Community Transport to expand the range of transport services on offer in Romsey.





### 7.3 Township expansion

As Romsey grows over the coming decades, new roads will be required to facilitate urban expansion. As roads form a critical role in a place's urban structure, it is important that the allocation of space in these road reserves holistically improves movement options and where possible remedies previous poor decisions.

Greens Lane (adjacent to the protected settlement boundary) will need to be sealed and widened to facilitate expansion in the south and facilitate the employment precinct. This has potential to move some truck movements out of the town centre by locating it on the edge of the town. The upgrade should include a focus on pedestrian and bicycle rider safety and prioritise provision of a shared user path that provides all people with a safe alternative to travelling by car. This will also improve safety and efficiency of truck movements along Greens Lane, avoiding the need for truck drivers to be apprehensive about pedestrians and bicycle riders sharing the roadway with heavy vehicles.

#### Strategy 19

Create an urban structure that facilitates movement options that are safe, integrated, accessible and do not rely on vehicle ownership within the township.

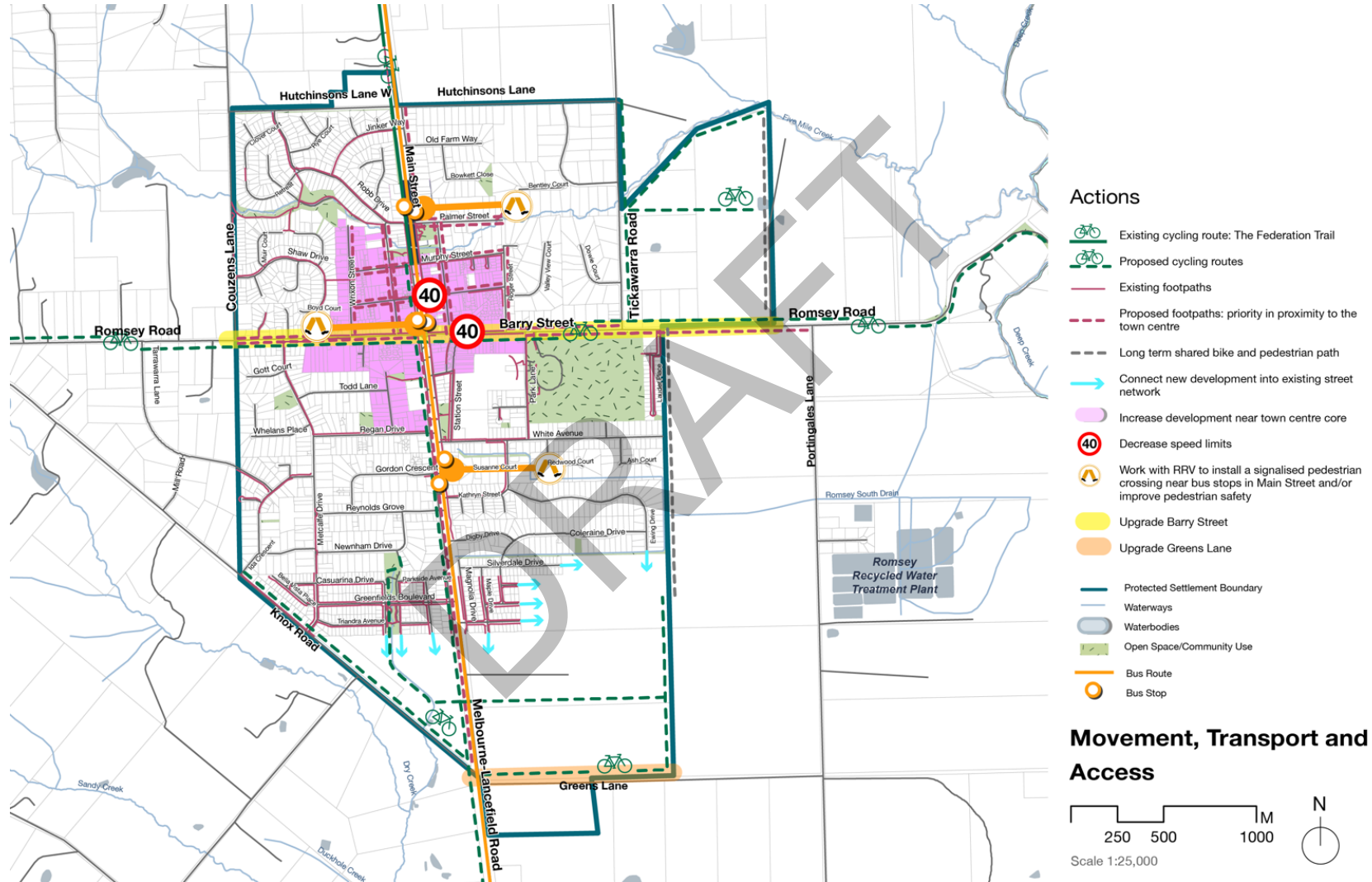
#### Actions

- A120. Upgrade Greens Lane to ensure pedestrian and bicycle rider safety (dedicated paths) and better cater for heavier vehicles to support the development of the Romsey Employment Precinct and reduce traffic movements in the town centre.
- A121. Consider options to improve and upgrade the intersection of Greens Lane and Knox Road for all road users as part of the development of adjacent DPOs.
- A122. Deliver a grid network of streets and connect into existing street networks as outlined in Figure 12 I (see Section 10 for further guidance).
- A123. Advocate to RRV to ensure that new road works and upgrades respects the character and heritage of the town and aligns with neighbourhood character objectives.
- A124. Ensure movement and access infrastructure upgrades are collected for within updated DCP.

Romsey's movement, transport and access initiatives are shown in **Figure 11**.



Figure 11: Romsey Movement, Transport and Access Initiatives



## 8. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND CULTURE

*To ensure the township provides community infrastructure to meet the social and cultural needs of its residents.*

The community is served by several local community and recreation facilities. The Romsey Community Hub provides library services, meeting spaces, programs and Council services. The town is also serviced by a CFA fire station, ambulance and police station. The Romsey recreation reserve and golf course provides local facilities including golf, football, lawn bowls and tennis and the Recreation Centre provides for a range of indoor sports.

### 8.1 New community facilities

It is important to preserve space for the facilities the community needs and desires as it grows to a large district town over the coming decades. Preserving the land for a high school has been identified and will be provided as the population grows.

#### Strategy 20

Ensure the necessary future community facilities are planned to support the growth of the town.

#### Actions

- A125. Advocate to the Department of Education to review the provision of a secondary school in Romsey.
- A126. Preserve the option for a P-9 school on the existing Romsey Primary School site.
- A127. Reserve space on the south side corner of Tickawarra and Barry roads for a future high school within walking distance of the town centre.
- A128. Ensure land uses adjoining the Romsey Primary School do not compromise the long-term viability of Romsey's education facilities.
- A129. Undertake a feasibility study into the provision of an aquatic facility in the east of the shire.



### 8.2 Facilities for all

There are many community facilities within Romsey, ensuring any new facilities or services are appropriate for all sections of the community as it grows is essential. An increasing population necessitates a pro-active health and wellbeing response and improved medical, maternal child health and kindergarten facilities. Transport, access and telecommunications connectivity is a significant issue for young people, in terms of education, training, employment and sporting activity provision. Improving transport, accessibility and connectivity is critical to help confronting issues of social and economic isolation.

The engagement and involvement of young people in sport, recreation and other social pursuits is essential to strengthening their contribution to civic life and building social capital and cohesion.

Council through several strategies has worked with the community to identify specific requirements. Making the town more child-friendly, along with new and additional meeting spaces and design of recreational and other open spaces were



identified by children and young people. Older people identified that an age-friendly town would concentrate on accessibility and affordable services, facilities, housing and transport.

The Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2018 to 2028 identified that the town will need additional provision of sporting facilities of cricket soccer and outdoor netball over the coming decades.

#### Strategy 21

Ensure community facilities meet the needs of the local community, are accessible, fit for purpose and provide for a range of activities and groups.

#### Actions

- A130. Identify locations for additional community meeting places in and around Main Street and other areas that cater for young people's needs.
- A131. Investigate the provision of additional medical services, particularly for young people and families, maternal child health and kindergarten facilities.
- A132. Engage with young people in the design of recreation and other open spaces to provide for their needs.
- A133. Identify transport, access and telecommunications connectivity improvements to better support young people's education, training, employment and sporting needs.
- A134. Create enhanced nature play opportunities for children in new open space areas.
- A135. Consider opportunities for increasing the range of sporting options for the town in the design and redevelopment of sporting facilities.
- A136. Continue a staged implementation of the Romsey Park Sports Precinct Masterplan.
- A137. Continue maintenance and upgrading of community facilities as budget is available.

### 8.3 Heritage and culture

#### Aboriginal cultural heritage

Cultural values in this area are important within the landscape as Romsey is located close to Taungurung Country, the Deep Creek waterway, and the culturally important Hanging Rock reserve. Deep Creek was also likely an important Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung travel route and source of resources facilitating travel to Will-ee-im Moor-ing (Mt William Greenstone Axe Quarry) and Taungurung Country.

Council and Wurundjeri Council continue to work in partnership to ensure that cultural values and cultural heritage management occur within planning processes.

#### Strategy 22

Ensure new development appropriately responds to and celebrates Aboriginal cultural heritage sites, places and values.

#### Actions

- A138. Work with Wurundjeri Council to consider early planning consultation to avoid existing cultural heritage and to provide advice regarding where sites and cultural places are prior to development approvals or the preparation of Development Plan Overlays.
- A139. Encourage the planting of indigenous plant species for their cultural values to the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung community and create habitat for fauna of importance to Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung lore, culture, and have value.
- A140. Undertake a cultural survey of culturally modified trees in the area and remaining remnant trees working with landowners to facilitate this process.
- A141. Work with Wurundjeri Council for on-going involvement in landscape management in urban design, naming, as part of the effort to appropriately emphasise the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung clans.
- A142. Where possible expand cultural protection of Deep Creek, offset greater than 200m and revegetate the area (recommendations driven by Waterways of the West Ministerial Advisory Committee).
- A143. Identify and protect the local eruption points as cultural places with the support of local landowners.

### Post-contact heritage

Evidence of the post contact development of Romsey can be found throughout the town but is most visible in Main Street. The street is lined with classic Australian architecture including battered corrugated iron structures, gothic bluestone churches, turn-of-the-century houses and the impressive red brick facade of the local Mechanics Institute. Many of these properties are protected under the heritage overlay however there is community concern that many other heritage worthy places are not protected.

Growth and development of the town will need to recognise the cultural and heritage value of these buildings, their curtilage and setting. They have a strong place value, contribute to the character of the town and provide tourism opportunities.

### Strategy 23

Ensure new development appropriately responds to and celebrates post contact cultural heritage sites, places and values.

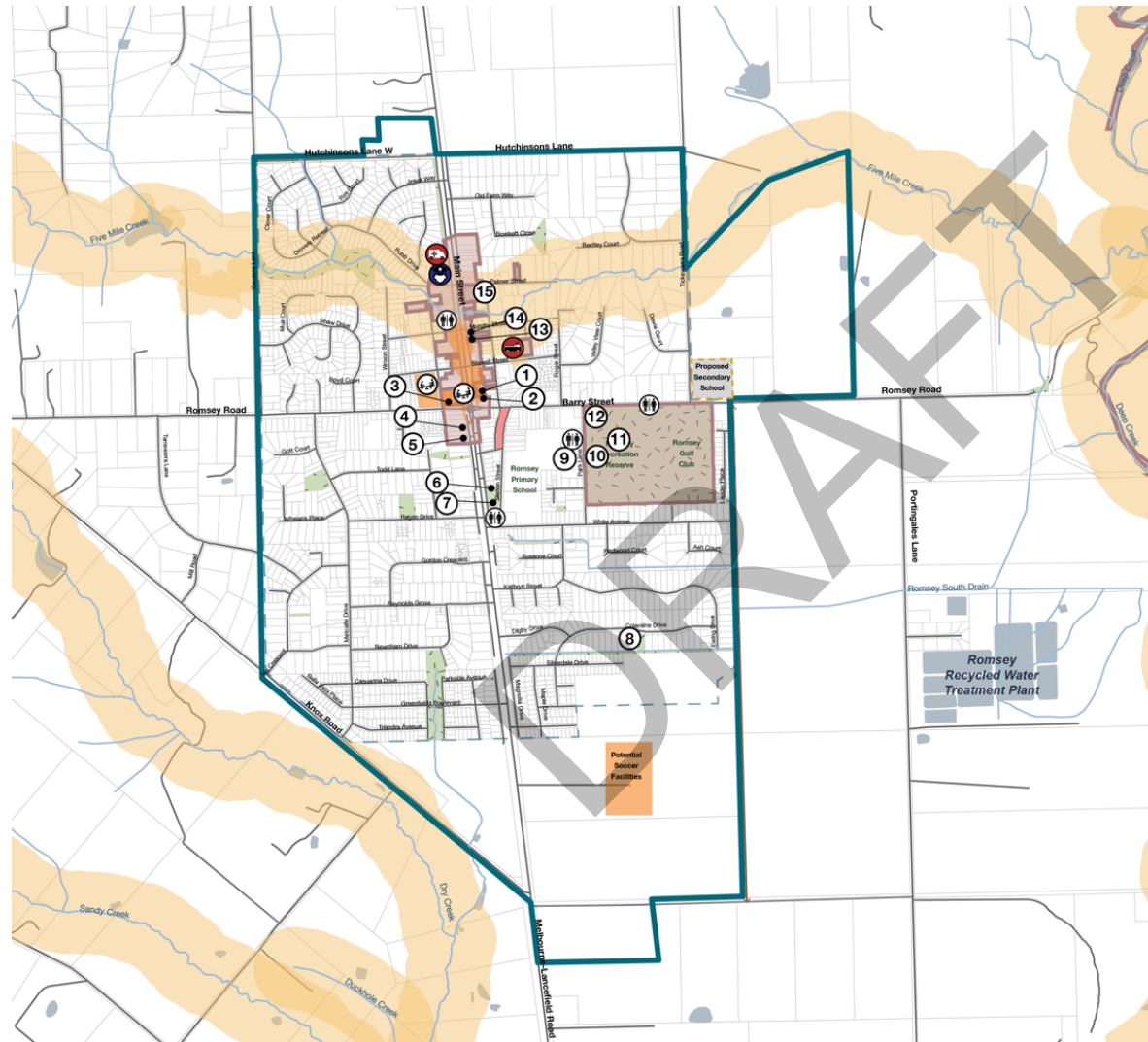
### Actions

- A144. Undertake a review of the heritage protections within Romsey and district as part of Council's ongoing heritage work including an assessment of places that are not currently protected.
- A145. Renew awareness of the Avenue of Honour with signage and additional canopy trees.
- A146. Explore opportunities to build on the heritage assets of the town for their intrinsic, cultural and tourism values.

Romsey's community infrastructure and culture is shown in **Figure 12**.



Figure 12: Romsey Community Infrastructure and Culture



**Actions**

- Enhance existing community housing and work with social housing providers to deliver additional housing
- Establish new meeting spaces such as squares
- Potential community facilities
- Protect Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Protect built heritage
- Explore the creation of a public meeting place/space in the town centre such as near St Mary's Catholic Church or on Pohiman Street.

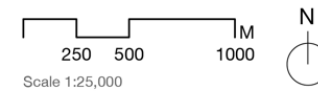
**Current Romsey Community Facilities**

- 1 Romsey Community Hub
- 2 Romsey Library
- 3 St Mary's Catholic Church
- 4 St Paul's Anglican Church
- 5 Macedon Ranges Masonic Centre
- 6 Romsey Kindergarden
- 7 Romsey Skatepark
- 8 Romsey Early Education Centre
- 9 Romsey Oval
- 10 Romsey Tennis Club
- 11 Romsey Bowling Club
- 12 Romsey Kennel Club
- 13 Romsey Mechanics Institute
- 14 Romsey Community Co-op
- 15 Romsey Eco-Therapy Park

- Police Station
- Fire Brigade
- Ambulance Station

- Protected Settlement Boundary
- Waterways
- Waterbodies
- Open Spaces/Community Use

**Romsey Community Infrastructure and Culture**



## 9. SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

### *To create a more sustainable and climate resilient township.*

#### 9.1 Climate change

Romsey must be prepared for the effects of climate change and resilient to the challenges of increasingly hotter and drier conditions with heatwaves, drought and greater intensity of floods and storms. The community is also concerned and has identified this as an important issue to be addressed in planning the future growth and development of Romsey.

Council’s 2021 Environment Strategy supports these goals by promoting climate change action and renewable energy generation, working with traditional owners to understand and identify cultural heritage, incorporating water sensitive design treatments when designing roadworks (like grass swales and filtration ponds), and improving waterway health and restoring riparian corridors as bio-links as a means of improving ecosystem connectivity across the Shire.

The benefits of greening and retaining water in the urban environment to mitigate the effects of the UHI effect are increasingly understood as are their impacts on community wellbeing and liveability. Vegetation and water retention make an important contribution to regulating the local climate through both the provision of shade and evapotranspiration which reduces the surrounding air temperature.

Increasing the tree canopy cover in the town and minimising impervious surfaces will reduce urban heat and increase the town’s amenity.

Areas of Romsey experience significant flood risk during heavy rainfall events. Flooding is an issue in areas adjacent to the Five Mile Creek corridor and south of White Avenue.

#### Strategy 24

Ensure new development increases the town’s resilience to the impacts of climate change.

#### Actions

- A147. Work with Melbourne Water to identify areas at risk of flooding exacerbated by climate change and ensure they are covered by suitable

planning scheme controls to ensure the impact of flooding events on new development is minimised.

- A148. Increase climate resilience of the town through reduced reliance on electricity and gas from the grid and support for renewable sources of energy through encouraging roof top solar, community projects.
- A149. Work with Greater Western Water to explore opportunities for economic development through the reuse of their wastewater for irrigation or other industries that could use recycled water to relocate to the Romsey Employment Precinct and Farming Zoned land adjacent to the protected settlement boundary, helping to create a circular economy.
- A150. Continue to work with utility and service providers to ensure the town is adequately serviced and seek commitments for the timing of delivery upgrades.

#### Strategy 25

Reduce potable water usage and minimise the volume of urban run-off and pollution that reaches local creeks and waterways.

#### Actions

- A151. Work with Greater Western Water to ensure there is adequate capacity within the Romsey Water Treatment Plant to facilitate the growth of Romsey and provide long term plans in place to deal with the impacts of climate change.
- A152. Ensure new development meets new stormwater targets for harvesting (77%) and infiltration (22%) of impervious surface runoff as set out in the *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018*.
- A153. Advocate to Greater Western Water to finalise the required separation distance around the Romsey Water Treatment Plant in conjunction with the EPAV.
- A154. Ensure the finalised buffer areas are incorporated into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme via the appropriate planning overlays such as the BAO.
- A155. Work with GWW to service growth of the town through a dedicated sewerage pump station and rising main back to the RRWP.



9.2 Utilities

While Romsey has access to utilities including mains water, power, gas and telecommunications, there is a strong concern within the community about the quality of this infrastructure and its ability to handle additional population growth.

New developments provide the opportunity to ensure the most advanced technology is used to create, store and use utilities in both single dwelling development and at the subdivision level. This will improve environmental performance and reduce the burden on existing facilities.

Developments designed using ESD principles have the potential to produce their own power, to collect, store and re-use water efficiently, to have reduced heating and cooling demands and a reduced demand for fossil fuels. Integrated water management principles may also be applied to maintain safe and affordable water supply into the future. The benefits include a reduction in potable water use and supplementation of existing supply, and healthier waterways through a reduction in stormwater runoff.

Stormwater management will need to be one of the key principles for any new development. This will involve techniques such as use of domestic tanks, rain gardens, limiting site coverage, greater vegetation requirements and more pervious surfaces which may lead to a different development character to the existing.

The Romsey Recycled Water Plant (RRWP) treats sewage from Romsey and Lancefield and is planning a significant upgrade of the capacity. This provides a number of opportunities for the town from wastewater reuse through to activities within the buffer.

Strategy 24

Transform the town’s energy system and infrastructure to one focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Actions

- A156. Investigate options for a micro-grid or solar farm to power the growth of the township located within the RRWP buffer.
- A157. Install public electric vehicle charging stations in Main Street and around the town centre.
- A158. Continue to advocate to Powercor to upgrade the existing power supply to Romsey to ensure sufficient capacity for the existing town and provision for any additional growth.
- A159. Ensure development adequately address bushfire protection and flood events in planning new infrastructure.
- A160. Explore opportunities to increase the use of renewables and improve flexibility and reliability of power supply such as rooftop solar, micro-grids, neighbourhood batteries or a potential community energy system with Powercor.

Rooftop solar in Romsey today (source Nearmap)



**Strategy 24**

Ensure new development improves the sustainability of communities and reduces the impacts of urban development on the environment.

**Actions**

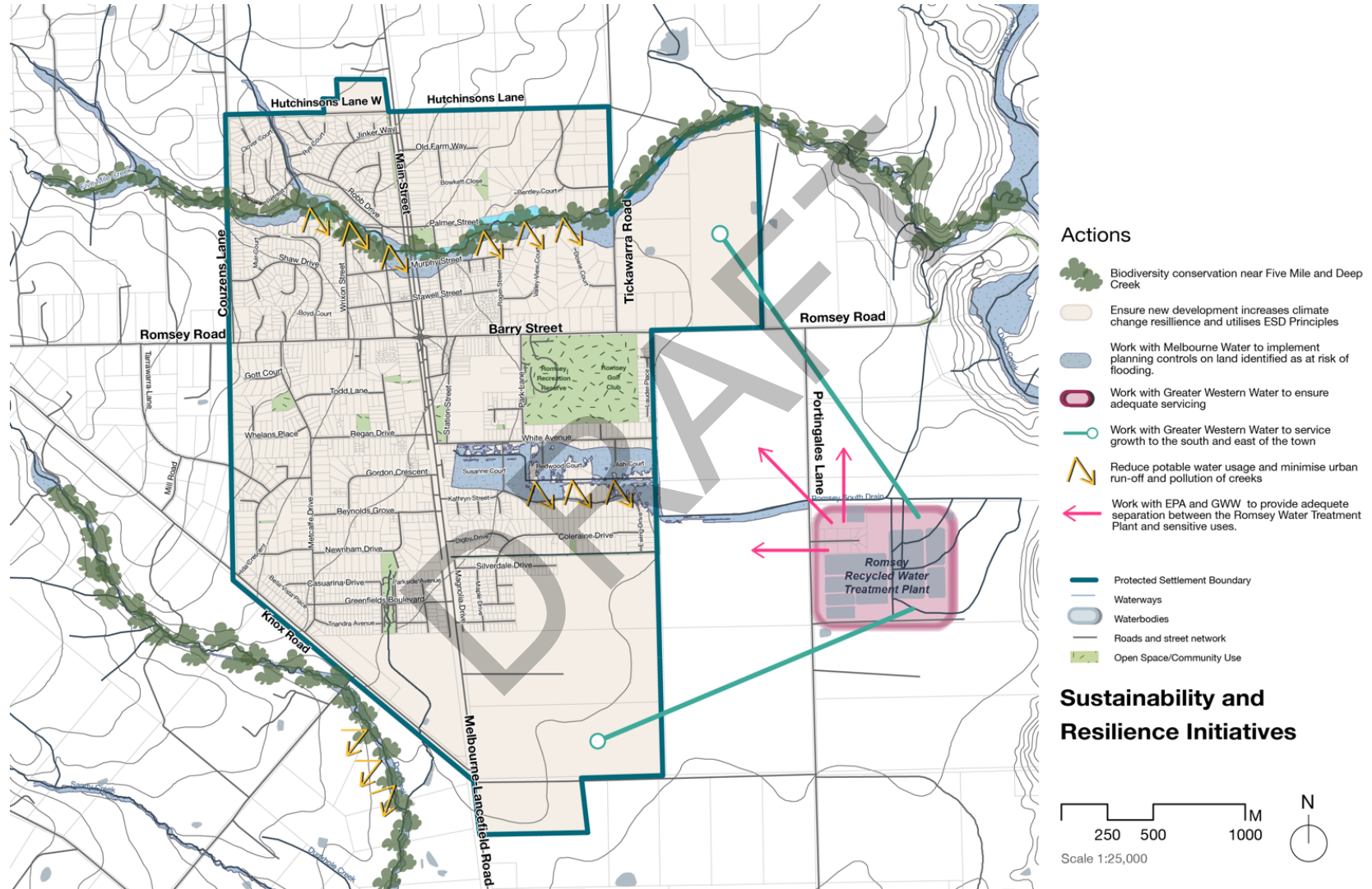
- A161. Create a healthy urban forest across Romsey in both the public and private domain for increased shade and urban cooling while responding to local climatic conditions and bushfire risk.
- A162. Ensure any new development near Five Mile and Deep Creek contributes to biodiversity conservation and improves waterway health and riparian habitat.
- A163. Design new development with climate change adaptation at the forefront including orientation, provision of vegetation and shade canopy and thermal performance.
- A164. Provide improved water sensitive urban design in all new development with best practice examples of integrated water management (IWM), stormwater management (SWM) and water reuse.
- A165. Work with CASBE to lobby State Government for higher sustainability standards in subdivision and building design.
- A166. Require new developments to provide underground reticulated electricity and telecommunications services.



*Victoria's biggest solar farm under construction amid debate over lost agricultural land  
- ABC News*

Romsey's sustainability and resilience initiatives are shown in **Figure 13**.

Figure 13: Romsey Sustainability and Resilience Initiatives



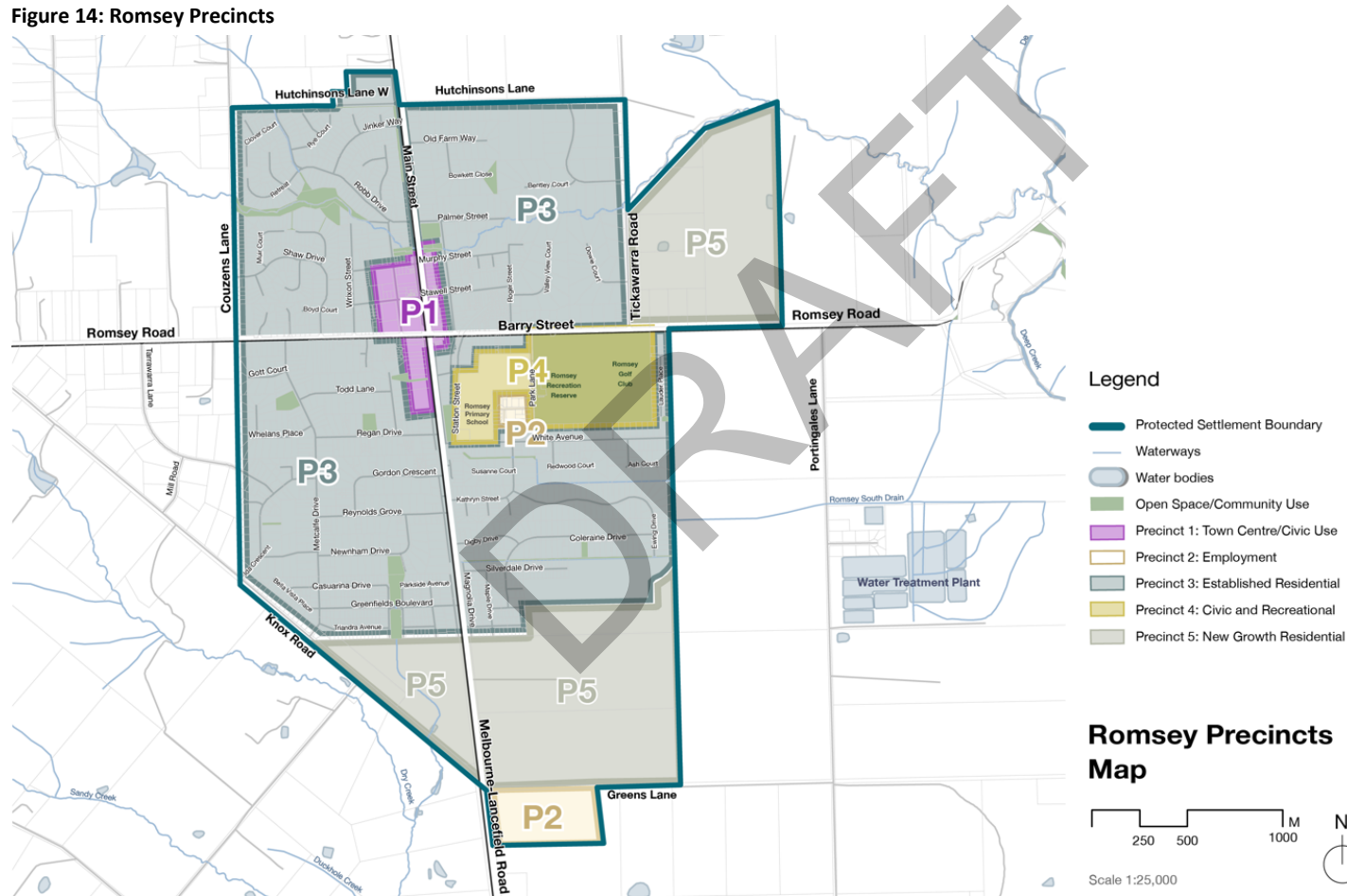


## 10. TOWNSHIP GUIDELINES

### 10.1 Guidelines

Five precincts have been identified for the preparation of guidelines to deliver high quality town environments as shown in **Figure 14**.

**Figure 14: Romsey Precincts**



10.2 Precinct One: Town Centre

The Town Centre consists of the retail and commercial centre of Romsey centred around Main Street.



10.2.1 Town Centre character

Romsey’s town centre has a low, highly dispersed, character of one and two storey buildings. Many of these are public or commercial buildings from the nineteenth century, built to the front boundary defining the street, and helping to characterize the town centre’s clear heritage identity. The Heritage Overlay (HO) applies to Main Street and abutting properties, including some individual buildings, from just south of Barry Street northward to the ambulance station.

Other buildings within the centre from the twentieth century are often set back from the front boundary to accommodate car parking and access requirements which has the effect of diluting the town centre’s early built form character. Predominantly single storey, these buildings including many sheds and usually have a simple,

unadorned and utilitarian expression in contrast to the more decorative nineteenth century buildings.

*Built form considerations*

Most recent development in Romsey is low scale, set back from the street and reduces the sense of place and spatial enclosure created by earlier buildings. Built form controls for heights and setbacks beyond those existing within the planning scheme do not appear to be sufficiently justified due to the current limited levels of development activity. Encouragement of new buildings of more than one storey, particularly within the town centre, will provide improved urban design outcomes through more efficient use of land, providing space for trees and landscape, and improved spatial definition of the very wide Main Street.

While the HO and the DPO over sites on Pohlman Street provide built form controls, there is currently little to guide development within the town centre.

*Built form objectives*

New built form within the town centre should complement and reinforce the important role and valued characteristics of Main Street including to:

- Provide a well-considered, contemporary design response to the character, form, architectural expression, and materiality of adjacent heritage buildings.
- Be low energy, low carbon and climate resilient.
- Be built to the front boundary to define, address and overlook the street space.
- Reinforce the prevailing fine-grain pattern of development.

- Ensure that uses at ground floors activate and add to the vitality of the street or adjoining public spaces with generous windows and doorways to front street facing facades.
- Encourage verandahs or awnings over footpaths to provide shelter and shade to pedestrians and reinforce the streetscape character.
- Encourage upper levels to be built to the front boundary to define and overlook the street space.
- Ensure car parking is located to the sides or rear of development and that driveways do not detract from the pedestrian environment.
- Ensure blank walls or service areas do not adversely impact on views from adjacent streets or sensitive interfaces.
- Encourage well designed buildings that are environmentally sustainable, energy efficient, and climate resilient.

10.2.2 Township entrances

The approaches to Romsey for some kilometres are lined with established evergreen trees from the south and deciduous trees from the north, creating an attractive and pleasant entry experience to the township. These trees and their grassed verges are a valued and key contributor to the townscape character, amenity and sustainability.



Future actions should seek to:

- Maintain the avenue trees, replacing senescing specimens and filling any gaps with supplementary trees, to ensure the long-term sustainability of these important assets.
- Establish new avenues of tall canopy trees along Barry Street and other major streets leading to the town centre.
- Maintain and reinforce wide grassed verges along the township approaches and within the town centre.
- Ensure new road and other civil works use materials and details that reinforce and are consistent with the township’s heritage character.
- Audit and rationalise roadside signage, furniture and fittings along Main Street to reduce visual clutter, particularly within the town centre.
- Establish and extend safe and convenient shared paths along Main Street and Barry Street to improve access for people using mobility aids, pedestrians, and cyclists.
- New residential areas which face approaching roads to consider the introduction of rear lanes to

these properties, to reduce the visual impact of driveways and garages, and allow for significant tree planting to enhance the entries to the town.

- Art/entry signage, and landscaping should be combined and well designed to signal the entry to the town.

Apart from its north-east and north-west corners, the DDO has been applied to much of the balance of the already developed areas of the township controlling the heights and setbacks of new buildings.

### 10.3 Precinct Two: Employment Areas

There are currently two active industrial areas in Romsey. One is located within the town around Mitchell Court off Park Lane and one outside the town on Johnstone Street adjacent to Portingales Lane. These provide a range of employment uses with a variety of businesses including mechanics, auto repairs and gyms in Mitchell Court and a range of activities not suitable for residential areas such as the Romsey Waste Transfer Station on Johnstone Court.

A new employment area will be developed on the south side of Greens Lane.



The development of the Romsey Employment Precinct will be guided by the *Design Guidelines for Industrial and Commercial Development in the Macedon Ranges*. Streets in the new employment precinct should be designed to include footpaths on both sides, as well as areas for the planting of street trees at relatively close centres, to provide significant tree canopies at maturity. A landscape buffer will be required around the new Romsey Employment Precinct on Greens Lane to provide a



visual break between these activities and adjacent residential land uses.

**10.4 Precinct Three: Established Residential Areas**

This precinct consists of the residentially zoned areas within the Romsey Township. These areas provide housing and a range of other community needs. Housing consists of almost exclusively detached housing which will increasingly mean that the housing needs of the community are not met as residents age and family structures change.

Neighbourhood Character Guidelines for established residential areas are included in **Appendix 2**. These guidelines provide further guidance on how to achieve the preferred neighbourhood character statement outlined below.

**10.4.1 Township character type**

This character type is located adjacent to the town centre of Romsey. The Outline Development Plan 2009 identified some of this area as the preferred location for medium density housing and that is supported by this structure plan. A range of single houses, dual occupancies, townhouses and multi-dwellings will be supported.



*Character description*

The township character type represents the early stages of development of Romsey. Developed in a strong grid pattern, the area contains dwellings from the earliest stages of development of the town to today.

The housing is largely detached, interspersed with newer medium density development. Dwellings are typically single storey using simple, modest building forms. Some more recent unit development has occurred along with second dwellings being constructed to the rear of existing dwellings.

Managing the impacts of the resulting gun-barrel driveways can be challenging, which despite delivering additional housing stock, often remove “natural surveillance” of the street by buildings fronting the new driveway rather than the street. In addition, there is less permeable land for the management of stormwater runoff.

Older development is characterised by garages and carports being set back from the house and street allowing the front gardens to dominate the streetscape. Materials are often weatherboard while new dwellings are often brick or render which are much heavier in form than surrounding weatherboard dwellings.



Dwellings are set within gardens with a variety of forms and plant species. Fences are often in keeping with the dwelling period and low in height which enables views to the houses and the vegetation to flow across from the private to the public domains.

The roads are sealed with gravel edges and kerbs providing an informal country town feel aided by

the large grassy verges and often no footpath. Some formality is introduced to the streetscape through the plantings of avenue trees which coalesce the areas together.

Garages are usually new additions to these houses and can be poorly located along with sheds and carports intruding into the garden settings of the dwellings. Newer sealed driveways are also reducing the country town feel.

*Preferred future character*

The retention and restoration of older dwellings is encouraged with infill development occurring to the rear of properties. Dwellings feature low pitched roofs with eaves, constructed with light building materials and colour palettes that are sympathetic to existing weatherboard dwellings.

Consistent front setbacks maintain an intimate streetscape that is enhanced by an ornamental garden setting and canopy trees that soften the built form, while side setbacks maintain rhythm and spacing of dwellings along the streets.

Upper levels are setback from the ground floor to reduce visual bulk and allow overarching canopy trees within the public and private realms to remain the dominant visual feature of the streetscape.

This area will continue to evolve over time to contain a greater proportion of well-designed and site responsive medium density residential development. Development will appear as a single, detached dwelling of similar frontage width to the pattern of development in the street and heights of one to three stories will be allowed.

Wide road reserves, front verges and street trees are protected and maintained through single crossovers and provision of on-site parking. Development adjacent to Five Mile Creek front onto this important public space with low, permeable fencing and upper-level surveillance.

In Minimal Change areas, dwellings are designed to address specific site constraints and will be limited to one to two storeys.

10.4.2 Township Suburban character type

This character type is located around Township areas reflecting a mix of older township development along with significant development from the 1980s to today. Incremental growth is anticipated in this character type consisting of dual occupancies, and multi-unit development around parks.



Due to the age of housing stock and generally large lot size, areas particularly in proximity to the town centre are likely to attract future redevelopment,

including replacement single dwelling development, subdivision and multi dwellings.

*Character description*

The Township Suburban represents the first stages of 'suburban' style development within the early township. This area consists of a largely modified grid with some cul-de-sac extensions often located at the edge of the township boundary. There is an informal township character to these areas due to the lack of kerbs and wide grassy verges and the lack of footpaths.

Architectural style varies and there are modern contemporary homes located next to older homes from various eras. Most dwellings are modest. Occasionally a set of units or a second dwelling has been constructed behind another. Large trees in backyards and in surrounding parks and reserves, frame long views to the treed landscape.

Despite the variety of architectural forms and materials found in Township Suburban, there are particular characteristics that define this character type. Spacing between buildings and the strong visual presence of trees and vegetation give strong character to these areas. Buildings are generally lower than the height of mature trees, and seldom exceed two storeys.

Fencing is varied with front fencing highly transparent and not more than 1.2m in height. Garages are generally located either behind dwellings, or setback from the front façade of dwellings.

*Preferred character statement*

Open and spacious streetscapes are enhanced through low profile built form, a consistent and

generous front setback and lack of front fences that allows for views across the garden setting. Dwellings are sited informally and feature simple building forms with pitched roofs and eaves.

Buildings are no higher than two storeys with any upper-level set back from building frontages or incorporated into roof forms. Material palettes are simple and neutral, allowing the garden setting to dominate.

Separation between dwellings is maintained through generous side setbacks and allowance for landscaping. Garages and carports located behind dwelling frontages are recessive as viewed from the street. Driveway access is provided from a single crossover per lot, and garages and carports are located behind the front building line. Parks are activated through dwellings that front onto open spaces with low, permeable fencing and upper-level surveillance.

**10.4.3 Garden Court character type**

The Garden Court areas of Romsey encompass areas of Romsey in the north-west quadrant and on the east side of Main Street around Kathryn Street and Ewing Drive at the southern entry to the town. It also includes a number of areas under construction around Tarrawarra Lane.

Development potential is limited due to few vacant lots, title restrictions preventing further subdivision and the recent construction of dwellings.



*Character description*

Garden Court character areas represent the era from the 1960s when the cul-de-sac and curvilinear form of street layout became popular across Victoria. In Romsey, these are largely cul-de-sacs off meandering roads.

While similar in many respects to the Township Suburban type, these areas have a greater formality due to the use of sealed roads with kerbs often barrier style, and roll over style in more recent

developments. The north-west quadrant is located on rolling hills while the other areas are on flat land.

Footpaths are more common and often only on one side of the street. Verges tend to be wide but can also be narrower suburban style where there are footpaths. There is little street tree planting.

Dwellings in Garden Court areas are typically detached single and some double storey typically brick with predominantly low, hipped roof forms in a variety of materials. More recent developments are predominantly brick but can include materials such as timber and render with a variety of roof forms usually of tile.

Garages are integrated within the dwelling roof form and are often very prominent. Where garages are forward of the dwelling, they can dominate the streetscape and impact on the sense of address of the dwelling. Large sheds are often located on sites at the rear of lots, but this can result in large areas of hard paving with driveways.

Gardens are low level and often very simple using a mix of native and exotic plants. Front fences are not common while side fences are often solid. There is a sense of spaciousness due to the lack of front fences and the wide verges.

This character type could benefit from greater planting of street trees to enhance canopy cover.

*Preferred character statement*

Consistent dwelling setbacks and roof forms, no front fencing and setting back garages to reduce their visual dominance in the streetscape preserve the sense of spaciousness that exists in the Garden Court precincts.



Planting of native and exotic vegetation in front gardens adds to the quality of the streetscape. Planting of large canopy street trees provide shading and cooling benefits and improves pedestrian environments.

Buildings are designed to reflect the context in form, proportioning and materials. Buildings do not attempt to replicate existing areas or historic architectural styles, instead reflecting a contemporary and unique response to the region's history and context, further adding to the local identity. Street patterns reflect the cul-de-sac pattern.

Development adjacent to Five Mile Creek front onto this important public space with low, permeable fencing and upper-level surveillance.

In Minimal Change areas, dwellings are designed to address specific site constraints and will be limited to one to two storeys.

10.4.4 Bush Woodland character type

The Bush Woodland area of Romsey wraps around the Township areas in the north-east quadrant of the town.



Character description

The Bush Woodland area is a form of semi bush which unusually provides a transition to rural lifestyle and then the surrounding farm areas.

Dwellings are barely visible due to the large predominantly native vegetation. The 'ranch' or 'homestead' style designs, usually lie low across the block and often incorporate expansive verandahs. The building forms are simple and roof forms are low pitched. Large blocks enable dwellings to have large footprints but relative to the lot size, there is low site coverage and high amounts of site permeability.

Dwellings have generous front and side setbacks allowing large remnant trees and vegetation to wrap around the dwellings and minimise their visibility from the street. Driveways are usually unsealed.

Materials are predominantly brick but occasionally timber or stone and newer dwellings often incorporate corrugated iron materials on walls. Garages are sometimes integrated into the dwelling form. The lack of kerbs and footpaths make a significant contribution to the area's informal character.



Preferred character statement

Dwellings continue to be set in native vegetation garden settings with space provided around buildings for the planting of substantial trees. Limiting site coverage of hard surfaces and providing setbacks to the front, side and rear ensures the vegetation frames the dwelling.

New development is low scale, one to two storey dwellings, using natural materials and colours that reflect the natural surrounding environment and simple building forms to fit within the vegetated setting. Generous front and side setbacks provide for indigenous and native vegetation which embrace large canopy trees. Garages and carports are hidden from view, often located behind the line of the front dwelling façade and are integrated with the design of the dwelling.

Absent, low or transparent, front fencing contributes to the bush feel and informal transition between public and private realms.





Development adjacent to Five Mile Creek will front onto the creek where possible with low, permeable fencing and upper-level surveillance.

10.4.5 Semi-Rural character type

The Semi-Rural character areas of Romsey encompasses the Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ) in the northwest corner of the town. The area is unsewered and the LDRZ requires lots to be a minimum of 4,000 square metres.

Development potential is limited to the subdivision of lots over 8,000 square metres which will prevent redevelopment such as multi-dwelling development and small lot subdivision. They provide lifestyle blocks enabling a range of semi-rural activities including horses and other recreational pursuits.



Character description

Dwellings often have large footprints and sit on sizeable acreage with low site coverage and high amounts of site permeability. They are often suburban in nature or lie low across the block and often ‘ranch’ or ‘homestead’ style incorporating expansive verandahs. The building forms are simple and roof forms are low pitched.

Dwellings have generous front and side setbacks allowing large trees and vast open lawns. Driveways may be landscaped and sometimes sealed with entry gates. Dwellings sit below the existing tree canopy and are usually visible to the street. Materials are predominantly brick but occasionally timber and newer dwellings often incorporate corrugated iron materials on walls.

In these areas, few indigenous trees remain having been previously cleared for farming. Exotic gardens have been planted and there are often large canopy trees. The streetscapes feature an informal character with little roadside vegetation and are sealed with wide grassy verges.

Garages are integrated into the dwelling form. Sheds and outbuildings can be substantial and sometimes intrude into the foreground or the side off the driveway. Dwellings are to be sited within a generous garden setting allowing a strong landscape character to prevail.

Preferred character statement

Dwellings are sited on moderate to large lots that accommodate a mixture of species, and vast open lawns. New development provides generous front and side setbacks to allow for the retention and continued planting of large trees and open lawns.

New development reflects the low scale of dwellings with verandahs, using simple building forms and low-pitched roofs. Dwellings do not penetrate the existing tree canopy but are visible to the street. Dwellings utilise natural materials and colours that reflect the natural surrounding environment and vegetated landscape setting. The streetscapes feature an informal character which embraces roadside vegetation and wide grassy verges.

Garages and carports are hidden from view, often located behind the line of the front dwelling façade and are integrated with the design of the dwelling. Open, post and wire or post and rail front fencing creates a low and permeable streetscape enabling vegetation to flow across the semi-rural landscape.

Development adjacent to Five Mile Creek front onto this important public space with low, permeable fencing and upper-level surveillance.

**10.5 New residential growth areas**

New residential growth areas are located in the expanded areas of the town to the south and east. Given that these areas do not have an existing residential character, their character will be created through their development over the next 20-30 years.

New Residential Area Subdivision Requirements for these areas are included in **Appendix 2** and should be read in conjunction with Clause 56 of the MRPS and the Infrastructure Design Manual. These aim to provide good orientation for development, a well connected urban structure with a high quality public realm in these areas that reflect the township character of Romsey.



**10.6 Civic and recreation precinct**

This precinct consists of the town’s principal community assets of the Romsey Primary School and the Romsey Recreation Reserve and Golf Course. The development of these sites will continue to be managed by site masterplans.



## 11. IMPLEMENTATION

### 11.1 Overview

Implementation will involve seeking Council's formal adoption of the plan. This will enable commencement of the implementation of the plan. This will include a planning scheme amendment process to implement key policy and strategic directions into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme. Other non-statutory actions will commence subject to Council budget cycles.

### 11.2 Statutory planning

The implementation of the Structure Plan will involve the preparation of a planning scheme amendment to implement a range of actions outlined. The proposed long term changes to the town's zones are shown in **Figure 15**. This will include:

- Applying the IN3Z to future industrial land shown on the corner of Melbourne-Lancefield Road/Greens Lane.
- Applying the PPRZ to all land reserved as public open space.
- Applying the NRZ to all existing land zoned as GRZ and shown on the figure for Housing Change Areas as minimal and incremental change areas.
- Applying the NRZ to all land identified as new growth areas in areas 1 and 2.
- Applying the NRZ to land development as a residential aged care facility at 40 Hutchinsons Lane West.

Rezoning land currently designated as RLZ and FZ to NRZ will be undertaken over time in accordance with the Staging Plan at **Figure 6** with Stages 2 and 3 to commence as part of the first amendment and Stage 4 post 2034.

Changes to overlays in the town are shown in **Figure 16** and include:

- Applying a DPO to land identified as new growth areas in areas 1 and 2 for future residential or industrial use and development.
- Revising DPO15 to reflect the town centre precinct built form objectives and guidelines or include these in a new DDO.
- Applying a DDO in the town centre precinct to reflect the town centre precinct built form objectives and guidelines.

- Removing DPO9 from the Lomandra Estate upon completion of the development.
- Removing DPO9 from the land along Lauder Place.
- Removing the redundant DPO14 from land around Desmond Crescent and Tarrawarra Lane and 25-27 Pohlman Street.
- Revising the controls in DPO14 to facilitate a high quality, higher density residential development on land at 21-23 Pohlman Street, 42-50 Murphy Street and 109A, 115, 125-127 and 131-135 Barry Street.
- Removing DPO15 from the land at 37 Stawell Street.
- Revising or removing DDO18 following the introduction of additional neighbourhood character guidance in the residential schedules and a local planning policy.
- Updating the DCPO1 to apply to all land within the township PSB based on a new development contributions plan.
- Applying a DPO to land shown in areas 4 and 5 currently designated as RLZ as it is rezoned to the NRZ.

The DPO should be applied to land shown in areas 4 and 5 concurrently as it is rezoned to the NRZ. This should be undertaken over time in accordance with the Staging Plan at **Figure 6**.

### 11.3 Municipal Planning Strategy and Planning Policy Framework

Revisions will be made to the Municipal Planning Strategy in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme to reflect the Romsey Township Framework Plan.

Revisions will be made to the Planning Policy Framework to amend the settlement policy for Romsey at Clause 11.01-1L of the MRPS to reflect the structure plan. The structure plan should be included as a policy document in this clause and as a background document at the schedule to Clause 72.08. Clause 15.01-5 of the MRPS will be updated to reflect the five character types for Romsey and detail a preferred future neighbourhood character.

### 11.4 Proposed zone and schedule controls

The Residential Development Framework will be implemented into the MRPS by applying the NRZ and GRZ with accompanying schedules and standard variations

from the residential design guidelines to reflect the preferred neighbourhood character for the five neighbourhood character areas.

### 11.5 Relationship to the building system

To ensure that the requirements of the residential change area and associated residential zone schedule apply to single dwellings, it is important that the planning provisions that apply to residential development flows through to the building system. To enable this to happen, local values that are expressed in residential schedules need to be referenced by Schedule 6 to the Building Regulations which identifies which planning schemes have schedules that specify a local value.

The effect of this is that when a schedule includes Clause 54 variations and is referenced in Schedule 6 to the Building Regulations, a building practitioner assessing a building permit application must use the value in the schedule to the residential zone instead of the value expressed in the relevant building regulation. This applies building requirements on a single dwelling that does not require a planning permit in a residential zone related to the maximum building height and Clause 54 Standards. The following Clause 54 standards are able to be given affect by being specified in a residential zone schedule that is referenced in Schedule 6 of the Building Regulations based on variations for:

- Standard A3 – Minimum street setback.
- Standard A5 – Site coverage.
- Standard A6 – Permeability.
- Standard A10 – Side and rear setbacks.
- Standard A11 – Walls on boundaries.
- Standard A17 – Private open space.
- Standard A20 – Front fences.

Schedule 6 of the Building Regulations as they apply within the Macedon Ranges Shire already references the GRZ and NRZ so it is unlikely that any updates will be required to Schedule 6 to incorporate these two residential zones.

### 11.6 Minimum garden area requirement

It is considered appropriate to retain the minimum garden area requirement as applying to GRZ and NRZ schedules throughout all minimal and incremental

change areas. This will result in the requirement having to be met for all residential planning applications.

### 11.7 Implementation Plan

An Implementation Plan will be prepared that builds on the strategies and actions highlighted throughout the structure plan to provide a framework for delivering the vision for Romsey. The Implementation Plan will be used as a guide to identify Council's role, responsibilities and priority for each recommended action and will be used to monitor and evaluate implementation of the plan.

### 11.8 Council's role

Macedon Ranges Shire Council will play different roles in the implementation of the Romsey Structure Plan project. These will vary between the roles of Planner, Advocate, Partner/ Facilitator, Educator and Regulator. A description of these various roles is provided below.

#### Planner

Develop detailed plans and drawings for construction, and in relation to its urban and social planning responsibilities.

#### Advocate

Represent community needs and interests to Federal and State Governments and the private sector for reform and funding.

#### Partner / Facilitator

Working closely with developers, landowners, residents and businesses to facilitate the outcomes in the Structure Plan.

#### Educator

Provide information to businesses, residents and interest groups.

#### Regulator

Ensure that built form, infrastructure and other elements of the environment meet town planning, building, transport and public health regulations and expectations.



Figure 15: Proposed Romsey Zones

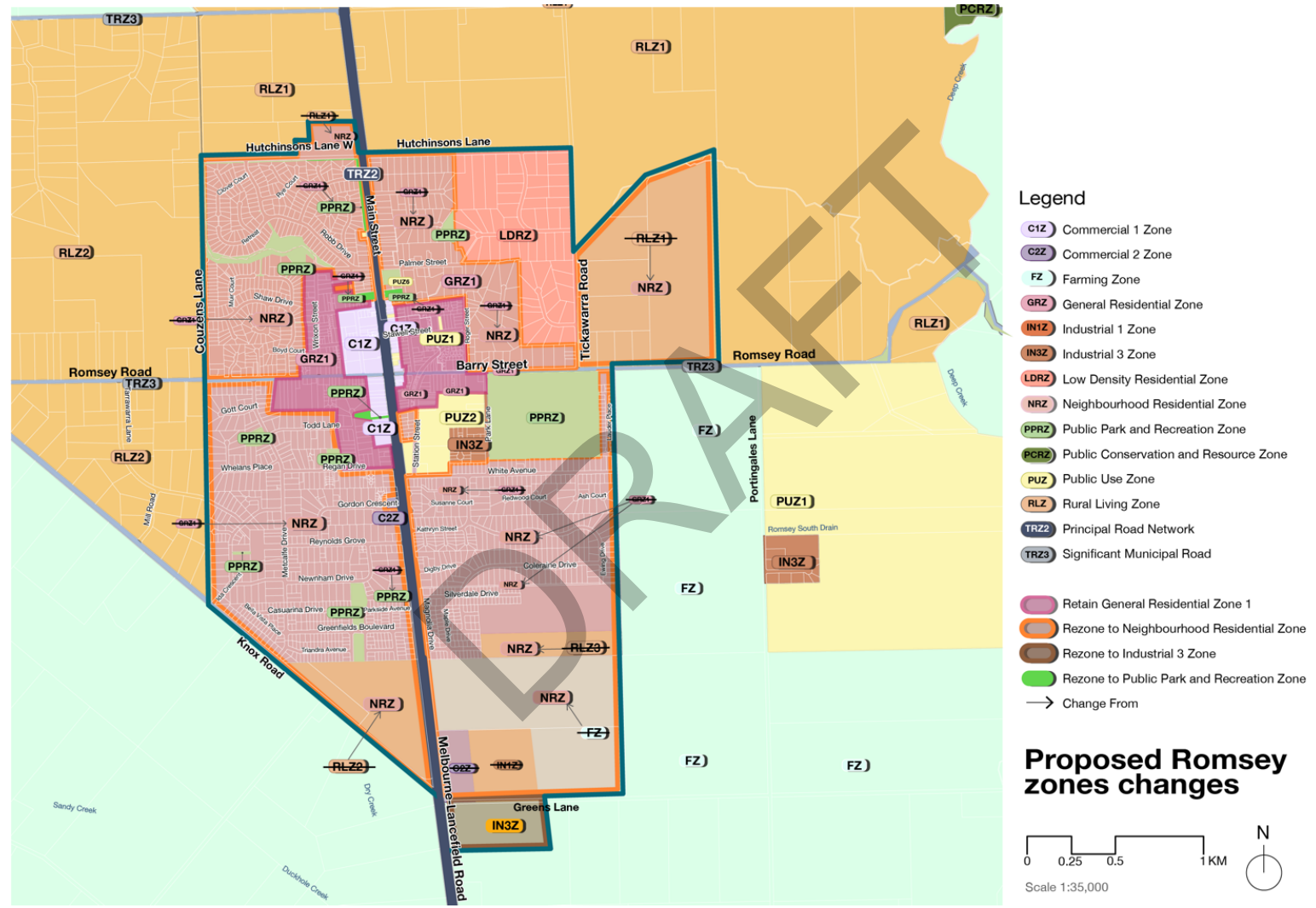
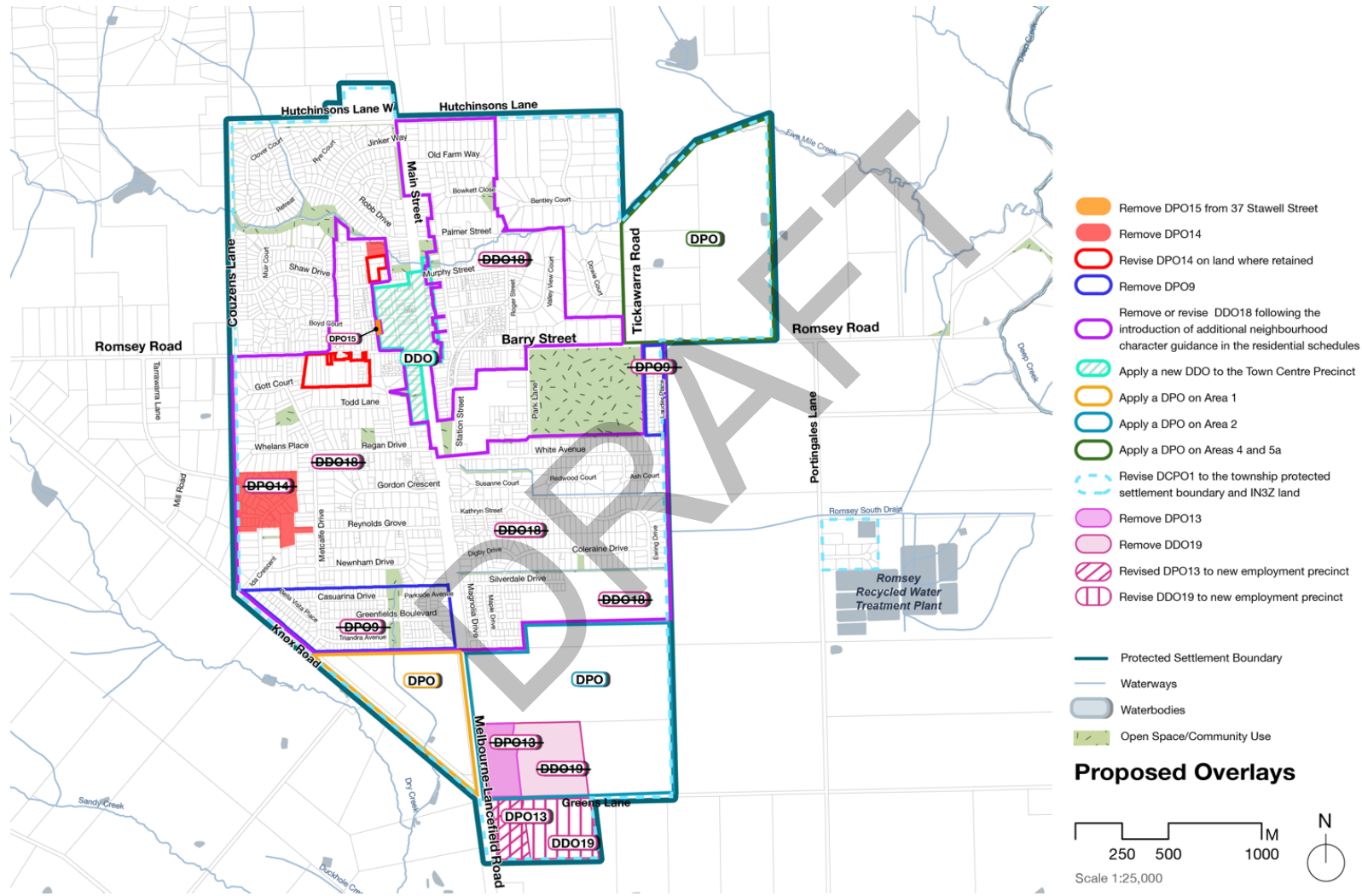


Figure 16: Proposed Romsey Overlay Changes







**Appendix 1: Investigation areas criteria and assessment**

**Table 1** provides an assessment of the seven investigation areas shown in **Figure 17** against ten criteria. It highlights that the top three investigation areas are numbers 1 and 2. These areas perform the best against the ten criteria. Area 3 also performed well but future urban use and development is now precluded as a result of revised advice received in relation to determining the required separation distances in the RRWP.

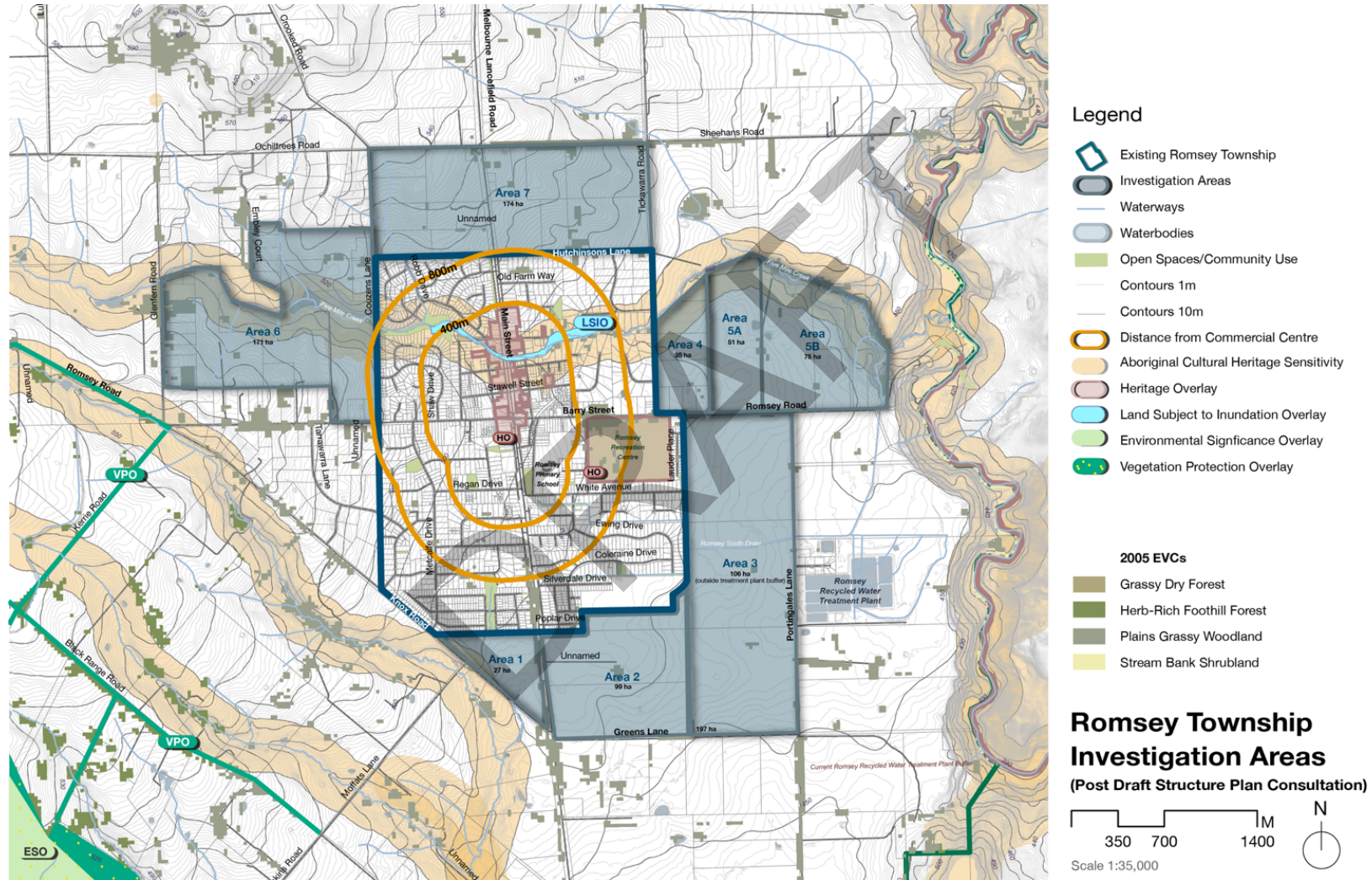
With the exclusion of Area 3, reconsideration of Areas 4 and 5 was required. These areas partially meet criteria for most categories but have significant challenges that could make expansion into these areas more difficult. Their development post 2040 is possible, particularly if the eastern section of Area 5 that is located within the existing buffer area of the RWTP is retained in a rural zone. Hence Area 5 has been split into areas 5A and 5B with Area 5A considered suitable for inclusion in the protected settlement boundary.

Based on this assessment these areas were determined to form the basis for the development of the structure plan. Investigation areas 6 and 7 performed poorly against the criteria and should be removed from any discussion about expansion opportunities.

Criteria	Investigation Area							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1	Consistency with existing strategic directions and policies	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
2	Whether land adjoins the existing town boundary	1	1	1	1	0.5	1	1
3	Minimising land fragmentation and maximising developable land	1	1	1	0	0.5	0	0
4	Capacity to deliver walkable access to shops, and services, and emphasise the town centre	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0
5	Impact of barriers to access	1	1	0.5	0.5	0	0	0
6	Impact on the visual and environmental setting of the township	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
7	Reduce the likelihood of environmental hazards	1	1	0	0.5	0.5	0	0
8	Ability to access utility services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
9	Maintain a rural break between settlements	1	0.5	1	1	0.5	0	0
10	Minimising impact on high quality agricultural land	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0	1
Total		9	8.5	7	6	5	1.5	2

**Table 1: Investigation area assessment criteria scoring**

Figure 17: Romsey Investigation Areas





**Appendix 2: Neighbourhood Character Guidelines and New Residential Area Subdivision Requirements**

Under Separate Cover

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CONTACT

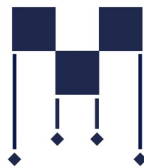
**Paul Buxton**  
Director  
Plan2Place Consulting



**Kellie Marks**  
Principal  
Plan2Place Consulting



Landmark Heritage Pty Ltd



Peter Boyle\_Urban Design+  
Landscape Architecture



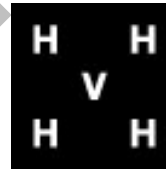
**Tim Nott**

economic analysis + strategy



**obliqua pty ltd**

sustainable land and bushfire management





# Romsey Structure Plan

## Appendix 2

Neighbourhood Character Guidelines  
and New Residential Area Subdivision  
Requirements

May 2024

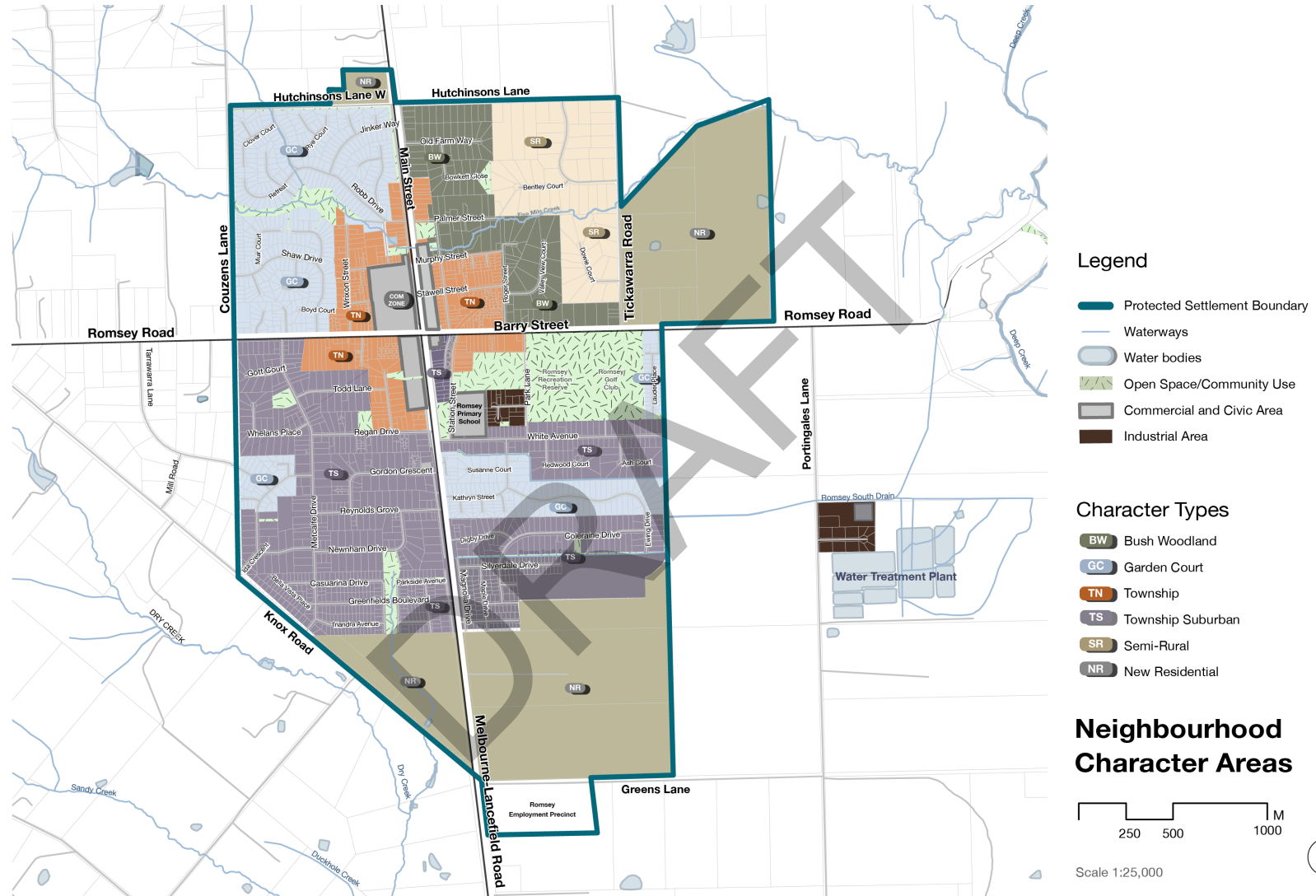


PLAN2PLACE



**Macedon  
Ranges**  
Shire Council





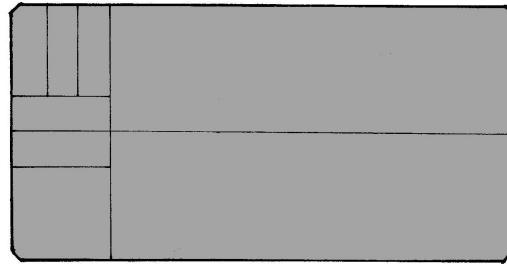


Romsey Township Character Type

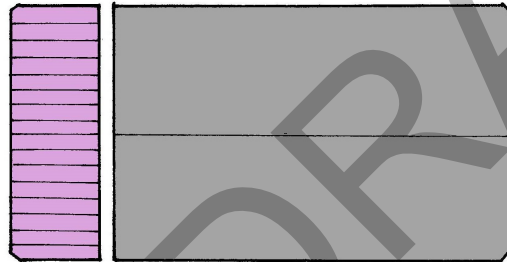
DESIGN ELEMENT EXISTING BUILDINGS	DESIGN RESPONSE	SKETCH
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain and restore where possible, Victorian, Edwardian, Federation, and Interwar period homes.</li> <li>Extensions should respect the scale, massing and materials of the existing dwelling.</li> </ul>	
SUBDIVISION	DESIGN RESPONSE	SKETCH
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discourage subdivision that results in a long single driveway and multiple units/dwellings.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage four-lot and two-lot subdivision of existing lots as shown in the diagram.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The boundaries of new lots should be a minimum of 6 metres from the rear of an existing building and 1 metre from the side boundaries to maintain the setting of the existing dwelling.</li> <li>Minimise new crossovers and driveways to the street locating new driveways and crossovers to the street away from tree roots and drip lines.</li> <li>Subdivisions should respect the existing pattern, layout, and orientation of the locality.</li> <li>Provide all lots with street frontage, private lane frontage, or an identifiable street address.</li> </ul>	

- Provide adequate space around dwellings for effective landscaping.
- Encourage consolidation of sites and the creation of rear lanes.

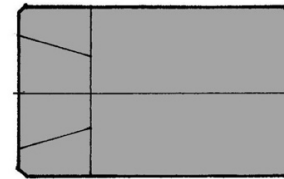
Existing



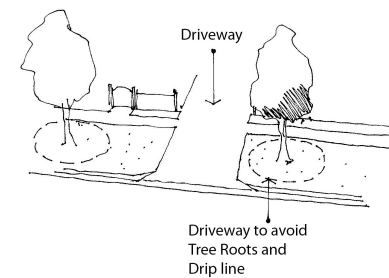
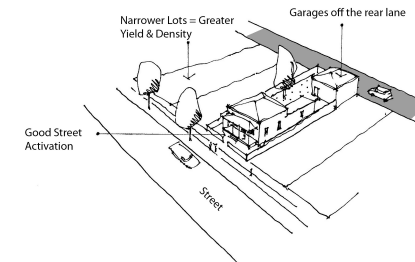
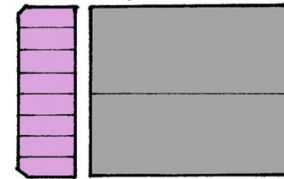
6 lots Consolidated and Subdivided into 16 new 530 square metre lots with rear laneway access



Existing



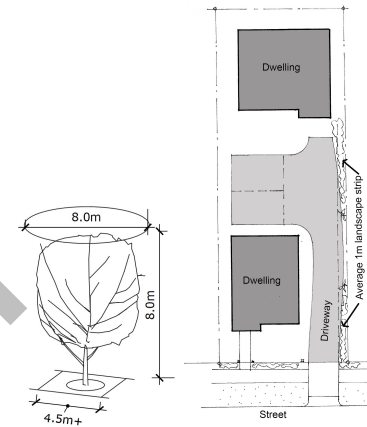
4 Lots Consolidated and Subdivided into 8 x 450 square metre lots with rear laneway access



VEGETATION

- Incorporate plantings that reinforce the garden setting.
- Provide deep soil space of a minimum of 50 square meters with a minimum 4.5 metre dimension for an 8 metres wide and high canopy tree at maturity in the front setback.
- Retain large established trees.
- Maximise permeable areas and encourage planting of species suitable to the local climatic conditions and that do not increase bushfire risk.
- Provide a meandering landscaped strip of between 0.5-1.5 metres along the length of any shared driveway and provide curvilinear driveways in battle axe layouts.
- Consolidate and/or place underground any site services to protect and maximise useable private open space.

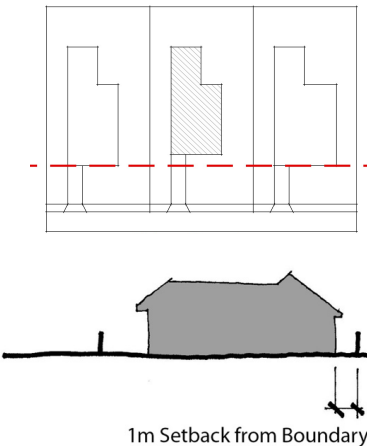
SKETCH



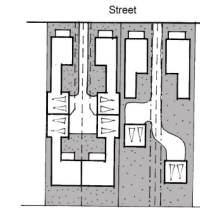
SITING

- The front setback should be no less than the average setback of the adjoining two buildings or no more than 5 metres, whichever is the lesser.
- On corner sites, the front setback should be consistent with the predominant front setbacks of the street that the new dwelling faces.
- Buildings should retain a setback to one side boundary of a minimum 1 metre.

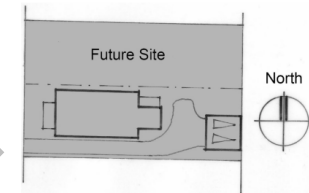
SKETCH



- On narrow lots less than 14 metre width, garages should be located behind the dwelling.



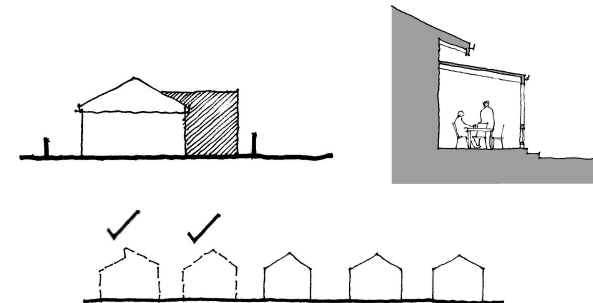
- Locate dwellings on large lots so that future subdivision is possible.



**HEIGHT AND BUILDING FORM** **SKETCH**

Design new buildings to:

- Reflect the predominant style, orientation, proportion and placement of eaves and windows within the streetscape.
- Reflect the roof form and pitch of adjacent dwellings.
- Ensure upper level floor extensions are well integrated into the overall proportions and form of existing building.
- Encourage new dwellings to include a front verandah, deck or balcony to encourage social interaction with people walking past.
- In Minimal Change areas development will be limited to 1-2 storeys.



**MATERIALS AND DESIGN DETAIL**

Design new buildings to:

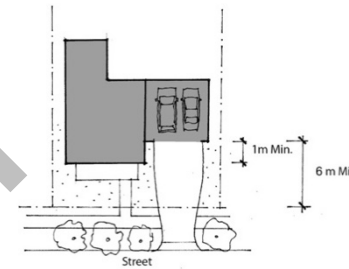
- Use materials that reflect the dominant visual character in the streetscape.
- Avoid period reproduction and utilise contemporary architectural expressions that respect the character of existing buildings in the streetscape.
- Encourage driveway materials that reflect the township character including stone, brick paving, granitic sand and compacted gravel, discouraging bitumen and concrete.

- Encourage light coloured roofing to increase internal energy performance.
- Incorporate quality, durable and sustainable materials that are not energy intensive in development.
- Locate 'site services' where they are not visible from the public realm or apply screening and/or landscaping to conceal them.

**VEHICLE ACCESS AND STORAGE**

**SKETCH**

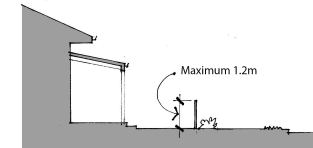
- Minimise the dominance of garages and carparking by placing garages to the rear and utilising shared accessways.
- Where the above is not possible, car storage facilities should be recessive in the streetscape through:
  - a minimum setback of 1 metre from the front façade of the house, or
  - a minimum setback of 6 metres from the front property line and detached from the original structure.
- Encourage vehicle access via any available laneway or rear access to enhance the pedestrian environment of streets.



**FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENT**

**SKETCH**

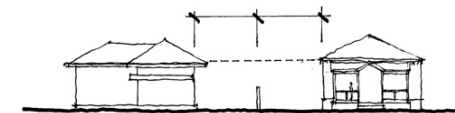
- Encourage the retention of original front fencing where they reflect the building era.
- Provide no front fencing in areas where this predominates.
- Provide open-style or low front fencing to a maximum of 1.2 metres in height.



**HERITAGE PLACES**

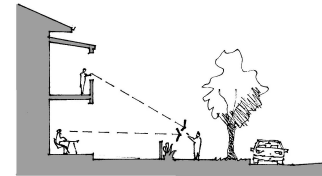
**SKETCH**

- Buildings on lots adjoining or adjacent a Heritage Place or precinct should:
  - Maintain a height for the front walls and building façade sympathetic to any adjoining or adjacent Heritage Place;
  - Provide front and side setbacks consistent with any adjoining or adjacent Heritage Place;
  - Not visually dominate or cause overshadowing of an adjoining or adjacent Heritage Place;
  - Incorporate contemporary interpretations of the wall and roofing materials of an adjoining or adjacent Heritage Place, and
  - Discourage replicas of heritage built form.

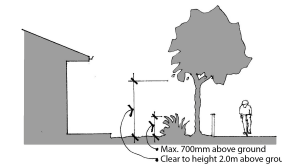


**PUBLIC OPEN SPACE** **SKETCH**

- Provide an active façade, including windows, doors, verandahs or balconies, adjacent or adjoining public open space, or an off-road trail/path to encourage passive surveillance of the public realm.



- Provide low or open style front fencing along boundaries with the public realm, including:
  - A street;
  - Public Open Space; and
  - Off-road bike trails.



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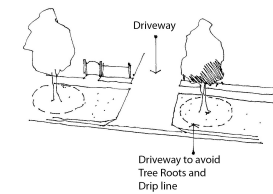
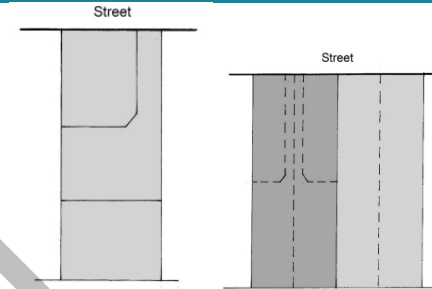
Romsey Township Suburban Character Type

DESIGN ELEMENT DESIGN RESPONSE

SKETCH

SUBDIVISION

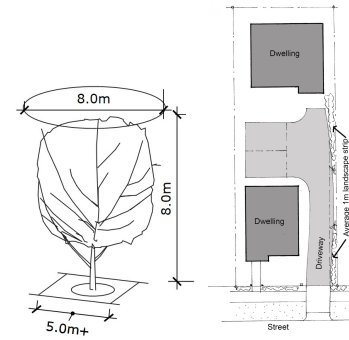
- Discourage subdivision that results in a long single driveway and multiple units/dwellings.
- Encourage four-lot and two-lot subdivision of existing lots as shown in the diagram.
- The boundaries of new lots should be a minimum of 6 metres from the rear of the existing building and 1 metre off the side boundaries.
- Minimise new crossovers and driveways to the street locating new driveways and crossovers to the street away from tree roots and drip lines.
- Ensure subdivision creates all lots with private street or lane frontage or an identifiable street address.
- Ensure subdivision provides space around dwellings for landscaping.
- Where possible new private laneways should be created to facilitate 'rear loading' car access from those lanes.
- New subdivision pattern should reflect the existing form, layout, dimensions and orientation of existing subdivision.



VEGETATION

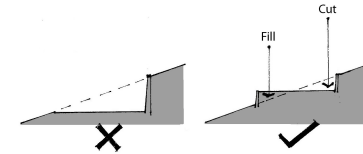
SKETCH

- Retain large, established trees.
- Provide space for a tree in deep soil of a minimum of 50 square metres with a minimum dimension of 5 metres to support an 8 metre wide and high tree canopy at the front and rear of new dwellings enabling 1 tree in the front and 2 trees in the rear.
- Maximise permeable areas and encourage planting of species suitable to the local climatic conditions and that do not increase bushfire risk.
- Provide a minimum width of 1 metre of landscaping along shared driveways and side boundaries and provide curvilinear driveways in battle axe layouts.
- Underground all site services to maximise landscaping areas.



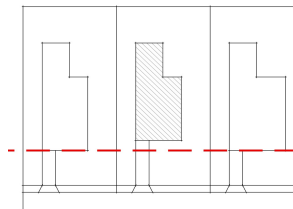
**TOPOGRAPHY/ LANDFORM** SKETCH

- Buildings and access should be designed to follow the contours of the site or step down the site avoiding major excavation works to accommodate dwellings or outbuildings.



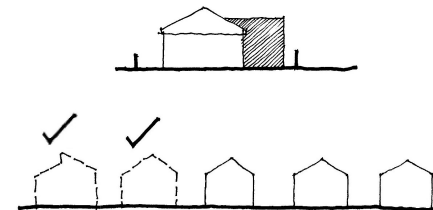
**SITING** SKETCH

- The front setback should be no less than the average setback of the adjoining two buildings.
- On corner sites the front setback should be no less than the average setback of the adjoining building.
- Buildings should reflect the predominant side setbacks in the street, avoiding boundary to boundary development.



**BUILDING FORM** SKETCH

- Ensure extensions integrate with, and do not visually dominate the form of the retained building. Where possible locate extensions behind the existing roof line.
- Ensure upper floor extensions are well integrated into the overall proportions and form of the existing dwelling.
- Reflect the built form proportions and roof form of the streetscape.

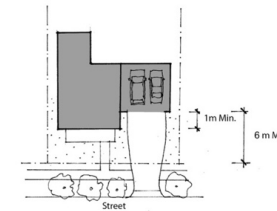


**MATERIALS AND DESIGN DETAIL** **SKETCH**

- Materials should reflect the dominant visual character in the streetscape.
- Use contemporary architectural expression that respects the building era in the streetscape, avoiding period reproduction details.
- Encourage metal and light coloured roofing.
- Incorporate quality, durable and sustainable building materials.
- Locate services, including air conditioning units and other structures, to not be visible from the street through building design, or concealed behind screen or planting.

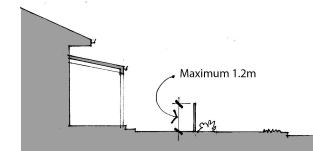
**VEHICLE ACCESS AND STORAGE** **SKETCH**

- Car storage facilities should not dominate the streetscape through careful siting including:
  - Placing the car space or storage facilities at the rear of dwellings,
  - A minimum setback of 1 metre from the front façade of the house, and
  - A minimum setback of 6 metres from the front property line and detached from the original structure.
- Minimise the number of crossovers/driveways to a road.
- Minimise any impact on established street trees and their Tree Protection Zones, including crossovers/driveways.



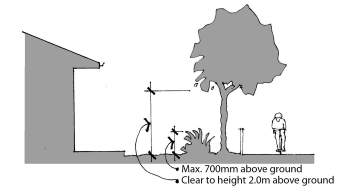
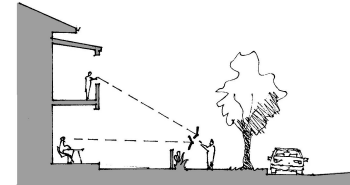
**FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENT** **SKETCH**

- Provide no front fencing in areas where this predominates.
- Provide open-style or low front fencing to a maximum of 1.2 metres.



PUBLIC OPEN SPACE SKETCH

- Provide an active façade, including windows, doors, verandahs or balconies, adjacent to public open space or off-road trail/paths to support surveillance of the public realm.
  
- Provide low or open style front fencing along boundaries with the public realm, including:
  - A street;
  - Public Open Space; and
  - Off-road walking and bike trails.



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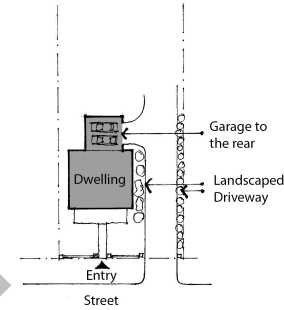
**Garden Court Character Type**

DESIGN ELEMENT DESIGN RESPONSE

**SUBDIVISION**

- The boundaries of new lots should be a minimum of 4 metres from the rear of an existing building and 1 metre from the side boundaries to maintain the setting of the existing dwelling.
- Minimise the size and number of new crossovers and driveways to the street.
- Encourage lot consolidation.
- Subdivisions should respect the existing form, pattern, layout, dimensions and orientation of the locality.
- The front dwelling and its entry should face the street.
- Encourage vehicle access via any available laneway or rear access to enhance the pedestrian environment of streets and reduce the visual prominence of garage doors.

**SKETCH**



**VEGETATION**

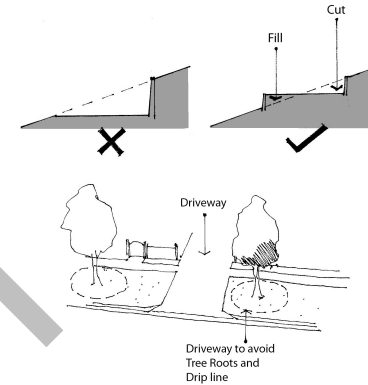
- Retain large established trees and plant new trees with adequate space for Tree Protection Zones.
- Maximise permeable areas and encourage planting of species suitable to the local climatic conditions and that do not increase bushfire risk.
- Provide a metre wide landscaped strip along the length of any shared driveway.
- Consolidate and/or place underground any site services to protect and maximise useable private open space.
- Locate 'site services' so they are not visible from the public realm or apply screening and/or landscaping to obstruct visibility.
- Provide adequate area for deep soil planting including Tree Protection Zones to the front and rear of dwellings.

**SKETCH**

TOPOGRAPHY/  
LANDFORM

- Design new buildings and access to follow the contours of the site or step down the site avoiding major excavation works to accommodate dwellings or outbuildings.

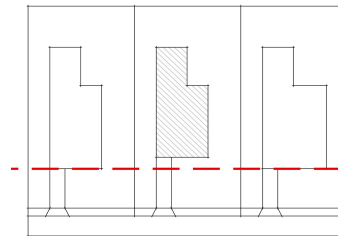
SKETCH



SITING

- Buildings should reflect the predominant side setbacks in the street.
- The front setback should be no less than the average setback of the adjoining two buildings.
- On corner sites, the front setback should be consistent with any adjoining building.
- Buildings should be setback a minimum of 1m from both side boundaries.
- Maximise permeable areas.
- Provide private open space at the rear of the dwelling of 50sqm and minimum dimension of 5 metres.

SKETCH

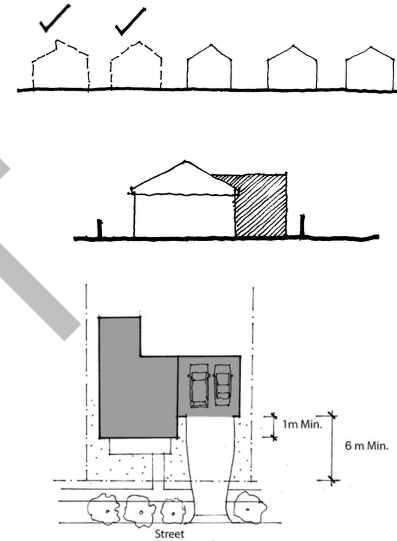




**HEIGHT AND BUILDING FORM**

- Provide variation between each dwelling through roof pitches, window and door placement, materials and façade articulation.
- In Minimal Change areas development will be limited to 1-2 storeys.

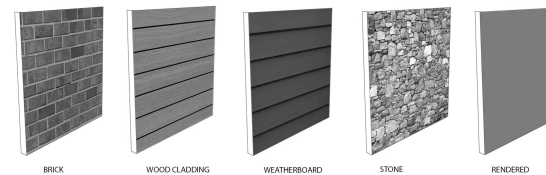
**SKETCH**



**MATERIALS AND DESIGN DETAIL**

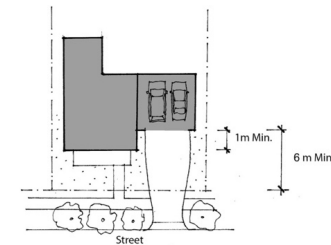
- Materials should reflect the dominant visual character in the streetscape.
- Use materials and colours that reflect the natural surrounding environment avoiding highly reflective materials and colours.
- Encourage light coloured roofing to increase internal energy performance.
- Incorporate quality, durable and sustainable building materials that are not energy intensive in development.

**SKETCH**



**VEHICLE ACCESS AND STORAGE** **SKETCH**

- Ensure car storage facilities are recessive in the streetscape through:
  - a minimum setback of 1 metre from the front façade of the house,
  - a minimum setback of 6 metres from the front property line and detached from the original structure.
- Minimise any impact from crossovers/driveways on established street trees and their Tree Protection Zones.

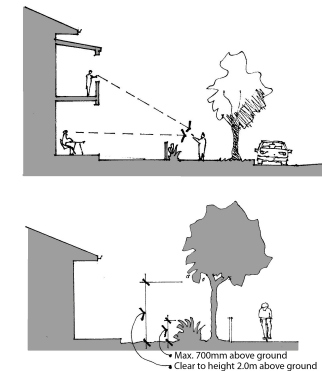


**FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENT** **SKETCH**

- Provide no, low or open style front fencing where this predominates.
- Provide no front fencing in areas where this predominates.

**PUBLIC OPEN SPACE** **SKETCH**

- Provide an active façade, including windows, doors, verandahs or balconies adjacent to public open space or an off-road trail/path to encourage connection to the public realm.
- Provide low or open style front fencing along boundaries with the public realm, including:
  - A street;
  - Public Open Space; and
  - Off-road bike trails.



**Bush Woodland Character Type**

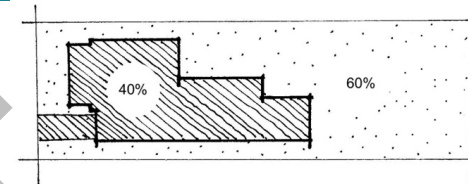
DESIGN ELEMENT	DESIGN RESPONSE	SKETCH
SUBDIVISION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subdivisions should respect the existing form, pattern, layout, dimensions and orientation of buildings in the locality.</li> <li>Minimize the number of crossovers/driveways to a road.</li> <li>Retain lots of a minimum of 800 sqm.</li> </ul>	
VEGETATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide landscaping that includes native canopy trees and understorey.</li> <li>Locate buildings and driveways to incorporate space for the planting of substantial vegetation with any footings outside the tree protection zone.</li> <li>Locate buildings to retain established canopy trees as a dominant feature in the landscape.</li> <li>Trees removed due to development should be replaced with a species of a similar size and habit.</li> </ul>	
TOPOGRAPHY/ LANDFORM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design buildings and access to avoid major excavation by following the contours of the site or stepping down the site to accommodate dwellings or outbuildings.</li> </ul>	
SITING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setback buildings from front and side boundaries to avoid the need to remove remnant vegetation and large canopy trees and to reduce its visibility from the public realm and neighbouring properties.</li> <li>Vehicle crossovers should be limited to one point of access, and avoid impacting existing vegetation, including encroaching on tree protection zones.</li> <li>Design new buildings and landscaping to maximise permeable areas and minimising any paved areas.</li> <li>Provide native or indigenous vegetation alongside driveways to soften their appearance.</li> </ul>	

- Locate vehicle storage facilities and outbuildings a minimum of 1 metre behind the front façade of the associated dwelling, or fully integrated with the design of the dwelling.

**SITE COVERAGE**

**SKETCH**

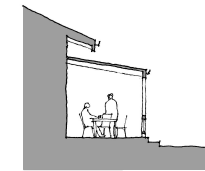
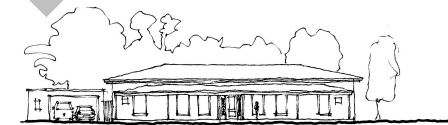
- Ensure site coverage does not exceed 40%.



**BUILDING FORM**

**SKETCH**

- Buildings should not exceed the dominant tree canopy height.
- Building design should complement the horizontal built form of existing dwellings.
- Encourage verandahs and wide eaves to reflect the prevailing rural or bush character.



**MATERIALS AND DESIGN DETAIL**

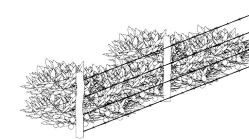
**SKETCH**

- Use materials and colours that respond to the surrounding natural environment.
- Incorporate quality, durable and sustainable materials.
- Conceal services from view from the public realm.



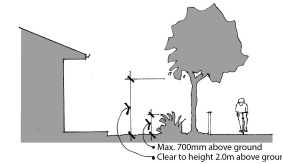
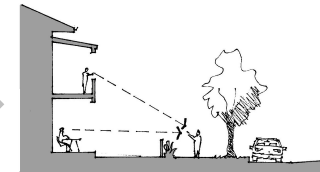
**FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENT** **SKETCH**

- Provide no or low open rural or post and wire style fencing to the front, side and rear boundaries.
- Encourage the use of vegetation as an alternative to fencing where possible.



**PUBLIC OPEN SPACE** **SKETCH**

- Provide façades which include windows, doors, verandahs and/or balconies and verandahs facing public open spaces to encourage connection to these spaces.
- Provide low or open style front fencing along boundaries with the public realm, including:
  - A street;
  - Public Open Space; and
  - Off-road bike trails.



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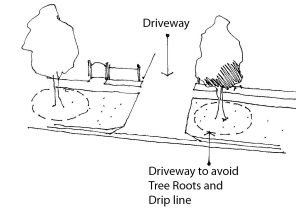
**Semi-rural Character Type**

DESIGN ELEMENT DESIGN RESPONSE

**VEGETATION**

- Provide landscaping that includes canopy trees and shrubs and lawns.
- Locate buildings and driveways to incorporate space for the planting of substantial vegetation with footings outside the tree protection zone.
- Locate buildings to retain established canopy trees.
- Trees which are lost due to any development should be replaced with a similar species and mature size.
- The protection of existing trees, or provision of new or replacement trees, should anticipate the relevant tree protection zones and not increase the bushfire risk.

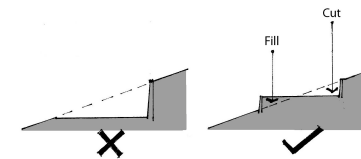
**SKETCH**



**TOPOGRAPHY/  
LANDFORM**

- Locate buildings and access to avoid major excavation works by following the contours or stepping down the site to accommodate dwellings or outbuildings.
- Where deeper excavation is necessary, ensure retaining walls are in rises no higher than 1.2 metres with space for planting in the steps between walls.
- Utilise local materials such as timber, stone or rockwork for retaining.

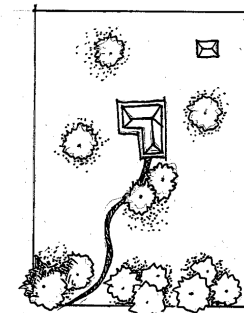
**SKETCH**



**SITING**

- Setback buildings substantial distances from front and side boundaries.
- Limit vehicle crossovers to one point of access, and avoid impacting existing vegetation, including encroaching on tree protection zones.
- Buildings and landscaping should maximise permeable areas, minimising any paved areas and encourage understory vegetation.
- Soften the appearance of driveways through curved design, permeable surfaces and landscaping.
- Vehicle storage facilities and outbuildings should be located a minimum of 1 metre behind the front façade of the associated dwelling, or fully integrated with the design of the dwelling.

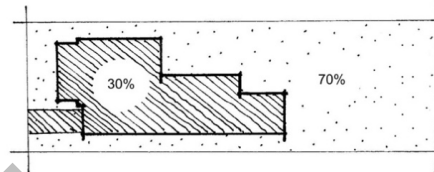
**SKETCH**



SITE COVERAGE

- Ensure site coverage does not exceed 30%.

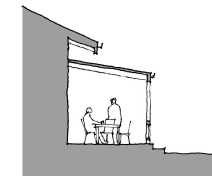
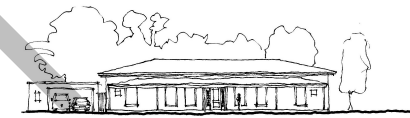
SKETCH



BUILDING FORM

- Buildings should not exceed the dominant tree canopy height.
- Buildings should complement the horizontal built form of existing dwellings.
- Encourage verandahs and wide eaves to reflect the semi rural character.
- Provide wide roof eaves in streetscapes where this is common.

SKETCH



MATERIALS AND DESIGN DETAIL

- Use materials and colours that respond to the surrounding natural environment.
- Incorporate quality, durable and sustainable materials in development.
- Conceal services from viewing from the public realm.

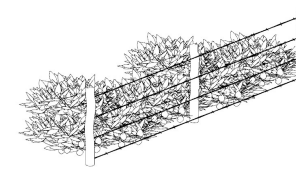
SKETCH





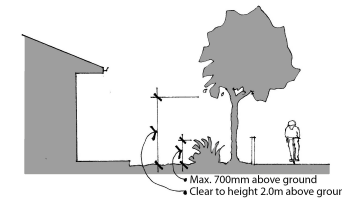
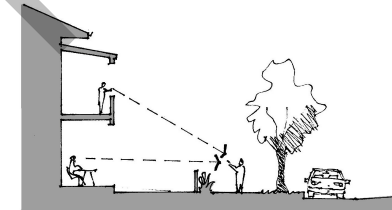
**FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENT** **SKETCH**

- Provide no or low open rural or post and wire style fencing to the front, side and rear boundaries.



**PUBLIC OPEN SPACE** **SKETCH**

- Provide an active façade, including windows, doors, verandahs or balconies, adjacent or adjoining public open space or an off-road trail/path to encourage passive surveillance of the public realm.



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**New Residential Growth Areas**

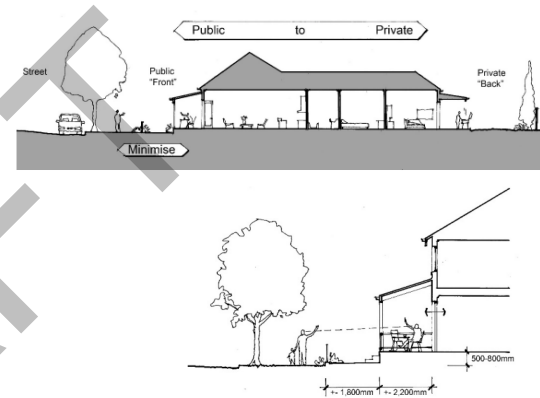
The following table sets out requirements for new subdivision and should be read in conjunction with Clause 56 and the Infrastructure Design Manual (IWM).

DESIGN ELEMENT	DESIGN RESPONSE	SKETCH
URBAN STRUCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure new streets connect to existing streets wherever possible. A minimum requirement is for safe and easy bike and pedestrian connections to existing streets are achieved, even if vehicle connection is limited.</li> <li>Avoid narrow public access ways between dead end streets. If a connection is made to existing streets, the connecting access way should match the width of the existing road reserve.</li> <li>Avoid long curvilinear cul-de-sacs.</li> <li>Where cul-de-sacs are included, they should be straight and no longer than 75 metres.</li> <li>Where cul-de-sac heads are joined, the road reserve width should be maintained for safe walking and cycling access along with "natural surveillance" from adjoining dwellings.</li> </ul>	
SOLAR ORIENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Clause 56.</li> </ul>	
ROAD ORIENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide inter-connected or grid pattern street layouts with connecting roads from north-south to integrate with the existing road network that enhance walking and cycling links into the town centre.</li> </ul>	

- Ensure road reserves of 18-20 metres with kerb to kerb distance of 7.2 - 8 metres, to allow for a traffic lane in each direction, on street parking, WSUD, space for street trees, lighting and footpaths on both sides.
- Where possible, provide rear lanes to new residential areas located on town entries, to reduce the visual impact of driveways and garages, and allow for significant tree planting to enhance the entries to the town.

DWELLING ORIENTATION

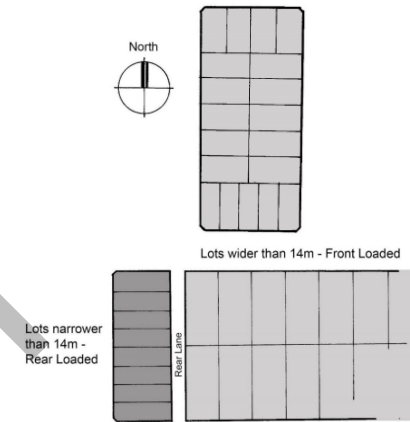
- Ensure new subdivisions provide the opportunity for new dwellings to incorporate a porch or verandah facing a street, and at least one non-bedroom room facing the street with direct access to the verandah.
- Verandahs should be a minimum 2.2 metres in depth (to accommodate a table and four chairs). Verandahs permitted in front setbacks.
- Encourage the design of future dwellings to have private rooms such as bedrooms to the rear, and more public rooms such as living rooms, dining rooms, kitchens and studies to the front of the house.



DRAFT

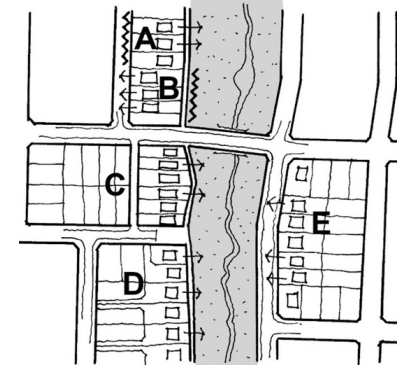
**BLOCK STRUCTURE**

- Provide “end grain” to street blocks to achieve “natural surveillance” of all streets, even those at the “short” end of the street block.
- Ensure north-facing lots are wide enough to enable at least two rooms in a future house to enjoy sunshine.
- Encourage south-facing lots to be narrower than north facing lots (as backyards will enjoy sunshine).
- Provide a rear lane on lots narrower than 14 metres to achieve the removal of driveways from the street, and allow vehicle access from the rear of lots.
- Provide lane widths of 6.5 – 7 metres to prevent parking in lanes and facilitate efficient waste collection.



**PARKS AND LANDSCAPING**

- Ensure lots do not back onto parks, other public open spaces or streets. (see diagrams A and B)
- A variety of techniques should ensure that lots and future dwellings address and have a positive connection to a park or street .
- Ensure the siting and layout of lots adjacent to parks and public open spaces to utilize either:
  - A rear lane along an end-block with footpath frontage (see diagram C);
  - Side and rear access battle-axe lots fronting the footpath when there is a street on the opposite side of the park (see diagram D); or
  - Lots fronting a park across a street (see diagram E).



## LOT SIZE

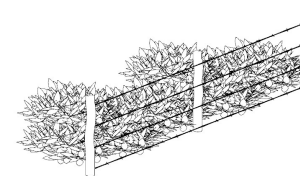
- Provide a variety of lot sizes across the subdivision including 600 sqm (40%), 850 sqm (40%) and 1500 sqm (20%) lots with greater density such as townhouse development adjacent to parks and reserves.

## PUBLIC REALM PLANTING

- Ensure the provision of consistent street trees no greater than 12 metres apart to both sides of the street, footpath on both sides of the street, street lighting and informal swale drains to build on the historical township character.

## RURAL INTERFACE

- Provide a hard urban edge at the rural interface with urban development well setback from a perimeter road providing a defensible space from bushfire attack consistent with the CFA guidance – Design Guidelines: Settlement Planning at the bushfire interface, 2020.
- Ensure residential development is sited and designed to protect community amenity, human health and safety adjacent to industrial and agricultural uses with potential adverse off-site impacts.
- Improve the township entrance and township/rural interface when viewed from Melbourne-Lancefield Road/Knox Road by:
  - Avoiding high solid fencing along the township/rural interface.
- Providing post & wire fencing of 1.2 metres with planting and landscaping where rear boundaries of lots are proposed along the township/rural interface.



Community Submissions to Budget 2024-25 with Officer Responses

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
6	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Installation of Security Cameras to increase safety for women and girls.	Council's Electronic Visual Surveillance Policy 2015 acknowledges the importance of using electronic visual surveillance to promote public safety and discourage criminal activity. While Council acknowledges positive impact on the participation of women and girls in sport by increasing safety measures, it also strives to strike a balance between the need for such surveillance and the privacy rights of individuals, noting that security cameras only partially deter such activity, and are primarily used as evidence following an incident. For monitoring behaviour during gaming activities, the club, league, or association may wish to consider hiring a professional to create recordings of games which can then be used to review any inappropriate interactions or incidents, and can be done in compliance with relevant legislation. It is important to carefully consider the deterrent effects and risk to individual safety against the privacy implications of monitoring and surveillance systems in the public domain.	N
7	Incomplete Survey	Incomplete Survey		N
8	Upgrade to Council Facilities	New Clubhouse for Riddells Creek Tennis Club	Several capital projects have been identified for the Riddells Creek Recreation Reserve. Officers suggest to develop a master plan for the reserve, taking into consideration development in the area prior to progressing significant new works at the Reserve. The master plan will provide Council with priority guidance on project development. It is recommended that project funding be withheld until the master plan is finalised.	N
9	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Request for Tennis Hit Up Wall	There are currently no approved strategic documents from Council that support the placement of a hit-up wall at Tylden. Installing hit-up walls may pose safety concerns due to the risk of individuals, particularly children, climbing or jumping on them and causing them to collapse. While improved construction techniques exist, hit-up walls remain a less desirable element in open spaces due to historical safety concerns and the required land area for the hard surface and wall itself.	N
13	New Infrastructure - Walking Paths	Pedestrian Path along Lauriston Reservoir Road to Kyneton Railway Station	Since the adoption of the Shire-wide Footpath Plan in 2018, Council has spent close to \$4 million on the delivery of footpaths as part of our capital works. The endorsed Council Shire-wide Footpath Plan undertakes assessment of any new footpath requests and prioritise them based on a variety of criteria that includes: 1. The number of pedestrians using the area 2. The type of pedestrians (e.g. children, parents/carers, elderly) 3. The surrounding facilities such as schools, hospitals, aged care facilities and residential areas 4. Whether the location is included in the Walking & Cycling Strategy, network and mobility studies, or other planning strategies for land development 5. Type of road (e.g. arterial, sub-arterial, distributor or residential) 6. Whether the location connects to other footpaths and/or public transport. Currently the footpath along Lauriston Reservoir Road to Kyneton Railway Station from either Harpers Lane or Rogers Drive is not listed as a high priority within Kyneton township. If a footpath request is assessed as having a high priority, it will then be listed in our future capital works program for funding consideration, noting that these projects are also prioritised against all other projects region-wide on an annual basis. Council officers have previously been successful in reducing the nearest section of Lauriston Reservoir Road to Kyneton Railway station to 60 km/h and will continue their efforts to request the Department of Transport and Planning to consider further speed reduction on the remaining section of Lauriston Reservoir Road to Rogers Drive from 80 km/h to 60 km/h.	N
14	New Infrastructure - Walking Paths	Connecting walking paths for Kyneton and connection from town to town	Refer to Submission 13	N
15	New Infrastructure - Traffic Bridge	Traffic Bridge for Edgecombe Street	The ongoing Kyneton Movement Network Study will examine the timeline for this bridge based on future traffic growth. From a traffic and engineering perspective, this bridge is not currently required until more development occurs in Kyneton South. Part of the bridge construction costs will be collected from development contributions as this occurs.	N
16	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Improvements to IR Robertson Reserve	The draft Macedon Ranges Community Equestrian Plan is in the final stages of development, and improvements to the reserve should be considered in relation to the plan, and held until the actions within it are finalised and adopted by Council. With regards to access to materials to improve the all weather roads within this reserve, officers are supportive of the request to provide \$8,000 worth of material since the clubs are happy to spread them. This will be allocated from the Maintenance budget.	Y - included in Business As Usual budget.

Survey Submissions

NB: Submission ID numbers relate to valid submissions received. Test submissions from officers have been removed.

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
17	General Feedback	Rates too high	Submission is noted. Council rates are a crucial aspect of maintaining essential services and infrastructure in our community. Macedon Ranges Shire Council rates increases have been in line with the State Government Rate Cap each year since its introduction. We acknowledge that rate increases can impact residents, and we continuously strive to find a balance between providing necessary services and considering the financial burden on our community.	N
18	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Upgrades Woodend Bowling Club Clubhouse	The planning and design process for this project was completed in March 2023, and included access improvements and fixture/ fittings upgrades. The proposed work has an estimated cost of approximately \$500k, and aligns with Council's Disability Action Plan. While the social rooms condition rating is average, the building remains fit for purpose in its current condition, and upgrades will be considered as part of the building renewal program in future budget cycles.	N
19	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Construction of canopy over the synthetic bowling green to provide year-round bowling	The Gisborne Bowling Club is located on Crown land with a DEECA Section 16 lease in place with the Club. The Club have been seeking support to construct the canopy for some time, noting that the initial funding scope request for the current synthetic bowling green project also had the canopy included. However, due to the high cost of this part of the project, the canopy was excluded from the synthetic green's implementation. Council's Sport and Active Recreation Strategy does not identify this canopy as a high priority need, however, it does outline collaboration with Bowls Victoria, and continuing to encourage club development and support initiatives as required.	N
20	New Facilities	New sports facilities for Gisborne and New Gisborne to accommodate population growth	Funds have been allocated in the 2024/25 budget to undertake a site feasibility study for the possible Gisborne skate park relocation. With the recent adoption of the Ross Watt master plan, this will guide the future development/improvement of this site, and included in the 2024-25 budget is funding to develop concept and detailed design plans for two new tennis courts with LED lighting for this site. User groups at Sankey Reserve have not indicated any intention of installing an electronic scoreboard at this time, noting that provision of scoreboards are a club responsibility at this point in time. Officers have identified the need to address drainage at Sankey Reserve, however any surface works to existing Gisborne sports ovals (Sankey & Gardiner) would need to be scheduled once the Sports Precinct ovals are available for use so that existing club activities could be transferred to that venue whilst works are being undertaken.	Y - various
21	New Position	Employee full time community resiliency advocate	During the 2023/24 year, Council made operational changes to our team, including the inclusion of two permanent Recovery staffing positions in the Emergency Management and Recovery unit.	Y - ongoing funding approved during year, included in budget.
22	Upgrade to infrastructure	Upgrade northern section of Jeffrey's Street Woodend	Council officers met with this submitter and other residents on Jeffreys St in August 2023 with some councillors in attendance to discuss the issues raised. Short term measures such as cleaning of the open drain running along the Pony Club, repair of the turning circle at the end of the road and reinstatement of crushed rock in the informal car park have been completed. In addition, a civil engineering consultant was appointed in September, where the field survey has been completed in October and they are now working towards a draft concept design to examine the other aspects as described by the submitter. Once the concept design is completed in January/February 2024, the community will be consulted.	N
23	General Feedback	Management of road maintenance, increase car parking, review the land/property development to avoid VCAT and focus on Gisborne.	Council annually manages and monitors the road maintenance budget as part of the budget process. Data suggests that there are satisfactory parking spaces in townships, albeit not always directly in front of desired shops; however, parking is available nearby within walking distance. Concerns regarding multi-story building approvals have been acknowledged. Additionally, feedback regarding Council providing funding for public murals has been noted, along with the suggestion of Council increasing its focus on Gisborne.	N
24	Upgrade to Facilities	New Perimeter fencing at Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve	The Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve, situated on Crown land, is governed by a DEECA committee of management. The replacement of the existing oval fence is expected to be addressed in the ongoing Lancefield Park Master Plan review. However, the master plan is still in the early stages of consultation and research and is not anticipated to be endorsed until mid-2024. The officer recommends reconsidering funding for the replacement of the oval fence after the Master Plan is finalised and adopted.	N

Survey Submissions



ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
25	New Facilities	Fenced/enclosed dog park for Macedon Ranges Shire	Whilst the Gisborne Fields landscape plan does highlight a section of land (which Council is in the process of acquiring that could possibly be the site of a dog park), this use requires confirmation. Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-25 does highlight the community's desire for enclosed dog parks, and also acknowledges that further work still needs to be done (via Council's Open Space Strategy) to identify suitable locations for the most effective development of purpose-built dog parks in the shire.	N
26	New Infrastructure - Walking Paths	Connect footpaths at Station Road	The requested pedestrian crossing point over Station Road falls within the jurisdiction of the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) since Station Road is a main arterial. Council officers will seek to advocate to DTP for their consideration for further funding by the State. There are alternative crossing points at nearby locations under Station Road along Jacksons Creek, although officers note they are not direct. The suggestion by the submitter of a location below Station Road runs the risk of inundation during high flows on the creek.	N
27	Domestic Animal Management	Permanently restrain cats to property	Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan states that we will consider 24 hour restriction for cats in the next plan, due in 2026. Our Environment team is already conducting cat trapping on Council land as issues are identified.	N
28	Domestic Animal Management	Requesting fair treatment for registered dog breeders while prioritising action against unregistered breeders in the area who don't follow ethical guidelines.	Council officers respond equitably to complaints from the community and address issues with breeders in line with laws that are in place, regardless of the number of animals or the registrations of the breeder.	N
29	Domestic Animal Management & Signage	Provide signage and increase patrols of animal off lead areas in Kyneton	The dog off lead areas will be reviewed in 2024 and will undergo community consultation at that time. This submitters specific concerns were addressed directly in November 2023.	N
30	New Infrastructure - Walking Paths	New cycle/walking track from Kyneton Saleyards along Redesdale Road connecting Black Hill Reserve	Since the adoption of the Shire-wide Footpath Plan in 2018, Council has spent close to \$4 million on the delivery of footpaths as part of our capital works. Under the Shire wide Footpath Plan or the Walking and Cycling Strategy this track has not been identified as a high priority route. This priority will be reassessed again in the near future as more development occurs in the area. Although Council promotes tourism in the area where ensuring connectivity of cycle and footpaths to link key attractions and town centres is essential, at this stage Black hill Reserve is not deemed as a key attractor. If the project were prioritised on reassessment, tree removal would be identified through the design phase, an arborist report would determine the best approach to protecting trees during construction or any related works.	N
31	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Lighting for South Gisborne Tennis Club	Funds have been allocated in the 2024-25 budget to undertake LED lighting upgrades at Gilligan Reserve, South Gisborne. The budgeted works are reliant on Council successfully applying for and receiving a grant for the project.	Y
32	Domestic Animal Management	Barking dogs and pet owner responsibilities	A comprehensive pet ownership communications plan was launched in March 2024 - Barking dogs is one of the topics included in the plan to help support improved outcomes in the community through responsible pet ownership.	N

Survey Submissions

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
33	Business and Tourism	Support with mental health program for local business, program to track foot traffic, new events and Christmas decorations	<p>Officers have summarised responses to the variety of proposals below.</p> <p>* RESET day 24 - Shire-wide A reset day mirroring this bid, was held in October 2023. It was funded via a state government mental wellbeing grant. Funding for a 2024 event may be possible through Council's existing events grants program or via grant funding options beyond Council, including the original mental wellbeing funding program or the State government's Business Groups Flood Recovery Fund that other local business groups have successfully applied for in 2023.</p> <p>* Instant Local - Shire wide This is a worthy private enterprise concept. It is best pitched to local businesses/business groups and the market will decide it's value to them. The Economic Development team are able to support promotion via the Business E-News and the quarterly BATAs/Industry Groups Forums hosted by the team</p> <p>* Oktoberfest Event - Shire wide This request can be referred to Events and Festivals Grant program.</p> <p>* Xmas Fund Festival - Kyneton This is a worthy project/concept. All proposals of this kind are being directed to the existing funding opportunities presented via the Community Grants and Events Grants programs.</p> <p>* Rugby Macedon Ranges - Shire wide As this submission appears to be seeking equipment grant funding, officers suggest the group refers to Sport &amp; Recreation Victoria's club equipment grants programs, which are better suited to this type of request. It should be noted that at this point in time, the group is not making use of Council's sporting reserves.</p>	N
34	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Drainage for pétanque club building and new design/works to club building.	The drainage issues will be included as part of the 2024-25 budget, including design investigations work undertaken by the Engineering team. Options will be assessed for a preferred solution which will be costed and be part of future budgets.	Y - included in Business As Usual budget.
35	Upgrade to infrastructure - kerbside drainage	Improve kerbside drain sections in Brady Road (including installation of pipes and shallow drain) to assist with residents maintaining road side	<p>The open swale drain system on Brady Road was approved as a part of the initial private development for the area where Council has not altered the condition of the nature strip since this development.</p> <p>It is expected that residents maintain their nature strip by regular mowing, edging turf, weeding and picking up litter. Although it can be challenging for some residents, Council does not carry out maintenance of residential nature strips.</p> <p>Alternatively residents are able to alter the nature strip in front of their property, with low-maintenance approaches to the traditional grassed nature strip that are in keeping with our shire's natural environment, as per Council's Nature Strip Policy.</p> <p>Changing the drainage system using underground pipes on Brady Road has been assessed as a lower priority for Council when compared with urgent and high priority projects of this type within 2024-25.</p>	N
36	New idea	Air monitoring station for each town and program.	Monitoring and reporting of air quality across the state is the responsibility of the EPA under Federal National Environment Protection Council Act 1994, administered by DEECA, rather than a local government responsibility. More information on monitoring and reporting can be found on EPA's website.	N
37	Domestic Animal Management	Program for outside cat rung so cats don't roam.	Council will consider this option in then next review and update of Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan.	N
38	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Upgrade of the Woodend Golf Club car park.	Located on Crown land for which Council is committee of management, the club has a lease for this site. Given the location of the car park area to several mature trees, formalisation of drainage and car park surface involving ground disturbance will likely be limited (due to tree protection zones).The car parking and drainage issues will be investigated in the 24/25 financial year and options will be assessed for affordability and functionality before a business case can be put forward for future years' budgets.	Y
39	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Repair of tennis Court at Bullengarook	This site has several identified capital projects situated on Council land. Officers recommend the development of a master plan for the Bullengarook Recreation Reserve be undertaken. The master plan is intended to offer priority guidance to the Council. The officer's recommendation is that the creation of a master plan is the priority for this site at this point in time, and progressing this will be investigated.	N

Survey Submissions

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
40	Domestic Animal Management	Affordable and discounted desexing of animals	A cat desexing program for vulnerable residents within the Shire is being developed as part of our DAMP Action Plan. It is expected to launch in 2024.	N
41	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Additional funds available at Tony Clark Reserve to deliver female friendly facilities and oval drainage works.	In the 2023-24 budget, Council allocated funding for the development of a concept design aimed at creating female-friendly upgrades to the change rooms at Tony Clarke Reserve. Once finalised Council officers will be in a position to identify the needs of the site and budget accordingly to deliver the project. The construction phase is recommended to be included in future years budgets, once costs are known. It's noteworthy that Tony Clarke Oval had a sand slit drainage system installed four years ago. Currently, we are awaiting costings to add additional sand grooves to enhance the performance of this drainage system. These improvement works will be funded through our operating budget dedicated to oval maintenance.	N
42	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Funding to support 2023 Gilbert Gordon Master Plan	This submission is in support of several recommended actions contained in the 2023 Gilbert Gordon Oval Master Plan. Council officers have had initial discussions with WHFNC regarding installing an electronic scoreboard, as this is a club responsibility, however there has been no indication of likely installation timeline. New social rooms are listed as a medium priority in the master plan and include new netball change rooms. Council have currently funded delivery of the new netball courts as a priority. Beautification works around Buffalo Stadium will be reviewed following the outcomes of the Woodend Racecourse Reserve Master Plan.	N
43	Botanical Gardens	Identification of trees in Council Botanical Gardens	Funds have not been allocated in the 2024-25 budget for this initiative, although officers acknowledge its potential benefits for all three botanic gardens and that engraving machines play a vital role in creating labels and signs for plants, trees, and various features in the Botanic Gardens, enhancing the visitor experience by aiding in species identification and education. The appointment of new roles to support Council's premier parks including the Botanic Gardens across the shire will support a coordinated approach with Friends groups to contribute to a cohesive and well-managed botanical experience, ultimately enhancing visitor satisfaction and educational value across the various garden locations. Officers will continue to work with the Friends of Kyneton Botanic Gardens to seek grant or other funding to support this project.	N
44	Upgrade to Council Facilities & Infrastructure	Improvement works to Tony Clarke Reserve, Footpath along Honour Avenue, Improved facilities at Clifford Reserve and Footpath Crossing from Ash Wednesday Park to opposite side of Smith Street	Council allocated funding in its 2023-24 budget to undertake a concept design for a female friendly upgrade of the change rooms at Tony Clarke Reserve, which is also likely to include additional storage space. Once finalised Council officers will be in a position to identify the needs of the site and budget accordingly to deliver the project. The construction phase is recommended to be included in future years budgets, once costs are known. Improvements were undertaken on the change pavilion at JD Clifford reserve 2017. In terms of footpath requests for Avenue of Honour, there is an existing granitic footpath on one side of this street. The Shire wide Footpath Plan did not identify further footpath works for this street, with the nearby Bruce St listed as high priority in Macedon.	N
45	General Feedback	Allocation of additional funds to Romsey for walking paths and natural assets.	1. Since the endorsement of the Shire-wide Footpath Plan (2018), Council has delivered several footpath projects within Romsey including sections of Mahoneys Road, Merrifield Street, Station Street, Sutherlands Road, Richardson Street, Southbourne Road, Racecourse Road, Bolithos Roads, Melvins Road and Main Road. The Plan has also identified some high-priority footpaths within Riddells Creek, which will seek future funding for the next few financial years. There is also the draft final Riddells Creek Movement Network Study which underwent public consultation during March 2024 to seek community input on the top 30 recommendations shortlisted for future delivery.	N

Survey Submissions

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
46	General Feedback	Requesting enhancements to Riddells Creek streetscapes, including amenities to support tourism and attract new businesses, such as improving facilities at the Rail Trail start/end point, hosting events, adding seating, improving signage, addressing traffic crossings, enhancing Lions Park, and upgrading or adding accessible toilets as needed.	The 2014 Walking and Cycling Strategy identifies a walking path in Riddells Creek between Racecourse Lane and Sutherlands Road as a medium priority. Since the endorsement of the Shire-wide Footpath Plan (2018), Council has delivered several footpath projects within Riddells Creek including sections of Mahoneys Road, Merrifield Street, Station Street, Sutherlands Road, Richardson Street, Southbourne Road, Racecourse Road, Bolithos Roads, Melvins Road and Main Road. Walkability is one of the key topics currently being investigated in the ongoing Riddells Creek Movement Network Study. The community were consulted during February to March 2024 on the draft recommendations which will include proposed improvement to selected locations. The final study will be endorsed in middle of 2024. At this stage, 1. this suggestion is one of the improvements being investigated by the Study described above. 2. this suggestion has been listed as high priority under the Shire-wide Footpath Plan and will be part of future footpath projects, subject to funding 3. this suggestion has been listed as high priority under the Shire-wide Footpath Plan.	N
47	Upgrade to Council Facilities	The Romsey Football Netball Club has received a \$15,000 grant for court resurfacing but seeks Council support to cover a \$13,500 shortfall, emphasising the club's vital role in the community and the need for top-quality facilities to accommodate the growing demand for netball in Romsey.	Officers agree with the priority of this work, and funds have been allocated in the 2024-25 budget to undertake the court resurfacing works, contingent on the proposed co-contribution from the Romsey Football Netball Club.	Y
48	New Infrastructure - Walking Paths	Improving the walkability of Riddells Creek, addressing dangerous entry/exit points for non-vehicle users, and enhancing pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure through projects like a bridge over Riddells Creek, a shared path on Sutherlands Rd, and another on Southbourne Rd are essential to mitigate the negative impact of busy main roads on pedestrians and non-vehicular residents/visitors.	Walkability is one of the key topics currently being investigated in the ongoing Riddells Creek Movement Network Study. There is also the draft Riddells Creek Movement Network Study which underwent public consultation during March 2024 to seek community input on the top 30 recommendations shortlisted for future delivery. Officers hope that the Riddells Creek community have provided input on these recommendations and help finetune the final recommendations. The final study will be presented to Council for endorsement by the end of the 2023-24 financial year.	N

Survey Submissions

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
49	General Feedback	The Romsey community requires better services and facilities for young families, including improved access to kindergarten, council-run activities, a local swim school, and safer playgrounds, while also addressing the need for revitalising empty buildings, enhancing the town's appearance, and improving walking tracks, paths, and main roads.	Council allocated \$25,000 in the 22/23 budget and an additional \$25,000 in the 23/24 budget for the review and development of the Playground Strategy. This strategy encompasses various facets of play, including physical, cognitive, social, sensory, and sustainable aspects. It is expected to adhere to the best practices in design principles and processes, with a particular emphasis on accessibility and the promotion of diverse play experiences whenever feasible. Consultation with the community has recently occurred to inform the strategy. The draft strategy will be released for public consultation seeking further feedback from the community once finalised. Officers have been in contact with owners of vacant properties in Romsey on multiple occasions to discuss plans and opportunities. Officers will continue to work with property owners, existing businesses and potential new businesses to improve the use of available retail space. Council currently operates a two-room kindergarten and Maternal and Child Health service in Romsey and is working with the State Government on the construction of a three-room kindergarten in Lancefield. Once complete, it is expected that the new kindergarten will help to alleviate enrolment pressures on Romsey. Council is working with Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health and other providers to increase children, youth and family services in Romsey. Council's Youth Services Unit continues to plan and deliver holiday programs and other activities for young people in Romsey.	N
50	New Infrastructure - Footpath	New footpath along Bent Street, Macedon	The section of Bent Street nearer to Carrington has an existing granitic footpath which is well-used by pedestrians and in previous discussions, some residents are happy with this surface material. At this stage, within the Shire wide Footpath Plan, Bruce Street has been identified as another high-priority for footpath but not the remaining southern section of Bent Street.	N
51	Council Facilities Upgrade	The Macedon Ranges Bowling Club (Inc) seeks an allocation from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council 2024/25 Budget for the production of a detailed design for the upgrade of our current Bowling Clubrooms.	Officers agree that this project should be progress, and funds have been allocated in the 2024-25 budget to progress concept design to detailed design and documentation.	Y
52	Council Facilities Upgrade	The 1st Riddells Creek Scout Group's hall (a Council asset) is in need of upgrading/renewing the facilities to comply with current building codes and standards to provide efficient operations to the community users.	Officers agree that the end of life renewal is required. Funds have been allocated in the 2024-25 budget to undertake works that include the following; sewer connection (construction) and carpark and solar light design.	Y
53	General Feedback	Greater support for seniors in Macedon regions.	This submission is noted. Council continues to support senior groups across the shire with various programs.	N
54	Upgrade to Council Facilities & Infrastructure	The Romsey Tennis Club urgently needs support for the resurfacing of its deteriorating courts due to safety concerns and is seeking prioritisation from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to ensure the facility remains open and safe for the community.	The Romsey Sports Precinct Master Plan endorses the resurfacing of the existing five tennis courts, and Council officers concur that the court fences are currently in a state of disrepair. This project has been included in the 2024-25 budget. The project is reliant on a contribution from both the Romsey Tennis Club and Lancefield and Romsey Bendigo Community Bank.	Y

Survey Submissions

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
56	Botanical Gardens	The Friends of the Botanic Gardens are requesting the creation of a paid leadership position dedicated to the improvement of the Shire's three Botanic Gardens, with the power to implement master plan objectives, along with an assistant horticulture apprentice; funding for the Kyneton Botanic Gardens' entrance as per the approved master plan; and assistance in purchasing a state-of-the-art printer for producing plant labels in the gardens at an approximate cost of \$15,000.	<p>1. In the 2024-25 Budget, allocations have been made for two new positions: a Botanic Gardens Team Leader and a Horticultural Apprentice. These roles will be responsible for managing Council's Botanic Gardens, and premier parks including the Romsey Ecotherapy Park, Kyneton Community Park and Woodend Children's Park.</p> <p>2. Council officers have identified the Mollison Street entrance project in the future years' actions associated with the Kyneton Botanic Gardens Master Plan. Although a design was completed in 2013, it requires review to obtain cost estimates before supporting it as a project.</p> <p>3. Funds have not been allocated in the 2024-25 budget for this initiative, although officers acknowledge its potential benefits for all three botanic gardens and that engraving machines play a vital role in creating labels and signs for plants, trees, and various features in the Botanic Gardens, enhancing the visitor experience by aiding in species identification and education. The appointment of new roles to support Council's premier parks including the Botanic Gardens across the shire will support a coordinated approach with Friends groups to contribute to a cohesive and well-managed botanical experience, ultimately enhancing visitor satisfaction and educational value across the various garden locations.</p>	Y
55	Council Facilities Upgrade	Lighting for New Gisborne Tennis Club	Funding has been allocated in the 2024-25 budget to develop concept and detailed design plans for two new tennis courts with LED lighting.	Y
57	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
58	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
59	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
62	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
63	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
65	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
67	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
68	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
69	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
73	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
75	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
80	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
81	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to submission 55	Y
60	Domestic Animal Management	Gated dog park for Gisborne.	The Safer Communities team will be leading a cross departmental working group in 2024 to identify two potential sites for fenced off leash dog parks within Macedon Ranges Shire Council - the outcomes of this working group will contribute to a business case for the parks in next year's budget.	N

Survey Submissions

ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
61	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Replace existing heating, upgrades and car parking and landscaping for Lauriston Community Hall	Heating system is noted and will be replaced utilising operational funds.	Y - partial - included in Business As Usual budget.
64	Infrastructure Upgrade-Roads	Remake the road between the beginning of Lauriston road ( corner Burton Ave) and Youngs Road.	<p>Officers recommend car park works be included future budgets for consideration.</p> <p>There are 3 sections of Lauriston Road under consideration.</p> <p>1.The first section of Lauriston Road, between Railway Line and Sebastopol Road – This section of road was rehabilitated in mid-2020. Council officers are aware of the sections that have wheel rutting and will continue to monitor these sections and rectify as required.</p> <p>2. The section of Lauriston Road between Youngs Road and Sebastopol has been identified as a high priority for road rehabilitation has been funded in the 2024-25 budget.</p> <p>3. The section to Burton Avenue is considered as medium priority and will be considered for future year capital works, subject to the prioritisation process and review of all roads and their conditions across the entire shire.</p> <p>Council will continue to inspect and maintain the subject sections of Lauriston Road in accordance with Councils Road Management Plan. Please see below link for your reference. <a href="https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Council/Strategies-Plans/Road-Management-Plan">https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Council/Strategies-Plans/Road-Management-Plan</a>.</p>	Y
66	Street Trees	Requesting the planting of more street trees, particularly in Mollison and Piper Streets, to slow down traffic, improve the environment, provide shade, and attract visitors, with the added suggestion of consulting with local tree expert Dr. Peter May and considering research by Fleming's Trees on the benefits of street tree landscapes.	Included in the 2024/25 budget is additional funding for tree planting to address the identified vacant tree planting sites across the Shire. Officers are currently reviewing street tree planting opportunities in Kyneton. This may result in the requirement of a future budget bid for street tree planting.	N
70	Upgrade to Council Facilities & Infrastructure	Completion of asphalts work at Kyneton Showground in line with Master Plan.	Council funded the development of an asphalt and drainage design for the Showgrounds precinct in 2021, staged delivery of these works is planned, however requests for funding to implement have not been successful. The recently adopted Kyneton Showgrounds Master Plan identifies and recommends drainage, carparking and internal roadway improvements across the site.	N
71	Upgrade to Council Facilities & Infrastructure	The pony club seeks to upgrade its show jumping arena to accommodate two arenas and two warm-up areas, along with adding horse wash bays, with a potential cost of \$50k, and while they can handle the arena upgrade themselves, they require council assistance for the wash bays, considering water access and placement.	The draft Macedon Ranges Community Equestrian Facilities Plan is currently under development. It is recommended that any improvements at the reserve should be deferred until the plan is finalised and endorsed by Council.	N
72	Upgrade to Council Facilities & Infrastructure	The Woodend Hills Pétanque Club (WHRPC) is requesting council funding to renovate their kitchen area, which is currently showing signs of wear and decay, with potential OH&S concerns.	Development of a master plan for the Woodend Racecourse Reserve is currently underway, and expected to be completed in 2024.	N
74	Business and Tourism	Toolkit for Tourism Success – how to be a better tourism operator in the Macedon Ranges sessions	This initiative is consistent with the Macedon Ranges Visitor Economy Strategy, and supported as part of the delivery of this strategy. The existing budget appears appropriate to deliver this outcome, as this is an existing concept that has been undertaken in other regions. It should be possible to find a facilitator with relevant experience to undertake training with accommodation operators to be ambassadors for the region (encouraging greater length of stay, return visitation and what to see and do while you are here – increasing the on-sell).	N

Survey Submissions



ID	Request Type	Summary of Request	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
76	New Idea	Evaluate the energy efficiency of older Council Housing properties in the Macedon Ranges, with a focus on attic insulation and draft proofing, aiming to identify properties most in need of retrofitting and assess their energy efficiency, potentially inspecting up to 15-20 properties and providing reports on each.	Outlined in Council's Climate Emergency Plan, is the development and pilot of a dedicated financial support program for low-income and social housing families to access solar and energy efficiency improvements. The Environment Unit had small budget (\$5k) allocated within 23/24 BAU budget to begin engagement material as needed, and as the Environment Unit supports this submission, it will be prioritised as part of the Climate Emergency Plan and additional funding for consultants to conduct a desktop study will be sought in future years.	N
77	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Improve disability access to Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House	Officers acknowledge the submission and plan to investigate the requested works further with the group with a view to fund the works through operational funds.	Y - included in Business As Usual budget.
78	New Infrastructure - Walking Paths	Request for three community-identified walkability projects in Riddells Creek, including a pedestrian/cycling/horse bridge over Riddells Creek, a shared path on Sutherlands Rd, and another on Southbourne Rd, aimed at improving safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders in the area.	<p>Since the endorsement of the Shire-wide Footpath Plan (2018), Council has delivered several footpath projects within Riddells Creek including sections of Mahoneys Road, Merrifield Street, Station Street, Sutherlands Road, Richardson Street, Southbourne Road, Racecourse Road, Bolithos Roads, Melvins Road and Main Road.</p> <p>Walkability is one of the key topics currently being investigated in the ongoing Riddells Creek Movement Network Study. The community were consulted during February to March 2024 on the draft recommendations which will include proposed improvement to selected locations. The final study will be endorsed in middle of 2024.</p> <p>At this stage,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. this suggestion is one of the improvements being investigated by the Study described above.</li> <li>2. this suggestion has been listed as high priority under the Shire-wide Footpath Plan and will be part of future footpath projects, subject to funding</li> <li>3. this suggestion has been listed as high priority under the Shire-wide Footpath Plan</li> </ol>	N
79	Council Facilities Upgrade	Allocate funds to the Malmsbury Tennis Club to restore and resurface the existing derelict tennis court as recommended in the Malmsbury Botanic Gardens Master Plan	Officers recognise the Malmsbury Botanic Gardens Master Plan identifies the renovation of the tennis court and pavilion as a priority. Completing the design work for the tennis court and pavilion renovation is among the short-term priorities (1-3 years) outlined in this plan is the first step in the process. These documents must be finalised before construction work can commence.	N

Survey Submissions

ID	Request Type (Officer)	Summary of Request (Officer)	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
1W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	<p>The 2014 Walking and Cycling Strategy identifies a walking path in Riddells Creek between Racecourse Lane and Sutherlands Road as a medium priority. Since the endorsement of the Shire-wide Footpath Plan (2018), Council has delivered several footpath projects within Riddells Creek including sections of Mahoneys Road, Merrifield Street, Station Street, Sutherlands Road, Richardson Street, Southbourne Road, Racecourse Road, Bolithos Roads, Melvins Road and Main Road.</p> <p>Walkability is one of the key topics currently being investigated in the ongoing Riddells Creek Movement Network Study. The community were consulted in February to March 2024 on the draft recommendations which will include proposed improvements to selected locations. The final study will be endorsed in the middle of 2024.</p> <p>At this stage,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. this suggestion is one of the improvements being investigated by the Study described above.</li> <li>2. this suggestion has been listed as high priority under the Shire-wide Footpath Plan and will be part of future footpath projects, subject to funding</li> <li>3. this suggestion has been listed as high priority under the Shire-wide Footpath Plan</li> </ol>	N
2W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer to Submission 1W	N
3W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
5W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
6W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
8W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
10W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
13W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
14W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
15W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
16W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
17W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
18W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
19W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N

Written Submissions

ID	Request Type (Officer)	Summary of Request (Officer)	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
20W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
24W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
25W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
36W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer to Submission 1W	N
28W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	Improving walkability in Riddells Creek supporting the priorities of What Riddell Want - Infrastructure Strand	Refer To Submission 1W	N
4W	New Infrastructure - Shared Path	New shared paths for Riddells Creek	Since the endorsement of the Shire-wide Footpath Plan (2018), Council has delivered several footpath projects within Riddells Creek including sections of Mahoneys Road, Merrifield Street, Station Street, Sutherlands Road, Richardson Street, Southbourne Road, Racecourse Road, Bolithos Roads, Melvins Road and Main Road. Walkability is one of the key topics currently being investigated in the ongoing Riddells Creek Movement Network Study. The draft final Riddells Creek Movement Network Study was out for public consultation during March 2024 to seek community input on the top 30 recommendations shortlisted for future delivery. Officers hope that the Riddells Creek community will be providing input on these recommendations and help finetune the final recommendations. The final study will be presented to Council for endorsement by the end of this financial year.	N
7W	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Upgrading tennis courts for Gisborne Tennis Club.	There are 8 tennis courts located at Dixon Field. Council's Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2018-2028 supports the resurfacing of tennis courts at Dixon Field as demand requires, and Council officers concur that the current synthetic grass court surfaces of courts 5-6 and 7-8 are nearing end of life. In 2018/19 Council allocated funding for the upgrade of tennis court surfaces on courts 1-2 and 3-4 as well as new lighting at courts 7-8. In 2021/22 Council funded the upgrade of the site's electrical switchboard and installation of new LED lights on courts 1-2 and 5-6. It is worth noting that State Government funding is not available for tennis court resurfacing unless specific criteria is met.	N
9W	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Resurfacing of tennis courts for Romsey Tennis Club.	The Romsey Sports Precinct Master Plan endorses the resurfacing of the existing five tennis courts, and Council officers concur that the court fences are currently in a state of disrepair. This project has been included in the 2024-25 budget. The project is reliant on a contribution from both the Romsey Tennis Club and Lancefield and Romsey Bendigo Community Bank.	Y
11W	Environmental Initiatives for Riddells Creek	Supportive of initiatives for the What Riddell Wants - Environment Strand	The Environment Unit supports these initiatives and is already providing in-kind support to an Enviro Expo to be held in Riddells Creek. Council continue to look for grants and solutions to install public EV chargers throughout the shire as part of its Priority Projects Prospectus.	N
12W	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Detailed design and cost for the first stage of the endorsed Ross Watt Master Plan	Funding has been allocated in the 2024-25 budget to develop concept and detailed design plans for two new tennis courts with LED lighting.	Y
34W	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to Submission 12W	Y
37W	Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Support for recently adopted Ross Watt Reserve Master Plan	Refer to Submission 12W	Y
21W	Improvements for Riddells Creek	Funding for various items as part of What Riddell Wants	The full submission will be considered as part of the community input to the ongoing Riddells Creek Movement Network Study. The draft final Riddells Creek Movement Network Study was out for public consultation during March 2024 to seek community input on the top 30 recommendations shortlisted for future delivery. Officers hope that all submitters who provide suggestions during this budget process can review the draft recommendations and help finetune the final recommendations. The final study will be presented to Council for endorsement by the end of this financial year.	N

Written Submissions

ID	Request Type (Officer)	Summary of Request (Officer)	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
22W	Environmental initiatives	Requests for three interconnected projects: Gardens for Wildlife, an Urban Biodiversity Officer, and an Urban Forest Strategy, all aimed at enhancing the environmental values of the shire's towns and promoting biodiversity and sustainable landscaping practices.	<p>The Environment Unit supports this development and delivery of a Gardens for Wildlife program as it aligns with actions in the Biodiversity Strategy and the Climate Emergency Plan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development of an appropriate shire-wide program is allocated to 24/25.</li> <li>2. A Urban Biodiversity Officer is not shown as a priority position at this stage. Design and delivery of a Gardens for Wildlife program can be resourced within the current staffing capabilities.</li> <li>3. the development of an Urban Cooling Strategy is medium priority action within the Climate Emergency Plan (implementation due 25/26).</li> </ol>	N
23W	Environmental Initiatives	Requests for three interconnected projects: Gardens for Wildlife, an Urban Biodiversity Officer, and an Urban Forest Strategy, all aimed at enhancing the environmental values of the shire's towns and promoting biodiversity and sustainable landscaping practices.	Refer to Submission 22W	N
33W	Sustainability and Environment	Support of submission made by Upper Deep Creek Landcare Network	Refer to Submission 22W	N
26W	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Upgrades to Malmsbury Hall	Funds have been allocated in the budget to undertake an electrical audit on the Malmsbury Hall, this will inform future decisions on what works can be carried on the site. An allocation of funds for two new electric ovens is also included, the installation of the ovens will be pending on the electrical audit report.	N
27W	New Idea	Green Sports Initiative	<p>Annabel is founder of Green Planet Sport (<a href="http://greenplanetsport.com.au">greenplanetsport.com.au</a>), "supporting sport to create regenerative sport culture and climate positive partnerships to engage more people, more often and in more places to connect, value and act for our planet". Similar submissions were made to the recently adopted master plans for Romsey Park, Gilbert Gordon Oval and Kyneton Showgrounds.</p> <p>This aligns with a medium term action in the draft Climate Emergency Plan around Sustainable Sports.</p>	N

Written Submissions

ID	Request Type (Officer)	Summary of Request (Officer)	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
29W	Business and Tourism	Various Initiatives to support Visitor Economy and Economic Development	<p><b>Shire-wide Tourism Signage</b> The TMR community budget submission for 2023-2024 initially proposed this for consideration. This is consistent with the Macedon Ranges Visitor Economy Strategy. Deliver visitor information services at all stages of the visitor journey to inspire and connect visitors to experiences. Council has been successful in attracting state funding in collaboration with neighbouring councils for both a Visitor Servicing Strategy and review (including signage) and a region wide project, Goldfield Gateways, one of the primary objectives of which is harmonizing wayfinding and interpretation systems, encompassing both digital and physical elements. Goldfields Gateways will identify key visitation sites, develop compelling and beautiful wayfinding and physical storytelling. Collectively these projects have received \$675,000 in state funding. Officers are supportive of developing a signage plan and seeking funding to deliver.</p> <p><b>Update Visitor Economy Impact Study 2017</b> The data in the study has been updated through the background analysis performed as part of the development of the Destination Management Plan (DMP) being developed by Daylesford Macedon Tourism. The DMP (still in draft) has been provided for input to industry representatives and includes an overview of the data that is consolidated across Macedon Ranges and Hepburn shires. Supporting documents and background information have not yet been provided.</p> <p><b>Development of visitmacedonranges Dining Directory</b> Development of a Visitor Servicing Strategy, including a review of current visitor servicing activities, has been funded by the State Government. This review will make recommendations to enhance the physical and online activities. Following this any developments proposed through that process will be considered for implementation and to seek funding.</p> <p><b>Macedon Ranges Business Breakfast</b> Council has partnered with TMR to facilitate the annual Business Breakfast event over the past two years. Events have been well attended and feedback has been very positive. Council supports the event with officer time and direct funding through the Economic Development unit base budget. Officers are supportive of this action and will continue to provide the support necessary.</p> <p><b>Capability Building Workshop: Annual Governance Health Check</b> Business and Tourism associations (BATAs) were supported by Council in 2023 with capability building workshops to improve governance and succession planning. This initiative is supported by officers and is consistent with the Economic Development Strategy. Officers will continue to support BATAs to develop this initiative. The initiative does not include a budget amount.</p> <p><b>Capability Building Workshop: "Make a Difference"</b> Officers are supportive of this activity to develop leadership capacity with the region. A regional scheme already operates in the Loddon Mallee, including Macedon Ranges. The Loddon Murray Community Leadership program has limited spaces and has a cost of \$5,000 per participant from community organisations. This regional scheme has additional networking benefits that a local scheme could not replicate. To be effective the proposed program would need to run on a regular basis; annually or on a recurrent timeframe every couple of years. The submission does not indicate a budget amount.</p> <p><b>TMR Thriving Villages Program</b> Officers supported both TMR and EMRBATA in their funding bids to establish this initiative. Both organisations were successful in receiving \$20,000 from State flood recovery funds. In kind support through venues and officer time can be achieved without a direct, additional budget allocation. The expansion of this project is supported by officers, and is consistent with both the Economic Development and Visitor Economy strategies. However the request for \$40,000 to assist four additional towns is speculative at present as it is contingent upon the scoping and delivery of the Thriving Villages Program. Officers will continue to support groups to develop and deliver the funded program.</p> <p><b>Support for other submissions:</b> Specialist horticultural position In the 2024-25 Budget, allocations have been made for two new positions: a Botanic Gardens Team Leader and a Horticultural Apprentice. These roles will be responsible for managing Council's Botanic Gardens and Romsey Ecotherapy Park.</p> <p><b>Five Mile Creek Master Plan final implementation</b> Refer to officer response to the submission 30W</p>	Y - partial (see comments)

Written Submissions

ID	Request Type (Officer)	Summary of Request (Officer)	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
			<p><b>Region-wide Tourism Signage</b> This project was not submitted by the Macedon Ranges Accommodation Association (MRAA). Refer to officer response to the first item of this submission (29W)</p> <p><b>Toolkit for Tourism Success Program</b> Officers are in support of this initiative.</p> <p><b>Refer to officer comments to the survey submission by Macedon Ranges Accommodation Association (MRAA)</b> Vineyard Growth Program This project was not submitted by the Macedon Ranges Vignerons Association (MRVA). Officers are aware of this initiative and are actively involved in the development and are supporting the MRVA to develop an appropriate scope to seek any funding required.</p>	
30W	Business and Tourism	EMRBATA requests budget allocation for three key initiatives: specialist horticulture maintenance services for botanical and high-profile gardens, improved visitor signage for Romsey Ecotherapy Park, and the implementation of Stage 2 of the Romsey Five Mile Creek Master Plan, all aimed at promoting economic development, enhancing the local visitor economy, and improving community amenities in the eastern Macedon Ranges.	<p>1. In the 2024-25 Budget, allocations have been made for two new positions: a Botanic Gardens Team Leader and a Horticultural Apprentice. These roles will be responsible for managing Council's Botanic Gardens and Romsey Ecotherapy Park.</p> <p>2. Improvements to tourism and wayfinding signage are actions within the Macedon Ranges Visitor Economy Strategy. Officers are in support of improving the signage for the Ecotherapy park and across Romsey.</p> <p>3. A business case will be prepared for the Romsey FMC Master Plan Stage 2 works. This will build upon the cost and design work for the waterway crossing funded in the 2023/24 budget.</p>	Y - partial (see comments)
31W	Business and Tourism	The Former Romsey Ecotherapy Park Inc requests budget allocation for three key initiatives: specialist horticulture maintenance services for botanical and high-profile gardens, improved visitor signage for Romsey Ecotherapy Park, and the implementation of Stage 2 of the Romsey Five Mile Creek Master Plan, all aimed at promoting economic development, enhancing the local visitor economy, and improving community amenities in the eastern Macedon Ranges.	In the 2024-25 Budget, allocations have been made for two new positions: a Botanic Gardens Team Leader and a Horticultural Apprentice. These roles will be responsible for managing Council's Botanic Gardens and Romsey Ecotherapy Park.	Y - partial (see comments)
32W	Sustainability and Environment	Continue to work on projects to support sustainable transport within Macedon Ranges	<p>The outlined initiatives of the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSG) dedicated to advocating and contributing to sustainable transport within our community is greatly appreciated.</p> <p>The focus on active transport, enhanced public transport, and support for projects such as electric vehicles and e-mobility aligns seamlessly with Council's shared vision through the soon-to-endorsed Mobility and Road Safety Strategy.</p> <p>Officers will set up meetings in early 2024 to discuss with MRSG to discuss how we can collaborate on their plans for 2024/25, including the development of sustainable transport maps for other townships, improved cycle parking, school travel surveys, and initiatives to enhance walking routes to schools. The MRSG directly support the themes outlined in our Council's vision, including connecting communities, fostering a healthy environment, and promoting business and tourism.</p> <p>The Environment Unit supports this initiative and would like involvement in community meetings. The submissions cover multiple actions outlined in the incoming Climate Emergency Plan.</p>	N
35W	Upgrade to Council Facilities	Purchase of ovens	Officers recommend a community funding scheme application rather than budget submission. Officers are working to ensure investigations can take place to ensure electrical infrastructure has capacity prior to this occurring.	N
38W	Domestic Animal Management	Feedback in relation to Wandering Cats, Dogs on/off lead, Stanley Park and dogs on private properties	Council have recently launched a new program for pet owners which will include messages about dog off lead areas, cat curfew and other tips for pawsome pet ownership. More information about the program is available on our website <a href="https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Cats-Dogs-Pets/For-the-Love-of-Paws-Campaign">https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Cats-Dogs-Pets/For-the-Love-of-Paws-Campaign</a> . You may also wish to make a submission on the Draft State Cat Management Strategy <a href="https://engage.vic.gov.au/cat-management-strategy">https://engage.vic.gov.au/cat-management-strategy</a> .	N

Written Submissions

ID	Request Type (Officer)	Summary of Request (Officer)	Officer Response	Funding included in draft Budget?
39W	New Idea	Request to transform the Macedon Ranges further education centre in Gisborne, which currently operates mainly as an educational facility, into a 'drop-in' centre, potentially as part of the Village Connect partnership, to serve as a welcoming space for the community, including the elderly and young mothers, to gather for casual activities and conversations, addressing the need for a more permanent and inclusive facility.	Council will continue to facilitate the popular Village Connect coffee catch ups in Gisborne that are an opportunity for people to link. Currently these are held in local cafes however consideration will be given into the future where these are best placed. Feedback in relation to access to a space in partnership with local supports such as MFEC will be considered in the ongoing planning of this project to meet needs of the those within Gisborne.	N
40W	Upgrade to Council Facilities - Business and Tourism	Funding allocation to complete Ash Wednesday and various initiatives for Macedon	The request to fund a digital sign is not included in the adopted Ash Wednesday Master Plan (2020). The plan prioritises specific projects, and digital signage is not among them. The car park upgrades are identified as a short-term priority in the Ash Wednesday Master Plan (2020), and officers support this request. However, the original master plan estimate of \$40,000 may need revision due to recent cost increases. To obtain more accurate cost estimates, officers recommend funding a detailed design of the car park in future budgets.	N
41W	Electric Charging Stations Business and Tourism	Relocate the Bus Shelter away from the EV Station and the corner of Smith and Victoria Street Relocate the Bus Shelter away from the EV Station and the corner of Smith and Victoria Street C. Jubilee Hall Mural – Protection artworks and surface	After conducting the site investigation, it was observed that the existing community bus stop, which lacks a formal hardstand area, was installed at its current location in 2020. The safety concerns remain unchanged regardless of the presence of an EV station, although it may pose added inconvenience to EV charger users.  The responses to the submitter's comments are as follows:  A(i). The bus shelter was relocated to its current location in 2020.  A(ii). A preferable arrangement is sought where buses can safely park away from the parking area to ensure smooth traffic flow. Further investigation and collaboration with relevant stakeholders are necessary.  A(iii). To improve safety and accessibility, the proposal suggests relocating the bus shelter south of the toilet block with a footpath link.  A(iv). Safety concerns remain regardless of the presence of an EV charging station, stressing the importance of adherence to parking regulations.  B(i & ii). Agreement is reached with the submitter's viewpoint regarding reversed-angle parking. Additional signage will be installed to inform residents about road rules, with enforcement options available if needed. The separation distance between the car park and intersection meets regulatory standards.	N
42W	New Initiatives - Off Lead areas	Proposes a partnership between Bendigo Bank and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to fund fenced dog parks in the community, highlighting the lack of such facilities in the area and suggesting specific locations for immediate action.	Council has implemented a working group to examine the viability of Dog parks and identify proposed locations ready for funding opportunities in the future.	N

Written Submissions



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# Annual Budget 2024-25



Image Open Space works, Malmsbury

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## Acknowledgement of Country

*Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country, and pays respect to their Elders past, and present.*

*Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.*



*Artwork by Taungurung artist Maddie Moser. Artwork used with permission.*

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## 1. CEO's introduction

Following another comprehensive process of review, preparation and consultation with our staff, Councillors and community members, I am very pleased to introduce the Budget 2024-25.

This budget, like others before it, is primarily shaped by realising the objectives outlined in our Council Plan 2021-2031, which was shaped by the Community Vision and crafted by our Community Assembly. The upcoming year marks the culmination of our current Community Vision and the conclusion of the current term for Councillors.

However, the approach we took to finalise the budget was slightly different, in support of greater transparency and efficiency – an earlier, single period of community consultation late in 2023, meaning we were able to encourage and consider public submissions with more time and thoroughness.

We appreciate the financial strain that continues to burden many members of our community in recent years, acknowledging the rise in the cost of living, particularly in tandem with the escalation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). We endeavour to balance this against what Council continues to confront in heightened operational expenses, directly affecting our ability to provide essential services and execute projects. However, amidst these challenges, and notwithstanding the added complexities arising from extreme weather events and a growing population, we have observed a levelling off of the escalated costs incurred during the COVID-19 period.

This budget aligns with the state-wide rate cap of 2.75 per cent. This has decreased from 3.5 per cent set in 2023-24. The document clearly outlines Council's finances and how we propose to manage them effectively in 2024-25, while striving to meet the needs of our community through ongoing essential services and key projects. For 2024-25, some of the key initiatives funded include completion of the Macedon Ranges Shared Trails (Woodend to Riddells Creek) project, completion of the Kyneton Showgrounds Netball Court and change rooms project and the renewal works proposed for the Gisborne Mechanics Community Centre.

Additionally, we have carried forward a number of projects from the 2023-24 financial year to ensure they are either finalised promptly, or continue to be progressed as multi-year projects, noting that our number of carry-forwards pleasingly continues to decline year on year.

In recent years, we have clearly demonstrated our ability to prepare effective business cases and proposals for external funding opportunities wherever practical, and then follow that planning work through with a collaborative and thorough approach to deliver valuable community projects. Our Priority Projects Prospectus, which we continue to regularly review and update, remains our guiding document for external funding advocacy relating to major projects identified across the shire.

I'm proud to continue leading this organisation as Chief Executive Officer and the achievements we've made to date, but I look forward to what is to come through this budget and working together with our community to deliver positive outcomes for our region.

**CEO Bernie O'Sullivan**

**May 2024**

Macedon Ranges Shire Council **Annual Budget 2024-25**  
**Draft for adoption by Council (Version 3.1)**



## 2. Our Council



Image Entry to Gisborne Administration Centre

### Council Offices

#### **Gisborne Administration Centre**

40 Robertson Street, Gisborne

#### **Romsey Service Centre**

96-100 Main Street, Romsey

#### **Woodend Service Centre**

Corner Forest Street and High Street, Woodend

#### **Kyneton Administration Centre**

129 Mollison Street, Kyneton

### Contact

**Phone:** (03) 5422 0333

**Email:** [mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

**Website:** [mrsc.vic.gov.au](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au)

**Mail:** PO Box 151, Kyneton VIC 3444

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### 3. Council Profile

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is in central Victoria located within an hour's drive of Melbourne's central business district to the south and Bendigo to the north, the Shire covers an area of 1,750 square kilometres.

The shire is a semi-rural municipality known for its beautiful natural landscapes which is recognised by Victorian Government legislation as a distinctive area and landscape. The shire rests across the lands of three Traditional Owner groups: the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples.

Our region is popular with both domestic and international visitors, due to our natural attractions, wineries, and proximity and accessibility to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Our larger townships include Kyneton, Woodend, Gisborne, Riddells Creek, Romsey and Lancefield.

Part of our natural attractions is Hanging Rock, which boasts an abundance of native flora and fauna, including a large population of wild kangaroos, the reserve offers beautiful nature walks, a Discovery Centre, picnic areas and free barbecue facilities.

The latest population for the Macedon Ranges Shire is estimated to be 52,290 as at 2023<sup>1</sup>. Population growth has been steady at approximately 1.38% per annum. By 2036, the shire's population is projected to reach 65,771 residents<sup>2</sup>, with the largest population growth occurring in the south of the shire in and around the townships of Gisborne and Riddells Creek. Population growth is projected in all age groups; however, it is expected to be particularly strong in the older age groups.

Latest ABS data (June 2022) showed there were just over 5,300 registered businesses in the shire<sup>3</sup>. Industries providing local employment include health care and social assistance, education and training, retail trade, agriculture, forestry, and fishing. Tourism is also an important and growing industry for the shire.



Image Station Road, New Gisborne

<sup>1</sup> Source: .idcommunity demographic resources, <https://profile.id.com.au/macedon-ranges/population-estimate>

<sup>2</sup> Source: .idcommunity demographic resources, <https://forecast.id.com.au/macedon-ranges>

<sup>3</sup> Source: ABS 2022 LGA data



## 4. Our Councillors

Councillors were elected to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipal district and the local community. In October 2020, the current Councillors were elected for a four-year term.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is divided into three wards, represented by three Councillors in each ward. The nine Councillors are the elected representatives of all residents and ratepayers across the shire.

### The role of Councillors includes:

- acting as a representative government by considering the diverse needs of the local community in decision-making.
- providing leadership by establishing strategic objectives and monitoring their achievement.
- maintaining the viability of Council by ensuring that resources are managed in a responsible, sustainable and accountable manner.
- advocating the interests of the local community to other communities and governments.
- acting as a responsible partner in government by considering the needs of other communities.
- fostering community cohesion and encouraging active participation in civic life.

## Macedon Ranges



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**East Ward**



**Cr Annette Death, Mayor**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 adeath@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0427 956 117



**Cr Geoff Neil**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 gneil@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0419 244 776

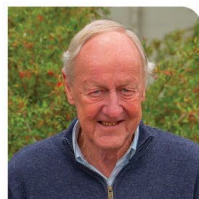


**Cr Bill West**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 bwest@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0400 025 455

**South Ward**



**Cr Dominic Bonanno**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 dbonanno@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0419 829 867



**Cr Rob Guthrie**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 rguthrie@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0419 309 953



**Cr Christine Walker**  
**Elected: November 2023**  
 cwalker@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0438 589 251

**West Ward**



**Cr Jennifer Anderson**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 janderson@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0408 273 670



**Cr Janet Pearce, Deputy Mayor**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 jpearce@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0437 282 096



**Cr Mark Ridgeway**  
**Elected: October 2020**  
 mridgeway@mrsc.vic.gov.au  
 0437 938 766

**\*\* Councillor Christine Walker was sworn in as a Councillor on 15 November 2023 following a countback after the resignation of Cr Anne Moore on 4 October 2023.**

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## 5. Executive summary

Macedon Ranges Shire Council's 2024-25 Budget is \$119,671,000. This budget aims to provide a high level of works and services to our community, while keeping rates as low as possible and within the rate cap.

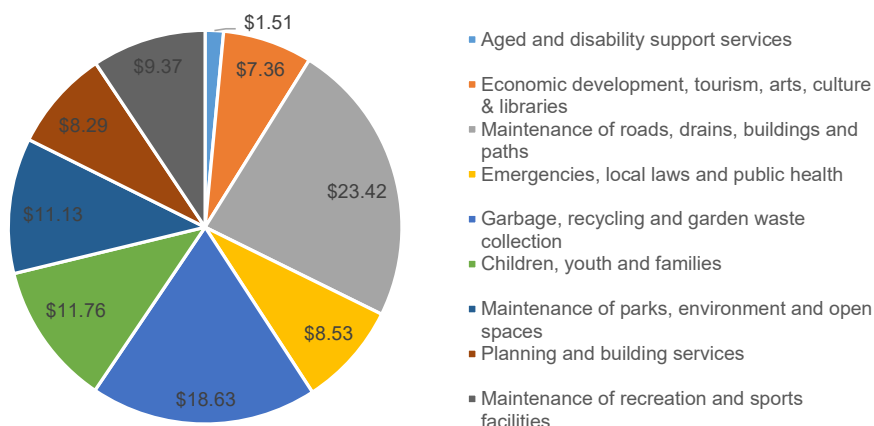
We are focused on improving our overall customer experience and quality of service delivery. We work closely with the community to deliver best-value services with our limited resources.

Council remains in a strong financial position. Although rate revenue has increased as a result of our increased population, income from grants for capital and operating programs from state and federal government have decreased.

The budget includes a new loan, resulting in an increase in our overall level of debt. A new loan is proposed for the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project (Stage 2), Woodend to Riddells Creek Shared Trail and Kyneton Showground Netball Court and Changeroom projects, these projects will provide long-term community benefits to the shire.

The chart below shows how much is allocated to each broad service area for every \$100 dollars that Council spends:

**Figure 1.** Expenditure per \$100 by service area



\*This charge includes Victorian Government landfill levy

## Operating income

Operating income that will be generated from rates, municipal charges and kerbside collection charges in the 2024-25 Budget is \$64,417,000, which is approximately 3.4% (\$2,131,000) more than the 2023/24 Forecast.

Rates and charges are significant sources (53.83%) of total revenue for Council. Our Revenue and Rating Plan provides information on our Rating Strategy.

We forecast our statutory fees and fines, user fees and other income to increase approximately by 2% each year from 2025/26. The increase in these fees is in line with the increasing costs to deliver services to the community. An increasing population also contributes to the increase in revenue, as demand for our services increases. Population growth has been steady at approximately 1.38% per annum.

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Our objective is to fund ongoing service delivery to the appropriate standard when using operating income. This means:

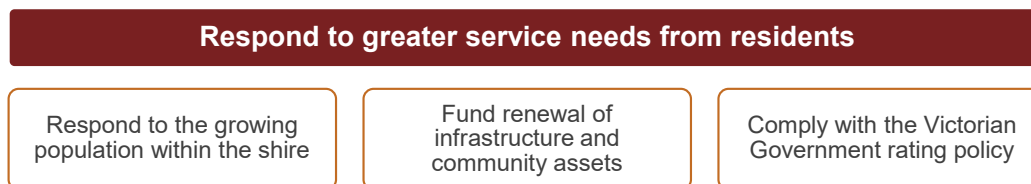
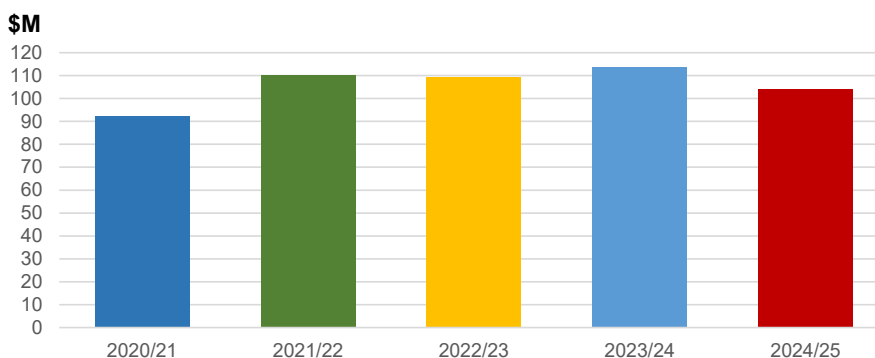


Figure 2. Operating income between 2020-21 and 2024-25 (\$million)



### Waste and kerbside collection

This service is to deliver high quality kerbside waste and recycling collection services, and general waste management which includes resource recovery centres, transporting materials, public place bins, disposing of waste, street cleaning, rehabilitating closed landfills and other waste management services.

As a result of the recent Good Practice Guide on Service Rates and Charges for Kerbside Collection from the Victorian Government. Council has implemented a plan to comply with the Good Practice Guide. Over time this should see the kerbside collection charges decrease as the costs of aspects of waste management are no longer recoverable under this charge. In the 2024-25 financial year, the fees collected at Council's Resource Recovery Centres adhere to a full cost recovery model, ensuring that all incurred costs are offset by an equivalent amount of revenue.

The waste management sector faces challenges from rising costs, global recycling issues, and increasing Victorian Government landfill levies, which have doubled over the past three years. Despite these challenges, Council remains committed to funding projects aimed at innovatively processing kerbside collected material to enhance recycling efforts and reduce landfill waste. This aligns with one of our key council plan priorities. The budget accommodates higher collection and transport expenses, reflecting contractors passing on consumer price index increases to contracts. To offset these increases, costs have been removed from Council's Resource Recovery Centres in the kerbside collection charge, resulting in a 1.1% decrease in the charge.

## Operating expenditure

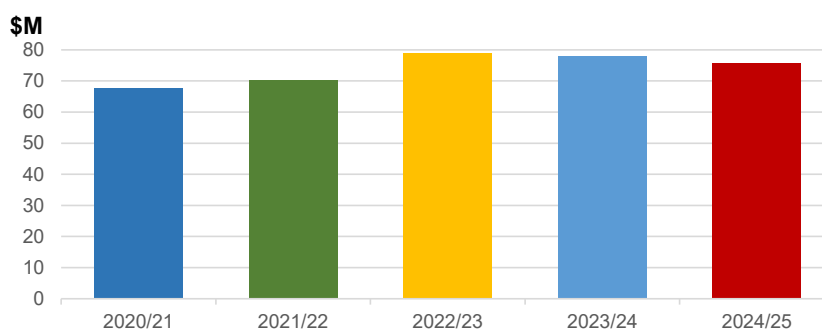
In the 2024-25 Budget, operating expenditure amounts to \$101,397,000, with a significant portion allocated to employee costs (44.43%) and materials/services (34.67%). Employee expenses are rising by \$1,098,000 due to increased Workcover premiums and the Federal Government’s 0.50% superannuation guarantee increase. The budget also provides for banding increases, new starters, and annual increases relating to the Enterprise g Agreement.

Our materials and service costs remain consistent with the 2023-24 forecast. While these costs would be expected to decrease as a result of storm debris processing at the Kettlewell’s ceasing during 2023-24, the reduction in these costs have been offset by rising costs of doing business, the relevant departments have needed to provide for increasing costs of materials and services.

As our shire continues to grow, Council receives annually large amounts of non-monetary developer contributions (footpaths, drains, roads etc.) We need to provide each year maintenance budget for our current and growing asset portfolio. Council has again assigned funds to maintain open spaces and infrastructure (such as facilities and footpaths) as we continue to deliver our services to the community.

Total annual expenditure is budgeted to decrease after two years of Storm recovery costs that inflated annual expenditure.

**Figure 3.** Operating expenditure between 2020-21 and 2024-25 (excluding depreciation) (\$million)



Our objective to deliver quality services and find operational efficiencies that assists us to continue to deliver value for money to our residents and ratepayers. Part 2 of the 2024-25 Budget provides a description of our services to the community.

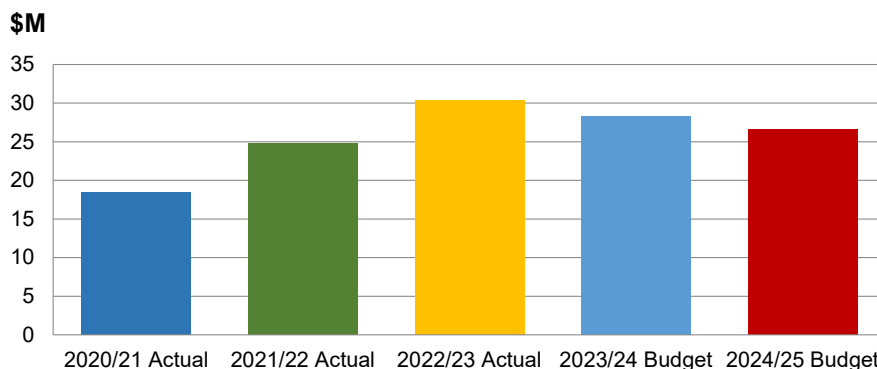
## Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure is an investment in assets, such as land, buildings, infrastructure, and major plant and equipment. Currently, our long-term Capital Works Plan guides planning and decision-making into capital investment. Council’s Asset Plan guides planning and decision making for our capital investment moving forward.

Capital investment is primarily on the construction of buildings, roads, drains, footpaths and bridges. It also includes the purchase of major plant and equipment, vehicles, information technology (IT) systems and playgrounds.

Our capital expenditure changes from year to year, mainly due to varying availability of government grants. The total planned capital expenditure during 2024-25 is \$26,669,000, a decrease of \$1,631,000 on the 2023-24 forecast which includes carried forward project expenditure from 2023-24 and several one-off large projects that would not form part of the annual capital works program.

Figure 4. Annual Capital expenditure between 2020-21 and 2024-25<sup>2</sup>



## Funding sources for capital expenditure

Analysis of capital works is in section 4.5. It shows capital expenditure of \$26,669,000 in 2024/25, which will be funded as follows.

### Grants

We will apply for (or have been allocated) government grants of \$10,329,000.

### New loans

The budget includes new loans totalling \$2,500,000. The loans will be attributable to Woodend to Riddells Creek Shared Trail, Kyneton Showgrounds netball courts and changerooms project, and the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct Stage 2.

### Contributions

Contributions from various sources are outlined in the 2024-25 Budget, including \$65,000 for capital works projects.

### Rates and charges

We will allocate \$11,966,000 of 2024-25 rates revenue to capital expenditure. This is a decrease of \$2,460,000 from the 2023-24 Budget.

### Other funding

The remainder of funding for our capital program will come from our financial reserves \$1,949,000. Refer section 4.3.

## Rate capping

The rate cap set for 2024-25 is 2.75%. This limits the total amount a council can increase its rates each year, based on the amount it levied in the previous year.

The cap on rate increases provides a clear framework to guide budget planning and decision making. The framework ensures essential services continue to be delivered and that councils invest in necessary local infrastructure to meet community needs.

<sup>2</sup> 2023-24 and 2024-25 totals are annual budgeted works excluding carry forward works.

Only the general rate and municipal charges part of a rates bill are subject to the rate cap. All other charges, such as waste charges and other user fees and levies, remain uncapped.

The rate cap applies to the council's total rate revenue and not individual properties. In many cases, individual rates bills may increase or decrease by more (or less) than the capped rise amount.

This may happen because:

- the value of the property has increased or decreased in relation to the value of other properties in the council
- other charges and levies that are not subject to the cap, such as the waste charge, have risen. The capped increases apply only to the general rates and municipal charges
- the amount of rates levied from properties of that type (residential, commercial or rural) has changed through the council's application of differential rates.

During 2024-25, Council will not seek a variation of this rate.



## 6. Budget influences

This section sets out the key budget influences arising from the internal and external environment within which Council operates.

### External influences

The four years represented within the Budget are 2024-25 through to 2027-28. In preparing the 2024-25 Budget, several external influences have been taken into consideration. These are outlined below.

- **Superannuation** – the superannuation guarantee will increase by a further 0.5% at 1 July 2024, taking the superannuation guarantee amount to 11%. It is the Federal Government's plan to have the superannuation guarantee rate to be 12% from 1 July 2025.
- **Defined Benefits Superannuation** – Council has an ongoing obligation to fund any investment shortfalls in the Defined Benefits Scheme. The last call on local government was in the 2012-2013 financial year, where Council was required to pay \$3,820,000 to top up its share of the Defined Benefits Scheme. The amount and timing of any liability is dependent on the global investment market. At present, the actuarial ratios are at a level that additional calls from local government are not expected in the next 12 months. Should a call be made Council would need to fund its contribution by finding savings in the current year's budget or consider borrowings to fund the call.
- **Financial Assistance Grants** – the largest source of government funding to Council is through the annual Victorian Local Government Grants Commission allocation. The overall state allocation is determined by the Federal Financial Assistance Grant.
- **Capital Grant Funding** – capital grant opportunities arise continually; the sector is finding a tightening of grants on offer from both the Victorian and Federal Governments. This is a way of the Government managing their annual budgets also.
- **Cost shifting** – this occurs where local government provides a service to the community on behalf of the Victorian and/or Federal Governments. Over time, the funds received by local governments do not increase in line with real-cost increases, such as school crossings and library services, resulting in a further reliance on rate revenue to meet service delivery expectations.
- **Enterprise Agreement (EA)** – the current Enterprise Agreement (EA) covering the periods of 2022-23 to 2024-25 was negotiated and agreed upon between Council representatives and the unions during the 2022-23 financial year. This agreement has been signed off by Fair Work Australia. It is noteworthy that the 2024-25 financial year will mark the final year of the current EA agreement. Negotiations for a future EA agreement will commence during 2024-25.
- **Rate capping** – the Victorian Government continues with a cap on rate increases. The cap for 2024-25 has been set at 2.75%.
- **Supplementary rates** – these are additional rates received after the budget is adopted each year, for the part of the year when a property value increases in value (for example, due to improvements made or a change in land class), or new residents become assessable. Importantly, supplementary rates recognise that new residents require services on the day they move into the shire, and Council is committed to providing these. Supplementary rates income is based on historical and forecast data and is set at anticipated levels.
- **Waste disposal costs** – the Victorian Government Landfill Levy regulation has a sustained impact on Council, regarding compliance with existing and past landfill sites. Waste disposal costs are also impacted by industry changes, such as increasing landfill levies and negotiation of contracts (for example, waste, recycling, FOGO and glass kerbside collection). Current collection contracts are also impacting Councils operations as many of these contracts are linked to annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase.
- **Service Rates and Charges** - the recent Victorian Government announcement of the "Good Practice Guide" on Service Rates and Charges for Kerbside Collection emphasises the need

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for charges to accurately reflect the direct costs of providing the service to residents. Historically, councils have incorporated various waste-related costs into these charges. While the directive includes a 12-month extension for implementation, our council has already taken steps to separate non-kerbside collection costs from the charges borne by ratepayers.

- Materials and Labour** – despite the surge in costs following the COVID-19 pandemic, the past year has seen a stabilisation in expenses, albeit remaining higher than pre-COVID-19 levels. While material and contractor costs have been greatly affected by the pandemic, leading to disruptions in the supply chain, factory closures, and shipping delays, there has been a gradual reduction in the constant increases witnessed earlier. However, the ongoing inflationary pressure continues to pose challenges, prompting contractors to adjust their prices to account for heightened material, transportation, and labour expenses. These elevated costs have notably influenced our operations, resulting in project delays and budgetary constraints.
- Weather** – In recent years, our Council has grappled with the aftermath of severe weather events, ranging from devastating floods to destructive storms that have ravaged sections of our natural reserves. Recognising the imperative of preparedness and response, our Council has taken a proactive stance by incorporating annual allocations dedicated to mitigating and managing the fallout of these events.

### Internal influences

As well as external influences, there are several internal influences that are expected to impact the 2024-25 Budget. These include:

- New initiatives** – in establishing the 2024-25 Budget Councillors have considered many new operating initiatives, new capital works projects and new starter positions. Initiatives have been submitted by officers, community proposals were considered, and initiatives also identified by Councillors. Initiatives were reviewed to ensure they are the highest priority initiatives for to be included in the 2024-25 Budget.

With limited resources not all new initiatives are able to be funded. The budget contains initiatives that are considered a priority in achieving the priorities of the Council Plan 2021-2031, annual actions for 2024-25.

Initiatives that were not included in the 2024-25 Budget will be reviewed at the mid-year budget review (31 December 2024) subject to available funds, these initiatives may be included in the 2024-25 Budget at this point.

- Service Review** – reviews will commence during 2024-25. As our community evolves and the demands on our services shift, it becomes increasingly imperative for our Council to regularly conduct service reviews. These reviews allow us to comprehensively evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness, and relevance of our existing service offerings. By undertaking thorough assessments, we can identify areas where improvements are needed, streamline processes, and reallocate resources to better meet the evolving needs of our residents. Moreover, service reviews provide an opportunity to ensure that our limited resources are allocated strategically and aligned with our community's priorities. Through proactive and periodic evaluations of our services, we can enhance service delivery, optimise resource utilisation, and ultimately, foster greater satisfaction and engagement among our community members.
- Cash** – it is important that Council maintains adequate cash balances to pay its bills when they fall due. Council must also ensure adequate levels of cash are available to match Reserve and Trust account balances. While Council balances over the term of this budget are decreasing, they do remain adequate.

Balance at	Forecast 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Projection 2025/26 \$'000	Projection 2026/27 \$'000	Projection 2027/28 \$'000
30 June	\$25,736	\$25,141	\$19,520	\$20,058	\$18,060

- **Working capital (current assets/current liabilities)** – ensures Council maintains sufficient working capital to meet our debt obligations as they fall due.

Ratios of greater than 100% indicate that Council is able to meet our debt obligations as they fall due.

Ratio at	Forecast 2023/24	Budget 2024/25	Projection 2025/26	Projection 2026/27	Projection 2027/28
30 June	122.9%	120.2%	112.3%	110.4%	104.2%

- **Renewal gap ratio (asset renewal and upgrade expenses/depreciation)** – Council allocates adequate funds towards renewal capital, to replace assets and infrastructure as they reach the end of their service life. Our target is to allocate 1:1.

Ratio at	Forecast 2023/24	Budget 2024/25	Projection 2025/26	Projection 2026/27	Projection 2027/28
30 June	1.12:1	1.12:1	1.27:1	1.28:1	1.26:1

## 7. Link to the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

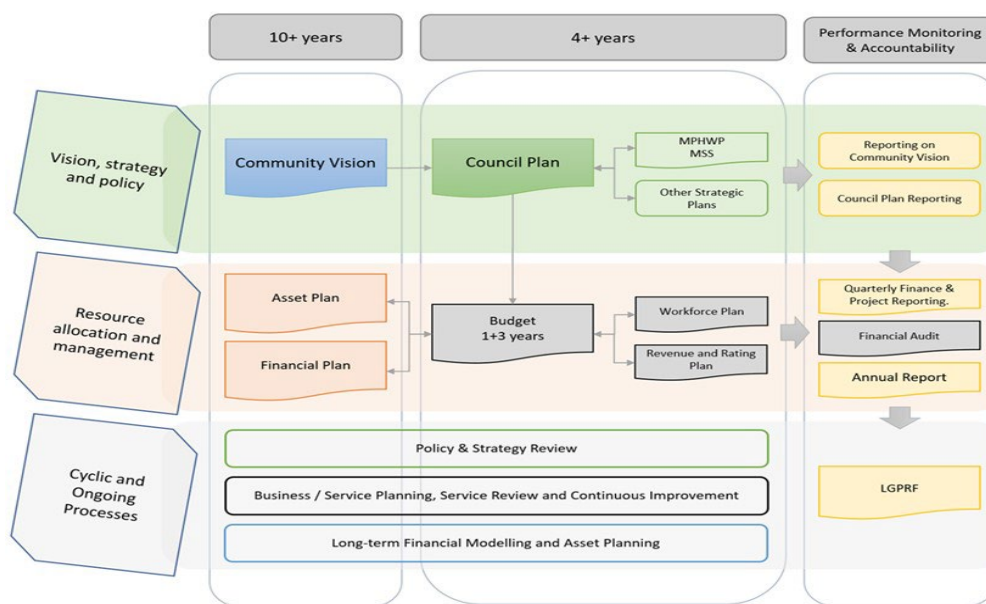
This section describes how the budget fits into our Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, which applies to local government in Victoria. This framework guides Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision and Financial Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan), and short term (Annual Budget 2024-25), and then reporting on our performance against these documents (Annual Report).

### 7.1 Legislative planning and accountability framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The diagram below shows the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework that applies to local government in Victoria. At each stage of this framework, there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers.

Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.

Figure 1. Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework



The timing of each component of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes.

For the purposes of the development of the 2024-25 Budget, Council is using the 2021–2031 Council Plan (Year Four – 2024-25).

## 7.2. Our purpose

### Our vision

The community's vision for Macedon Ranges Shire Council was developed by the Community Vision Assembly. It forms part of Council's strategic planning framework that guides future planning across the shire, considering both short-term and long-term priorities that shape the Council Plan, as well as the Annual Budget and the 10-year Financial Plan.

*'With our unique regional identity, Macedon Ranges Shire embodies a caring, resilient approach to community through our robust local economy, protection of the natural environment and a collaborative commitment to inclusivity for all.'*

The Community Vision Assembly developed three community vision themes, which we have used to shape our Council Plan, along with delivering strong and reliable government.



The 2024-25 Budget has been developed in line with the Community Vision and Council Plan. It will deliver Council priorities and enable annual actions of the Council Plan 2021–2031 (Year Four 2024/25) to be delivered.

### Our values

We are committed to the core values of:

- respect
- honesty
- accountability
- working together
- innovation

### 7.3. Strategic objectives

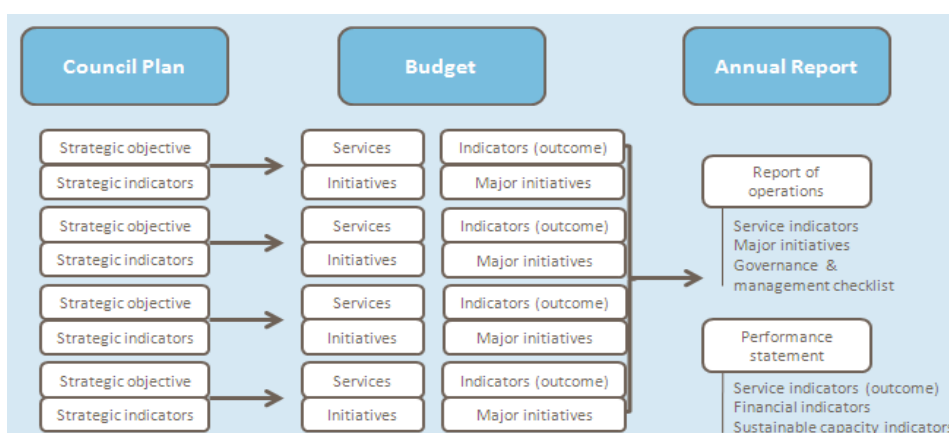
Strategic objectives	Description
<p><b>1. Connecting communities</b></p>	<p>We will maintain our built environment – including roads, paths, buildings, open space and other assets – in a fiscally, environmentally and socially sustainable way. This includes effective land-use planning, which has a direct impact on the liveability of our shire.</p> <p>We will provide support for volunteers, community groups and organisations, in recognition of their work in contributing to social connections.</p>
<p><b>2. Healthy environment, healthy people</b></p>	<p>We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, community safety, and arts and culture.</p> <p>We will protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity and enhance water catchment quality. The Macedon Ranges Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2021.</p> <p>We will take action to reduce waste, in order to protect public health and the environment.</p>
<p><b>3. Business and tourism</b></p>	<p>We will foster economic vitality in a way that promotes positive individual and community health outcomes, including business diversity, housing, transport, information and communication technology, and employment options. Investment attracted to the shire will be consistent with the Community Vision.</p>
<p><b>4. Deliver strong and reliable government</b></p>	<p>We will demonstrate the qualities of good governance, including a clear vision and culture, transparency, respect, consistency, accountability and responsiveness.</p>

## 8. Services and service performance indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the 2024-25 Budget, and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes several initiatives and service performance indicators for key areas of Council’s operations.

Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the budget, and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Annual Budget and the Annual Report is shown below.

**Figure 2.** Relationship between accountability requirements



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions



## 8.1. Strategic objective 1. Connecting communities

We will maintain our built environment – including roads, paths, buildings, open space and other assets – in a fiscally, environmentally and socially sustainable way. This includes effective land-use planning, which has a direct impact on the liveability of our shire.

We will provide support for volunteers, community groups and organisations, in recognition of their work in contributing to social connections.

### Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Director Assets and Operations	Provide guidance to the business across the built environment and other priorities of Council.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	401	435	447
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(401)	(435)	(447)
Engineering, Roads and Asset Maintenance	Investigate the best possible solution for our roads, storm-water drainage, footpaths, bridges and street lighting, and prepare designs that provide value for money, while conforming to the latest standards and industry best practice and ensure a focus on environmentally responsible procurement in our tendering process.	<i>Inc</i>	839	1,041	900
		<i>Exp</i>	6,307	7,296	7,456
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(5,468)	(6,255)	(6,556)
Facilities and Operations	Inspect, maintain and repair over 570 buildings and structures.  During normal operations, we facilitate approximately 350,000 individual visits per annum through delivery of a range of programs and services that include 62 scheduled group fitness classes per week, 658 weekly learn-to-swim classes catering to over 2,800 children, support and provide a venue for 40+ associations and user groups and welcome over 11,000 visitors to the outdoor pools over the summer season.	<i>Inc</i>	4,252	4,840	5,266
		<i>Exp</i>	7,884	7,545	7,925
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(3,592)	(2,705)	(2,659)
Statutory Planning	Provide statutory planning information, advice and assessment. We process approximately 900 planning applications per annum, as well as responding to requests for information and advice from the community, businesses and developers. We also maintain and manage relationships with over 25 statutory and advisory agencies that are directly involved in the planning permit application process.  We are also responsible for planning compliance with the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme, through investigation of alleged contraventions, auditing of permit conditions, education and awareness.	<i>Inc</i>	3,968	3,211	3,196
		<i>Exp</i>	1,448	1,090	1,018
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	2,520	2,121	2,178

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Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual	Forecast	Budget
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Open Space	Provision of management and maintenance services for Council's Open Space network, which includes sportsgrounds and recreation reserves, parks and gardens, play spaces, botanic gardens and street and park trees. These assets provide social and environmental values for our community.	<i>Inc</i>	157	23	23
		<i>Exp</i>	5,346	5,974	5,863
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(5,189)	(5,951)	(5,840)
Assets and Project Management Office	Provide project management for capital works projects related to our buildings and open-space infrastructure.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	1,025	777	950
	Provide accurate, up-to-date data on our infrastructure assets to ensure informed decision-making and improve the efficiency with which we manage our infrastructure.	<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,025)	(777)	(950)
		Revalue the infrastructure assets, in accordance with relevant Australian Accounting Standards and other Victorian Government requirements, to ensure a direct link with our financial position.			
Assess developments and projects proposed by developers, and ensure they comply with relevant Australian Standards, manuals and our engineering guidelines, and supervise the delivery of those works, ensuring future generations inherit good-quality infrastructure.					

Listed below are initiatives included in the 2024-25 Budget that align directly to the Council Plan and will achieve the delivery of the strategic objective of **connecting communities**.

**Major**

- Complete the construction of the Macedon Ranges Shared Trails Project.
- Complete the design documentation, undertake tender process and commence construction of Stage 2 of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project.
- In partnership with Hepburn Shire Council continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for support to undertake preconstruction planning for the Daylesford to Hanging Rock Shared Trail project.
- Advocate for funding of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project for Stage 3
- Team Leader Botanic Gardens – Will be responsible for leading and delivering the Botanic Gardens Horticulture Team overseeing the maintenance and development activities at Council's three botanic gardens and high profile parks such as at Romsey Ecotherapy Park, and Kyneton Community Park.

**Other**

- The annual road program is to be undertaken at Lauriston Road Kyneton, Burke and Wills Track Baynton, Kyneton - Metcalfe Road Malmsbury, Kyneton – Spring Hill Road Spring Hill, Fersfield Road Gisborne and Old Lancefield Road Woodend.

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- Other road programs include the delivery of the annual bitumen resurfacing, gravel road renewal, road stabilisation, minor traffic works, intersection upgrades and guardrail programs.
- Increase maintenance budgets in the following areas; bridge and major culverts, drainage, guardrail repairs and traffic management.
- Drainage program works are scheduled for Fersfield Road Gisborne, Malmsbury Botanical Gardens and Glens Court Woodend
- Resurface the netball courts at the Romsey Recreation Reserve.
- Installation of a low height perimeter secure fence at the bottom oval, adjacent to the field event areas, at the Kyneton Showgrounds, as per the masterplan.
- Carry out LED lighting upgrade at the Gilligan Reserve, South Gisborne, following design work completed in 2023-24, this project is subject to grant funding.
- Undertake reconstruction works of existing failing tennis courts at the Woodend Tennis Club
- Resurface the tennis courts at the Romsey Recreation Reserve.
- Gisborne Aquatic Centre office renovations to better utilise the space available to meet staffs' requirements.
- An allocation of funds to carry out a site feasibility study to determine best location for the Gisborne skate park.
- Develop the netball facilities at the Kyneton Showgrounds Reserve. Detailed design work was undertaken during 2022-23, works scheduled for 2023-24 include the upgrade of the netball courts, the 2024-25 allocation is to finalise the court works and undertake change room construction.
- Undertake the design of female friendly changerooms upgrade at the Woodend Racecourse Reserve.
- Progress concept design to detailed design for Bowling Clubrooms upgrade at the Tony Clarke Reserve.
- Undertake sewer connection, carpark and solar light design works at the 1st Riddells Creek Scout Group's Hall.
- Undertake an electrical audit of the Malmsbury Town Hall, subject to audit recommendations install new electric ovens.
- Upgrade the lift at the Kyneton Sports and Aquatic Centre.
- Replace the multi-purpose floor at the Buffalo Stadium.
- Undertake internal carpet and external decking replacement at the Gilbert Gordon Social Rooms.
- Renew the automatic door at the Romsey Hub.
- Undertake renewal/upgrade works at the Gisborne Mechanics Community Centre to address identified works from a recent condition assessment.
- Undertake renewal/upgrade works at the Bolinda Hall to address identified works from a recent condition assessment.
- Design two new tennis courts at the Ross Watt Reserve in line with the Reserve's Master Plan.
- Purchase of a wide area mower/tractor for the open space and recreation department to undertake mowing requirements across the shires open space areas.
- Install a cleaners sink and associated plumbing works at the Riddells Creek Senior Citizens.
- To adhere to the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020, a revised asset plan must be formulated following a Council Election. Adequate funds have been allocated to facilitate the engagement of necessary assistance.
- Asset Inspector – This position will undertake road asset inspections to ensure Council complies with its Road Management Plan. The position will ensure drainage pits, guardrails, guideposts, and trees meet standard and are in line with the Road Management Plan.
- Horticulture Apprentice – This position will undertake Horticulture duties for specialised maintenance in Council's three Botanic Gardens and Romsey Ecotherapy Park.

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## 8.2. Strategic objective 2. Healthy environment, healthy people

We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, community safety, and arts and culture.

We will protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity and enhance water catchment quality. The Macedon Ranges Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2021.

We will take action to reduce waste in order to protect public health and the environment.

### Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual	Forecast	Budget
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Director Planning and Environment	Provide guidance to the business across the built environment and other priorities of Council.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	593	438	445
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(593)	(438)	(445)
Director Community	Provide guidance to the business across strong and reliable government, and other priorities of Council.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	370	425	394
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(370)	(425)	(394)
Environment	Guide and support Council and the community to develop and implement policies, strategies and plans, to achieve innovative sustainable practices, and manage and enhance Council's bushland reserves, waterways and roadsides.	<i>Inc</i>	125	252	122
		<i>Exp</i>	1,745	2,093	1,839
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,620)	(1,841)	(1,717)
Community Wellbeing	Provide guidance and support across Council to implement actions in the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and Disability Action Plan.	<i>Inc</i>	1,871	884	524
		<i>Exp</i>	3,879	1,343	970
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(2,008)	(459)	(446)
Community Strengthening	Support and advocate for older people in our community through the Community Connections Unit, acting as a connector and delivering or partnering with community groups to deliver inclusive programs	<i>Inc</i>	812	1,460	138
		<i>Exp</i>	3,152	4,436	3,103
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(2,340)	(2,976)	(2,965)
Library Services	Provide the first point of contact to customers at our four service centres and manage in excess of 65,000 telephone calls each year. Emergency Management and Municipal Recovery services supports the community preparedness, response and recovery in an emergency.	<i>Inc</i>	28	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	1,472	1,480	1,497
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,444)	(1,480)	(1,497)

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Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual	Forecast	Budget
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Resource Recovery	Deliver high-quality kerbside waste and recycling collection services, and general waste management, which includes transfer stations, public place bins, disposing of waste, street cleaning, management of former landfill sites and other waste management services.	<i>Inc</i>	18,042	2,459	3,818
		<i>Exp</i>	26,810	14,304	14,863
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(8,868)	(11,847)	(11,054)
Children, Youth and Family Services	<p>These services provide early years services planning and operations, including delivery of 3- and 4-year-old kindergarten to over 850 children in eight kindergartens across the shire.</p> <p>These services also provide maternal and child health support for up to 600 infants and their families each year. Our nurses conduct approximately 4,700 key ages-and-stages consultations each year for infants and children aged 0–6 years. They also operate supported playgroups and new parent groups.</p> <p>A range of youth programs are provided, such as Youth Spaces, Live4Life, Youth Leadership and Music in the Sticks, to over 3,000 young people each year.</p>	<i>Inc</i>	5,968	7,806	7,641
		<i>Exp</i>	7,457	8,280	8,534
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,489)	(474)	(893)
Recreation	<p>Service delivery and provision of assistance to 81 sporting clubs, including seasonal allocation, leases and use agreements. Open space and recreation planning for the development and upgrade of Council-owned facilities including facilitating master plans and strategic direction for facility development, playgrounds and skate parks.</p> <p>This Service assists in the planning and delivery of capital projects to deliver active and passive recreation benefits, for example, Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct and shire-wide shared trails projects.</p> <p>Promote the activation of open space and facilities to encourage more people to get more active more often.</p>	<i>Inc</i>	41	41	45
		<i>Exp</i>	555	734	600
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(514)	(693)	(555)
Strategic Planning	<p>Develop policies, strategies and plans to manage growth and development in suitable locations, and to achieve sustainable environmental, economic and social outcomes.</p> <p>Provide a Heritage Advisory Service, which assists the community and staff in assessing heritage value.</p> <p>Convert policies into the formal decision-making framework, such as planning scheme amendments.</p>	<i>Inc</i>	98	147	136
		<i>Exp</i>	1,472	2,107	1,670
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,374)	(1,960)	(1,534)

Service area	Description of services provided	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
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			Actual	Forecast	Budget
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Arts and Events	Guide and support Council and the community to develop policies, strategies and plans, to achieve innovative sustainable practices that ensure the preservation of limited resources. Manage and deliver Council's annual Community Funding Scheme to enable community groups to access up to \$160,000 of funding for community health and wellbeing projects.	<i>Inc</i>	334	365	317
		<i>Exp</i>	925	1,017	949
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(591)	(652)	(632)
Arts and Events (Cont.)	Present a program of performance, visual arts, cultural and heritage events in five venues, which are attended by over 45,000 residents and visitors each year. Support local community-driven events in our community halls. Curate a creative kids school holiday program (KTH Kids), with local artists presenting local content for local kids. Foster historical interest, preserve and collect social history items, and present contemporary exhibitions and public programs at Kyneton Museum.				
Safer Communities	Respond to matters relating to domestic pets, livestock, local law issues, littering and parking offences, to enhance and protect community safety. We register and record over 13,400 dogs and cats.  Provide services that assist in keeping our community safe, through providing 21 school-crossing services, wastewater management, and compliance with food legislation, via more than 385 class 1 and class 2 food safety assessments annually.  Deliver the immunisation program, including preschool sessions in Gisborne, Kyneton, Woodend, Riddells Creek and Romsey. The school program involves three visits to seven secondary colleges.	<i>Inc</i>	1,475	1,720	1,727
		<i>Exp</i>	2,835	3,402	3,442
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,360)	(1,682)	(1,715)

Listed below are initiatives included in the 2024-25 Budget that align directly to the Council Plan and will achieve the delivery of the strategic objective of **healthy environment, healthy people**.

**Major**

- Deliver the Year 2 actions in Council's Zero Net Emissions Plan for Operations
- Continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for Barrm Birm to become a State Park due to its significant flora and fauna.
- Commence the implementation of the Gisborne and Romsey Structure Plan. This is a three-year program, the program will work to implement the protected settlement boundary and planning scheme amendment to rezone land, apply overlays, develop guidelines and policy that is included in the planning scheme for future development.

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- Finalise the preparation of a new Public Open Space Strategy to guide the provision of improvements to the open space network, which are required to service the existing and future needs of the shire's community.

#### Other

- Review and rewrite Council's Domestic Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP), officers will also undertake consultation as part of the review.
- Commence a Planning Scheme Review, Section 12B of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 stipulates a review must be within 12 months of a Council election.
- Woodend and Kyneton Flood Study implementation, this involves a planning scheme amendment to implement both flood studies into the planning scheme.
- Continue to support the Healthy Landscapes program by providing Council's project partner a contribution to continue the program and support to the Shire's rural landowners to adapt to climate change and build capacity to engage in the carbon market.
- Allocation of funds to support Council's Gambling Harm Policy in providing education to the community.
- Finalise the new circular economy education and engagement plan and commence its implementation.
- Furnish the new Lancefield Kindergarten and Maternal and Child Health Centre, these furnishings will ensure the site is functional when open to the community.
- Undertake an independent review of Council's Life4Life program, the review includes the effectiveness, impact and cost-efficiency of the program across the Shire.
- Increase Council's funding for tree planting to address the identified vacant tree planting sites across the Shire.
- Statutory Planning Administration Officer – this position will be dedicated to in-house advertising of statutory planning applications. It is expected from the appointment of this role that the timeframes will decrease for issuing planning permit decisions, ultimately enhancing efficiency and minimising planning delays, resulting in a net benefit for Council.
- Strategic Planning Officer (3 years) – this position will oversee the implementation of the Woodend and Kyneton Flood Study into the planning scheme, manage the planning scheme review process and support the progression of the future planning for Kyneton South area and potentially Clarkefield if it progresses.



## 8.3. Strategic objective 3. Business and tourism

We will foster economic vitality in a way that promotes positive individual and community health outcomes, including business diversity, housing, transport, information and communication technology, and employment options. Investment attracted to the shire will be consistent with the Community Vision.

### Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Economic Development and Visitor Economy	<p>In consultation with the community, develop policies, strategies and plans to achieve innovative sustainable practices that value our people and environment.</p> <p>Manage and deliver Council's annual Events and Festivals grants, to enable community groups to access up to \$75,000 of funding for community events and festivals.</p> <p>Provide visitor services through Council's Visitor Information Centres and through online channels, to encourage more community participation and raise visitor awareness.</p> <p>Support business activities and encourage local business networking and business-to-business connections.</p> <p>Manage Hanging Rock operations to ensure a quality visitor experience and environmental outcomes.</p> <p>Facilitate better connections between Council, groups and businesses.</p> <p>Advocate for support from the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments for actions that will increase the economic participation and security of Macedon Ranges.</p>	<i>Inc</i>	803	716	685
		<i>Exp</i>	2,752	2,798	2,484
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,949)	(2,082)	(1,799)

Listed below are initiatives included in the 2024-25 Budget that align directly to the Council Plan and will achieve the delivery of the strategic objective of **business and tourism**.

#### Major

- Implement key actions contained in Year 2 and 3 of Council's Economic Development Strategy 2021-2031.
- Support business development through providing networking and seminar support for local businesses across the Macedon Ranges.
- Continue to operate Hanging Rock operations ensuring the site is maintained as a key attraction and is managed in accordance with the Environmental Management Strategy.

**Other**

- Continue to promote the region as a destination for tourists in collaboration with the Hepburn Shire Council. (Daylesford and Macedon Ranges Tourism agreement)
- Provide funding to promote festivals and events across the shire.
- Use our allocated resources to build connections that support the creative economy, through professional development and networking opportunities for artists and craftspeople.
- Provide funding and promotional support to local businesses to improve their digital literacy and online presence.
- Drive advocacy measures and site-specific input and support, to accelerate improvements in telecommunications infrastructure and connectivity.
- Continue to promote local purchasing and the circular economy and maintain Council's status as a Small Business Friendly Council.
- Seek external funding to improve signage/ way finding within our town business centres.
- Funding for the Autumn Festival as a key action of Council's adopted Events Strategy 2021–2025. An annual commitment for the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival.
- Deliver the 2024 Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards program.
- Continue delivering actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018-2028.

## 8.4. Strategic objective 4. Deliver strong and reliable government

We will demonstrate the qualities of good governance, including a clear vision and culture, transparency, respect, consistency, accountability, and responsiveness.

### Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
CEO Office	Lead the organisation to deliver all the outcomes in the Council Plan.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	724	693	716
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(724)	(693)	(716)
Communications and Engagement	Provide in excess of 250 media releases, produce and distribute three printed <i>ShireLife</i> newsletters, and manage the website and social media channels.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	889	969	976
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(889)	(969)	(976)
Director Corporate	Provide guidance to the business across strong and reliable government, and other priorities of Council.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	606	735	1,065
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(606)	(735)	(1,065)
Corporate Governance	Support our elected Councillors in performing their role and the decision-making process, including Council Meetings, Assemblies of Councillors and Public Events.	<i>Inc</i>	5	1	1
		<i>Exp</i>	942	1,218	1,668
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(937)	(1,217)	(1,667)
Information Services	Provide and support an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) environment, which consists of over 80 servers, plus 700 laptop/desktop computers and mobile devices, with a wide area network spanning across more than 30 facilities within the shire. Progress the Digital Strategy to enhance our digital transformation, customer experience and Cloud journey. Provide project and contract management, business analysis and support services for both internally hosted and cloud-based applications, which support the operations of Council to ensure they are continually reviewed for adherence to industry best practice, system reliability and value for money. Lead our Information Management practices, as well as classify and register over 70,000 items of incoming correspondence (both physical and digital) each year, in accordance with the Public Records Act 1973. Maintain a Geographic Information System that provides over 800 layers of spatial data, covering more than 100 different themes. The system is accessible by all staff and a simplified version is available through our website.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	3,481	4,533	5,208
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(3,481)	(4,533)	(5,208)

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual	Forecast	Budget
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
People and Wellbeing	Provide advice and leadership to all employees in relation to recruitment, retention, induction and performance management, including volunteer management. Manage the learning and development function, providing staff with formal training opportunities that are facilitated, and a range of learning that is maintained on an eLearning platform and made available to the majority of employees.  Payroll processing and management encompass the needs of more than 650 staff members spanning all departments and functions within the organisation.  Provide expert occupational health and safety advice and measures to all managers and officers, to keep Council employees and the community safe. Our Risk and Insurance team supports the community and Council employees with the management of all insurance claims, strategic risk management and operational risk management.	<i>Inc</i>	222	163	162
		<i>Exp</i>	2,722	2,880	3,200
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(2,500)	(2,717)	(3,038)
Finance and Reporting	Pay more than 15,700 supplier invoices annually. The purchasing of goods and services are governed by our Procurement Policy, which aims for our purchasing processes to be open and transparent and deliver value for money.  Produce the financial information for the Budget Report, Financial Plan, Quarterly Reports and Annual Report, according to the requirements of Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act and best-practice reporting. We also provide commentary to help our community understand our financial performance and position.  Issue more than 84,000 rate instalments notices and 10,000 debtor invoices to users of Council services annually. We have provided our ratepayers with the option to receive email notices, and around 11% of our ratepayers now receive their notices electronically. We work with the Valuer-General Victoria to manage valuations for over 23,000 properties annually and approximately 1,500 supplementary valuations each year.  Lease over 100 properties to tenants for a variety of purposes, predominantly for community and recreational activities, and a small amount of commercial arrangements.  Oversee the Tender Process and Award approximately 60 contracts annually for Council approved Projects, provide contract advice to staff, and executive.	<i>Inc</i>	13,895	2,833	11,609
		<i>Exp</i>	5,006	5,944	5,156
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	8,889	3,111	7,217

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Listed below are initiatives included in the 2024-25 Budget that align directly to the Council Plan and will achieve the delivery of the strategic objective to **deliver strong and reliable government**.

#### Major

- Adopt the Council Plan (Year Four) by 30 June 2024.
- Work with the Victorian Electoral Commission to deliver a successful election during October 2024, including attracting candidates, providing facilities, and information as required.

#### Other

- Progress the redevelopment of Council's suite of core Plans and Strategies in line with the requirements of Local Government Act 2020 following the Council election.
- Review the software requirements and solutions of Council to ensure that they support our organisational needs in accordance with relevant IT Strategies.
- Implement actions arising from the 2024 Employee Engagement Pulse survey and integrate responses to feedback into organisational actions and plans.
- Meet financial reporting requirements, in line with the Local Government Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework
- Redevelop Council's ongoing continuous improvement and service review program and commence a program of service reviews across Council services.
- Complete the induction and training of elected Councillors to enable effective decision making by ensuring understanding of the Governance role of Council, Council's performance, and priorities for the Community.
- Engage a Microsoft partner to advise on configuration of SharePoint.
- Review council's requirements for Information Systems and available technologies.
- Implement ICT updates to ensure Council is protected against cybersecurity threats.
- Ensure sustainable financial management and the strategic allocation of resources, to deliver planned infrastructure and services.
- Review council's requirements for telephony and available technologies.
- Investigate migration of the ICT server room to cloud and cost benefits.
- Coordinator Performance and Assurance - Lead Council's corporate reporting, including operations reports, annual performance statement reporting, and oversight of the Audit Risk Committee, and monitor adherence with Council's compliance obligations, the Strategies, Plans and Policies Framework, including quality control and review.

## 8.5. Overall service performance outcome indicators

The Victorian Government introduced a new Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) which became mandatory for implementation by councils as part of the planning and reporting cycle in FY2015-16. The following are the prescribed indicators within the regulations:

Service	Indicator	Performance measure	Computation
Governance	Consultation and Engagement	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement. (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement
Statutory Planning	Service Standard	Planning applications decided within required timeframes (percentage of regular and VicSmart planning application decisions made within legislated timeframes)	[Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days for regular permits and 10 days for VicSmart permits / Number of planning application decisions made] x100
Roads	Condition	Sealed local roads below the intervention level (percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal)	[Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100
Libraries	Participation	Library membership (Percentage of the population that are registered library members)	[Number of registered library members / Population] x100
Waste Management	Waste Diversion	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill (percentage of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill)	[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins/weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities (number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population)	Number of visits to aquatic facilities/population
Animal Management	Health and Safety	Animal management prosecutions (percentage of animal management prosecutions that are successful)	Number of successful animal management prosecutions/total number of animal management prosecutions
Food Safety	Health and Safety	Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications (percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council)	[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up/number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about food premises] x100
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in the MCH service (percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year)/number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100
		Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children (percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year)/number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100

The prescribed indicators of service performance, as mandated by section 98 of the Act, must be reported in the performance statement. These indicators, specified in the regulations under section 98(4)(a) of the Act, serve as benchmarks for evaluating service performance.

**Performance Targets**

The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) consists of 59 measures across key financial deliverables and common service areas in Victoria. Enabled through the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councils are required to present their individual council results via the Performance Statement and the Report of Operations in their Annual Report. Local Government Victoria, as the stewards of the LGPRF, also collate and present the data for benchmarking across the sector.

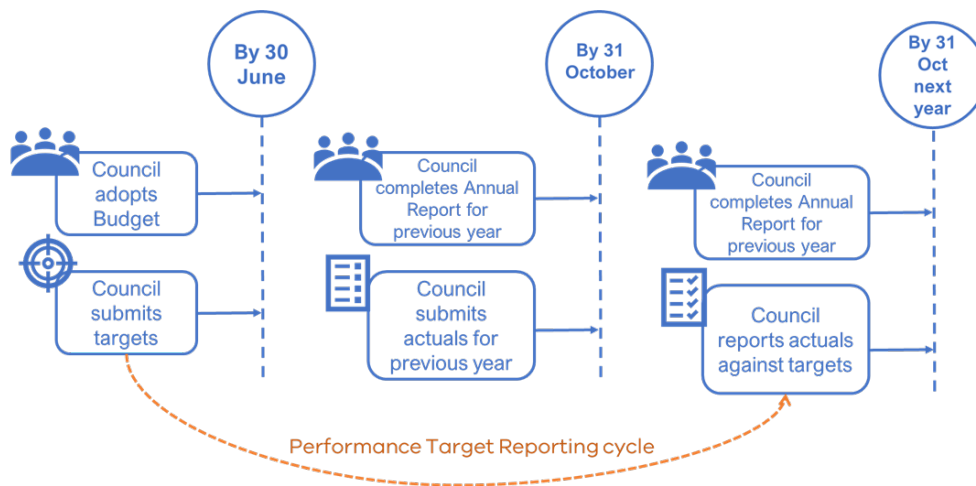
Contextually, the annual budget is fundamentally a target setting process, i.e., a public statement of a council’s intentions. Expanding on this, target setting against standardised performance measures (as per the LGPRF) would allow the public and stakeholders to view the council’s intentions through the Council’s Budget and assess how council has performed against its intentions via the Council’s Annual Report.

After development work with the sector (including technical working groups and target setting trials) and with the support of the Local Government Performance Reporting Steering Committee, the Minister for Local Government approved a target setting component within the LGPRF.

In October 2022, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations were amended to include a requirement for target setting against measures within the Budget and for reporting targets against results in the Council’s Performance Statement (Annual Report).

This step will form a link between the council budget and annual report. Councils will be required to set targets against eight performance indicators. Through consultation with the sector, these indicators were selected because of their relative stability and their appropriateness for the setting of targets. Through investment, staffing, management, or process improvement, council could influence the outcome of these measures.

Performance Target Reporting Cycle:



Source: *Local Government Better Practice Guide – Performance Target Guide For the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework 2023-24 Edition.*



Service measures	Measure Description	Actual 2022/23	Forecast 2023/24	Target 2024/25	Target 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28
<b><u>G2 - Governance – Consultation and engagement</u></b>	<b>Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement</b> (community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council)	45%	52%	54%	56%	58%	60%
<b><u>SP2 - Statutory Planning – Service standard</u></b>	<b>Planning applications decided within the relevant required time</b> (percentage of planning application decisions made within the relevant required time)	51%	60%	60%	62%	65%	65%
<b><u>R2 - Roads - Condition</u></b>	<b>Sealed local roads below the intervention level</b> (percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal)	93%	94%	95%	96%	96%	96%
<b><u>WC5 - Waste management – Waste diversion</u></b>	<b>Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill</b> (percentage of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill)	71%	74%	75%	76%	77%	78%
<b>Financial measures</b>							
<b><u>E2 - Financial efficiency – Expenditure</u></b>	<b>Expenses per property assessment</b> (total expenses per property assessment)	\$4,413	\$4,121	\$4,171	\$4,278	\$4,335	\$4,399
<b><u>S1 - Financial stability – Rates concentration</u></b>	<b>Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue</b> (rate revenue as a percentage of adjusted underlying revenue)	52%	62%	61%	66%	74%	61%
<b><u>L1 - Financial liquidity – Working capital</u></b>	<b>Current assets compared to current liabilities</b> (current assets as a percentage of current liabilities)	168%	123%	120%	112%	110%	104%
<b><u>O5 - Financial obligations – Asset renewal</u></b>	<b>Asset renewal compared to depreciation</b> (asset renewal and upgrade expense as a percentage of depreciation)	123%	112%	112%	127%	128%	126%

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## 8.6 Reconciliation with budgeted operating result

For the year ending 30 June 2025

	Surplus/ (deficit) \$'000	Expenditure \$'000	Revenue \$'000
Connecting communities	(14,374)	23,759	9,385
Healthy environment, healthy people	(23,838)	38,306	14,468
Business and tourism	(1,799)	2,484	685
Deliver strong and reliable government	(7,217)	18,989	11,772
<b>Total</b>	<b>(47,228)</b>	<b>83,538</b>	<b>36,310</b>
<b>Expenses added in:</b>			
Depreciation and amortisation	(17,612)		
Borrowing costs	(838)		
<b>Surplus/(deficit) before funding sources</b>	<b>(65,678)</b>		
<b>Funding sources added in:</b>			
Rates and charges revenue	52,284		
Waste charge revenue	12,133		
Capital project grant income	10,329		
Capital project contributions	65		
Proceeds on sale of vehicles	300		
Non-monetary asset contributions	8,250		
<b>Total funding sources</b>	<b>83,361</b>		
<b>Operating surplus / (deficit) for the year</b>	<b>17,683</b>		

# Please note numbers included in sections 2.6 to 4.6 of this document have been rounded to the nearest \$1,000

## 9. Financial statements

This section presents information regarding the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2024-25 has been supplemented with projections to 2027-28.

This section includes the following financial statements, prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*:

- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Changes in Equity
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Capital Works
- Statement of Human Resources
- Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
- Notes to the Financial Statements.

## Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

		Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Income</b>						
Rates and charges	10.1.1	62,286	<b>64,417</b>	66,731	69,106	71,544
Statutory fees and fines	10.1.2	3,710	<b>3,737</b>	3,812	3,888	3,966
User fees	10.1.3	7,411	<b>9,213</b>	9,466	9,727	9,994
Grants – operating	10.1.4(a)	17,782	<b>18,362</b>	18,729	19,104	19,486
Grants – capital	10.1.4(b)	7,118	<b>10,329</b>	20,656	10,591	13,367
Contributions – monetary	10.1.5	4,213	<b>2,175</b>	2,252	2,445	2,239
Contributions – non-monetary	10.1.5	21,500	<b>8,250</b>	8,250	8,250	8,250
Other income	10.1.6	10,704	<b>3,188</b>	3,246	3,305	3,365
<b>Total income</b>		<b>134,724</b>	<b>119,671</b>	<b>133,142</b>	<b>126,415</b>	<b>132,211</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Employee costs	10.1.7	42,778	<b>45,113</b>	46,466	47,860	49,296
Materials and services	10.1.8	35,558	<b>34,991</b>	36,216	37,483	38,795
Depreciation	10.1.9	16,639	<b>17,139</b>	17,500	18,000	18,500
Amortisation – intangible assets	10.1.10	52	<b>52</b>	30	15	-
Depreciation – right-of-use assets	10.1.11	372	<b>421</b>	443	391	380
Allowance for impairment losses		9	<b>9</b>	9	9	9
Borrowing costs		597	<b>838</b>	888	776	752
Finance costs – leases		39	<b>64</b>	49	34	17
Other expenses	10.1.12	3,075	<b>3,361</b>	4,554	4,630	4,708
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>99,119</b>	<b>101,988</b>	<b>106,155</b>	<b>109,199</b>	<b>112,457</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>35,605</b>	<b>17,683</b>	<b>26,987</b>	<b>17,217</b>	<b>19,754</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>						
<b>Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods</b>						
Net asset revaluation gain/ (loss)	10.1.13	20,000	<b>5,039</b>	4,989	21,546	4,767
<b>Total comprehensive result</b>		<b>55,605</b>	<b>22,722</b>	<b>31,976</b>	<b>38,762</b>	<b>24,521</b>

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## Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

		Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	NOTES	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Assets</b>						
<b>Current assets</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents		25,736	25,141	19,520	20,058	18,060
Trade and other receivables		9,893	9,564	10,724	10,165	10,631
Other assets		100	100	100	100	100
<b>Total current assets</b>	10.2.1	35,729	34,805	30,344	30,323	28,791
<b>Non-current assets</b>						
Other financial assets		21	21	21	21	21
Investments in associates, joint arrangement and subsidiaries		1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		1,473,927	1,496,746	1,529,562	1,569,618	1,594,121
Right-of-use assets	10.2.4	1,787	1,366	923	532	152
Investment property		2,933	2,933	2,933	2,933	2,933
Intangible assets		205	153	123	108	108
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	10.2.1	1,480,320	1,502,666	1,535,009	1,574,659	1,598,782
<b>Total assets</b>		1,516,049	1,537,471	1,565,353	1,604,982	1,627,573
<b>Liabilities</b>						
<b>Current liabilities</b>						
Trade and other payables		12,216	10,309	10,683	11,044	11,385
Trust funds and deposits		7,098	7,098	7,098	7,098	7,098
Contract and other liabilities		768	768	768	768	768
Provisions		6,256	6,256	6,256	6,256	6,256
Interest-bearing liabilities	10.2.3	2,261	4,092	1,776	1,845	1,941
Lease liabilities	10.2.4	468	426	442	447	186
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	10.2.2	29,067	28,949	27,023	27,457	27,635
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>						
Provisions		4,952	4,952	4,952	4,952	4,952
Interest-bearing liabilities	10.2.3	15,493	14,647	12,870	13,716	11,775
Lease liabilities	10.2.4	1,308	973	580	167	-
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	10.2.2	21,753	20,572	18,402	18,835	16,727
<b>Total liabilities</b>		50,820	49,521	45,426	46,293	44,362
<b>Net assets</b>		1,465,229	1,487,951	1,519,927	1,558,690	1,583,211
<b>Equity</b>						
Accumulated surplus		749,293	766,608	793,372	810,712	830,316
Reserves		715,936	721,343	726,555	747,978	752,895
<b>Total equity</b>		1,465,229	1,487,951	1,519,927	1,558,690	1,583,211

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## Statement of Changes in Equity

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
<b>2024 Forecast Actual</b>					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,409,624	713,711	675,194	20,719
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		35,605	35,605	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		20,000	-	20,000	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(4,266)	-	4,266
Transfers from other reserves		-	4,243	-	(4,243)
<b>Balance at end of the financial year</b>		<b>1,465,229</b>	<b>749,293</b>	<b>695,194</b>	<b>20,742</b>
<b>2025 Budget</b>					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,465,229	749,293	695,194	20,742
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		17,683	17,683	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		5,039	-	5,039	-
Transfers to other reserves	10.3.1	-	(2,341)	-	2,341
Transfers from other reserves	10.3.1	-	1,973	-	(1,972)
<b>Balance at end of the financial year</b>	<b>10.3.2</b>	<b>1,487,951</b>	<b>766,608</b>	<b>700,233</b>	<b>21,110</b>
<b>2026 Projection</b>					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,487,951	766,608	700,233	21,110
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		26,987	26,987	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		4,989	-	4,989	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(2,799)	-	2,799
Transfers from other reserves		-	2,576	-	(2,576)
<b>Balance at end of the financial year</b>		<b>1,519,927</b>	<b>793,372</b>	<b>705,222</b>	<b>21,333</b>
<b>2027 Projection</b>					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,519,927	793,372	705,222	21,333
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		17,217	17,217	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		21,546	-	21,546	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(2,939)	-	2,939
Transfers from other reserves		-	3,062	-	(3,062)
<b>Balance at end of the financial year</b>		<b>1,558,690</b>	<b>810,712</b>	<b>726,768</b>	<b>21,210</b>
<b>2028 Projection</b>					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,558,690	810,712	726,768	21,210
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		19,754	19,754	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		4,767	-	4,767	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(2,650)	-	2,650
Transfers from other reserves		-	2,500	-	(2,500)
<b>Balance at end of the financial year</b>		<b>1,583,211</b>	<b>830,316</b>	<b>731,535</b>	<b>21,360</b>

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## Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
		Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>						
Rates and charges		60,299	64,845	66,548	68,919	71,367
Statutory fees and fines		3,952	4,138	4,186	4,270	4,356
User fees		8,179	10,202	10,391	10,677	10,973
Grants – operating		17,236	18,484	18,700	19,074	19,459
Grants – capital		8,963	10,397	19,863	11,362	13,156
Contributions – monetary		4,213	2,175	2,252	2,445	2,239
Interest received		910	1,310	1,336	1,363	1,390
Trust funds and deposits taken		77	-	-	-	-
Other receipts		213	1,981	1,986	2,031	2,081
Net GST refund/payment		5,298	4,396	5,937	5,304	5,507
Employee costs		(42,786)	(45,124)	(46,477)	(47,872)	(49,308)
Materials and services		(33,418)	(40,322)	(39,513)	(40,898)	(42,357)
Trust funds and deposits repaid		-	-	-	-	-
Other payments		(3,205)	(3,776)	(4,969)	(5,077)	(5,165)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	10.4.1	<b>29,931</b>	<b>28,706</b>	<b>40,240</b>	<b>31,598</b>	<b>33,698</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>						
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(55,369)	(29,336)	(40,785)	(31,086)	(32,984)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		660	330	330	330	330
Proceeds from sale of investments		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>	10.4.2	<b>(54,709)</b>	<b>(29,006)</b>	<b>(40,455)</b>	<b>(30,756)</b>	<b>(32,654)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>						
Finance costs		(558)	(838)	(888)	(776)	(752)
Proceeds from borrowings		12,800	2,500	-	2,800	-
Repayment of borrowings		(844)	(1,516)	(4,092)	(1,886)	(1,845)
Interest paid – lease liability		(39)	(64)	(49)	(34)	(17)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(422)	(377)	(377)	(408)	(428)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities</b>	10.4.3	<b>10,937</b>	<b>(295)</b>	<b>(5,406)</b>	<b>(304)</b>	<b>(3,042)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(13,841)</b>	<b>(595)</b>	<b>(5,621)</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>(1,998)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		39,577	25,736	25,141	19,520	20,058
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>		<b>25,736</b>	<b>25,141</b>	<b>19,520</b>	<b>20,058</b>	<b>18,060</b>

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## Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
<b>Property</b>						
Land		310	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Land</b>		<b>310</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Buildings		3,224	2,350	7,535	8,285	2,085
<b>Total buildings</b>		<b>3,224</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>7,535</b>	<b>8,285</b>	<b>2,085</b>
<b>Total property</b>		<b>3,534</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>7,535</b>	<b>8,285</b>	<b>2,085</b>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>						
Plant, machinery and equipment		2,622	1,795	1,625	1,625	1,625
Computers and telecommunications		300	285	672	310	265
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		-	55	-	-	-
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>		<b>2,922</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>2,297</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>1,890</b>
<b>Infrastructure<sup>1</sup></b>						
Roads		10,264	12,506	10,771	11,821	10,804
Bridges		1,440	257	1,083	736	356
Footpaths and cycleway		1,247	1,695	600	1,123	11,023
Drainage		507	806	692	717	763
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		6,415	6,045	12,909	2,733	2,175
Parks, open space and streetscapes		371	80	745	465	445
Other infrastructure		1,600	795	445	445	445
<b>Total infrastructure</b>		<b>21,844</b>	<b>22,184</b>	<b>27,245</b>	<b>18,040</b>	<b>26,011</b>
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	10.5.1	<b>28,300</b>	<b>26,669</b>	<b>37,077</b>	<b>28,260</b>	<b>29,986</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>						
New asset expenditure		7,254	7,414	16,916	7,169	10,533
Asset renewal expenditure		19,735	16,920	14,529	15,772	13,854
Asset upgrade expenditure		1,311	2,335	5,632	5,319	5,599
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	10.5.1	<b>28,300</b>	<b>26,669</b>	<b>37,077</b>	<b>28,260</b>	<b>29,986</b>
<b>Funding sources represented by:</b>						
Grants		7,118	10,329	20,656	10,591	13,367
Contributions		546	65	100	250	-
Council cash		18,336	13,775	16,321	14,619	16,619
Borrowings		2,300	2,500	-	2,800	-
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	10.5.1	<b>28,300</b>	<b>26,669</b>	<b>37,077</b>	<b>28,260</b>	<b>29,986</b>

<sup>1</sup> Each year, Capital Works allocations are made in accordance with Council's Financial Plan and Asset Plan. These allocations are contingent on the renewal needs identified in the Asset Plan, as well as the addition of new projects as deemed necessary.

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## Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Staff Expenditure</b>					
Employee costs – operating	42,778	45,113	46,466	47,860	49,296
Employee costs – capital	1,930	2,796	2,712	2,794	2,877
<b>Total staff expenditure</b>	<b>44,708</b>	<b>47,909</b>	<b>49,178</b>	<b>50,654</b>	<b>52,173</b>
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
<b>Staff numbers</b>					
Employees*	426	445	450	455	460
Capitalised labour **	21	21	21	21	21
<b>Total staff numbers</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>481</b>

\* The rise of 19 full-time equivalents (FTE) from 2023/24 to 2024/25 encompasses new positions outlined in the 2024-25 Budget. Additionally, the introduction of the *Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs Better Pay) Act 2022*, effective in 2023/24, played a role in the increase. This legislation transitioned staff on Fixed Term Contracts to permanent positions, contributing to the overall FTE growth. In future years the annual FTE increases have been included at 5 FTE per year.

\*\* For a definition of Capitalised labour refer to the Summary of Planned Human Resources Full Time Equivalent Staff.

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below.

Department	NOTES	Budget 2024/25	Full Time	Part Time	Casual	Temporary
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
CEO Office		1,206	1,061	145	-	-
Assets and Operations		17,663	12,103	2,837	2,723	-
Community		10,934	3,403	6,916	615	-
Corporate		6,496	4,362	1,871	263	-
Planning and Environment		8,814	6,060	2,258	496	-
<b>Total staff expenditure</b>		<b>45,113</b>	<b>26,989</b>	<b>14,027</b>	<b>4,097</b>	-
<b>Total permanent staff expenditure</b>		<b>45,113</b>				
Capitalised labour costs		2,796				
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>47,909</b>				
<b>Staff numbers</b>		<b>FTE</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>FTE</b>
CEO Office		8.6	7.0	1.6	-	-
Assets and Operations		171.0	105.5	31.5	34.0	-
Community		117.7	29.0	81.0	7.7	-
Corporate		61.5	40.0	18.2	3.3	-
Planning and Environment		86.6	56.0	24.4	6.2	-
<b>Total staff numbers</b>		<b>445.4</b>	<b>237.5</b>	<b>156.7</b>	<b>51.2</b>	-

Macedon Ranges Shire Council **Annual Budget 2024-25**  
Draft for adoption by Council (Version 3.1)

## Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	Budget	Projections		
	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
<b>CEO Office</b>				
Permanent – full time	1,061	1,111	1,144	1,178
Permanent – part time	145	157	162	167
<b>Total CEO Office</b>	<b>1,206</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>1,306</b>	<b>1,345</b>
<b>Assets and Operations</b>				
Permanent – full time	12,103	12,546	12,922	13,310
Permanent – part time	2,837	3,020	3,111	3,204
<b>Total Assets and Operation</b>	<b>14,940</b>	<b>15,566</b>	<b>16,033</b>	<b>16,514</b>
<b>Community</b>				
Permanent – full time	3,403	3,485	3,590	3,697
Permanent – part time	6,916	7,016	7,226	7,444
<b>Total Community</b>	<b>10,319</b>	<b>10,501</b>	<b>10,816</b>	<b>11,141</b>
<b>Corporate</b>				
Permanent – full time	4,362	4,414	4,547	4,683
Permanent – part time	1,871	1,903	1,961	2,019
<b>Total Corporate</b>	<b>6,233</b>	<b>6,317</b>	<b>6,508</b>	<b>6,702</b>
<b>Planning and Environment</b>				
Permanent – full time	6,060	6,273	6,461	6,654
Permanent – part time	2,258	2,277	2,345	2,416
<b>Total Planning and Environment</b>	<b>8,318</b>	<b>8,550</b>	<b>8,806</b>	<b>9,070</b>
<b>Casuals, temporary and other expenditure</b>	<b>4,097</b>	<b>4,263</b>	<b>4,391</b>	<b>4,523</b>
<b>Total staff operating expenditure</b>	<b>45,113</b>	<b>46,466</b>	<b>47,860</b>	<b>49,296</b>
<b>Capitalised labour costs</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>2,712</b>	<b>2,794</b>	<b>2,877</b>
<b>Total staff expenditure</b>	<b>47,909</b>	<b>49,178</b>	<b>50,654</b>	<b>52,173</b>

Macedon Ranges Shire Council **Annual Budget 2024-25**  
Draft for adoption by Council (Version 3.1)

## Summary of Planned Human Resources Full-Time Equivalent Staff

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	Budget	Projections		
	2024/25 FTE	2025/26 FTE	2026/27 FTE	2027/28 FTE
<b>CEO Office</b>				
Permanent – full time	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0
Permanent – part time	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
<b>Total CEO Office</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>11.6</b>
<b>Assets and Operations</b>				
Permanent – full time	105.5	106.5	107.5	108.5
Permanent – part time	31.5	31.5	31.5	31.5
<b>Total Assets and Operation</b>	<b>137.0</b>	<b>138.0</b>	<b>139.0</b>	<b>140.0</b>
<b>Community</b>				
Permanent – full time	29.0	30.0	31.0	32.0
Permanent – part time	81.0	81.0	81.0	81.0
<b>Total Community</b>	<b>110.0</b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>112.0</b>	<b>113.0</b>
<b>Corporate</b>				
Permanent – full time	40.0	41.0	42.0	43.0
Permanent – part time	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2
<b>Total Corporate</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>61.2</b>
<b>Planning and Environment</b>				
Permanent – full time	56.0	57.0	58.0	59.0
Permanent – part time	24.4	24.4	24.4	24.4
<b>Total Planning and Environment</b>	<b>80.4</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>82.4</b>	<b>83.4</b>
<b>Casuals and Temporary Staff</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>51.2</b>
<b>Total Operating Full-time Equivalent Staff</b>	<b>445.4</b>	<b>450.4</b>	<b>455.4</b>	<b>460.4</b>
<b>Capitalised Labour **</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>20.5</b>
<b>Total Full-time Equivalent Staff</b>	<b>465.9</b>	<b>470.9</b>	<b>475.9</b>	<b>480.9</b>

\*\* Capitalised labour refers to treating certain labour costs as part of the cost of acquiring or constructing a long-term asset, rather than immediately expensing them as operating expenses. These labour costs are then spread out over the useful life of the asset and depreciated accordingly.

## 10. Notes to the financial statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and the nature of these components.

### 10.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

#### 10.1.1 Rates and charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's Budget.

As per the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four-year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, programs and services, and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing this Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount that councils may increase rates in a year. For 2024-25, the FGRS cap has been set at 2.75%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated based on Council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income, and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives, while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate and the municipal charge will increase by 2.75%, in line with the rate cap.

This will raise total rates and charges for 2024-25 to \$64,271,000.

**10.1.1(a)** The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

Type of charge	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	Forecast	Budget	\$'000	%
General charge	44,466	<b>45,989</b>	1,523	<b>3.42</b>
Municipal charge	4,564	<b>5,201</b>	637	<b>13.96</b>
Kerbside collection and recycling	11,988	<b>11,988</b>	-	-
Supplementary rates and charges	818	<b>643</b>	(175)	<b>(21.39)</b>
Interest on rates and charges	450	<b>450</b>	-	-
<b>Total rates and charges</b>	62,286	<b>64,271</b>	1,985	<b>3.19</b>

\* The percentage change to the general charge is greater than the rate cap of 2.75%, because Council receives additional revenue through supplementary valuations throughout the year.

**10.1.1(b)** The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land, compared with the previous financial year, is:

Type or class of land	2023/24	2024/25	Change %
	cents/\$CIV	cents/\$CIV	
General rate for rateable residential properties	0.00179840	<b>0.0018576</b>	<b>3.29</b>
Agricultural land rate	0.00143872	<b>0.0014861</b>	<b>3.29</b>
Commercial/industrial rate	0.00215808	<b>0.0022291</b>	<b>3.29</b>
Recreational land rate	0.00089920	<b>0.0009288</b>	<b>3.29</b>
Not-for-profit housing rate	0.00089920	<b>0.0009288</b>	<b>3.29</b>

*Note: Rates in the dollar for 2024/25 have increased, due to the lower property values determined in the 2024 General Valuation of properties.*

**10.1.1(c)** The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year is:

Type or class of land	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Residential	39,125	<b>40,711</b>	1,586	<b>4.05</b>
Agricultural	2,895	<b>2,779</b>	(116)	<b>(4.00)</b>
Commercial/industrial	2,384	<b>2,437</b>	53	<b>2.22</b>
Recreational land	20	<b>19</b>	(1)	<b>(5.00)</b>
Not-for-profit housing	42	<b>43</b>	1	<b>2.38</b>
<b>Total amount to be raised by general rates</b>	<b>44,466</b>	<b>45,989</b>	<b>1,523</b>	<b>3.42</b>

**10.1.1(d)** The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year is:

Type or class of land	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	Number	Number	Number	%
Residential	22,107	<b>22,467</b>	360	<b>1.63</b>
Agricultural	1,000	<b>983</b>	(17)	<b>(1.70)</b>
Commercial/industrial	1,193	<b>1,224</b>	31	<b>2.60</b>
Recreational land	9	<b>9</b>	-	-
Not-for-profit housing	152	<b>152</b>	-	-
<b>Total number of assessments</b>	<b>24,461</b>	<b>24,835</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>1.53</b>

**10.1.1(e)** The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value (CIV).

**10.1.1(f)** The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year is:

Type or class of land	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Residential	21,749,453	<b>21,586,675</b>	(162,778)	<b>(0.75)</b>
Agricultural	2,008,635	<b>2,069,350</b>	60,715	<b>3.02</b>
Commercial/industrial	1,122,971	<b>1,233,168</b>	110,198	<b>9.81</b>
Recreational land	21,800	<b>19,300</b>	(2,500)	<b>(11.47)</b>
Not-for-profit housing	47,000	<b>51,055</b>	4,055	<b>8.63</b>
<b>Total value of land</b>	24,949,859	<b>24,959,548</b>	9,689	<b>0.04</b>

**10.1.1(g)** The municipal charge under Section 159 of the Act compared with the previous financial year is:

Type of charge	Per rateable property 2023/24	Per rateable property 2024/25	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Municipal	189	<b>212</b>	23	<b>12.17</b>

**10.1.1(h)** The estimated total amount to be raised by municipal charges, compared with the previous financial year is:

Type of charge	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Municipal	4,564	<b>5,201</b>	637	<b>13.96</b>

**10.1.1(i)** The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act, compared with the previous financial year is:

Type of charge	Per rateable property 2023/24	Per rateable property 2024/25	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Kerbside waste and recycling collection with FOGO	495	<b>495</b>	-	-
EPA Levy	46	<b>40</b>	(6)	<b>(13.04)</b>
<b>Total</b>	541	<b>535</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(1.11)</b>



**10.1.1(j)** The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year is:

Type of charge	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Kerbside waste and recycling collection	11,086	11,204	118	1.06
EPA Levy	902	784	(118)	(13.08)
<b>Total</b>	11,988	11,988	-	-

**10.1.1(k)** The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year is:

Type of charge	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
General rates	44,466	45,989	1,523	3.43
Municipal charge	4,564	5,202	638	13.98
Kerbside collection and recycling	11,988	11,988	-	-
<b>Total rates and charges</b>	61,018	63,179	2,161	3.54

#### 10.1.1(l) Fair Go Rates System compliance

The Macedon Ranges Shire Council is fully compliant with the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). The table below details the budget assumptions consistent with the requirements of the FGRS.

	2023/24	2024/25
Total rates	\$49,589,000	\$51,191,000
Number of rateable properties	24,461	24,835
Base average rate	\$1,901	\$2,006
<b>Maximum rate increase (set by the Victorian Government)</b>	<b>3.50%</b>	<b>2.75%</b>
Capped average rate	\$1,934	\$2,061
Maximum general rates and municipal charges revenue	\$46,527,645	\$51,189,598
Budgeted general rates and municipal charges revenue	\$46,527,645	\$51,189,598
Budgeted supplementary rates	\$850,000	\$634,000
Budgeted total rates and municipal charges revenue	\$47,377,645	\$51,832,615

**10.1.1(m)** Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges

There are no known significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- the level of supplementary valuations processed
- the variation of returned levels of value (for example, valuation appeals)
- changes of use of land, such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa
- changes of use of land, such that residential land becomes agricultural land and vice versa.

### 10.1.1(n) Differential rates

Council's Rating Strategy can be found in its Revenue and Rating Plan. In summary, Council has established a rating structure comprised of three key elements, which are:

- property rates – based on the value of the property
- a municipal charge – that reflects a common contribution to the governance costs of Council
- service charges – that reflect availability and usage of waste services provided by Council.

Striking a proper balance between these elements aims for equity in the distribution of rates and charges across ratepayers. Council makes a further distinction, within the property value element, which is a differential rate (that is, rates based on the purpose for which the property is used). This distinction is based on the concept that property owners should pay a fair and equitable contribution to rates, taking into account the benefit that may be derived from the services Council provides.

The three major differential rates are the:

- General Rate that applies to most residential property and vacant land
- Business Rate that applies to properties that are used for commercial, industrial or professional purposes. The Business Rate is 20% more than the General Rate
- Agricultural Land Rate that applies to land defined as farmland, and for which the owner or occupier is regarded as a primary producer by the Australian Taxation Office. The Agricultural Land Rate is 20% less than the General Rate.

Section 161 of the Local Government Act 1989 allows a council to raise rates by a differential rate, if the council uses the capital-improved value system of valuing land, and if it considers that the differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of the council's functions.

In accordance with Section 161 of the Local Government Act 1989, Council specified the following objectives and characteristics in relation to its differential rates.

For the General Rate:

1. the types and classes of land to which the rate applies is all rateable land, other than agricultural land, recreational land, commercial/industrial land and land used by not-for-profit organisations to provide low-income residential housing
2. the differential rate is considered fair and equitable, having regarded the:
  - a. amount of revenue required to be raised is in accordance with the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Budget
  - b. range and quality of infrastructure, physical services, health services and community services available to the owners and occupiers of residential properties and vacant land.

For the Business (Commercial/Industrial) Rate:

1. the types and classes of land to which the rate will apply are all rateable land that is not agricultural land, and which is used predominantly for carrying on one or more of the following activities for the purpose of generating income – commercial, industrial, business, wholesale trade, retail trade, manufacturing, professional or administrative
2. the differential rate is considered fair and equitable having regarded the:
  - a. amount of revenue required to be raised in accordance with the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Annual Budget
  - b. range and quality of infrastructure, physical services (including street lighting and street cleaning, car parking) and facilities available to the owners and occupiers of land described in paragraph 1.

For the Agricultural Land Rate:

1. the types and classes of land to which the rate applies are agricultural land, which means any rateable land within the Council's municipal district defined as farmland under Section 2 of the Valuation of Land Act 1960, on the condition that the owner or occupier of the land is a person carrying out the activities defined by the Valuation of Land Act 1960, who is regarded as a primary producer by the Australian Taxation Office.
2. the differential rate is considered fair and equitable having regarded:
  - a. that the amount of revenue required to be raised is in accordance with the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Budget
  - b. the range and quality of infrastructure, physical services, health services and community services available to the owners and occupiers of agricultural land
  - c. restrictions on the use and development of agricultural land in the Planning Scheme
  - d. the need to encourage the retention of viable agricultural land for agricultural purposes.

Council also has two minor differential rating categories that are:

- Not-for-Profit Housing
- Recreational Land.

For the Not-for-Profit Housing Rate:

1. the types and classes of land to which the rate will apply are properties containing low-income residential housing owned and/or managed by a volunteer, charitable or not-for-profit organisation, for which the organisation is responsible for the payment of rates, and for which a Victorian Government pension concession is not claimed. The Not-for-Profit Housing Rate is 50% of the General Rate
2. the differential rate is considered as fair and equitable having regarded the:
  - a. amount of revenue required to be raised in accordance with the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Budget; and
  - b. public service that volunteer, charitable or not-for-profit organisations are delivering to the community, by providing low-income residential housing. In accordance with Section 2 of the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*, Council declared all rateable Cultural and Recreational Land to be rated at 50% of the General Rate.

For the Recreational Rate:

1. the types and classes of land to which the rate will apply are properties that are occupied by a body that exists for cultural or recreational purposes, and applies its profits in promoting the furthering of this purpose. The objective of the rate is to recognise the large contribution that these community organisations and the volunteers make to the shire, in the provision of sporting, cultural and recreational activities. In accordance with Section 2 of the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act, Council declared all rateable Cultural and Recreational Land to be rated at 50% of the General Rate.
2. the differential rate is considered as fair and equitable having regarded the:
  - a. amount of revenue required to be raised in accordance with the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Annual Budget; and
  - b. public service that volunteers and community organisations make in the shire, in the provision of sporting, cultural and recreational activities.

### 10.1.2 Statutory fees and fines

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Animal control fees	822	954	132	16.06
Infringement and costs	275	283	8	2.91
Permits	1,335	1,394	59	4.42
Roads and infrastructure fees	600	570	(30)	(5.00)
Town planning fees	362	245	(117)	(32.32)
Other statutory fees	316	291	(25)	(7.91)
<b>Total statutory fees and fines</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>3,737</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0.73</b>

Statutory fees and fines include fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation, and includes animal registrations, Health Act registrations, and building and planning application fees, as well as monies received for development contributions.

### 10.1.3 User fees

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Childcare/children's programs	40	40	0	0.00
Cultural activities	239	245	6	2.51
Hanging Rock Reserve fees	618	620	2	0.32
Leisure centre and recreation	4,021	4,428	407	10.12
Waste management services	1,873	3,232	1,359	72.56
Other	620	648	28	4.52
<b>Total user fees</b>	<b>7,411</b>	<b>9,213</b>	<b>1,802</b>	<b>24.32</b>

User fees relate mainly to the charging of fees to users of Council's services. These include fees from leisure and aquatic facilities, arts performances, resource recovery centres and kindergartens.

Leisure centre and recreation includes a budget that will see services return to full service following several years of being impacted by COVID-19. Also contributing to this increase is the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct commencing to trade in the 2024/25 financial year.

Waste management services fees are budgeted to increase in 2024/25. This is due to the review of Transfer Stations fees as part of the budget process with the intention to increase fees to a full cost recovery model over a period to ensure Council complies with the recent Better Practice Guide released by the Minister relating to Service Rates and Charges for Kerbside Collection.

Refer to Appendix 2 for a complete list of all fees and charges.

## 10.1.4 Grants

Grants are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

	Forecast 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
<b>Grants were received in respect of the following:</b>				
Summary of grants				
Commonwealth-funded grants	11,062	16,921	5,859	52.97
State-funded grants	13,838	11,770	(2,068)	(14.94)
<b>Total grants received</b>	<b>24,900</b>	<b>28,691</b>	<b>3,791</b>	<b>15.22</b>
<b>(a) Operating grants</b>				
<b>Recurrent – Commonwealth Government</b>				
Aged & Disability services	476	524	48	10.08
Victorian Grants Commission	9,369	9,660	291	3.11
<b>Recurrent – State Government</b>				
Aged & Disability Services	4	-	(4)	(100.00)
Family and children	6,674	6,877	203	3.04
Maternal and child health	633	657	24	3.79
School crossing supervisors	140	160	20	14.29
Youth and culture	145	154	9	6.21
Other	155	109	(46)	(29.68)
<b>Total recurrent grants</b>	<b>17,596</b>	<b>18,141</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>3.10</b>
<b>Non-recurrent – State Government</b>				
Emergency management	120	120	-	(0.00)
Family and children	4	-	(4)	(100.00)
Other	62	101	39	62.90
<b>Total non-recurrent grants</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>18.82</b>
<b>Total operating grants</b>	<b>17,782</b>	<b>18,362</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>3.26</b>
<b>(b) Capital grants</b>				
<b>Recurrent – Commonwealth Government</b>				
Roads to Recovery	464	-	(464)	(100.00)
<b>Total recurrent grants</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(464)</b>	<b>(100.00)</b>
<b>Non-recurrent – Commonwealth Government</b>				
Roads and bridges	753	6,737	5,984	794.69
<b>Non-recurrent – State Government</b>				
Buildings	163	-	(163)	(100.00)
Family & Children	42	-	(42)	(100.00)
Footpaths and Cycleways	23	-	(23)	(100.00)
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	5,673	3,592	(2,081)	(36.68)
<b>Total non-recurrent grants</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>10,329</b>	<b>3,675</b>	<b>55.23</b>
<b>Total capital grants</b>	<b>7,118</b>	<b>10,329</b>	<b>3,211</b>	<b>45.11</b>
<b>Total grants</b>	<b>24,900</b>	<b>28,691</b>	<b>3,791</b>	<b>15.22</b>

### 10.1.5 Contributions

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Monetary	4,213	<b>2,175</b>	(2,038)	<b>(48.37)</b>
Non-monetary	21,500	<b>8,250</b>	(13,250)	<b>(61.63)</b>
<b>Total contributions</b>	25,713	<b>10,425</b>	(15,288)	<b>(59.46)</b>

Monetary contributions relate to income from community groups and clubs that contribute financially to Council projects that the group or club is involved in. Developers may also make monetary contributions to assist Council deliver additional infrastructure that is required to service new sub-divisions. The income varies from year to year, depending on budgeted projects.

Non-monetary contributions are received in the form of gifted assets, such as roads, footpaths, drainage and other community facilities, from developers once subdivisions are completed. The level of non-monetary contributions varies from year to year, depending on the number of subdivisions completed and the timing of their completion.

### 10.1.6 Other income

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Interest	1,810	<b>1,310</b>	(500)	<b>(27.62)</b>
Investment property rental	529	<b>529</b>	-	-
Sale of goods and materials	568	<b>584</b>	16	<b>2.82</b>
Proceeds on sale of plant and vehicles	600	<b>300</b>	(300)	<b>(50.00)</b>
Other	7,797	<b>465</b>	(7,332)	<b>(94.04)</b>
<b>Total other income</b>	11,304	<b>3,188</b>	(8,116)	<b>(71.80)</b>

Other income includes revenue streams from term-deposit investments, property rentals, insurance recoveries, and the sale of goods and materials. Income listed above as 'Other' includes cost recovery from June 2021 storm waste processing which ceased in 2023/24, and smaller income streams, such as fuel rebates and insurance receipts.

### 10.1.7 Employee costs

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Salaries and wages	37,838	<b>38,923</b>	1,085	<b>2.87</b>
Work Cover	720	<b>1,100</b>	380	<b>52.78</b>
Superannuation	3,800	<b>4,670</b>	870	<b>22.89</b>
Fringe benefits tax	420	<b>420</b>	-	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total employee costs</b>	42,778	<b>45,113</b>	2,335	<b>5.46</b>

Employee costs include all employee-related expenditure paid by the employer, including wages, allowances, leave, superannuation, and fringe benefits tax.

A summary of human resources and full-time equivalent (FTE) expenditure, categorised according to the organisational structure of Council, is included in the Budgeted Statement of Human Resources in section 3.

### 10.1.8 Materials and services

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000		
Administration	2,811	2,511	(300)	(10.67)
Building maintenance	304	299	(5)	(1.64)
Consultants	3,156	2,666	(490)	(15.53)
Contract payments – parks maintenance	2,267	2,071	(196)	(8.65)
Contract payments – resource recovery	10,517	11,441	924	8.79
Contract payments – other	8,682	7,634	(1,048)	(12.07)
General maintenance	817	724	(93)	(11.38)
Information technology	1,695	2,098	403	23.78
Insurance	956	1,035	79	8.26
Materials and supplies	2,076	2,113	37	1.78
Utilities	2,277	2,399	122	5.36
<b>Total materials and services</b>	<b>35,558</b>	<b>34,991</b>	<b>(567)</b>	<b>(1.59)</b>

Materials and services include the purchase of consumables, and payments to contractors and consultants, for the provision of services and utility costs. The level of contractor and consultancy expenditure can vary from year to year, depending on the operating projects undertaken and changes to key contracts. Administration includes expenditure on items such as fuel, training and conferences, rates and charges, and printing, postage and stationery.

### 10.1.9 Depreciation

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000		
Property	2,213	2,313	100	4.52
Plant and equipment	2,067	2,117	50	2.42
Infrastructure	12,359	12,709	350	2.83
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<b>16,639</b>	<b>17,139</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>3.00</b>

Depreciation is an accounting measure that attempts to allocate the value of an asset over its useful life. Increases in depreciation are generally a result of increasing asset values through capital works. Increases are also due to asset revaluations, which are conducted on a rolling program, in line with accounting standards for Council's property, plant and equipment, including infrastructure assets, such as roads and drains.



### 10.1.10 Amortisation – Intangible assets

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000		
Software	52	52	-	-
<b>Total amortisation – intangible assets</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Amortisation is an accounting measure that attempts to allocate the value of an intangible asset over its useful life.

### 10.1.11 Depreciation – Right-of-use assets

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000		
Right-of-use assets	372	421	49	13.17
<b>Total depreciation – right-of-use assets</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>13.17</b>

Right-of-use assets are assets that are not owned by Council but are utilised by Council under a lease arrangement. The only right-of-use asset that Council has recorded is the Woodend Depot land and buildings, which is under a long-term lease.

### 10.1.12 Other expenses

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000		
Auditor fees (Internal and External audit)	129	129	-	-
Councillors' allowances	371	380	9	2.43
Contributions and donations	2,152	1,945	(207)	(9.62)
Other	423	907	484	114.42
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>3,075</b>	<b>3,361</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>9.30</b>

### 10.1.13 Net asset revaluation gain/loss

Net asset revaluation gain/loss is variable each year, depending on the asset classes that are revalued. In 2023/24 and 2024/25, significant asset classes are planned to be revalued, which directly impacts the projections in those years.

## 10.2 Balance sheet

### 10.2.1 Assets

Current assets include trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents which represents cash held in the bank, and the value of investments with short-term maturities of three months or less.

Non-current assets include property, infrastructure, plant and equipment. Non-current assets are the largest component of Council's worth, and represent the value of all the land, buildings, roads, plant and equipment, which have been accumulated over many years. Section 4.5 contains our analysis of capital works, and includes further information on 2023/24 capital works projects that are indicated as being required to be carried forward to 2024/25.

The asset balance will increase in 2024/25, due to capital works and purchases that increase the total value of Council's assets. A contribution of assets, such as roads and footpaths from developers as part of their subdivisions, also increases the asset value. Asset depreciation partly offsets these increases, which reduces asset values as the assets age.

### 10.2.2 Liabilities

Liabilities are classed as current or non-current, depending on when they are expected to be repaid. The non-current provisions include discounted accrued long-service leave for employees with less than five years of service, and monitoring and remediation works for three closed landfill sites.

### 10.2.3 Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year	5,508	17,754	18,739	14,646	15,561
Amount proposed to be borrowed	12,800	2,500	-	2,800	-
Amount projected to be redeemed	(554)	(1,515)	(4,093)	(1,885)	(1,845)
<b>Amount of borrowings as at 30 June</b>	<b>17,754</b>	<b>18,739</b>	<b>14,646</b>	<b>15,561</b>	<b>13,716</b>

Borrowings are an important funding source, which enables funding for capital works or other items as identified, without adversely affecting Council's liquidity position. Council has committed to borrowing an additional \$2,500,000 to fund the Macedon Ranges Regionals Sports Precinct Stage 2, Macedon Ranges Shared Trail and Kyneton Showgrounds during 2024/25, while repaying \$554,000 of previously committed borrowings.

### 10.2.4 Leases by category

As a result of the introduction of AASB 16 Leases, right-of-use assets and lease liabilities have been recognised as outlined in the table below.

	Forecast 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000
<b>Right-of-use assets</b>		
Property	1,738	1,366
Other, etc.	38	-
<b>Total right-of-use assets</b>	<b>1,776</b>	<b>1,366</b>
<b>Lease liabilities</b>		
<b>Current lease liabilities</b>		
Land and buildings	430	426
Other, etc.	38	-
<b>Total current lease liabilities</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>426</b>
<b>Non-current lease liabilities</b>		
Land and buildings	1,308	973
Other, etc.	-	-
<b>Total non-current lease liabilities</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>973</b>
<b>Total lease liabilities</b>	<b>1,776</b>	<b>1,399</b>

Where the interest rate applicable to a lease is not expressed in the lease agreement, Council applies the average incremental borrowing rate in the calculation of lease liabilities. The current incremental borrowing rate is 4%.

## 10.3 Statement of changes in equity

### 10.3.1 Reserves

Council has allocated funds to reserves for specific purposes. These reserves are either statutory or discretionary reserves. Statutory reserve funds must be applied for specified statutory purposes, in accordance with various legislative requirements. Discretionary reserves have been established by Council, regarding the future use of these funds. Net reserve movements for 2024/25 are forecast to be a net transfer to reserves of \$368,000. Amounts to be used from reserves for capital expenditure in 2024/25 are shown below.

Capital project reserve funding	Total	Community facilities - east	Open space reserve – west	Open space reserve – south	Plant replacement reserve	Senior’s housing reserve	Gisborne development contribution plan	Gravel Pit
Lancefield Kindergarten equipment	\$55,000	\$55,000						
Malmsbury Botanic Gardens drainage	\$54,688		\$54,688					
Kyneton Botanic Gardens masterplan document	\$74,000		\$74,000					
Plant replacement program	\$1,200,000				\$1,200,000			
Senior housing upgrades	\$85,000					\$85,000		
Kettlewells Road Monegeetta	\$100,000							\$100,000
Fersfield Road Gisborne drainage	\$360,000						\$360,000	
Ross Watt Reserve – tennis court design	\$44,000			\$44,000				
<b>Total reserve transfers</b>	<b>\$1,972,688</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$128,688</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	<b>\$1,200,000</b>	<b>\$85,000</b>	<b>\$360,000</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

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### Brief summary of the purpose of each reserve

<b>Reserve</b>	<b>Description</b>
Plant replacement	Funding from plant operations for capital replacements
Asset conversion	Net proceeds of property sales for capital works projects
Commercial development	Net proceeds from the sale of industrial/commercial land for furthering local employment, and the purchase and development of land to be used for industrial/commercial purposes
Gravel pit operations	Surplus from gravel pit operations for capital works
Hanging Rock	Surplus funding from Hanging Rock operations directed towards works at the reserve
Open Space Proceeds	Proceeds from the sale of open space land. The allocation of funds is to be decided by Council in the future.
Maintenance of senior citizens' accommodation	Contributions towards maintenance of seniors' units
Debt repayment	Annual budget allocation to accumulate the required amount of funds to repay the borrowed money when it is due to be repaid
Public open space	Contributions from subdivisional works for funding of open-space projects
Community facilities	Developer contributions for community infrastructure facilities
Car parking	Developer contributions for car-parking projects
Planning roadworks	Developer contributions for roadworks
Drainage	Developer contributions for drainage works
Gisborne Development Contribution Plan	Includes developer contributions for development works within Gisborne
Romsey Development Contribution Plan	Developer contributions for development works within Romsey
Planning footpath works	Developer contributions for footpath works

### 10.3.2 Equity

Total equity equals net assets, and is made up of:

- accumulated surplus, which is the value of all net assets, less reserves that have accumulated over time
- reserves, which are made up of two types:
  1. the asset revaluation reserve, which represents the difference between the previously recorded value of assets and their current valuations
  2. other reserves (statutory and discretionary), which are funds that Council wishes to separately identify as being set aside to meet a specific purpose in the future, and to which there is no existing liability.

## 10.4 Statement of cash flows

### 10.4.1 Net cash flows provided by or used in operating activities

Net cash from operating activities in 2024/25 has decreased by \$1,225,000, in comparison to the 2023/24 forecast. This is due to an increase in rates revenue partially offset by a decrease in other payments.

### 10.4.2 Net cash flows provided by or used in investing activities

Overall, the level of investing activities is expected to decrease by \$25,703,000 in 2024/25, in comparison to the 2023/24 forecast. This is due to Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project – Stage 1 being completed in 2023/24. Payments for plant, property and infrastructure is offset by proceeds from sale of investments.

### 10.4.3 Net cash flows provided by or used in financing activities

Net cash flow from finance activity is expected to decrease by \$11,232,000, due to a new loan of \$10,000,000 to contribute to the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project (Stage 1) included in 2023/24. Cash outflows are \$2,795,000, which is made up of finance costs, repayments of borrowings and lease liabilities. See section 4.2.3 for more detail on movements in borrowings.

## 10.5 Capital Works Program

This section presents a list of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2024/25 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source.

### 10.5.1 Summary

	Forecast 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Property	3,534	2,350	(1,184)	(33.50)
Plant and equipment	2,922	2,135	(787)	(26.93)
Infrastructure	21,844	22,184	340	1.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,300</b>	<b>26,669</b>	<b>(1,631)</b>	<b>(5.76)</b>

	Project cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of funding sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
		Property	-	2,350	-	-	-	-	2,350
Plant and equipment	315	1,820	-	-	-	-	2,135	-	
Infrastructure	7,099	12,750	2,335	-	10,329	65	9,290	2,500	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,414</b>	<b>16,920</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,329</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>13,775</b>	<b>2,500</b>	

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10.5.2 Current budget

New works

Capital Works Area	Project cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of funding sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<b>PROPERTY</b>									
<b>Buildings</b>									
Council building renewal program	2,030	-	2,030	-	-	-	-	2,030	-
Council building design program	215	-	215	-	-	-	-	215	-
Council building demolition program	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-
Seniors' housing units renewal program	85	-	85	-	-	-	-	85	-
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>									
<b>Plant, machinery and equipment</b>									
Fleet and plant replacement program	1,500	-	1,500	-	-	-	-	1,500	-
Botanic Gardens vehicle	40	40	-	-	-	-	-	40	-
Kyneton Town Hall equipment renewal	35	-	35	-	-	-	-	35	-
Wide area mower purchase	220	220	-	-	-	-	-	220	-
<b>Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture</b>									
Lancefield Kindergarten equipment	55	55	-	-	-	-	-	55	-
<b>Computers and telecommunications</b>									
Network and computer replacement program	285	-	285	-	-	-	-	285	-
<b>TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>-</b>

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Capital Works Area	Project cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of funding sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>									
<b>Roads</b>									
Road rehabilitation program	7,917	1,979	3,959	1,979	-	6,737	-	1,180	-
Bitumen resurfacing program	2,250	-	2,250	-	-	-	-	2,250	-
Gravel road renewal program	1,030	-	1,030	-	-	-	-	1,030	-
Road rehabilitation short sections	400	100	200	100	-	-	-	400	-
Minor road stabilisation program	414	-	414	-	-	-	-	414	-
Minor traffic management works	59	-	59	-	-	-	-	59	-
Minor roadworks unplanned	211	-	211	-	-	-	-	211	-
Guardrail program	125	-	125	-	-	-	-	125	-
Kettlewells Road final seal	100	100	-	-	-	-	-	100	-
<b>Bridges</b>									
Bridge renewal	257	-	257	-	-	-	-	257	-
<b>Drainage</b>									
Drainage program	806	-	806	-	-	-	-	806	-
<b>Footpaths and cycleways</b>									
Footpath and kerb renewal program	595	-	595	-	-	-	-	595	-
Pram ramp compliance and safety improvements	100	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-
Macedon Ranges Shared Trail	1,000	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
<b>Recreational, leisure and community facilities</b>									
Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct Stage 2	3,920	3,920	-	-	-	3,420	-	-	500
Kyneton Showgrounds - Netball Courts and Changerooms	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Recreation program	995	-	739	256	-	172	65	758	-

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Recreational facilities minor capital works	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
Leisure and aquatic centres equipment renewal	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
Outdoor pool equipment renewal program	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
<b>Parks, open space and streetscapes</b>									
Parks infrastructure renewal program	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
Playground renewal program	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
<b>Other infrastructure</b>									
Kerbside bin replacement program	400	-	400	-	-	-	-	400	-
Parks and street bin renewal	45	-	45	-	-	-	-	45	-
Woodend Resource Recovery Centre bin enclosure renewal	350	-	350	-	-	-	-	350	-
<b>TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<b>22,184</b>	<b>7,099</b>	<b>12,750</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,329</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>9,430</b>	<b>2,500</b>
<b>TOTAL NEW CAPITAL WORKS</b>	<b>26,669</b>	<b>7,414</b>	<b>16,920</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,329</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>13,775</b>	<b>2,500</b>

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2023/24 Carry forward projects <sup>1</sup>

Capital Works Area	Project cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of funding sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowing \$'000
<b>PROPERTY</b>									
<b>Buildings</b>									
Building Renewal - Kyneton Mechanics	166	-	166	-	-	-	-	166	-
Glass Processing Facility - Kyneton	499	-	499	-	-	430	-	69	-
Kerrie School and Hall	303	-	303	-	-	-	278	25	-
Kyneton Viewing Platform	175	-	175	-	-	-	175	-	-
Macedon Kindergarten Toilet Upgrade	519	-	-	519	-	487	-	32	-
Malmsbury Town Hall	223	-	223	-	-	-	-	223	-
Romsey Kindergarten Veranda upgrade	116	-	-	116	-	110	-	6	-
Woodend Community Centre Stage 2	500	-	500	-	-	500	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>2,501</b>	-	1,866	635	-	<b>1,527</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>521</b>	-
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>									
<b>Footpaths and Cycleways</b>									
Macedon Ranges shared trails	6,000	6,000	-	-	-	5,500	-	-	500
Daylesford to Hanging Rock trail	1,467	1,467	-	-	-	500	500	467	-
<b>Recreational, leisure and community facilities</b>									
Dixon Field Master Plan implementation	103	-	103	-	-	-	-	103	-
Kyneton Showgrounds Netball Development	259	-	259	-	-	-	-	259	-
Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct Stage 2	252	-	252	-	-	-	-	252	-
New Gisborne Tennis Court Lighting	258	-	258	-	-	137	-	121	-
Riddells Creek Rec Reserve Oval Lighting	609	-	609	-	-	300	-	309	-

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Woodend Gilbert Gordon Netball Court	1,257	-	1,257	-	-	945	-	312	-
<b>Open Space</b>									
Gisborne Fields Stage 5	254	-	254	-	-	-	-	254	-
<b>Roads</b>									
Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct Stage 1- Baringo & Hamilton Rds. Intersection upgrade	329	-	-	329	-	-	-	329	-
Mt Gisborne Road, Gisborne	758	-	758	-	-	758	-	-	-
Pedestrian Crossing – Station Street Riddells Creek	134	-	134	-	-	75	-	59	-
<b>Other Infrastructure</b>									
Kyneton Landfill Biofilter Facility	800	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	800
<b>TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<b>12,480</b>	<b>8,267</b>	<b>3,884</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,215</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>2,465</b>	<b>1,300</b>
<b>TOTAL CARRIED FORWARD CAPITAL WORKS 2023/24</b>	<b>14,981</b>	<b>8,267</b>	<b>5,750</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,742</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>2,986</b>	<b>1,300</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Carry Forward projects list includes projects endorsed by Council during the April Council meeting, intended to be carried forward at 30 June 2024. Following the conclusion of the financial year, final balances for these projects, as well as any newly identified projects during May and June, will be reconciled post-June 30, 2024. Subsequently, formal approval will be sought to carry forward these amounts.

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## 10.6 Summary of planned capital works expenditure

For the years ending 30 June 2026, 2027 and 2028

2025/26	Asset expenditure types					Funding sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<b>Property</b>										
Buildings	7,535	5,200	2,335	-	-	7,535	2,600	-	4,935	-
<b>Total buildings</b>	<b>7,535</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,535</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,935</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total property</b>	<b>7,535</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,535</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,935</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>										
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,625	-	1,625	-	-	1,625	-	-	1,625	-
Computers and telecommunications	672	-	672	-	-	672	-	-	672	-
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>	<b>2,297</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,297</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,297</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,297</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Roads	10,771	250	5,601	-	4,920	10,771	6,151	100	4,520	-
Bridges	1,083	-	1,083	-	-	1,083	-	-	1,083	-
Footpaths and cycleways	600	-	600	-	-	600	-	-	600	-
Drainage	692	61	510	-	121	692	-	-	692	-
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	12,909	11,355	1,139	-	415	13,409	11,905	-	1,004	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	745	50	520	-	176	745	-	-	745	-
Other infrastructure	445	-	445	-	-	445	-	-	445	-
<b>Total infrastructure</b>	<b>27,246</b>	<b>11,716</b>	<b>9,898</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,632</b>	<b>27,246</b>	<b>18,056</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>9,090</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	<b>37,078</b>	<b>16,916</b>	<b>14,530</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,632</b>	<b>37,078</b>	<b>20,656</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16,322</b>	<b>-</b>

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2026/27	Asset expenditure types					Funding sources				
	Total	New	Renewal	Expansion	Upgrade	Total	Grants	Contributions	Council Cash	Borrowings
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Property</b>										
Buildings	8,285	6,200	2,085	-	-	8,285	3,660	-	4,625	-
<b>Total buildings</b>	<b>8,285</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,285</b>	<b>3,660</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,625</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total property</b>	<b>8,285</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,285</b>	<b>3,660</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,625</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>										
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,625	-	1,625	-	-	1,625	-	-	1,625	-
Computers and telecommunications	310	-	310	-	-	310	-	-	310	-
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Roads	11,821	278	6,481	-	5,062	11,821	6,179	250	5,392	-
Bridges	736	-	736	-	-	736	-	-	736	-
Footpaths and cycleways	1,123	540	560	-	23	1,123	-	-	1,123	-
Drainage	717	60	537	-	120	717	-	-	717	-
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	2,733	-	2,733	-	-	2,733	752	-	1,981	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	465	91	260	-	115	465	-	-	465	-
Other infrastructure	445	-	445	-	-	445	-	-	445	-
<b>Total infrastructure</b>	<b>18,041</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>11,752</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,320</b>	<b>18,041</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>10,860</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	<b>28,261</b>	<b>7,169</b>	<b>15,772</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,320</b>	<b>28,261</b>	<b>10,591</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>17,420</b>	<b>-</b>

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2027/28	Asset expenditure types					Funding sources				
	Total	New	Renewal	Expansion	Upgrade	Total	Grants	Contributions	Council Cash	Borrowings
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Property</b>										
Buildings	2,085	-	2,085	-	-	2,085	260	-	1,825	-
<b>Total buildings</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total property</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>										
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,625	-	1,625	-	-	1,625	-	-	1,625	-
Computers and telecommunications	265	-	265	-	-	265	-	-	265	-
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Roads	10,804	28	5,315	-	5,461	10,824	3,207	-	7,597	-
Bridges	356	-	356	-	-	356	-	-	356	-
Footpaths and cycleways	11,023	10,440	560	-	23	11,023	9,900	-	1,123	-
Drainage	763	-	763	-	-	763	-	-	763	-
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	2,175	15	2,145	-	15	2,175	-	-	2,175	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	445	50	295	-	100	445	-	-	445	-
Other infrastructure	445	-	445	-	-	445	-	-	445	-
<b>Total infrastructure</b>	<b>26,011</b>	<b>10,505</b>	<b>9,879</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,599</b>	<b>26,011</b>	<b>13,107</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,904</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	<b>29,986</b>	<b>10,533</b>	<b>13,854</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,599</b>	<b>29,986</b>	<b>13,107</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,619</b>	<b>-</b>

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## 10.7. Capital recurring programs and projects 2024/25

Building renewal program			Total \$1,980,000
Locality	Ward	Building/program	Details and comments
Bolinda	East	Bolinda Hall	Renewal works
Riddells Creek	East	Riddells Creek Scouts building	Riddells Creek Scout Group, hall sewer connection, carpark and solar light design renewal works
Riddells Creek	East	Riddells Creek Senior Citizens	Cleaners sink and pipework
Romsey	East	Romsey Hub	Romsey Hub automatic door replacement
Gisborne	South	Gisborne Mechanics	Renewal works
Gisborne	South	Gisborne Aquatic Centre	Office renewal
Kyneton	West	Kyneton Sports & Aquatic Centre	Lift renewal
Malmsbury	West	Malmsbury Hall	Electrical audit and oven replacement
Woodend	West	Gilbert Gordon social rooms	Decking and carpet replacement
Woodend	West	Buffalo Stadium	Floor renewal and subfloor drainage
Region	Region	Building security upgrade	Upgrade to a cloud based platform
Region	Region	HVAC renewals	HVAC renewal across Council buildings
Region	Region	Aquatic plant renewals	At aquatic centres as required
Region	Region	Emergent items	Emergent items as required

Building design projects			Total \$215,000
	Ward	Building/program	Details and comments
Kyneton	West	Kyneton Mechanics Institute	Gas boiler replacement
Kyneton	West	Kyneton Town Hall	Gas boiler replacement
Kyneton	West	Kyneton Red Brick Hall	Gas appliances replacement
Woodend	West	Woodend Racecourse Reserve	Female friendly changerooms
Macedon	South	Tony Clarke Reserve bowling clubrooms	Bowling clubrooms detailed designs

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Building demolition projects			Total \$20,000
Locality	Ward	Building/program	Details and comments
Region	Region	As identified	Removal of structures not required

Bridge program			Total \$257,010
Locality	Ward	Building/program	Details and comments
Lancefield	East	White Bridge Road Cobaw/Lancefield	Upgrade or replacement to meet the level of service required for fire access
Romsey	East	Romsey Main Road east side	Bridge deck refurbishment
Macedon	South	Clarke Streek Macedon footbridge	New footbridge construction

Drainage program			Total \$806,250
Locality	Ward	Building/program	Details and comments
Gisborne	South	Fersfield Road detention and water quality	Detention and treatment system
Malmsbury	West	Malmsbury Botanic Gardens drainage works	Works to ensure footpath accessible all year
Woodend	West	Glenns Court drainage works	Works to reduce flooding on private property
Region	Region	Regional unplanned works	Works that arise during the year

Road program			Total \$7,918,211
Locality	Ward	Building/program	Details and comments
Baynton	East	Bourke and Wills Track	Road widening and rehabilitation, including drainage and crossover improvements
Gisborne	South	Mount Gisborne Road	Rehabilitation pavement for 1,300m
Kyneton	West	Lauriston Road	Road rehabilitation from Youngs Road intersection to 685 Lauriston Road for 1,200m
Kyneton	West	Kyneton – Metcalfe Road	Reconstruction from Fiddlers Green Road to Malmsbury East Road
Springhill	West	Kyneton – Springhill Road	Road widening and rehabilitation for 700m. Works includes drainage and crossover improvements
Woodend	West	Old Lancefield Road	Reconstruction, kerb renewal as required, intersection upgrade at Savages Lane

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Recreation program			Total \$995,000
Locality	Ward	Building/program	Details and comments
Gisborne	South	Gisborne Skate & BMX park feasibility study	Feasibility study to find the best location for the location of the Gisborne Stake & BMX park
South Gisborne	South	Gilligan Reserve South Gisborne LED lighting upgrade	Upgrade the lighting at South Gisborne tennis club to LED lighting
Kyneton	West	Kyneton Showgrounds oval boundary fence	Low height perimeter fence around the bottom oval boundary
Lancefield	East	Lancefield Pool fence replacement	The perimeter fence surrounding the pool to be replaced
Romsey	East	Romsey Netball Courts surface	Renew the netball court surface
Romsey	East	Romsey Tennis Courts surface	Renew the tennis court surface
Woodend	West	Woodend Tennis Club courts	Renewal of courts 4, 5 & 6 following water damage
New Gisborne	South	Ross Watt Reserve	Design of two new tennis courts with LED lighting

## 11. Financial performance indicators

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The financial performance indicators below are the prescribed financial performance indicators contained in Part 3 of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Results against these indicators will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Projections			Trend
			2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	+/-
<b>Operating position</b>									
Adjusted underlying result	Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/adjusted underlying revenue	1	2.8%	1.78%	4.2%	(5.4%)	(16.6%)	4.9%	+
<b>Liquidity</b>									
Working capital	Current assets/current liabilities	2	167.8%	122.9%	120.2%	112.3%	110.4%	104.2%	+
Unrestricted cash	Unrestricted cash/current liabilities	3	4.2%	3.4%	17.8%	16.7%	22.1%	18.3%	+
<b>Obligations</b>									
Loans and borrowings	Interest-bearing loans and borrowings/rate revenue	4	9.5%	28.5%	29.1%	21.9%	22.5%	19.2%	-
Loans and borrowings	Interest and principal repayments on interest-bearing loans and borrowings/rate revenue		0.6%	1.3%	1.9%	2.8%	6.3%	2.9%	-
Indebtedness	Non-current liabilities/own source revenue		12.0%	25.9%	25.5%	22.1%	21.9%	18.8%	+
Asset renewal	Asset renewal and upgrade expense/asset depreciation	5	123.4%	111.6%	112.3%	126.6%	128.3%	125.7%	o
<b>Stability</b>									
Rates concentration	Rate revenue/adjusted underlying revenue	6	52.4%	61.8%	60.5%	66.3%	73.8%	60.5%	+
<b>Efficiency</b>									
Expenditure level	Total expenses/no. of property assessments		\$4,413	\$4,121	\$4,171	\$4,278	\$4,335	\$4,399	-
Revenue level	Total rate revenue/no. of property assessments		\$1,930	\$2,590	\$2,633	\$2,688	\$2,742	\$2,797	+

### Key to forecast trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

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**1. Adjusted underlying result**

This is an indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives.

**2. Working capital**

This is the proportion of current liabilities represented by current assets. Levels remain above 100% across the reporting years, despite starting to drop closer to 100% in the later years of the plan. Contributing to this decline is the continual annual deliver of Council's annual renewal program, that remains greater than 100% as a measure against depreciation. This demonstrates Council's intention to invest in its assets.

**3. Unrestricted cash**

Similar to working capital, this indicator represents Council's ability to meet its short-term commitments, without the need to use funds that are earmarked for other purposes.

**4. Debt compared to rates**

This indicator measures the level of Council's total debt as a percentage of rate revenue. Future years' percentage does increase but debt levels remain in compliance with Council's Borrowing Policy and remains at low-risk levels within the Victorian Auditor General's Office indicators.

**5. Asset renewal**

This percentage indicates the extent of Council's renewals against its depreciation charge (an indication of the decline in value of its existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100 indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while a percentage less than 100 means its assets are deteriorating faster than they are being renewed, and future capital expenditure will be required to renew assets.

**6. Rates concentration**

This reflects the extent of reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's ongoing services.

**Appendix 1. Summary of new initiatives**

No.	Department	New initiative description	Category	Ongoing
1	Statutory Planning	Administration Staff Member	NS	Yes
2	Strategic Planning and Environment	Strategic Planning Officer	NS	Yes*
3	Engineering and Resource Recovery	Asset Inspector	NS	Yes
4	Governance	Coordinator Performance & Assurance	NS	No
5	Open Space and Recreation	Botanic Gardens Team Leader	NS	Yes
6	Open Space and Recreation	Apprentice Horticulturalist	NS	Yes
7	Engineering and Resource Recovery	Increase Bridge and Major Culvert - Maintenance	IBB	Yes
8	Engineering and Resource Recovery	Increase Drainage Maintenance	IBB	Yes
9	Engineering and Resource Recovery	Increase Guardrail Maintenance	IBB	Yes
10	Engineering and Resource Recovery	Traffic Management for Maintenance Works	NP	Yes
11	Assets and Project Management Office	Review and update Asset Plan	NP	No
12	Community Strengthening	Gambling Harm Policy Implementation	NP	Yes
13	Children Youth and Family Services	Live4Life Program review	NP	No
14	Finance and Reporting	Create new Community Vision, Council Plan	NP	Yes*
15	People and Wellbeing	Wellbeing and Early Intervention Program	NP	Yes
16	People and Wellbeing	Cultural Development Workshops	NP	No
17	Governance	Councillor Induction and Group training	NP	Yes
18	Governance	Professional External support	NP	Yes
19	Information Services	Engage a Microsoft partner to advise on configuration of SharePoint	NP	No
20	Information Services	Review of Information Systems and technologies	NP	No
21	Information Services	Upgrade Pathway to the UX version	NP	No
22	Information Services	Implementation of additional HR applications	NP	No
23	Information Services	Implement ICT updates to ensure Council is protected against cybersecurity threats	NP	No
24	Information Services	ICT server room migration to cloud investigation	NP	No
25	Information Services	Telephone Systems Review	NP	No
26	Corporate	Service Planning and Review	NP	No
27	Safer Communities	Commence a review and rewrite of the Domestic Wastewater Management plan	NP	Yes*
28	Strategic Planning and Environment	Commence a Planning Scheme Review	NP	Yes*
29	Strategic Planning and Environment	Climate Emergency Plan partner support	NP	Yes*
30	Strategic Planning and Environment	Gisborne and Romsey DPO work	NP	Yes*
31	Strategic Planning and Environment	Woodend and Kyneton Flood Study implementation	NP	No
32	Open Space and Recreation	Kyneton Botanic Gardens – Planning documents	NP	No
33	Open Space and Recreation	Increase Shire Wide Tree Planting program	IBB	Yes
34	Open Space and Recreation	Purchase Wide Area Mower/Tractor	NP	No
35	Information Services	ICT Disaster Recovery Program	NP	Yes
36	Assets and Project Management Office	Macedon Ranges Shared Trails (Woodend to Riddells Creek)	NP	No
37	Assets and Project Management Office	Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct – Stage 2	NP	No
38	Open Space and Recreation	Ross Watt Reserve – New tennis court design	NP	No
		<b>Total net cost of new initiatives (\$,000)</b>	<b>\$3,849</b>	

**Note:** Category: New project (NP), new staff position or additional staff hours (NS), increase to current base budget (IBB)

\* Position or Project is ongoing for an agreed period of time (multiyear).

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**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>General</b>					
<b>Customer Service</b>					
Cake Stall Hire	Per Stall	\$ 13.50	\$ 14.20	\$ 0.70	5.2%
<b>Photocopying - Private per copy:</b>					
A4 (per side)	Per Copy	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.10	\$ 0.10	10.0%
A3 (per side)	Per Copy	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.10	6.7%
Colour (per side)	Per copy	\$ 6.60	\$ 6.90	\$ 0.30	4.5%
<b>Woodend Community Hub</b>					
<b>Hall Hire (Category 4 HH)</b>					
Not for Profit - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 256.00	\$ 269.00	\$ 13.00	5.1%
Not for Profit - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 45.70	\$ 48.00	\$ 2.30	5.0%
Commercial - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 366.00	\$ 384.00	\$ 18.00	4.9%
Commercial - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 65.40	\$ 68.70	\$ 3.30	5.0%
<b>Multipurpose Room (Category 2 MP)</b>					
Not for Profit - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 186.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 9.00	4.8%
Not for Profit - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 33.20	\$ 34.90	\$ 1.70	5.1%
Commercial - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 265.00	\$ 278.00	\$ 13.00	4.9%
Commercial - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 47.30	\$ 49.70	\$ 2.40	5.1%
<b>Hall and Multipurpose Room</b>					
Not for Profit - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 312.00	\$ 328.00	\$ 16.00	5.1%
Not for Profit - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 55.30	\$ 58.10	\$ 2.80	5.1%
Commercial - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 446.00	\$ 468.00	\$ 22.00	4.9%
Commercial - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 78.90	\$ 82.80	\$ 3.90	4.9%
<b>Romsey Hub</b>					
<b>Mt William Room</b>					
Not for Profit - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 139.00	\$ 146.00	\$ 7.00	5.0%
Not for Profit - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 25.30	\$ 26.60	\$ 1.30	5.1%
Commercial - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 199.00	\$ 209.00	\$ 10.00	5.0%
Commercial - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 36.10	\$ 37.90	\$ 1.80	5.0%
<b>Monegeetta Room</b>					
Not for Profit - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 117.00	\$ 123.00	\$ 6.00	5.1%
Not for Profit - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 20.50	\$ 21.50	\$ 1.00	4.9%
Commercial - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 166.00	\$ 174.00	\$ 8.00	4.8%
Commercial - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 29.40	\$ 30.90	\$ 1.50	5.1%
<b>Mt William Room &amp; Monegeetta Room Combined</b>					
Not for Profit - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 178.00	\$ 187.00	\$ 9.00	5.1%
Not for Profit - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 31.50	\$ 33.10	\$ 1.60	5.1%
Commercial - Full Day (8hrs)	Per Day	\$ 255.00	\$ 268.00	\$ 13.00	5.1%
Commercial - Hourly	Per Hour	\$ 45.10	\$ 47.40	\$ 2.30	5.1%
Note - there is some availability of free meeting room hire for Not for Profit Groups (see details below after line 551)					
<b>Activities on Roads</b>					
<b>Activities on Roads ( Not for Profit )</b>					
Activities on Roads ( Sporting )	Per Activity	\$ 200.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 10.00	5.0%
<b>Activities on Roads ( Commercial )</b>					
Activities on Roads	Per Activity	\$ 750.00	\$ 790.00	\$ 40.00	5.3%
<b>Engineering &amp; Resource Recovery</b>					
<b>Residential and Rural Permits</b>					
Permit to enter a building site by means of a motor vehicle having a gross weight exceeding two tonnes.	Per Permit	\$ 555.00	\$ 583.00	\$ 28.00	5.0%
Permit to occupy a road/footpath for works	Per Permit	\$ 555.00	\$ 583.00	\$ 28.00	5.0%
Permit to install/connect to stormwater drain	Per Permit	\$ 410.00	\$ 431.00	\$ 21.00	5.1%
Permit to alter or open the road (including Vehicle Crossing)	Per Permit	\$ 410.00	\$ 431.00	\$ 21.00	5.1%
Permit to access a building site from a point other than a vehicle crossing	Per Permit	\$ 555.00	\$ 583.00	\$ 28.00	5.0%
Temporary Storage of material on road reserve	Per Permit	\$ 555.00	\$ 583.00	\$ 28.00	5.0%
Nature strip landscaping application	Per Permit	\$ 232.00	\$ 244.00	\$ 12.00	5.2%
<b>Engineering/Drainage Assessment</b>					
Single Dwellings	Per Application	\$ 150.00	New	100.0%	
1 -5 Dwellings	Per Application	\$ 350.00	New	100.0%	
5+ Dwellings, Commercial, Industrails	Per Application	\$ 500.00	New	100.0%	
TMP -Does not require closure of any traffic lanes.	Per Application	\$ 75.70	New	100.0%	
TMP - Requires closure of one or more traffic lanes.	Per Application	\$ 245.80	New	100.0%	
TMP - Requires closure of a road.	Per Application	\$ 642.80	New	100.0%	
<b>Site Inspection/Supervision - Development</b>					
Single Dwellings	Per Application	\$ 150.00	New	100.0%	
1 -5 Dwellings	Per Application	\$ 350.00	New	100.0%	
5+ Dwellings, Commercial, Industrails	Per Application	\$ 500.00	New	100.0%	

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Recycling Materials - Commercial</b>					
Per Bag (120 litres)	Per Bag	\$	8.00	New	100.0%
Drum (200 litres)	Per Drum	\$	13.50	New	100.0%
Wheelite Bin (240 litres)	Per Bin	\$	16.00	New	100.0%
Small Boot	Per Boot load	\$	20.40	New	100.0%
Small Ute/Station Wagon	Per load	\$	27.20	New	100.0%
Small Tray Ute	Per load	\$	59.00	New	100.0%
Trailer (6x4x1 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	47.00	New	100.0%
Paper and Cardboard		Free	Free	\$	-
Comingled recycling	Per m3	\$	68.00	New	100.0%
Note: Residents and ratepayers of the shire are able to take their sorted recycled waste					
Gas Bottles - Small	Per Bottle	\$	8.50	\$	9.00
Gas Bottles - Large	Per Bottle	\$	14.00	\$	14.50
Mattress - all sizes	Per Mattress	\$	30.00	\$	38.00
<b>General Waste</b>					
Per Bag (120 litres)	Per Bag	\$	9.50	\$	11.00
Drum (200 litres)	Per Drum	\$	21.00	\$	18.40
Wheelite Bin (240 litres)	Per Bin	\$	21.00	\$	22.00
Small Boot	Per Boot load	\$	23.40	\$	27.60
Small Ute/Station Wagon	Per load	\$	45.50	\$	36.80
Small Tray Ute	Per load	\$	68.90	\$	80.10
Trailer (6x4x1 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	52.50	\$	62.60
Heaped trailer(6x4x2 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	105.00	\$	125.20
Vehicle/Trailer (6x4x3 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	157.50	\$	187.80
Vehicle/Trailer (6x4x4 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	210.00	\$	250.40
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x1 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	87.50	\$	103.90
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x2 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	175.00	\$	207.80
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x3 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	262.50	\$	311.70
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x4 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	350.00	\$	415.60
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x1 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	172.25	\$	156.40
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x2 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	344.50	\$	312.80
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x3 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	516.75	\$	469.20
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x4 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	689.00	\$	625.60
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x1 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	183.75	\$	218.80
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x2 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	367.50	\$	437.60
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x3 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	551.25	\$	656.40
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x4 foot)	Per Trailer	\$	735.00	\$	875.20
Engine Oil over 20 litres- per litre	Per Litre	\$	0.70	\$	0.90
<b>Green Waste - (non-residential)</b>					
Per Bag	Per Bag	\$	8.90	\$	9.30
Drum (200 litres)	Per Drum	\$	18.90	\$	19.80
Wheelite Bin (240 litres)	Per Bin	\$	18.90	\$	19.80
Small Boot	Per Boot load	\$	21.00	\$	22.10
Small Tray Ute	Per load	\$	40.80	\$	42.80
Small Ute/Station Wagon	Per load	\$	61.80	\$	64.90
Trailer (6x4x1)	Per Trailer	\$	40.50	\$	42.50
Heaped trailer(6x4x2)	Per Trailer	\$	81.00	\$	85.10
Vehicle/Trailer (6x4x3)	Per Trailer	\$	122.00	\$	128.10
Vehicle/Trailer (6x4x4)	Per Trailer	\$	162.00	\$	170.10
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x1)	Per Trailer	\$	69.80	\$	73.30
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x2)	Per Trailer	\$	140.00	\$	147.00
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x3)	Per Trailer	\$	209.00	\$	219.50
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x4)	Per Trailer	\$	279.00	\$	293.00
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x1)	Per Trailer	\$	98.30	\$	103.20
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x2)	Per Trailer	\$	197.00	\$	206.90
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x3)	Per Trailer	\$	295.00	\$	309.80
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x4)	Per Trailer	\$	393.00	\$	412.70
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x1)	Per Trailer	\$	134.00	\$	140.70
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x2)	Per Trailer	\$	268.00	\$	281.40
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x3)	Per Trailer	\$	402.00	\$	422.10
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x4)	Per Trailer	\$	536.00	\$	562.80

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Green Waste - (residential)</b>					
Per Bag	Per Bag	Free	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.40	100.0%
Drum (200 litres)	Per Drum	Free	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	100.0%
Wheelie Bin (240 litres)	Per Bin	Free	\$ 4.80	\$ 4.80	100.0%
Small Boot	Per Boot load	Free	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	100.0%
Small Tray Ute	Per load	Free	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	100.0%
Small Ute/Station Wagon	Per load	Free	\$ 17.40	\$ 17.40	100.0%
Trailer (6x4x1)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 13.80	\$ 13.80	100.0%
Heaped trailer(6x4x2)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 27.60	\$ 27.60	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (6x4x3)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 41.40	\$ 41.40	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (6x4x4)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 55.20	\$ 55.20	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x1)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 22.60	\$ 22.60	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x2)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 45.20	\$ 45.20	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x3)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 67.80	\$ 67.80	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (8x5x4)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 90.40	\$ 90.40	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x1)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 34.00	\$ 34.00	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x2)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 68.00	\$ 68.00	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x3)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 102.00	\$ 102.00	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (10x6x4)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 136.00	\$ 136.00	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x1)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 47.60	\$ 47.60	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x2)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 95.20	\$ 95.20	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x3)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 142.80	\$ 142.80	100.0%
Vehicle/Trailer (12x7x4)	Per Trailer	Free	\$ 190.40	\$ 190.40	100.0%
<b>Tyres</b>					
Car	Per Tyre	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ -	0.0%
Car tyre with rim attached	Per Tyre	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ -	0.0%
Light Truck	Per Tyre	\$ 25.00	\$ 10.50	\$ 14.50	-58.0%
Truck	Per Tyre	\$ 45.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.00	-44.4%
Tractor	Per Tyre	\$ 230.00	\$ 230.00	\$ -	0.0%
<b>eWaste</b>					
e-Waste - Computers/laptops	Per Item	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
e-Waste - TV/dvd	Per Item	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
e-Waste - Refrigerators	Per Item	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
e-Waste - others	Per Item	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
e-waste Non-residents - Other small	Per Item	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.10	\$ 0.10	5.0%
e-waste Non-residents - Other large	Per Item	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.20	\$ 0.20	6.7%
e-waste Non-residents - refrigerators	Per Item	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.30	\$ 0.30	6.0%
<b>Mulch Sales</b>					
Delivered within Macedon Ranges Shire 6m3 loads	Per Load 6m3	\$ 130.00	\$ 130.00	\$ -	0.0%
Delivered within Macedon Ranges Shire 10m3 loads	Per Load 10m3	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00	\$ -	0.0%
Per Cubic metre loaded by Council	Per Cubic Metre	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ -	0.0%
Self service - per trailer load	Per Trailer	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
<b>Gravel Pit Operations</b>					
Crushed per tonne (external)	Per Tonne	\$ 25.40	\$ 26.70	\$ 1.30	5.1%
Crushed per tonne (internal)	Per Tonne	\$ 13.30	\$ 14.00	\$ 0.70	5.3%
Uncrushed per tonne (external)	Per Tonne	\$ 16.20	\$ 17.00	\$ 0.80	4.9%
Uncrushed per tonne (Internal)	Per Tonne	\$ 8.60	\$ 9.00	\$ 0.40	4.7%
Clay Fill per tonne	Per Tonne	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.70	\$ 0.20	5.7%
<b>Facilities and Operations</b>					
<b>Community Buses</b>					
Non Community Group Booking per day	Per Day	\$ 62.00	\$ 65.10	\$ 3.10	5.0%
Non Community Group km rate	Per km	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.10	6.7%
Non Community Group E-Tag	Per E tag	\$ 17.70	\$ 18.60	\$ 0.90	5.1%
Community Group Booking	Per Day	\$ 21.90	\$ 23.00	\$ 1.10	5.0%
Community Group km rate	Per km	\$ 1.40	\$ 1.50	\$ 0.10	7.1%
Community Group E-Tag	Per E Tag	\$ 17.30	\$ 18.20	\$ 0.90	5.2%
Internal Group Booking Fee	Per Booking	\$ 19.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 1.00	5.3%
Internal Group Km rate	Per km	\$ 1.30	\$ 1.40	\$ 0.10	7.7%
Bond Social Functions	Per Function	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ -	0.0%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Saleyards</b>					
Lambs/Sheep - per head	Per Head	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.10	6.7%
Store Sheep - per head	Per Head	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.20	\$ 0.10	9.1%
Goats - per head	Per Head	\$ 3.30	\$ 3.50	\$ 0.20	6.1%
Fat Cattle - per head	Per Head	\$ 14.40	\$ 15.10	\$ 0.70	4.9%
Cow/calf - per head	Per Head	\$ 16.50	\$ 17.30	\$ 0.80	4.8%
Bulls - per head	Per Head	\$ 20.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 1.00	5.0%
B/Calf - per head	Per Head	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.30	\$ 0.30	6.0%
Store Cattle - per head	Per Head	\$ 14.40	\$ 15.10	\$ 0.70	4.9%
Truck wash Fees per minute	Per Minute	\$ 1.66	\$ 1.70	\$ 0.04	2.4%
Horses - per head	Per Head	\$ 43.70	\$ 45.90	\$ 2.20	5.0%
Agents fees cattle	Per Sale	\$ 0.62%	\$ 0.62%	\$ 0.00%	0.0%
Agents fees sheep and goats	Per Sale	\$ 0.62%	\$ 0.62%	\$ 0.00%	0.0%
Agent fees horses	Per Sale	\$ 0.62%	\$ 0.62%	\$ 0.00%	0.0%
NLIS Buyer Fee - Cattle	Per Sale	\$ 3.30	\$ 3.50	\$ 0.20	6.1%
NLIS Tag Fee - Cattle	Per Sale	\$ 31.10	\$ 32.70	\$ 1.60	5.1%
NLIS Buyer Fee - Sheep	Per Sale	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.30	\$ 0.10	8.3%
NLIS Tag Fee - Sheep	Per Sale	\$ 5.90	\$ 6.20	\$ 0.30	5.1%
Saddlery - per sale event	Per Sale Event	\$ 498.00	\$ 523.00	\$ 25.00	5.0%
Private Weighing of cattle	Per Head	\$ 6.30	\$ 6.60	\$ 0.30	4.8%
Private use of saleyards	Per Hour	\$ 70.00	\$ 73.50	\$ 3.50	5.0%
Standpipe fees per kilolitre (1,000 litres)	Per Mega Litre	\$ 4.40	\$ 4.60	\$ 0.20	4.5%
Yard usage for livestock on consignment - per head	Per Head	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.50	\$ 0.10	4.2%
<b>Safer Communities</b>					
<b>Health</b>					
Public Health & Wellbeing Act Registration - New Business	Per Application	\$ 380.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 20.00	5.3%
Public Health & Wellbeing Act Premises Renewal of Registrations	Per Registration	\$ 260.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 15.00	5.8%
Public Health & Wellbeing Act Premises Registrations - Late fee after 31 December	Per Registration	\$ 125.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 5.00	4.0%
Public Health & Wellbeing Act Premises Transfer fee	Per Application	\$ 260.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 15.00	5.8%
Public Health and Wellbeing Act Premises Pre-registration Assessment Application (includes plans assessment and progress inspections)	Per Application		\$ 300.00	New	100.0%
Septic Tank - New Application	Per Application	\$ 734.60	\$ 785.00	\$ 50.40	6.9%
Septic Tank - Alteration to existing	Per Permit	\$ 734.60	\$ 785.00	\$ 50.40	6.9%
Septic Tank - Amend permit	Per Permit	\$ 161.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 4.00	2.5%
Septic Tank - minor alterations	Per Permit	\$ 559.90	\$ 600.00	\$ 40.10	7.2%
Septic Tank - Transfer a permit	Per Permit		\$ 160.00	New	100.0%
Septic Tank - Renew a permit	Per Permit		\$ 160.00	New	100.0%
Septic Tank - Exemption from permit	Per Permit		\$ 235.00	New	100.0%
Septic Tank - Search Fee	Per Search	\$ 153.00	\$ 155.00	\$ 2.00	1.3%
Septic Tank - Fees for inspection	Per Inspection	\$ 199.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 1.00	0.5%
Food Act Premises Pre-registration Assessment Application for class 1, 2, 3 and 3A (includes plans assessment, progress inspection)	Per Application		\$ 300.00	New	100.0%
Food Act Premises - Alteration of existing food premises (includes assessment of plans and progress inspections)	Per Application		\$ 250.00	New	100.0%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 1	Per Registration	\$ 550.00	\$ 580.00	\$ 30.00	5.5%
Food Act Premises Registration- New Bus Class 1	Per Application	\$ 720.00	\$ 755.00	\$ 35.00	4.9%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 1 - Late Fee after 31 December	Per Registration	\$ 123.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 2.00	1.6%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 2	Per Registration	\$ 550.00	\$ 580.00	\$ 30.00	5.5%
Food Act Premises Registration - New Business Class 2	Per Registration	\$ 720.00	\$ 755.00	\$ 35.00	4.9%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 2 - late fee after 31 December	Per Registration	\$ 123.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 2.00	1.6%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 3a	Per Registration	\$ 410.00	\$ 430.00	\$ 20.00	4.9%
Food Act Premises Registration - New Business Class 3a	Per Registration	\$ 585.00	\$ 615.00	\$ 30.00	5.1%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 2 - late fee after 31 December	Per Registration	\$ 123.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 2.00	1.6%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 3	Per Registration	\$ 320.00	\$ 335.00	\$ 15.00	4.7%
Food Act Premises Registration - New Business Class 3	Per Application	\$ 446.00	\$ 455.00	\$ 9.00	2.0%
Food Act Premises Renewal Fees Class 3 - Late fee after 31 December	Per Registration	\$ 123.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 2.00	1.6%
Food Act Seasonal Sporting Club New and Renewal fee Class 2 & 3	Per Registration	\$ 123.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 2.00	1.6%
Fees for Inspection requested by purchaser/solicitor	Per Inspection	\$ 250.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 10.00	4.0%
Food Act Street Trader Temporary food premises fees	Per Application	\$ 125.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 5.00	4.0%
Food Act non-compliance inspection fee	Per Inspection		\$ 250.00	New	100.0%
Residential Tenancies Act - Caravan Park Registration Fees	Per Registration		As set within regulation	New	100.0%
Residential Tenancies Act - Caravan Transfer Fee	Per Transfer		0.5 fee unit	New	100.0%
Meningococcal ACWY vaccine	Per vaccination	\$ 87.00	\$ 91.40	\$ 4.40	5.1%
Meningococcal B vaccine	Per vaccination	\$ 135.00	\$ 138.00	\$ 3.00	2.2%
Influenza vaccine	Per vaccination	\$ 14.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 1.00	7.1%
Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccine	Per vaccination	\$ 70.00	\$ 73.50	\$ 3.50	5.0%
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping cough vaccine	Per vaccination	\$ 50.00	\$ 52.50	\$ 2.50	5.0%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Community Safety</b>					
Fire Hazard re inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$ 208.00	\$ 213.00	\$ 5.00	2.4%
<b>Animal Management</b>					
Domestic Animal Business re inspection fee (1st compliance re-check)	Per Inspection	\$ 297.00	\$ 312.00	\$ 15.00	5.1%
Domestic Animal Business re inspection fee (non-compliance re-inspection fee 2nd and subsequent re-inspections - per visit fee)	Per Inspection	\$ 579.00	\$ 608.00	\$ 29.00	5.0%
After-hours Officer attendance fee	Per Attendance	\$ 92.00	\$ 97.00	\$ 5.00	5.4%
Additional officer attendance fee	Per Attendance	\$ 92.00	\$ 97.00	\$ 5.00	5.4%
Cat Cage Hire Fees (per weekly hire)	Per Week	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	-	0.0%
Cat Cage on property set up fee (per Officer site visit - additional to cage hire fee)	Per Cage	\$ 20.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 1.00	5.0%
<b>Animal Registrations</b>					
Replacement Tag and transfer from other Council areas	Per Tag	\$ 9.00	\$ 9.00	-	0.0%
Cat Registrations - (complete) Full	Per animal	\$ 148.00	\$ 151.00	\$ 3.00	2.0%
Cat Registrations - (complete) Concession	Per animal	\$ 74.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 1.00	1.4%
Cat Registrations - (desexed/microchip/etc)	Per animal	\$ 49.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 1.00	2.0%
Cat Registrations - (desexed/microchip/etc) Concession	Per animal	\$ 24.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.50	2.0%
Cat Registration - Prescribed reduced fee category other (Over 10 Years, breeding in DAB, applicable organisation)	Per animal	\$ 49.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 1.00	2.0%
Cat Registration - Prescribed reduced fee category other (Over 10 Years, breeding in DAB, applicable organisation) - Concession	Per animal	\$ 24.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.50	2.0%
Cat Registration - Initial registration for desexed cat (inc. adoptions) Waiver applied to first registration year only	Per animal	Free	Free	-	0.0%
Cat Registration - New (initial) registration between 1 Jan to 9 April (except cats kept for breeding at DAB)	Per animal	50% of full year	50% of full year	\$ -	0.0%
Cat Registration - Fostered by registered foster carer (1st 12 months)	Per animal	\$ 6.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 1.00	16.7%
Dog Registrations - (complete) Full	Per animal	\$ 198.00	\$ 208.00	\$ 10.00	5.1%
Dog Registrations - (complete) Pensioner	Per animal	\$ 99.00	\$ 104.00	\$ 5.00	5.1%
Dog Registrations - (desexed/micro chipped/etc) Full	Per animal	\$ 57.00	\$ 64.00	\$ 7.00	12.3%
Dog Registrations - (desexed/micro chipped/etc) Concession	Per animal	\$ 28.50	\$ 32.00	\$ 3.50	12.3%
Dog Registration - Prescribed reduced fee category other (Over 10 Years, breeding in DAB, applicable organisation, approved obedience training)	Per animal	\$ 66.00	\$ 69.00	\$ 3.00	4.5%
Dog Registration - Prescribed reduced fee category other (Over 10 Years, breeding in DAB, applicable organisation, approved obedience training) - Concession	Per animal	\$ 33.00	\$ 34.50	\$ 1.50	4.5%
Dog Registration - Farm Working Dog	Per animal	\$ 66.00	\$ 69.00	\$ 3.00	4.5%
Dog Registration - Farm Working Dog Concession	Per animal	\$ 33.00	\$ 34.50	\$ 1.50	4.5%
Dog Registration - Assistance Dogs (Guide, Hearing) and Government Authority exemptions	Per animal	Free	Free	-	0.0%
Dog Registration - Initial registration for desexed adopted dog from registered shelter	Per animal	\$ 19.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 1.00	5.3%
Discount applied to first registration year only					
Dog Registration - New (initial) registration between 1 Jan to 9 April (Excludes Dangerous, Menacing, Restricted Breed, Guard Dogs, and dogs kept for breeding at DAB )	Per animal	50% of full year	50% of full year	\$ -	0.0%
Dog Registration - Fostered by registered foster carer (1st 12 months)	Per animal	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.00	-	0.0%
Pet Registration - S18 register review fee	Per animal		\$ 25.00	New	100.0%
Animal Registration Renewal - Late fee	Per animal	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	-	0.0%
<b>Animal Handling</b>					
Impound Release Fee (from Council) - Dogs/Cats	Per animal	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 5.00	5.0%
Pound reclaim fee (from contractor) - dogs	Per animal	\$ 450.00	\$ 473.00	\$ 23.00	5.1%
Pound reclaim fee (from contractor) - cats and small domestic pets (eg. rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, chickens, etc.)	Per animal	\$ 250.00	\$ 263.00	\$ 13.00	5.2%
Impound Release Fees - subsequent daily care fee normal impounds - Dogs/Cats/Small Animals	Per animal	\$ 15.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 1.00	6.7%
Impound Release Fee (from Council) - Dogs/Cats - subsequent impoundment within 6 months of initial impoundment	Per animal	\$ 200.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 10.00	5.0%
Seized dog daily care fee (investigation/case holds)	Per Day	At cost	At cost	-	0.0%
Seized cat/small domestic pets daily care fee (investigation/case holds)	Per Day	At cost	At cost	-	0.0%
Emergency welfare boarding	Per Day	At cost	At cost	-	0.0%
Pound contractor - registration admin processing fee (added to price of registration)	Per animal	\$ 25.75	\$ 27.00	\$ 1.25	4.9%
Microchipping Fee - Impounded Animals	Per animal	\$ 76.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 4.00	5.3%
Veterinary care costs for impounded / seized animals	Per animal	At cost	At cost	-	0.0%
Dog Registration Declared Dangerous	Per animal	\$ 550.00	\$ 560.00	\$ 10.00	1.8%
Dog Registration Declared Menacing	Per animal	\$ 450.00	\$ 460.00	\$ 10.00	2.2%
Dog Registration Restricted Breed	Per animal	\$ 450.00	\$ 460.00	\$ 10.00	2.2%
Dog Registration - Declared Dog Concession (applies to Restricted Breed and Menacing only)	Per animal	\$ 225.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 5.00	2.2%
Dog Registration - Guard dog /protection trained dog	Per animal	\$ 198.00	\$ 208.00	\$ 10.00	5.1%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Local Laws</b>					
Local Law Busking Fee (over 18yrs age)	Per Permit	\$ 38.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 2.00	5.3%
Local Laws Fees - General Permit (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 175.00	\$ 184.00	\$ 9.00	5.1%
Local Laws Fees - General Permit (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 306.00	\$ 322.00	\$ 16.00	5.2%
Local Laws Fees - Shipping container / temporary storage container permit - application processing fee	Per Container	\$ 175.00	\$ 184.00	\$ 9.00	5.1%
Local Laws Fees - General Permit (charitable / not-for-profit one per annum)	Per Permit	50% full fee rate	50% full fee rate	\$ -	0.0%
Local Laws Fees - Permit to burn	Per Permit	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (up to 5 total domestic pet dogs or cats - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 112.00	\$ 118.00	\$ 6.00	5.4%
Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (up to 5 total domestic pet dog or cats - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 196.00	\$ 206.00	\$ 10.00	5.1%
Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (up to 5 total) - concession rate	Per Permit	50% full fee rate	50% full fee rate	\$ -	0.0%
Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (6 or more total dogs or cats domestic pet keeping - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 221.00	\$ 232.00	\$ 11.00	5.0%
Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit (6 or more total dogs or cats domestic pet keeping - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 387.00	\$ 406.00	\$ 19.00	4.9%
Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit - small animals, roosters, peacocks, poultry, pigs, and farm animals (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 112.00	\$ 118.00	\$ 6.00	5.4%
Local Laws Fees - Additional Animal Permit - small animals, roosters, peacocks, poultry, pigs, and farm animals (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 196.00	\$ 206.00	\$ 10.00	5.1%
Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 1-4 tables and seats (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 185.00	\$ 194.00	\$ 9.00	4.9%
Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 1-4 tables and seats (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 324.00	\$ 340.00	\$ 16.00	4.9%
Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 5-8 tables and seats (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 276.00	\$ 290.00	\$ 14.00	5.1%
Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 5-8 tables and seats (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 483.00	\$ 507.00	\$ 24.00	5.0%
Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 9+ tables and seats (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 384.00	\$ 403.00	\$ 19.00	4.9%
Local Law Permit - Outdoor Dining 9+ tables and seats (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 672.00	\$ 705.00	\$ 33.00	4.9%
Local Law Permit - Ancillary furniture (eg. umbrellas, heaters, screens, plants) (price per business - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 63.00	\$ 66.20	\$ 3.20	5.1%
Local Law Permit - Ancillary furniture (eg. umbrellas, heaters, screens, plants) (price per business - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 110.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 5.00	4.5%
Local Law Permit - Goods for display 1-4 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 98.00	\$ 102.90	\$ 4.90	5.0%
Local Law Permit - Goods for display 1-4 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 172.00	\$ 181.00	\$ 9.00	5.2%
Local Law Permit - Goods for display 5-8 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 147.00	\$ 154.00	\$ 7.00	4.8%
Local Law Permit - Goods for display 5-8 items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 257.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 13.00	5.1%
Local Law Permit - Goods for display 9+ items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 197.00	\$ 207.00	\$ 10.00	5.1%
Local Law Permit - Goods for display 9+ items (eg. display tables, shelves, clothes racks, etc.) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 345.00	\$ 362.00	\$ 17.00	4.9%
Local Law Permit - Moveable advertising signs / flags - fee per each item (note - maximum 2 signs permitted) (standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 49.00	\$ 51.50	\$ 2.50	5.1%
Local Law Permit - Moveable advertising signs / flags - fee per each item (note - maximum 2 signs permitted) (fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 86.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 4.00	4.7%
Local Law Permit - Real Estate Signs (price per franchise - standard fee up to and incl. 12 month permit duration)	Per Permit	\$ 226.00	\$ 237.00	\$ 11.00	4.9%
Local Law Permit - Real Estate Signs (price per franchise - fee for over 12 months permit duration - maximum to 24 months)	Per Permit	\$ 395.00	\$ 415.00	\$ 20.00	5.1%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
Permit amendment application fee - Roadside and Footpath Trading permit	Per Permit	\$ 25.00	\$ 26.00	\$ 1.00	4.0%
Mobile Trading - Ice cream vans (roaming)	Per Permit	\$ 250.00	\$ 263.00	\$ 13.00	5.2%
Mobile Trading - sausage sizzle / bake sale (not-for-profit)	Per Permit	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	-100.0%
Mobile Trading - Set location up to one week	Per Permit	\$ 600.00	\$ 630.00	\$ 30.00	5.0%
Mobile Trading - Set location up to 3 months	Per Permit	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 150.00	5.0%
Skip Bin Permit (domestic use 4m3 size and under)	Per Permit	\$ 98.00	\$ 103.00	\$ 5.00	5.1%
Bull/Stallion Impound Release Fee (per head)(excludes transport costs)	Per Head	\$ 202.00	\$ 212.00	\$ 10.00	5.0%
Other (Large) Livestock Impound Release Fee (per head)(excludes transport)(horses/cattle)	Per Head	\$ 123.00	\$ 129.00	\$ 6.00	4.9%
(Medium) Livestock Impound Release Fee (per head)(excludes transport costs)(sheep/goat/alpaca/pig)	Per Head	\$ 59.00	\$ 62.00	\$ 3.00	5.1%
Small animal Impound Council Release Fee (per head) (rabbit/ferret/chicken/pet birds, etc.)	Per Head	\$ 30.00	\$ 31.50	\$ 1.50	5.0%
NLIS Livestock tagging fee (for impounded stock not tagged)	Per head	\$ -	\$ 11.00	\$ 11.00	100.0%
Livestock Management and Care Fee - Up to 5 head of stock daily care fee	Per Day	\$ 61.00	\$ 64.00	\$ 3.00	4.9%
Livestock Management and Care Fee - Per additional head per day for more than 5 head of impounded stock	Per Day	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 1.00	5.9%
Livestock transport fee	Per Trip	At cost	At cost	\$ -	0.0%
Owner surrender of Dog or Cat to Council (S.33A)	Per Animal	\$ 92.00	\$ 97.00	\$ 5.00	5.4%
Owner surrender of Dog or Cat to Council (S.33A) - not desexed and currently vaccinated	Per Animal or Litter	\$ 140.00	\$ 147.00	\$ 7.00	5.0%
Owner surrender of animal type other than cat or dog	Per Animal	Same as impound release rate	Same as impound release rate	\$ -	-
General Items Impound Fee (excludes all transport costs)	Per Vehicle	\$ 96.00	\$ 100.80	\$ 4.80	5.0%
Vehicle Impound Release Fee (excludes transport and storage costs costs)	Per Vehicle	\$ 238.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 12.00	5.0%
Vehicle Impound Daily Fee	Per Vehicle	\$ 24.00	\$ 25.20	\$ 1.20	5.0%
Vehicle impound transport costs (includes recovery/carriage/towing)	Per Vehicle	At cost	At cost	\$ -	0.0%
Local Law Permit / Domestic Animal Business Registration - late renewal fee (30+ days overdue)	Per Registration	\$ 29.00	\$ 30.50	\$ 1.50	5.2%
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Boarding, Pound, Shelter, Training Establishments (1 type)	Per Registration	\$ 338.00	\$ 355.00	\$ 17.00	5.0%
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Boarding, Pound, Shelter, Training Establishments (add-on DAB types - fee per each additional business type)	Per Registration	\$ 60.00	\$ 63.00	\$ 3.00	5.0%
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Breeding - up to 5 fertile female dogs / cats	Per Registration	\$ 298.00	\$ 313.00	\$ 15.00	5.0%
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Breeding - 6 to 10 fertile female dogs / cats	Per Registration	\$ 418.00	\$ 439.00	\$ 21.00	5.0%
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Breeding - 11 to 50 fertile female dogs / cats	Per Registration	\$ 889.00	\$ 933.00	\$ 44.00	4.9%
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Breeding - over 50 fertile female dogs / cats	Per Registration	\$ 1,186.00	\$ 1,245.00	\$ 59.00	5.0%
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Veterinary Practice Puppy Training School	Per Registration	\$ 100.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 2.00	2.0%
Foster Carer Registration	Per Registration	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%

The Statutory charges administered by Local Laws listed are the regularly charged charges and fines. For a full list of Statutory fees and fines please see Department of Justice website for calculated penalties. Where there is a \$ range for a penalty Council charges the highest amount. Penalty fee units can be accessed at [www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management/indexation-fees-and-penalties](http://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management/indexation-fees-and-penalties).

**Children Youth and Families**

**Family & Children's Services - fees effective for period January 2024 to December 2024**

Manna Gum single room hire - hour	Per Hour	\$ 28.80	\$ 30.20	\$ 1.40	4.9%
Manna Gum single room hire - Day	Per Day	\$ 163.00	\$ 171.00	\$ 8.00	4.9%
Manna Gum combined room hire - hour	Per Hour	\$ 46.20	\$ 48.50	\$ 2.30	5.0%
Manna Gum combined room hire - Day	Per Day	\$ 248.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 12.00	4.8%
<i>30% discount for not for profit apply to these room hire rates</i>					
Freeza Events	Per person	Variable	Variable	\$ -	-
Youth Mental Health First Aid Training - Residents & Schools within the Shire	Per person	\$ 30.00	\$ 31.50	\$ 1.50	5.0%
Youth Mental Health First Aid Training - Non-residents	Per person	\$ 200.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 10.00	5.0%
Youth Mental Health First Aid Training - Organisations outside the Shire	Per person	\$ 270.00	\$ 284.00	\$ 14.00	5.2%



**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Cultural Development equipment fees for hall hire-in and community events</b>					
<i>See General Meeting Rooms &amp; Halls Section for these types of facilities at this centre.</i>					
<b>Kyneton Town Hall</b>					
Hire for first 5 hours (Commercial) - includes 2 X Tech and 3 x Front of House staff	Per 1/2 day	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 2,258.00	\$ 108.00	5.0%
Additional hour hire (Commercial)	Per hour	\$ 130.00	\$ 137.00	\$ 7.00	5.4%
Seating Bank Configuration Change (Commercial)	Per Event	\$ 650.00	\$ 683.00	\$ 33.00	5.1%
Hourly Rehearsal Large Groups (above 50 occupants or outside of office hours) Not For Profit	Per Hour	\$ 157.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 8.00	5.1%
Hourly Rehearsal Small Groups (less than 50 occupants, Office hours only) min 4 hours Not For Profit	Per Hour	\$ 121.00	\$ 127.00	\$ 6.00	5.0%
Richardson Room Not For Profit (In addition to hiring the Kyneton Town Hall)	Per Hour	\$ 94.00	\$ 98.70	\$ 4.70	5.0%
Balcony Not For Profit (When Hiring the Kyneton Town Hall)	Per Hour	\$ 94.00	\$ 98.70	\$ 4.70	5.0%
Kitchen Facilities Hire Not For Profit (When Hiring the Kyneton Town Hall)	Per Hour	\$ 181.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 9.00	5.0%
Dressing Rooms Not For Profit - per Room (When Hiring the Kyneton Town Hall)	Per Room	\$ 44.30	\$ 46.50	\$ 2.20	5.0%
Kitchen Facilities Hire	Per Day	\$ 410.00	\$ 431.00	\$ 21.00	5.1%
Technician per hour	Per Hour	\$ 68.00	\$ 71.40	\$ 3.40	5.0%
Usher per hour	Per Hour	\$ 68.00	\$ 71.40	\$ 3.40	5.0%
Piano Hire and Tune	Per Hire	\$ 375.00	\$ 394.00	\$ 19.00	5.1%
Additional Foldback wedge (QSC k 10) Performance	Per Hire	\$ 22.00	\$ 23.10	\$ 1.10	5.0%
DMX Splitter	Per Hire	\$ 16.50	\$ 17.30	\$ 0.80	4.8%
Venue Pre Rig (3 hours min)	Per Hour	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 5.00	5.0%
Recording - Venue Hardware Package	Per Event	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 5.00	5.0%
Tape - Gaffa	Per Roll	\$ 22.00	\$ 23.10	\$ 1.10	5.0%
Hazers	Per Event	\$ 22.00	\$ 23.10	\$ 1.10	5.0%
Colour Gels	Per Roll	\$ 22.00	\$ 23.10	\$ 1.10	5.0%
<b>Ticketing fees and charges</b>					
<b>Commercial rate</b>					
Ticketing / booking fee	Per Ticket	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.70	\$ -	0.0%
Ticketing / booking fee - per complimentary ticket (max 10)	Per Ticket	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	0.0%
Administration fee	Dollars (\$) of gross ticket sales	3.50%	3.50%	\$ -	0.0%
Postage fee (optional)	Per Transaction	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ -	0.0%
<b>Not for Profit / Community rate</b>					
Ticketing / booking fee	Per Ticket	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ -	0.0%
Ticketing / booking fee - per complimentary ticket (max 10)	Per Ticket	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	0.0%
Administration fee	Dollars (\$) of gross ticket sales	3.50%	3.50%	\$ -	0.0%
Postage fee (optional)	Per Transaction	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ -	0.0%
<b>Internal rate – Community event - priced ticket</b>					
Ticketing / booking fee	Per Ticket	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ -	0.0%
Ticketing / booking fee -per complimentary ticket (max 10)	Per Ticket	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	0.0%
<b>Internal rate – Community event - Zero priced ticket</b>					
Ticketing / booking fee	Per Ticket	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	0.0%
Ticketing / booking fee - per complimentary ticket (max 10)	Per Ticket	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	0.0%
<b>Internal rate – Commercial - priced ticket</b>					
Ticketing / booking fee	Per Ticket	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.70	\$ -	0.0%
Ticketing / booking fee - per complimentary ticket (max 10)	Per Ticket	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	0.0%
<b>Technical assistance</b>					
Technician per hour	Per Hour	\$ 78.90	\$ 82.80	\$ 3.90	4.9%
<b>Red Brick Hall</b>					
Hourly Rate (Commercial)	Per Hour	\$ 33.50	\$ 35.20	\$ 1.70	5.1%
Daily Rate (Commercial)	Per Day	\$ 184.00	\$ 193.00	\$ 9.00	4.9%
Weekly Rate (Commercial)	Per Week	\$ 660.00	\$ 693.00	\$ 33.00	5.0%
Weekly Rate - Rehearsals only	Per Week	\$ 661.00	\$ 694.00	\$ 33.00	5.0%
Weekly Rate - Performances	Per Week	\$ 945.00	\$ 992.00	\$ 47.00	5.0%
<b>Bluestone Theatre</b>					
Weekly Rate - Rehearsals only	Per Week	\$ 660.00	\$ 693.00	\$ 33.00	5.0%
Weekly Rate - Rehearsals plus performance on one day	Per Week	\$ 945.00	\$ 992.00	\$ 47.00	5.0%
Daily Rate - Rehearsals / Set up (Commercial)	Per Day	\$ 265.00	\$ 278.00	\$ 13.00	4.9%
Performance (Commercial)	Per Day	\$ 305.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 15.00	4.9%
Stage Only - set storage (Commercial)	Per Day	\$ 124.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 6.00	4.8%
Auditorium Only (Commercial)	Per Day	\$ 184.00	\$ 193.00	\$ 9.00	4.9%
Hourly (Workshops only, No audience) - four hour minimum	Per Hour	\$ 32.40	\$ 34.00	\$ 1.60	4.9%
Blue Stone Theatre remove / reinstate seating bank	Per removal	\$ 367.00	\$ 385.00	\$ 18.00	4.9%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Museum</b>					
Adults	Per person	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	-	0.0%
Pension/Student (Under 5 years free)	Per person	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	-	0.0%
Education/Schools program per student	Per Student	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	-	0.0%
Family	Per Family	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	-	0.0%
Group Booking with activities (per person)	Per Person	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	-	0.0%
<b>Kyneton Mechanics Institute Theatre</b>					
Kyneton Mechanics Institute THEATRE commercial EVENT rate	Per Event	\$ 340.00	\$ 357.00	\$ 17.00	5.0%
Kyneton Mechanics Institute THEATRE Not For Profit EVENT rate	Per Event	\$ 238.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 12.00	5.0%
Event Bond	Per Event	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	-	0.0%
<b>Kyneton Mechanics Institute Small Meeting Rooms</b>					
Kyneton Mechanics Small Meeting Room / Studio per Hour	Per Hour	\$ 23.80	\$ 25.00	\$ 1.20	5.0%
<b>Kyneton Mechanics Institute - Daily Room/Hall Charges</b>					
<b>Small Meeting Rooms</b>					
Kyneton Mechanics Small Meeting Room / Studio per day	Per Day	\$ 168.00	\$ 176.00	\$ 8.00	4.8%
<b>Large Meeting Rooms</b>					
Kyneton Mechanics Large Meeting Room / Studio per hour	Per Hour	\$ 35.00	\$ 36.80	\$ 1.80	5.1%
Kyneton Mechanics Large Meeting Room / Studio per day	Per Day	\$ 192.00	\$ 202.00	\$ 10.00	5.2%
<p>No discounts apply to cultural development administrative, ticketing, equipment fees and hire for:                      Profit making organisations or those that have the capacity to pay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial Enterprise</li> <li>• Private Functions</li> <li>• Political Parties</li> <li>• Activities that give political advantage to a registered political party.</li> <li>• Activities that give commercial advantage to a specific business or businesses.</li> <li>• Activities that fall within the financial responsibility of another level of government.</li> </ul> <p>50% Discount NFP Organisations and start-up small businesses who make a tangible contribution to the community and the regions cultural vibrancy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community groups</li> <li>• NFP organisations</li> <li>• Sporting clubs</li> <li>• Local Schools</li> <li>• Arts based businesses</li> <li>• Non-Government community service organisations</li> </ul> <p>70% Discount:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events and activities in which MRSC are a formal strategic partner.</li> <li>• Events and activities undertaken as a strategic partnership with MRSC that support specific objectives within adopted Council. strategies and plans</li> </ul> <p>* Note that Council provides meeting rooms to local community groups for 12 free meeting per year                      100% Discount Where Council directly supports local groups to provide events and activities in line with the Council strategies or emergency services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency Services</li> <li>• Community NFP groups conducting meetings (up to 12 times per year).</li> <li>• Recipients of In-Kind event support through the MRSC Events and Festivals funding program.</li> <li>• Community groups providing an agreed return service to Council.</li> </ul> <p>* In addition to the above groups, application for 100% in-kind venue hire subsidy can be made by formal written submission to the relevant Director.                      * no internal fees for MRSC departments</p>					
<b>Recreation Reserve User Contributions and Fees</b>					
Sporting Club annual user contribution (proportioned across all clubs and groups)	Per Year	\$ 39,234.00	\$ 41,200.00	\$ 1,966.00	5.0%
Casual Hire of Grounds (per day or part thereof) - Local community group - admission fee charged	Per Day	\$ 65.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 5.00	7.7%
Casual Hire of Grounds (per day or part thereof) - Local community group - Not for Profit - no admission fee to event	Per Day	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
Casual Hire of Grounds (half day or part thereof) - Commercial or Non Local Community Group - less than 150 people	Per Half Day	\$ -	\$ 240.00	New	100.0%
Casual Hire of Grounds (per day) - Commercial or Non Local Community Group - less than 150 people	Per Day	\$ 460.00	\$ 485.00	\$ 25.00	5.4%
Casual Hire of Grounds (per day or part thereof) - Commercial or Non Local Community Group - 150 to 599 people	Per Day	\$ 900.00	\$ 945.00	\$ 45.00	5.0%
Casual Hire of Grounds (per day or part thereof) - Commercial or Non Local Community Group - more than 600 people	Per Day	\$ 1,320.00	\$ 1,390.00	\$ 70.00	5.3%
State Sporting Associations (SSA's)/Affiliates and Local Schools - Participation or Promotional Programs that are consistent with their core function (per day or part thereof)	Per Day	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
Charitable organisations - Full profits to a registered charitable organisation - (per day or part thereof)	Per Day	Free	Free	\$ -	0.0%
Wedding & Life Celebrations/Photography in Council Reserves inc. Botanical Gardens - Residents	Per Day	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 5.00	5.0%
Wedding & Life Celebration/Photography in Council Reserves inc. Botanical Gardens - Non Residents	Per Day	\$ 200.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 10.00	5.0%
Casual Hire of Grounds (per day or part thereof) - Non Local Schools	Per Day	\$ 190.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 10.00	5.3%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Hanging Rock Reserve User Fees</b>					
Admission Car	Per Car	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ -	0.0%
Admission Coach *	Per Coach	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ -	0.0%
Admission Minibus *	Per Minibus	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ -	0.0%
Admission Motorbike	Per Motorbike	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ -	0.0%
Admission Person not in car or bus	Per Person	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ -	0.0%
* School 20% discount on guided tour and vehicle entry					
<b>Hanging Rock Reserve Site Fees Non Commercial</b>					
Car entry fees payable at normal rates in addition to fees listed below					
Petanque Shelter - booking fee only. Car entries separate.	Per Day	\$ 154.00	\$ 154.00	\$ -	0.0%
Petanque Shelter and car park - booking fee only. Car entries separate.	Per Day		\$ 220.00	New	100.0%
South West & South East Shelters - booking fee only. Car entries separate.	Per Day	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0.0%
BBQ's - 2 Plates - booking fee only. Car entries separate.	Per BBQ	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	\$ -50.00	-50.0%
East Paddock Shelter A - booking fee only - day time	Per Day	\$ 220.00	\$ 220.00	\$ -	0.0%
East Paddock Shelter A - booking fee including 30 cars - day time	Per Day	\$ 520.00	\$ 520.00	\$ -	0.0%
East Paddock Shelter A - booking fee including 15 cars - day time	Per Day	\$ 370.00	\$ 370.00	\$ -	0.0%
East Paddock Shelter B - booking fee only - day time	Per Day	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00	\$ -	0.0%
East Paddock Shelter B - booking fee including 30 cars - day time	Per Day	\$ 480.00	\$ 480.00	\$ -	0.0%
East Paddock Shelter B - Booking fee including 15 cars - day time	Per Day	\$ 330.00	\$ 330.00	\$ -	0.0%
Out of hours charge	Per Day	\$ 250.00	\$ 263.00	\$ 13.00	5.2%
Ranger supervision charge	Per Hour	\$ 119.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 6.00	5.0%
Cricket Oval (Exclusive Use) - per part or full day	Per Day	\$ 276.00	\$ 290.00	\$ 14.00	5.1%
Park Ranger Meet & Greet (15 - 20 mins)	Per visit		\$ 75.00	New	100.0%
Conservation Programs Meet & Greet (15 - 20 mins)	Per visit		\$ 75.00	New	100.0%
<b>Hanging Rock Reserve Site Fees Commercial</b>					
Site reservation fee plus normal entry charge (negotiable)	Per Site	\$ 397.00	\$ 417.00	\$ 20.00	5.0%
<b>Hanging Rock Reserve</b>					
Annual Pass	Per Year	\$ 85.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 5.00	5.9%
1/2 Day Film Crew / Photo Shoot + Bond determined by Management. Fee may be negotiated.	Per 1/2 day	\$ 1,104.00	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 56.00	5.1%
Full Day Film Crew / Photo Shoot + Bond determined by Management. Fee may be negotiated.	Per Day	\$ 1,833.00	\$ 1,925.00	\$ 92.00	5.0%
Ranger Guided Tours (up to 40 people)*	Per Coach	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	0.0%
* School 20% discount on guided tour and vehicle entry					
Nightwalks Adults	Per Adult	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ -	0.0%
Nightwalks Children (per child)	Per Child	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ -	0.0%
Nightwalks Family (2 Adults & 2 Children)	Per Family	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ -	0.0%
Weddings and Life Celebrations	Per Service	\$ 918.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 32.00	3.5%
<b>Hanging Rock Film Night</b>					
Per paying Adult	Per Adult	\$ 27.00	\$ -	Removed	Removed
Per paying Child	Per Child	\$ 10.80	\$ -	Removed	Removed
Family Pass - 2 Adults, 2 Children	Per Family	\$ 64.80	\$ -	Removed	Removed
<b>Hanging Rock - Other events as they occur</b>					
Subject to negotiation and approval by Director Planning & Environment where over \$2000. Manager under \$2000.	Per Event		Subject to negotiation	\$ -	-
<b>Hanging Rock Camp Out at the Rock</b>					
Per site (up to 6 guests)	Per site		\$ 75.00	New	100.0%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>Sports, Aquatics and Recreation</b>					
<b>Gisborne Fitness Centre and Kyneton Sports &amp; Aquatic Centre Gym Fees</b>					
3 Month Membership	Per membership	\$ 323.00	\$ 339.20	\$ 16.20	5.0%
6 Month Membership	Per membership	\$ 503.00	\$ 528.60	\$ 25.60	5.1%
12 Month Membership	Per membership	\$ 839.00	\$ 881.00	\$ 42.00	5.0%
Casual Visit (Includes Gym & Sauna)*	Per Visit	\$ 10.80	\$ 11.35	\$ 0.55	5.1%
Casual Visit Gym/Swim	Per Visit	\$ 14.90	\$ 15.65	\$ 0.75	5.0%
Casual Visit Gym/Swim Concession	Per Visit	\$ 13.60	\$ 14.30	\$ 0.70	5.1%
Casual Visit Aerobics no concession due to market pricing	Per Visit	\$ 11.80	\$ 12.40	\$ 0.60	5.1%
Casual Circuit 1/2 Hour class	Per Visit	\$ 9.30	\$ 9.75	\$ 0.45	4.8%
Gym Visit 10 Pass Card no concession due to market pricing	Per pass	\$ 97.30	\$ 102.20	\$ 4.90	5.0%
Teens Hour	Per Hour	\$ 9.30	\$ 9.75	\$ 0.45	4.8%
Teens Hours 10 Pass Card	Per Pass	\$ 83.50	\$ 87.75	\$ 4.25	5.1%
Gym Six Month Membership Direct Debit (per fortnight)	Per Fortnight	\$ 32.30	\$ 33.90	\$ 1.60	5.0%
Gym Direct Debit Membership 10% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 29.10	\$ 30.55	\$ 1.45	5.0%
Gym Direct Debit Membership 25% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 24.20	\$ 25.40	\$ 1.20	5.0%
Casual Fitness Assessment Fee	Per Assessment	\$ 49.70	\$ 52.20	\$ 2.50	5.0%
Aerobics 10 Pass Card no concession due to market pricing	Per pass	\$ 106.30	\$ 111.60	\$ 5.30	5.0%
Strength Training Casual (Seniors)	Per pass	\$ 9.30	\$ 9.75	\$ 0.45	4.8%
Strength Training 10 Pass Card (Seniors)	Per pass	\$ 83.30	\$ 87.75	\$ 4.45	5.3%
Strength Training 20 Pass Card (Seniors)	Per pass	\$ 148.00	\$ 156.00	\$ 8.00	5.4%
Personal Training 30 min session Member	Per Session	\$ 46.00	\$ 48.30	\$ 2.30	5.0%
Personal Training 45 min session Member	Per Session	\$ 66.40	\$ 69.70	\$ 3.30	5.0%
Personal Training 10 sessions 30 min Member	Per Session	\$ 414.00	\$ 434.70	\$ 20.70	5.0%
Personal Training 10 sessions 45 min Member	Per Session	\$ 598.00	\$ 627.90	\$ 29.90	5.0%
*no concession due to market pricing					
<b>Gisborne Aquatic Centre and Kyneton Sports &amp; Aquatic Centre Pool Fees</b>					
Casual Swim Adult	Per Swim	\$ 7.60	\$ 8.00	\$ 0.40	5.3%
Casual Swim Child	Per Swim	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.30	\$ 0.30	5.0%
Casual Swim Family	Per Swim	\$ 23.00	\$ 24.15	\$ 1.15	5.0%
Casual Swim Full Time Student	Per Swim	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.30	\$ 0.30	5.0%
Casual Swim Pensioner	Per Swim	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.30	\$ 0.30	5.0%
Casual Swim Concession Adult	Per Swim	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.30	\$ 0.30	5.0%
Casual Swim Concession Child	Per Swim	\$ 5.30	\$ 5.55	\$ 0.25	4.7%
Casual Swim 10 Session Adult	Per Pass	\$ 68.60	\$ 72.00	\$ 3.40	5.0%
Casual Swim 10 Session Child	Per Pass	\$ 54.60	\$ 56.70	\$ 2.10	3.8%
Casual Swim 25 Session Adult Swim	Per Pass	\$ 144.00	-	Removed	Removed
Casual Swim 25 Session Adult Concession Swim	Per Pass	\$ 114.00	-	Removed	Removed
Casual Swim 20 Session Adult Swim	Per Pass	\$ 128.00	\$ 128.00	New	100.0%
Casual Swim 20 Session Adult Concession Swim	Per Pass	\$ 100.80	\$ 100.80	New	100.0%
Parent supervising toddler under 5YO	Per Adult	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.30	\$ 0.30	5.0%
Learn to Swim program	Per Lesson	\$ 18.00	\$ 19.25	\$ 1.25	6.9%
Coached squad - Advanced/Social (90 min)	Per Lesson	\$ 14.00	\$ 14.80	\$ 0.80	5.7%
Coached squad - Development (60 min)	Per Lesson	\$ 10.50	\$ 11.10	\$ 0.60	5.7%
Learn to Swim direct debit	Per fortnight	\$ 36.00	\$ 38.50	\$ 2.50	6.9%
Learn to swim Administration Fee	Re-enrolment	\$ 54.20	\$ 57.00	\$ 2.80	5.2%
Learn to Swim Special Needs	Per Lesson	\$ 25.80	\$ 27.20	\$ 1.40	5.4%
Learn to Swim Private Lesson	Per Lesson	\$ 51.00	\$ 53.90	\$ 2.90	5.7%
Learn to Swim Adults	Per Lesson	\$ 22.70	\$ 24.00	\$ 1.30	5.7%
Programs Aqua Exercise	Per Session	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.75	\$ 0.75	5.0%
Programs Aqua Exercise Concession	Per Session	\$ 13.80	\$ 14.50	\$ 0.70	5.1%
Programs Aqua Exercise 10 Pass Card	Per Pass	\$ 135.00	\$ 141.75	\$ 6.75	5.0%
Programs Aqua Exercise Concession 10 Pass Card	Per Pass	\$ 124.00	\$ 130.50	\$ 6.50	5.2%
Programs Aqua Exercise 3 Month Membership	Per Pass	\$ 254.00	\$ 309.25	\$ 55.25	21.8%
Programs Aqua Exercise 12 Month Membership	Per Pass	\$ 665.00	\$ 803.25	\$ 138.25	20.8%
Birthday Parties (per child)	Per Child	\$ 20.10	\$ 21.10	\$ 1.00	5.0%
Swim Membership 12 Months Adult	Per Year	\$ 543.00	\$ 570.00	\$ 27.00	5.0%
Swim Membership 6 Months Adult	Per 1/2 year	\$ 325.80	\$ 342.00	\$ 16.20	5.0%
Swim Membership 3 Months Adult	Per 3 months	\$ 209.05	\$ 219.45	\$ 10.40	5.0%
Swim Membership 12 Months Child	Per Year	\$ 407.25	\$ 427.50	\$ 20.25	5.0%
Swim Membership 6 Months Child	Per 1/2 year	\$ 244.35	\$ 256.50	\$ 12.15	5.0%
Swim Membership 3 Months Child	Per 3 months	\$ 156.80	\$ 164.60	\$ 7.80	5.0%
Gym & Swim 12 Months	Per Year	\$ 994.00	\$ 1,044.00	\$ 50.00	5.0%
Gym & Swim 6 Months	Per 1/2 year	\$ 596.40	\$ 626.40	\$ 30.00	5.0%
Gym & Swim 3 Months	Per 3 months	\$ 382.70	\$ 401.95	\$ 19.25	5.0%
Direct Debit 6 Month Membership Gym and Swim	Per Fortnight	\$ 38.25	\$ 40.15	\$ 1.90	5.0%
Direct Debit Gym and Swim Membership 10% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 34.45	\$ 36.15	\$ 1.70	4.9%
Direct Debit Gym and Swim Membership 25% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 28.70	\$ 30.10	\$ 1.40	4.9%
Direct Debit Swim Membership	Per Fortnight	\$ 20.90	\$ 21.90	\$ 1.00	4.8%
Direct Debit Swim Membership 10% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 18.80	\$ 19.75	\$ 0.95	5.1%
Direct Debit Swim Membership 25% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 15.70	\$ 16.45	\$ 0.75	4.8%
Family Membership 12 Months	Per Year	\$ 1,170.00	\$ 1,567.50	\$ 397.50	34.0%
Family Membership 6 Months	Per 1/2 year	\$ 702.00	\$ 940.50	\$ 238.50	34.0%
Family Membership 3 Months	Per 3 months	\$ 450.45	\$ 603.45	\$ 153.00	34.0%
Direct Debit Family Swim Membership	Per Fortnight	\$ 45.00	\$ 60.30	\$ 15.30	34.0%
Direct Debit Family Swim Membership 10% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 40.50	\$ 55.30	\$ 14.80	36.5%
Direct Debit Family Swim Membership 25% Concession	Per Fortnight	\$ 33.75	\$ 45.20	\$ 11.45	33.9%
Swimming Lesson Ratio 1:6 per lesson per student	Per Student	\$ 11.00	\$ 11.60	\$ 0.60	5.5%
Swim Lesson Ratio 1:10 per lesson per student	Per Student	\$ 9.60	\$ 10.15	\$ 0.55	5.7%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
Full Centre Hire per hour (other group)	Per Hour	\$ 264.00	\$ 277.20	\$ 13.20	5.0%
Full Centre Hire half day (other group)	Per 1/2 year	\$ 805.00	\$ 845.25	\$ 40.25	5.0%
Full Centre Hire per hour (community group)	Per Hour	\$ 198.00	\$ 207.90	\$ 9.90	5.0%
Full Centre Hire half day (community group)	Per 1/2 year	\$ 703.00	\$ 738.15	\$ 35.15	5.0%
25m & teaching pools one hour (other group)	Per Hour	\$ 199.00	\$ 208.95	\$ 9.95	5.0%
25m & teaching pools half day (other group)	Per day	\$ 703.00	\$ 738.15	\$ 35.15	5.0%
25m & teaching pools one hour (school group)	Per Hour	\$ 162.00	\$ 170.10	\$ 8.10	5.0%
25m Carnival Hire per hour	Per Hour	\$ 136.00	\$ 142.80	\$ 6.80	5.0%
25m Carnival Student Entry Fee	Per Student	\$ 3.10	\$ 3.30	\$ 0.20	6.5%
25m & teaching pools half day (school group)	Per Half day	\$ 607.00	\$ 637.35	\$ 30.35	5.0%
25m Pool Lane hire per hour	Per Hour	\$ 66.30	\$ 69.60	\$ 3.30	5.0%
25m Pool Lane hire per hour (Off Peak)	Per Hour	\$ 53.20	\$ 55.85	\$ 2.65	5.0%
LTS Pool per hour	Per Hour	\$ 34.70	\$ 36.45	\$ 1.75	5.0%
WWE Pool per hour	Per Hour	\$ 49.10	\$ 51.60	\$ 2.50	5.1%
Extra staff member per hour	Per Hour	\$ 56.30	\$ 59.10	\$ 2.80	5.0%
Access fobs	Per Hour	\$ 7.80	\$ 8.20	\$ 0.40	5.1%

**Outdoor Pools**

Casual Swim Adult	Per Adult	\$ 6.40	\$ 6.80	\$ 0.40	6.2%
Casual Swim Child	Per Child	\$ 4.60	\$ 5.10	\$ 0.50	10.9%
Casual Swim Full Time Student	Per Student	\$ 4.60	\$ 5.10	\$ 0.50	10.9%
Casual Swim Pensioner	Per Adult	\$ 4.60	\$ 5.10	\$ 0.50	10.9%
Parent Supervising Child U5	Per Parent	\$ 4.60	\$ 5.10	\$ 0.50	10.9%
Family Swim pass	Per Family	\$ 19.00	\$ 20.50	\$ 1.50	7.9%
Season Ticket Adult	Per Adult	\$ 127.00	\$ 142.80	\$ 15.80	12.4%
Season Ticket Child U18	Per Child	\$ 81.60	\$ 107.10	\$ 25.50	31.3%
Season Ticket Family	Per Family	\$ 245.00	\$ 392.70	\$ 147.70	60.3%
Season Ticket Concession	Per Adult	\$ 81.60	\$ 107.10	\$ 25.50	31.3%
Season Ticket Family pre season special	Per Family	\$ 122.50	\$ 196.35	\$ 25.50	60.3%

**Council offers the following discounts:**

- Season Ticket pre-season special offered 4 weeks prior to season open and concludes at facility close on the first day of season operations.
- \*10% Seniors Card - 25% Students, Teens, Pensioner, Carers & Corporate - 30% Staff Kiosk/Merchandise
- \*50% discount for Corporate Not for Profit
- \*30% Discount to Community Groups who are fundraising for good will events
- \*Multiple child discount provided to participants of learn to swim programs at a rate of 5% second child, 10% third and subsequent children
- \*Free use annually for each swim club to run a fundraising swimathon
- \*Free use for companion card holders
- \*Incentive based pricing throughout the year to encourage sales growth/member retention including sibling discounts
- \*Family is considered all those identified on an individual Medicare card or other reasonable evidence

**Gisborne Community Centre**

Office One Regular (per hour)	Per hour	\$ 20.70	\$ 21.75	\$ 1.05	5.1%
Office One Casual (per hour)	Per hour	\$ 24.00	\$ 25.20	\$ 1.20	5.0%
Storeroom One	Per hour	\$ 116.00	\$ 121.80	\$ 5.80	5.0%
PA system hire (per hour)	Per hour	\$ 146.00	\$ 153.30	\$ 7.30	5.0%

**Buffalo Sports Stadium / Romsey Recreation Centre / Riddells Creek Leisure Centre / Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre / The Hub**

See General Meeting Rooms & Halls Section below for room and associated facility rates

**Stadium Hire (Category 1 SH)**

Social Functions (session)	Per Function	\$ 606.00	\$ 636.00	\$ 30.00	5.0%
Peak (per hour)	Per hour	\$ 56.30	\$ 59.10	\$ 2.80	5.0%
Off Peak (per hour)	Per hour	\$ 37.50	\$ 39.40	\$ 1.90	5.1%
Bond for Social Function	Per Function	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ -	0.0%
MRRSP - Full site competition hire (3 x court)	Per Hire	\$ 1,216.10	\$ 1,277.00	\$ 60.90	5.0%
Training rate	Per hour	\$ 37.50	\$ 39.40	\$ 1.90	5.1%

**Other**

Kitchen/Kiosk (Day)	Per Day	\$ 67.30	\$ 70.65	\$ 3.35	5.0%
Club Rooms (Half Year / Junior)	Per half year	\$ 649.00	\$ 681.45	\$ 32.45	5.0%
Club Rooms (Year)	Per year	\$ 1,264.00	\$ 1,327.20	\$ 63.20	5.0%
Amenities hire (year)	Per year	\$ 373.00	\$ 391.65	\$ 18.65	5.0%
Outdoor sports courts - casual	Per Court	\$ 28.50	\$ 29.95	\$ 1.45	5.1%
Outdoor sports courts - regular	Per Court	\$ 16.80	\$ 17.65	\$ 0.85	5.1%
Casual Stadium membership single - 12 mth	Per pass	\$ 95.00	\$ 99.75	\$ 4.75	5.0%
Casual Stadium membership family - 12 mth	Per Pass	\$ 149.00	\$ 156.45	\$ 7.45	5.0%

**Squash Courts**

Regular Use Per Hour	Per Hour	\$ 24.30	\$ 25.50	\$ 1.20	4.9%
Casual Use Per Hour	Per Hour	\$ 27.00	\$ 28.35	\$ 1.35	5.0%
Junior Use Per Hour	Per Hour	\$ 23.20	\$ 24.35	\$ 1.15	5.0%

**Macedon Community Centre Stadium**

See General Meeting Rooms & Halls Section for these types of facilities at this centre.

**Stadium Hire (Category 1 SH)**

Social Functions	Per Functions	\$ 606.00	\$ 636.30	\$ 30.30	5.0%
Peak (hour)	Per hour	\$ 51.80	\$ 54.40	\$ 2.60	5.0%
Off Peak (hour)	Per hour	\$ 33.70	\$ 35.40	\$ 1.70	5.0%
Bonds	Per Hire	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.0%

**Other**

Kitchen Per Day	Per Day	\$ 67.30	\$ 70.65	\$ 3.35	5.0%
Kitchen Per Day Commercial Use	Per Use	\$ 154.00	\$ 161.70	\$ 7.70	5.0%
Bond Commercial Hire	Per Hire	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.0%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
<b>General Meeting Rooms and Halls</b>					
<b>Small Meeting Room</b> <i>(up to 20 people)</i>					
Regular Use (Hour)	Per Hour	\$ 20.60	\$ 21.65	\$ 1.05	5.1%
Casual Use (Hour)	Per Hour	\$ 24.20	\$ 25.40	\$ 1.20	5.0%
Social / Commercial Use (Hour)	Per Hour	\$ 43.40	\$ 45.55	\$ 2.15	5.0%
<b>Applicable facilities:</b> <i>Buffalo Sports Stadium - Utility Room</i> <i>Romsey Rec Centre - Upstairs Utility Room</i> <i>KTSAC - The Den Squash Room</i> <i>Macedon Community Centre - Utility Room</i> <i>Gisborne Community Centre - Meeting Rooms</i>					
<b>Multipurpose / Small Hall</b> <i>(up to approx. 100 people)</i>					
Regular Use per hour	Per hour	\$ 30.10	\$ 31.60	\$ 1.50	5.0%
Casual Use per hour	Per hour	\$ 35.50	\$ 37.30	\$ 1.80	5.1%
Social Functions (food & drink consumed) - evening	Per evening	\$ 349.00	\$ 366.45	\$ 17.45	5.0%
Bond	Per Hire	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	-	0.0%
<b>Applicable facilities:</b> <i>Buffalo Sports Stadium - Rotary Room</i> <i>Romsey Rec Centre - Multipurpose Room</i> <i>Riddells Creek Leisure Centre - Multipurpose Rm</i> <i>KTSAC - The Studio / Jack Walker Room</i> <i>Macedon Community Centre - Multipurpose Rm</i> <i>Gisborne Community Centre - Senior Citz Hall</i>					
<b>Large Hall</b> <i>(up to approx. 150+ people)</i>					
Regular Use per hour	Per hour	\$ 44.00	\$ 46.20	\$ 2.20	5.0%
Casual Use per hour	Per hour	\$ 48.90	\$ 51.35	\$ 2.45	5.0%
Social Functions (food & drink consumed) - evening	Per evening	\$ 469.00	\$ 492.45	\$ 23.45	5.0%
Commercial Event - day	Per day	\$ 356.00	\$ 373.80	\$ 17.80	5.0%
Community Event - day	Per day	\$ 309.00	\$ 324.45	\$ 15.45	5.0%
Bond	Per Hire	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	-	0.0%
<b>Applicable facilities:</b> <i>Gisborne Community Centre - Mechanics Hall</i>					
<b>Large Catering Kitchen</b> <i>(capacity to cater for 100+)</i>					
Per Day	Per Day	\$ 67.30	\$ 70.65	\$ 3.35	5.0%
Commercial Hire per day	Per Day	\$ 154.00	\$ 161.70	\$ 7.70	5.0%
Bond Commercial Hire	Per hire	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	-	0.0%
<b>Applicable facilities:</b> <i>Gisborne Community Centre - Kitchen</i>					
<b>** Community Meetings</b>					
<b>Selected small meeting rooms at all facilities are available free of charge for meetings (NOT activities) for local community groups that are based in the Shire and who operate entirely on a voluntary not for profit community basis. Only groups who do not engage paid personnel may be eligible. The following conditions apply -</b>					
<b>Conditions:</b>					
1. Limit up to 12 bookings per annum however more may be considered depending upon demand.					
2. Bookings must be made at least 7 days in advance.					
3. A hire form must be completed for each booking & PL insurances provided (properly constituted groups will have this).					
4. Paid hirings take precedence (ie. Non paying hirer may have to reschedule/relocate booking if a paid hirer requires the room at the same time - at least 7 days notice will be provided).					
5. The Facility manager has authority to determine eligibility.					
6. Applicable small meetings rooms are: Gisborne Community Centre - meeting room, Buffalo Sports Stadium - front utility room, Macedon Community Centre - front utility room, Riddells Creek Leisure Centre - crèche, Romsey Recreation Centre - crèche, Kyneton Mechanics Institute - meeting room library corner (Board room).					
7. Conditions subject to review after 12 months.					
<b>Planning and Building Permits</b>					
Request for Extension to Permit - First Request	Per Request	\$ 339.00	\$ 356.00	\$ 17.00	5.0%
Request for Extension to Permit - Second Request	Per Request	\$ 676.00	\$ 710.00	\$ 34.00	5.0%
Request for Extension to Permit - Third Request	Per Request	\$ 874.00	\$ 918.00	\$ 44.00	5.0%
Request to endorse amended plans	Per Request	Cost	Cost	-	0.0%
Secondary Consent	Per Request	\$ 301.00	\$ 316.00	\$ 15.00	5.0%
Miscellaneous Consent	Per Application	\$ 620.00	\$ 651.00	\$ 31.00	5.0%
Written Planning Enquiry	Per Enquiry	\$ 159.00	\$ 167.00	\$ 8.00	5.0%
Industrial/commercial land planning or building permit copies	Per Copy	On application	On application	-	-
Development Plan ( that does not create a road)	Per plan	\$ 620.00	\$ 651.00	\$ 31.00	5.0%
Development Plan ( that does create a road)	Per plan	\$ 1,128.00	\$ 1,184.00	\$ 56.00	5.0%
Amend a development Plan	Per plan	\$ 438.00	\$ 460.00	\$ 22.00	5.0%
Residential enquiry - request for copy of Planning Permit for one dwelling and ancillary buildings and/or sheds on vacant land only.	Per Copy	\$ 201.00	\$ 211.00	\$ 10.00	5.0%
Advertising Amended S173 (maximum 10 letters)	Per Advertisement	\$ 178.00	\$ 187.00	\$ 9.00	5.1%
Advertising Amended S173 (per letter after 10)	Per Advertisement	\$ 9.50	\$ 10.00	\$ 0.50	5.3%
Planning Certificate - Urgent	Per Certificate	\$ 60.90	\$ 63.90	\$ 3.00	4.9%

**Appendix 2. Customer Fees and Charges 2024/25**

Description of charge	Unit of Measure	2023/24 Charge (GST inc)	2024/25 Charge (GST inc)	Fee Change (\$)	Fee Change (%)
Industrial/commercial pre-application planning meeting for major development - first meeting	Per meeting	\$ 225.00	\$ 236.00	\$ 11.00	4.9%
Industrial/commercial pre-application planning meeting for major development - second meeting	Per meeting	\$ 451.00	\$ 474.00	\$ 23.00	5.1%
Industrial/commercial pre-application planning meeting for major development - third and subsequent meetings	Per meeting	\$ 1,128.00	\$ 1,184.00	\$ 56.00	5.0%
Extension of time of 12 months to complete current building permit	Per Permit	\$ 450.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 25.00	5.6%
Building Permit - Minimum Fee for Minor Works. Cost of works up to and including \$10,000	Per Permit		\$ 800.00	New	100.0%
Building Permit - Demolition of Class 1a or 10a building	Per Permit		\$ 1,200.00	New	100.0%
Building Permit - Class 10 - Outbuildings, sheds, fences, retaining walls. Cost of works up to and including \$20,000	Per Application	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,470.00	\$ 70.00	5.0%
Building Permit - Class 10 - Outbuildings, sheds, fences, retaining walls. Works over \$20,001+	Per Application	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,785.00	\$ 85.00	5.0%
Building Permit - Class 10b - Swimming pools / spas / safety barriers	Per Application		\$ 1,785.00	New	100.0%
Building Permit (Class 1A New dwellings/dwelling extensions) Works up to \$100,000	Per Application	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 100.00	5.0%
Building Permit (Class 1A New dwellings/dwelling extensions) Works over \$100,000 to \$250,000	Per Application	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 150.00	6.7%
Building Permit (Class 1A New dwellings/dwelling extensions) Works over \$250,000	Per Application	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,730.00	\$ 130.00	5.0%
Building Permit - Change of Use	Per Application		On application	\$ -	-
Building Permit - Residential developments - Class 2	Per Application	\$ 5,021.00	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 279.00	5.6%
Building Permit - Residential developments - Class 3	Per Application	\$ 6,222.00	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 178.00	2.9%
Building Permit - Commercial and Industrial - Class 5-9 cost of works up to \$100,000	Per Application	\$ 1,930.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 70.00	3.6%
Building Permit - Commercial and Industrial - Class 5-9 cost of works over \$100,000 to \$250,000	Per Application	\$ 2,170.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 330.00	15.2%
Building Permit - Commercial and Industrial - Class 5-9 Cost of works over \$250,000	Per Application	\$ 2,528.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 472.00	18.7%
Building Permit - Mixed Use Developments	Per Application		On application	\$ -	-
Building Permit Variation	Per Application	\$ 350.00	\$ 370.00	\$ 20.00	5.7%
Building Report - Assessment of building work without a building permit (non-compliance)	Per Assessment	Permit Fee by 200%	Permit Fee by 200%	\$ -	-
Additional Mandatory Inspections	Per Inspection	\$ 250.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 10.00	4.0%
Place of Public Entertainment - Up to 5,000 people	Per Application	\$ 750.00	\$ 765.00	\$ 15.00	2.0%
Place of Public Entertainment - 5,001 to 15,000 people	Per Application	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,155.00	\$ 55.00	5.0%
Place of Public Entertainment - greater than 15,000 people	Per Application	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 100.00	5.0%
Occupancy Permit - Temporary Occupancy Permit	Per Application		\$ 990.00	New	100.0%
Liquor Licence Reports	Per Application	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 50.00	5.0%
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment - Up to 5,000 people	Per Application	\$ 340.00	\$ 360.00	\$ 20.00	5.9%
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment - 5,001 to 15,000 people	Per Application	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,890.00	\$ 90.00	5.0%
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment - Greater than 15,000 people	Per Application	\$ 680.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 20.00	2.9%
Applications for Modifications or Building Appeals Board hearings	Per Application		On application	On application	100.0%
Swimming pool/spa barrier inspection including Compliance Certificate (CBC/CNBC)	Per Pool	\$ 560.00	\$ 300.00	-\$ 260.00	-46.4%
Building Enquiries - Building search fee for documentation and copies of plans/drawings/building permits/occupancy permits (hourly rate may apply)	Per Search (+hourly fee)	\$ 182.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 8.00	4.4%
Tourist signing application fee		\$ 104.00	\$ 109.00	\$ 5.00	4.8%

**Corporate Charges**

Admin Fee - Dishonoured Payments	Per Dishonour	\$ 11.00	\$ 11.60	\$ 0.60	5.5%
Rate Search (10 Years)	Per Search	\$ 34.60	\$ 36.30	\$ 1.70	4.9%
Rate Search (20 Years)	Per Search	\$ 135.00	\$ 142.00	\$ 7.00	5.2%
Rate Search (30 Years)	Per Search	\$ 194.00	\$ 204.00	\$ 10.00	5.2%
Re-issue Rate Notice	Per Notice	\$ 6.50	\$ 6.80	\$ 0.30	4.6%



Appendix 3. Operating Carry Forward projects. <sup>1</sup>

<b>No.</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Carry Forward project description</b>	<b>Amount \$ '000</b>
1	Assets and Project Management Office	IS - Asset Management System Review	90
2	Safer Communities	Local Laws implementation project	58
3	Open Space and Recreation	Equestrian Facilities Plan - Shire Wide	24
4	Open Space and Recreation	Playground Strategy - Shire Wide	50
5	Open Space and Recreation	Woodend Racecourse Reserve Masterplan	3
6	Children Youth and Family Services	Lancefield Kindergarten Early Start Funding	0*
		<b>Total net cost of operating carry forward projects (\$,000)</b>	<b>\$225</b>

\* Project costs are offset with a grant contribution.

<sup>1</sup> The Carry Forward projects list comprises of projects recognised as part of the April monthly financial reporting process. Final balances for these projects, along with any newly identified projects during May and June will be reconciled after June 30, 2024. Once all financial year expenditures are finalised formal approval will subsequently be sought to carry forward these amounts.

**Macedon Ranges Shire Council**

PO Box 151, Kyneton VIC 3444

Tel: (03) 5422 0333

Fax: (03) 5422 3623

Email: [mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

Website: [mrsc.vic.gov.au](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au)

Find us on social media    

**Office locations****Kyneton Administration Centre**

129 Mollison Street, Kyneton

**Gisborne Administration Centre**

40 Robertson Street, Gisborne

**Romsey Service Centre**

96-100 Main Street, Romsey

**Woodend Service Centre**

Corner High and Forest Streets, Woodend

DRAFT

# Council Plan

## 2021 – 2031 (Year Four 2024-25)

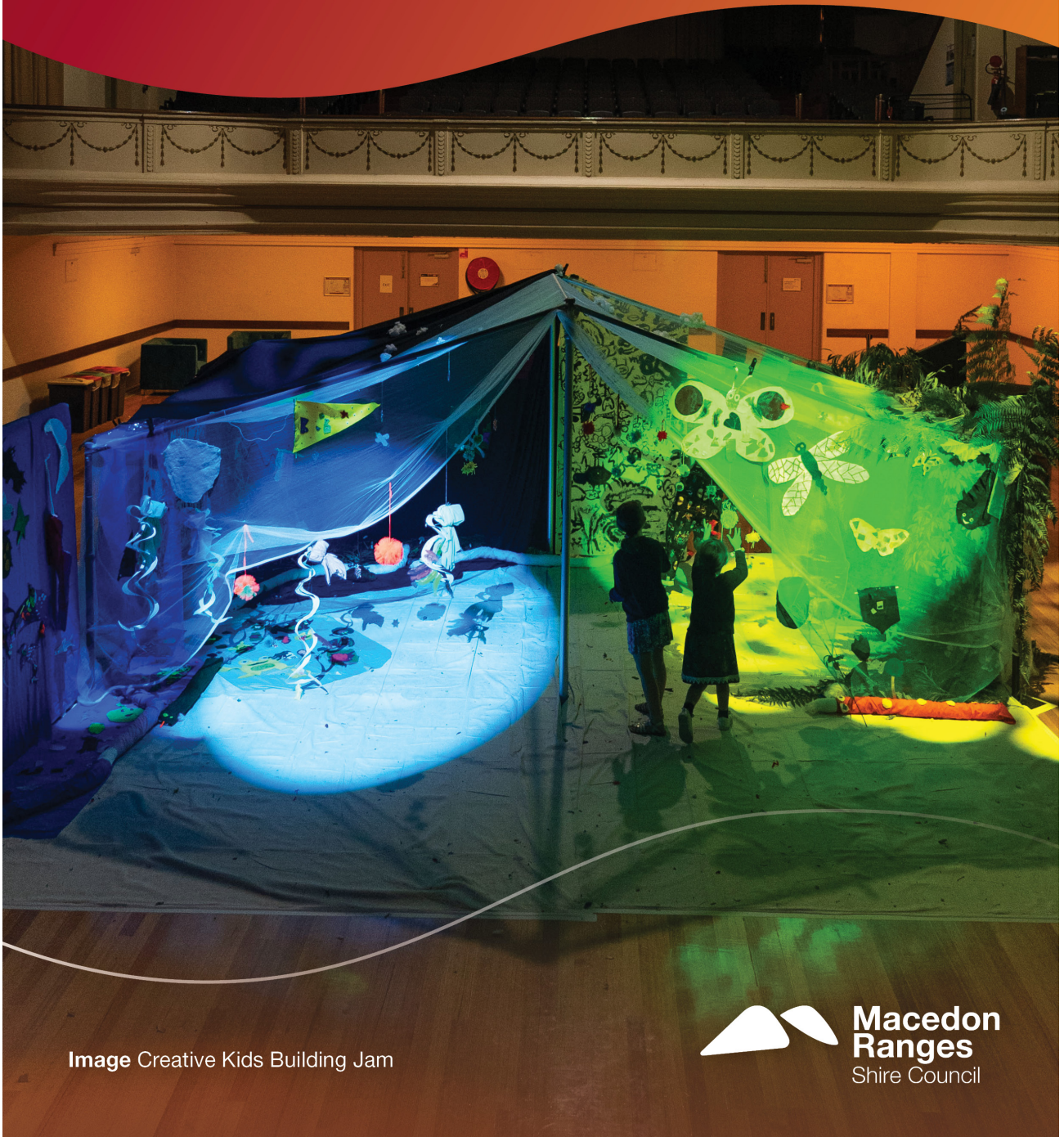


Image Creative Kids Building Jam





*Bunjils nest, Reconciliation Week*

## Acknowledgement of Country

*Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country, and pays respect to their Elders past, and present.*

*Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.*

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## How we developed our plan

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, a Council Plan must be prepared within the period of six months after each general election or by 30 June, whichever is later. Following the Council election in 2020, Council adopted a Council Plan on the 27 October 2021.

Each year, Council is required to update the actions that will be undertaken to assist in achieving the strategic priorities and strategic objectives of the Council Plan.

This update highlights the actions to be undertaken – Year Four 2024/25 of the Council Plan.

This Council Plan – Year Four 2024/25 was built on:

- the inclusion of multi-year actions provided as part of the Council Plan 2021-2031
- the consideration of new actions from feedback from the community and officers in progressing our services to the community
- removal of completed actions
- ensuring we meet our legislative requirements.

Council's strategic priorities were used as the basis for framing the conversations held with the Community Vision Assembly. Strong and reliable government, as a key administrative focus, was excluded from their remit discussions, on the basis that this function supports all others, and ensures appropriate compliance with our regulatory and statutory obligations.

## How we used your input

In developing the Council Plan – Year Four 2024/25, Council has considered:

- the existing Council Plan
- the feedback received from the Community Vision Assembly
- community needs and aspirations for the future, as expressed in the Macedon Ranges Shire's Community Vision 2021–2031
- community input via the consultation process in November/December 2023
- Council's role, and organisational capacity and capability, over the term of this plan.

Much of the new information used in updating the Council Plan 2021–2031 came from the deliberative engagement process we undertook with the Community Vision Assembly.

Council is committed to using the work produced by the Community Vision Assembly to inform our strategies and plans for the future of the Macedon Ranges Shire. Council is also committed to delivering the intent of the Local Government Act and Council's engagement policy, to strengthen the relationship with the community.

Council looks forward to hearing more from the community about what has been developed from the deliberative process.

## From the Chief Executive Officer

I am pleased to present this year's Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Four), which outlines proposed strategic priorities relevant to the Budget 2024-25 and represents a fourth financial year of this key guiding document, first endorsed in October 2021.

The Council Plan progresses themes derived from the Community Assembly's development of Council's Community Vision. This work and other key Council documents – including the Financial Plan and Asset Plan – are up for review by the end of October 2025, to ensure that we evaluate what we currently have in place and potentially identify opportunities for improvement.



We made significant headway on strategic priorities identified in 2023-24, and we'll look to continue building on that momentum through a range of additional or ongoing priorities identified for this financial year.

Actions and outcomes are detailed throughout this plan, but some specific actions include:

- Progressing the Macedon Ranges Shared Trails project between Woodend and Riddells Creek to completion for 30 December 2025 and continuing to advocate for external funding support for planning works to enable the Daylesford to Hanging Rock Rail Trail project, in partnership with Hepburn Shire Council.
- Following the adoption of the draft Romsey and Gisborne Structure Plans, commence their implementation including introducing the protected settlement boundary, and progressing associated plans.
- Advocating for funding of Stage 3 of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct.re

In addition to the above, there are a range of key strategies, policies and plans that Council will either be reviewing, developing for the first time, or finalising based on work already started in 2023-24. This includes examples such as Council's Heritage Strategy, Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve Master Plan, and Open Space Strategy.

All of these valuable community-driven outputs are guided by – and attributed to – our four strategic objectives: *Connecting communities; Healthy environment, healthy people; Business and tourism; and Deliver strong and reliable government.* We're continuing to work to maintain our built environment, protect our natural environment, provide support to our valuable community groups and volunteers, enable our local economy to diversify and grow, and demonstrate good governance through our systems, practices and culture.

On behalf of myself and Councillors, thank you for your continual feedback and support as a community, to ensure that we're delivering on your behalf and to hold us to account. We've already made some great achievements and progress in the time this current Council Plan has been in place, in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic and despite the challenges faced here and globally, particularly in relation to increasing cost of living pressures and natural disasters. I look forward to what's to come in this financial year, through this document, and beyond.

**Bernie O'Sullivan**

**Chief Executive Officer**

May 2024



Draft Council Plan 2021–2031 (Year 4 Actions 2024/25) – Version 3 – For adoption by Council



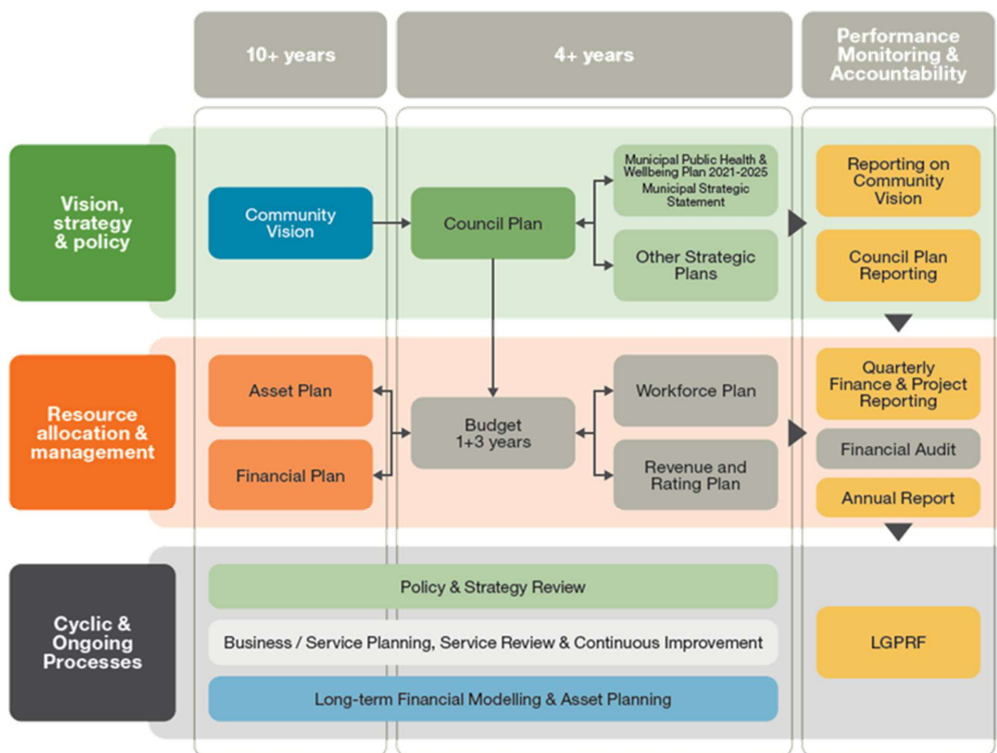
# What is the Council Plan?

The Council Plan 2021–2031 is our strategic direction for the future of the Macedon Ranges Shire. It outlines our key priorities for the next four years, covering the term of the current elected Council, and supports the achievement of the Community Vision through planned objectives and strategies.

The *Local Government Act 2020* introduced strategic planning principles for Victorian councils, which include an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting.

This Council Plan – Year Four 2024/25 forms part of the core legislated elements of the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework.

Figure 1. Integrated Strategic Planning and Framework



Source: Victoria State Government Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

Council regularly reports its performance in its quarterly reports, the Annual Report, and performance statements, which are published on the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website. Council also prepares an annual submission on performance against a set of key performance targets as part of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework, which contributes to the Local Government Sector Performance Report, published annually by Local Government Victoria.



Draft Council Plan 2021–2031 (Year 4 Actions 2024/25) – Version 3 – For adoption by Council

# Our framework

The community’s vision for Macedon Ranges Shire Council has been developed by the Community Vision Assembly. It forms part of Council’s strategic planning framework, guiding future planning across the shire, considering both short-term and long-term priorities that shape this Council Plan, as well as the annual four-year projected budget and 10-year Financial Plan.

Council looks forward to working alongside the community and external partners to work towards the community’s vision for Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

## The Community Vision statement

As voiced by our community to shape our shire’s future:

*With our unique regional identity, Macedon Ranges Shire embodies a caring, resilient approach to community through our robust local economy, protection of the natural environment and a collaborative commitment to inclusivity for all.*

The Community Vision Assembly developed three community vision themes, which we have used to shape this Council Plan, along with delivering strong and reliable government.

Further details on the Community Vision can be found on Council’s website or by contacting Council on (03) 5422 0333.

Figure 2. Community Vision Assembly’s Vision Statement and themes



## The Community Vision becomes the plan

Our Council Plan has been developed to improve four key outcomes for Macedon Ranges Shire Council. The Council Plan brings together the themes of Council’s Community Vision Assembly and links the themes to the strategic objectives of the Council Plan. This Council Plan – Year Four 2024/25 is required to be prepared under the *Local Government Act 2020*. Councillors have recognised a number of strategic objectives that will enable them to serve the community during the current Council’s four-year term.

Our strategic priorities describe what we will focus our resources towards to ensure we achieve our strategic objectives.

Annual actions are identified and linked to a strategic priority, and resources are allocated annually to achieve the actions.

Finally, at year-end, our actions are measured against what was set out to be undertaken during the prior 12 months. This process forms part of our key performance indicators (KPIs).

The Council Plan process is represented in the graphic below.



*Bike riders in Autumn*

# Strategic objectives

Community Vision – themes	Council Plan – strategic objectives
<b>Connecting communities</b>	
<p>A connected community is where people have access to the services they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging.</p> <p>Our community is diverse and has a range of needs. We need to ensure we are addressing all of them. We also need to bridge any gaps between Council actions and community expectations.</p>	<p>We will maintain our built environment – including roads, paths, buildings, open space and other assets – in a fiscally, environmentally and socially sustainable way. This includes effective land-use planning, which has a direct impact on the liveability of our shire.</p> <p>We will provide support for volunteers, community groups and organisations, in recognition of their work in contributing to social connections.</p>
<b>Healthy environment, healthy people</b>	
<p>The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities. There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our shire’s impact on the earth and its resources.</p> <p>Resilient communities and robust economies rely entirely on a healthy environment.</p>	<p>We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community, by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, community safety, and arts and culture.</p> <p>We will protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy, and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity and enhance water catchment quality. The Macedon Ranges Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2021.</p> <p>We will take action to reduce waste in order to protect public health and the environment.</p>
<b>Business and tourism</b>	
<p>Business and tourism is about prioritising and promoting the people, resources, services and our regional identity, to ensure economic growth.</p> <p>Economic development is crucial for the continued growth of the economy of the Macedon Ranges Shire.</p>	<p>We will foster economic vitality in a way that promotes positive individual and community health outcomes, including business diversity, housing, transport, information and communication technology, and employment options. Investment attracted to the shire will be consistent with the Community Vision.</p>
<b>Deliver strong and reliable government</b>	
<p>While this was not part of the Community Vision Assembly’s discussions, it is a requirement of Council’s responsibility under the Act.</p>	<p>We will demonstrate the qualities of good governance, including a clear vision and culture, transparency, respect, consistency, accountability and responsiveness.</p>



## Strategic priorities

Strategic objectives	Strategic priorities
<p><b>Connecting communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve connectivity and movement, and provide transport choices to the community, including walking trails and bike paths</li> <li>• Integrate land-use planning, and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the shire</li> <li>• Provide well-designed, fit-for-purpose, multi-use open spaces and infrastructure for the community to connect, engage and participate in a financially sustainable way</li> <li>• Target community needs through development programs and grants</li> <li>• Continue to deliver improved outcomes for and recognition of our First Nations People</li> <li>• Promote a more inclusive community by supporting community groups and vulnerable groups</li> <li>• Explore opportunities for affordable and social housing in the shire</li> </ul>
<p><b>Healthy environment, healthy people</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect the natural environment and enhance biodiversity</li> <li>• Lessen the severity of climate change, through actions that enable Council and the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions</li> <li>• Improve the quality of recycling, minimise the generation of waste and establish alternatives to landfill disposal</li> <li>• Provide opportunities to experience open space and bushland reserves</li> <li>• Improve the management of water, including flooding risk, water quality of creeks and waterways, and the efficient use of water</li> <li>• Maintain systems and capacity to manage and respond to emergency events</li> <li>• Encourage active and healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities</li> <li>• Engage families to promote the importance of early childhood education and health</li> <li>• Support our community to ensure better access and connection for facilities and services</li> <li>• Assist to improve mental wellbeing within the community</li> </ul>
<p><b>Business and tourism</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage economic vitality (including tourism, agribusiness and local employment options)</li> <li>• Support local industry sectors that align with our vision and strategies</li> <li>• Support small business and the local economy</li> <li>• Engage with emerging technology solutions and initiatives to increase the liveability of the shire</li> </ul>
<p><b>Deliver strong and reliable government</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure sustainable financial management and the strategic allocation of resources, to deliver planned infrastructure and services</li> <li>• Enhance strategy, policy and plan development, and identify alignment to allow for prioritisation of services that are efficient, well planned, accessible and meet community needs</li> <li>• Lead advocacy engagement and enhance relationships with all tiers of government and key stakeholders</li> <li>• Enhance customer experience through the transformation of our services, to ensure they are easy to access, and provide seamless transactional and interational experiences</li> <li>• Support transparent and evidence-based decision making through sharing Council data and clear reporting on our measures of success to the community</li> </ul>

**Council Plan – Year Four 2024/25 actions**

Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
<p>Improve connectivity and movement, and provide transport choices to the community, including walking trails and bike paths</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress the construction of the Macedon Ranges Shared Trails project towards completion by 30 December 2025</li> <li>In partnership with Hepburn Shire Council, advocate to the Victorian Government for support to undertake preconstruction planning for the Daylesford to Hanging Rock Rail Trail project</li> <li>Advocate to the Victorian Government for improvements to bus and rail public transport services, with a focus to identify township issues throughout the year</li> <li>Continue to advocate for increased State Government funding for supervised school crossings and consider alternative safe crossing methodologies for schools</li> </ul>	<p>Deliver</p> <p>Advocate</p> <p>Advocate</p> <p>Advocate</p>
<p>Integrate land-use planning, and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the shire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress the Kyneton Town Centre Urban Design Framework to Council for decision</li> <li>Following the adoption of the draft Gisborne Futures Structure Plan commence the implementation process including the introduction of the protected settlement boundary associated changes to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme</li> <li>Following the adoption of the draft Gisborne Futures Structure Plan, continue to finalise the draft Gisborne Futures Urban Design Framework Plan and Neighbourhood Character Study to guide future development and investment in public realm improvements</li> <li>Following the adoption of the draft Romsey Structure Plan, commence the implementation process including the introduction of the protected settlement boundary and associated changes to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.</li> <li>Finalise Council's Heritage Strategy to guide Council's priorities for further heritage protection</li> <li>Investigate options to progress delivery of a framework plan for Kyneton South</li> </ul>	<p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p>
<p>Provide well-designed, fit-for-purpose, multi-use open spaces and infrastructure where the community can connect, engage and participate in a financially responsible way</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress the preparation of a new Open Space Strategy towards adoption.</li> <li>Advocate for funding of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct for Stage 3.</li> <li>Complete stage 2 of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct design, documentation and tender preparation</li> <li>Commence construction of Stage 2 of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct</li> <li>Deliver the annual capital works program within budget</li> <li>Undertake a feasibility for the best location for a skate park in Gisborne.</li> </ul>	<p>Deliver</p> <p>Advocate</p> <p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p> <p>Deliver</p>

Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the Romsey Skate Park, in conjunction with Lancefield Romsey Lions Club and the recommendations from the shire wide Skate park and BMX strategy</li> <li>Finalise the Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve Master Plan</li> <li>Advocate for funding to realise the delivery of the Woodend Community Centre in line with priority projects</li> </ul>	Partner/Facilitate  Deliver Advocate
Target community needs through development programs and grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote community centres, neighbourhood houses, and their programs to encourage community participation</li> <li>Continue Council's community grants programs (the Community Funding Scheme and the Small Projects Grants) to support community groups to deliver community, cultural and environmental projects, and enhance community places</li> <li>Collaborate with Bendigo Volunteer Resource Centre and across Council to coordinate, support, engage and recognise volunteers</li> <li>Promote the library programs of the Goldfields Library Corporation to engage the community</li> <li>Advocate for possible funding opportunities to support the Goldfields Library Corporation to undertake construction works for the Gisborne Library</li> </ul>	Deliver  Deliver  Partner/Deliver  Partner/Deliver  Advocate
Continue to deliver improved outcomes for and recognition of our First Nations People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to advance Indigenous reconciliation, working with First Nations People and broader community on implementing Council's current Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan</li> <li>Celebrate and participate in National Reconciliation Week, by providing opportunities to build and maintain relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and other Australians</li> <li>Continue to recognise Indigenous culture at Macedon Ranges Shire Kindergartens</li> <li>Upon endorsement, commence implementation of Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).</li> </ul>	Partner/Deliver  Partner/Deliver  Deliver Partner/Deliver
Promote a more inclusive community by supporting community groups and vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to demonstrate leadership in advancing gender equality, through implementation of Council's Gender Equality Action Plan, including delivery of year three actions</li> <li>Oversee delivery and collaboration with the community to facilitate approved Council recognition days (or weeks)</li> <li>Provide information and guidance on available external funding opportunities to support sustainability of community programs delivered by Neighbourhood Houses, and continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for increased funding</li> <li>Deliver the Aged Care Volunteer Visitor Scheme actions to link an older vulnerable person with a dedicated volunteer to decrease social isolation</li> </ul>	Deliver  Deliver  Advocate  Deliver



Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledge and promote community volunteers through Council's Annual Community Awards</li> </ul>	Deliver
Explore opportunities for affordable and social housing in the shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to implement Council's Affordable Housing Policy including to support the implementation of the Loddon Mallee Housing Action Plan</li> <li>Continue to work with the Victorian Government and housing providers to increase the supply of social housing, in the shire, including consideration of Council owned seniors housing stock</li> </ul>	Deliver  Advocate/Partner

**Strategic objective 2. Healthy environment, healthy people**

We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, volunteers, community safety, and arts and culture.

We will protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity and enhance water catchment quality. The Macedon Ranges Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2021.

We will take action to reduce waste in order to protect public health and the environment.

Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
Protect the natural environment and enhance biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to deliver the actions for the Biodiversity Strategy 2018 including community education and engagement program and biolink plan</li> <li>Continue the Healthy Landscapes – Practical Regenerative Agricultural Communities project</li> <li>Continue to protect, preserve and enhance biodiversity on Council land, through implementation of Environmental Management Plans, including pest plant and animal management, tree assessment and mitigation, ecological burning, and liaison with community</li> <li>Review and update the Pest Animal and Weed Strategy 2014-2024</li> <li>Continue annual biodiversity monitoring program including fauna and flora surveys through the Bird Blitz, Nest Box Monitoring, and Spotlighting Surveys</li> <li>Continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for Barrm Birm to become a State Park due to its significant flora and fauna</li> </ul>	Deliver Deliver Deliver Deliver Deliver Advocate
Lessen the severity of climate change, through actions that enable Council and the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement very high and high priority actions in the Climate Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>Provide opportunities for the community to mobilise and participate in individual, household and collective local climate action</li> <li>Deliver the Year 2 actions in Council's Zero Net Emissions Plan for Operations</li> <li>Conduct a scoping study and commission detailed design work to enable very high and high priority sites and small Council owned sites to transition off gas</li> <li>Continue participation in the Regional Community Carbon Offset Pilot Project led by North Central Catchment Management Authority</li> </ul>	Deliver Deliver Facilitate/Deliver Deliver Facilitate/Deliver

Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
Improve the quality of recycling, minimise the generation of waste and establish alternatives to landfill disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to decrease tonnes of waste to landfill per-capita</li> <li>Finalise the new circular economy education and engagement plan and commence its implementation</li> </ul>	Deliver Deliver
Provide opportunities to experience open space and bushland reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver Eastern base circuit track repairs, development and installation of wayfinding signs and ongoing engagement with the Taungurung to build rapport and to inform cultural content for interpretive signs and features at Black Hill Reserve</li> <li>Provide opportunities for the community to experience open space and bushland reserves and learn about nature via monthly environment e-news and seasonal environment event program</li> <li>Complete the Woodend Racecourse reserve Master Plan</li> <li>Complete the Macedon Ranges Community Equestrian Facilities Master Plan</li> </ul>	Deliver  Deliver  Deliver Deliver
Improve the management of water, including flooding risk, water quality of creeks and waterways, and the efficient use of water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue priority waterway restoration works that implement adopted waterway environmental plans including Bunjil, Howey, Djirri Djirri Waterway and Jacksons Creeks and Nursery Road Waterway</li> <li>Implement actions in the Woodend Five Mile Creek Master Plan and Romsey Five Mile Creek Master Plan</li> </ul>	Deliver  Deliver
Maintain systems, capacity and capability to manage, respond to and lead recovery after emergency events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to leverage partnerships with key agencies and community groups to improve response to, and recovery from, emergency events</li> <li>Contribute to Municipal Emergency Management Planning, learning from emergency management responses to improve future responses</li> </ul>	Facilitate/Partner Facilitate/Partner
Encourage active and healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimise accessibility and usage of open space and facilities, through a program of development and renewals for open space, playgrounds and sporting infrastructure</li> <li>Work in partnership with health, education and community organisations, including sporting clubs and community groups, to enhance opportunities for improved health, and participation in passive and active recreation</li> <li>Work in partnership with Healthy Loddon Campaspe to deliver actions specific to Macedon Ranges Shire</li> <li>Continue to deliver the actions for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025</li> <li>Continue to deliver the 2023-24 actions for the Disability Action Plan 2021–2025</li> <li>Continue to deliver the actions for Elevate – Council’s Youth Strategy 2018–2028</li> <li>Continue to deliver the actions for Participate – Council’s Positive Ageing Plan 2020–2025</li> </ul>	Deliver Partner  Partner/Deliver  Deliver  Deliver Deliver Deliver

Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
Engage families to promote the importance of early childhood education and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to partner with the Department of Education and Training to support current education reforms, such as the rollout of three-year-old kindergarten in the Macedon Ranges Shire and School Readiness Funding</li> <li>• Continue to provide and support access to quality kindergarten programs across the Shire</li> <li>• Continue to deliver actions for Council's Early Years Plan – CREATE</li> <li>• Continue to strengthen municipal planning of early years services</li> <li>• Continue to explore the feasibility of Macedon Ranges Shire becoming a "Child Friendly Community"</li> </ul>	Facilitate/Partner  Deliver  Deliver Facilitate/Partner Facilitate/Deliver
Support our community to ensure better access and connection for facilities and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to monitor the impacts of aged care reforms and work with service providers to advocate for the needs of older people</li> </ul>	Advocate
Assist to improve mental wellbeing within the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work with the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments to advocate for improved youth mental health services in the Macedon Ranges Shire</li> <li>• Independently assess the effectiveness, impact and efficiency of the current Live 4 life program in Macedon Ranges to inform future developments</li> </ul>	Advocate/Partner  Deliver

**Strategic objective 3. Business and tourism**

We will foster economic vitality in a way that promotes positive individual and community health outcomes, including business diversity, housing, transport, information and communication technology, and employment options. Investment attracted to the shire will be consistent with the Community Vision.

Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
Encourage economic vitality (including tourism, agribusiness, buy local and local employment options)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement key actions contained in Year 2 and 3 of Council's Economic Development Strategy 2021–2031, including support for local businesses and community stakeholders to develop and implement township plans, and support the delivery of Council's RAP and delivery actions to increase employment and business opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples</li> <li>Deliver the Autumn Festival</li> <li>Continue delivering actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018–2028</li> <li>Identify and support initiatives that involve participatory arts practices</li> <li>Deliver the 2025 Events and Festivals grant funding program</li> <li>Seek external funding to improve signage/ way finding within our town business centres</li> </ul>	Implement/Facilitate  Deliver Deliver Deliver Partner/Deliver Advocate/Deliver
Support local industry sectors that align with our Community Vision and strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to support local business and tourism associations (BATAs) and industry-sector peak bodies, and look to have geographic and industry-sector coverage</li> <li>Deliver the 2024 Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards program</li> <li>Continue to promote local purchasing and the circular economy</li> <li>Support Startup CentralVic to deliver support to new startup businesses across the region</li> </ul>	Partner  Deliver Deliver Advocate
Support small business and the local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain <i>Small Business Friendly Charter</i> status, including relevant increasing responsiveness, engagement, process streamlining, and facilitating business networks</li> <li>Support the local economy by encouraging procurement to be undertaken locally</li> </ul>	Deliver  Advocate
Engage with emerging technology solutions and initiatives to increase the liveability of the shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to advocate for improved telecommunications infrastructure, with a focus on blackspots</li> <li>Actively participate in government reviews and initiatives to increase provision of service and awareness of issues</li> </ul>	Advocate  Advocate/Partner

**Strategic objective 4. Deliver strong and reliable government**

We will demonstrate the qualities of good governance, including a clear vision and culture, transparency, respect, consistency, accountability and responsiveness.

Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
Ensure sustainable financial management and the strategic allocation of resources to deliver planned infrastructure and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redevelop Council’s ongoing continuous improvement and service review program</li> <li>• Continue to review and update long-term financial and infrastructure planning to guide our budget decisions, to ensure they are responsible and sustainable; noting the development of the new plans (Council, Financial, Revenue and Rating and Asset Plan) must be adopted by Council by 31 October in the year following a general election</li> <li>• Meet financial reporting requirements, in line with the Local Government Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework</li> <li>• Commence program of service planning across which will enable Council to continuously plan, strategically review and improve its services</li> </ul>	Deliver Deliver  Deliver Deliver
Enhance strategy, policy and plan development, and identify alignment to allow for prioritisation of services that are efficient, well planned, accessible and meet community needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement actions arising from the 2024 Employee Engagement Pulse survey, and integrate responses to feedback into organisational actions and plans.</li> <li>• Complete the roll-out of Council’s capability focused training and development program to ensure continuous improvement across our capability framework whilst offering access to required skills and compliance training</li> <li>• Progress the redevelopment of Council’s suite of core Plans and Strategies in line with the requirements of Local Government Act 2020 following the Council election</li> <li>• Review the software requirements and solutions of Council to ensure that they support our organisational needs in accordance with relevant IT Strategies</li> </ul>	Deliver Deliver Deliver Deliver
Lead advocacy engagement and enhance relationships with all tiers of government and key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to actively participate in community and government networks and regional alliances</li> <li>• Continue to actively meet local members and key decision makers to influence positive outcomes for the Macedon Ranges community</li> <li>• Facilitate Deliberative Engagement following the election of the new Council and enhance ongoing community consultation practices</li> <li>• Work with the Victorian Electoral Commission to deliver a successful election during October 2024, including attracting candidates, providing facilities, and information as required</li> </ul>	Partner/Facilitate Partner/Facilitate  Facilitate/Deliver Facilitate/Deliver
Enhance customer experience through the transformation of our services, to ensure they are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement actions from the review of the Customer Request System, with the aim of improving our customer service experience and response times for ratepayers</li> </ul>	Deliver



Four-year strategic priorities	What we will do in 2024/25	Council role
easy to access and provide user-friendly experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to implement the actions of the Information Services Digital Strategy 2022-26 so they are delivered in accordance with the yearly Work Plan, ensuring digital platforms are accessible and fit for purpose for all community members</li> </ul>	Deliver
Support transparent and evidence-based decision making, through sharing Council data and clear reporting on our measures of success to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comply with legislative external reporting and disclosure obligations, and progress the redevelopment of internal monitoring and reporting frameworks to demonstrate transparency to the community</li> <li>Complete the induction and training of elected councillors to enable effective decision making by ensuring understanding of the Governance role of Council, Council's performance, and priorities for the community</li> </ul>	Deliver  Deliver



## How we will measure success

Strategic indicators provide Council with measures to monitor how we are progressing towards our outcomes. Council's level of influence over the result of each measure is shown, as often Council does not control the results, but seeks to influence with advocacy, partnerships and the community.

Connecting communities	<b>If we are successful, we will see:</b>	<b>Outcome measures</b>
	Delivery of the annual capital works program	Deliver capital works completion rates to 80% by 30 June 2025, with a stretch target of 85%.
	Gender Equality Action Plan embedded across the organisation	Implementation of the Gender Equality Action Plan 2022/25: Year 3 implemented and Year 4 actions progressing. Gender Impact Assessments conducted, as part of the development process for all significant facing policies, strategies and plans required under the Act.
	Collaboration with Loddon Mallee partners and across Council to coordinate, support, engage and recognise volunteers	Development and provision of induction, training opportunities and recognition activities during International Volunteer Day.
Support outcomes for a range of diverse community groups through funding to enhance facilities and enable programming.	Delivery of Council's community grants programs to support community groups to deliver community, cultural and environmental projects, and enhance community places.	
Healthy environment, healthy people	<b>If we are successful, we will see:</b>	<b>Outcome measures</b>
	A reduction in Council's corporate net-zero emissions	Council emissions in 2024/25 will reduce compared with the prior year.
	A decrease in tonnes of waste, with an increase in kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill per capita	An increase in the percentage of waste diverted from landfill.
	Deliver Year 2 Actions of the Zero Net Emission Plan for Council Operations	Year 2 actions of the plan delivered.
Business and tourism	<b>If we are successful, we will see:</b>	<b>Outcome measures</b>
	Council continuing to meet with business networks	Hold at least four meetings during the year.

	A commitment to being a small business friendly Council	Maintain <i>Small Business Friendly Council</i> status
	Delivery of the Autumn Festival	Increase in community and business events registered as part of the festival.

Deliver strong and reliable government	If we are successful, we will see:	Outcome measures
	Council continuing to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020	Monitor and report on the Council's compliance with key obligations in the Act, including performance against this Plan.
	A review of Council policies and frameworks	Timely implementation of Workplan for Strategies, Plans and Policies Framework, including on-time renewal of key registered documents.
	Our staff completing relevant training to ensure continuous improvement	100% of Council staff complete mandatory compliance and onboarding training.
	The implementation of the Community Engagement Policy, which will strengthen community engagement practice and consultation with the community	Refined community consultation approaches implemented, and Community Engagement policy reviewed in preparation for update following Council election. Increase in community satisfaction with community consultation and engagement.

## Evaluation and reporting

Our Council Plan 2021–2031 consists of a range of actions that will contribute to the achievement of our priorities and vision.

The Action Plan shows only a small part of what we will do in the coming year, with many other activities contributing to achieving the Macedon Ranges Shire Community Vision 2021–2031.

Council regularly reports its performance in its quarterly reports, Annual Report and performance statements, which are published on the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website.

It is the role of the Mayor to ensure that Council reports, at least once a year, on the implementation of this Council Plan. We commit to communicating our progress, both positive and negative, to the community through our many communication channels, including media releases, our website and social media.



*V/Line railway heading towards Woodend Station*

## Strategic planning principles

The *Local Government Act 2020* contains a number of key requirements in Section 89 regarding the need for a Council Plan to be prepared in accordance with the outlined strategic planning principles. The following summary outlines the correlation between those principles and this Council Plan.

In terms of needing an integrated approach to planning, the Council Plan has been updated to reflect the new Community Vision, which was developed through a deliberative engagement process by the Macedon Ranges Community Vision Assembly. The Assembly's vision and themes have been incorporated into this document. In addition, a number of the strategies that the Assembly developed have either been incorporated into the Council Plan as new items, or have enhanced existing strategies.

In developing an integrated approach between the outputs from the deliberative engagement process and the key strategic documents of Council, it became evident that many of the goals identified in this process could not be achieved without effective correlation with the Budget document. This key strategic document outlines the funds that will be made available to deliver outcomes, and many of the ideas out of the Community Vision Assembly will require further assessment, evaluation, prioritisation and funding before they can progress.

To ensure there is integration, those items are included as a separate section of this Council Plan for consideration in future budget processes when funds are allocated.



*Romsey Ecotherapy Park*



Outlined within the next section of this Council Plan are those items that will require further evaluation in regards to the resources required for their effective implementation. The Community Vision Assembly has developed some ideas that Council is not currently resourced to deliver.

In order to ensure clarity and transparency regarding those items, they are identified within this document for future consideration. This will ensure that matters relating to the resources required for their effective implementation can be taken into account and funding requirements identified, before they are considered for progression.

The ideas of the Community Vision Assembly that cannot be completed without additional resources need to be further evaluated and considered, in order to ensure that resources can be allocated and those ideas are not constrained by other factors.

The separate identification of these ideas and their referral to Council for further evaluation allows for other matters to be considered, such as alignment or otherwise with legislation and existing policy, constraints to delivery, and the role already played by others in helping deliver outcomes for our community.

A Community Vision Assembly idea may transform from seeking Council to be initially responsible, to working with existing partners and/or advocating for an outcome from another organisation.

This Council Plan contains a number of specific actions for which monitoring of their progress will occur in Council's quarterly report.

Consistent with Council's past practice, it is also intended to review the Council Plan annually to ensure annual actions are reviewed and set, and that strategies can be conferred to be in line with any changing circumstances.

Resources are provided by Council each year to ensure business-as-usual activities continue and to deliver new initiatives that are specifically highlighted for funding.

Therefore, where an idea is outside the capacity of current organisational resources, consideration will need to be given to prioritising that idea within the financial constraints that exist.

There are not unlimited funds for new initiatives as Council is largely reliant on revenue from rates, which are restricted by a rate cap.



*Children playing at Riddells Creek Kindergarten*

# Community Vision Assembly focus ideas for future evaluation

Consistent with Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Council Plan must be reviewed in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices. This Council Plan reflects the outcomes of the deliberative engagement process that has been conducted, and integrates the vision and themes of the Community Vision Assembly.

It also reflects the Assembly's strategies, and seeks to enhance and reinforce the existing strategies in the Council Plan.

Council needs to ensure that what we set out to achieve is able to be resourced, and continues to reflect priorities as external and internal factors change.

The following are ideas of the Assembly that will be considered in future annual action plans of the plan. Those ideas that could not be completed within Council's existing resources are outlined below, both for the purpose of transparency, and for referral to future processes that evaluate and then provide funding for the delivery of those outcomes.

## Connecting communities

- Implement local transport options for towns not currently serviced (such as similar to Gisbus and Woodend Flexiride)
- Greater consideration to the connection of developments to existing community services and infrastructure, given the increase in population in the coming decades
- Signage for amenities to aid different demographics of the community
- Cycling pathways, outdoor exercise equipment, sporting facilities, signage with distance and approximated timeframes, and gradients for all walking trails, making them accessible for everyone
- Ensure amenities are immaculate

## Healthy environment, healthy people

- Greater commitment to community health programs and initiatives
- Access to health services locally for those who can't afford it
- Better connection between services (include 24 hours) and Council as a conduit (for example, for domestic violence)
- Reduce the stigma associated with mental ill-health, suicide and suicide prevention, making it easier for people to seek help and support, especially concentrating on the impact of COVID-19
- Respond to socioeconomic disadvantage and equity
- 'Diversity' will come from equitable processes, such as mandatory inclusion of low-cost housing and community facilities, and upgrades to public transport in all new housing estate developments
- Services to address mental health issues
- Mental health connection to our economic groups of where we go for that financial assistance – how do we get the messaging out?



- Prioritise car-use reduction through an inter-town and intra-town network of safe walking and cycling tracks, and effective, easy and cheap public transport
- Consideration of innovative closed-loop resource use (for example, the local biodiesel facility using waste oil from within the region to produce fuel)
- Regulations for new developments, such as a 7-star rating, in the planning process
- New subdivisions to include the capacity for solar
- Council to provide native plants (bird/bee/butterfly attractants) for local residents to plant at home
- Continue the focus on Biolinks revegetation with greater investment required
- Defined walking and cycling trails to protect the surrounding environment within flora and fauna areas
- Emissions from agriculture/livestock or potential resource recovery (for example, could proactively work with a university for cattle CO2 methane reduction or reuse as an energy source)
- Prioritise solar and wind power
- Protection against urban sprawl development on large farming areas
- A clear concise environment plan (long term)
- Achieve 100% renewable energy by Council, residents and business
- Council to transition to electric transport by 2030 and implement an electric vehicle policy for all operators in the shire

## Business and tourism

- Local online shopping interface promoted and managed by Council
- Showcase local produce, products and services within and beyond the region
- In lieu of outdated business awards, fortnightly spotlight on local businesses, community groups and individuals, to showcase local activity. This could be online, but also in local print media, including small-town-specific publications and in local community facilities, such as the library
- Reduce friction between Council and the business community by reducing red tape, permits and fees, and simplifying processes
- A business directory
- Provide resources and facilities for small businesses, such as a tool library and training
- Council should facilitate innovation and development, without the pressure to invent them itself
- Community-led and driven activities to engage residents and encourage a local focus with support of Council (for example, waiving venue hire fees)
- Attracting diverse industries (and their jobs) to the region through incentives, including a reduction in bureaucracy and offering rated deductions over the first few years
- Council should audit developments prior to approval to see if development really 'needs' to be approved (for example, are they fit for purpose, and why approve development for four shops when there are already nine empty shops?)
- Blueprint developments – communication of what's needed, and better access to development applications and information

## Deliver strong and reliable government

- Community-triggered review of Council decisions, more deliberative engagement

