



# Council Plan Performance Reporting

## Quarter 2

As at 31 December 2021



**Yarriambiack**  
SHIRE COUNCIL



## Table of Contents

1.	Executive Summary.....
2.	A vibrant and diversified economy.....
3.	A healthy and inclusive community.....
4.	A robust and thriving environment.....
5.	A Council who serves its community.....

## 1. Executive Summary

This report is for the period ending 31 December 2021 and outlines Council's performance in the first quarter of the 21-22 Financial Year against the Council Plan 2021/22 adopted actions.

### A Vibrant and diversified economy

Action	Update
Install cabins at Warracknabeal and Hopetoun Caravan Park.	The Tender is being considered at the Council meeting on 23 February 2022.
Seek funding to implement the Minyip Caravan Park Masterplan.	Four additional powered sites have been constructed with funding. Seeking funding through the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund for cabins.
Install camp kitchens in Hopetoun and Warracknabeal.	Drawings have been drafted by Grampians i-design for Request for Quote procurement.
Replace the amenity building at Warracknabeal Caravan Park.	Contractor has been appointed. Electrical and demolition works to commence shortly. Building expected to be commenced in 4-6 weeks.
Create a calendar of events to assist with marketing and promotion.	New website has gone live. Events section included in new website. Council has purchased the Business and Community Directory module, which will enable Business and Community Groups to be promoted via our website.
Provide businesses concierge services and funding through a dedicated monthly newsletter	Weekly newsletter steadily increasing circulation and containing business information.
Regional Development Australia Grampians 'For Want of a Worker' Strategy initiatives actively pursued to attract and train the future workforce.	Awaiting Final Documents from Regional Development Australia.
Update the Community & Business Directory.	The directory will be moved online to the new website, to go live by June 2022.
Application for 14 affordable dwellings to be built across the Shire through State Big Build Funding.	Awaiting funding announcement of Regional Infrastructure Fund. Progressing an application for the regional round in partnership with Haven Homes.
Facilitate discussions between business owners to ensure opening hours, goods and services are suitable for consumers.	No progress to date

<p>Utilising the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership Digital Strategy to identify key areas for improvement and build an advocacy platform.</p>	<p>Submission to the most recent Engage Victoria Telecommunications Blackspot Funding Round, highlighting 4 locations. Provided a letter of support to Pivotel for their 4G network blackspot initiative.</p>
<p>Advocate for equitable access in each township to the premier product for townships from the NBN multi-platform technology mix.</p>	<p>Hopetoun NBN project due for signing prior to Dec 2021.</p>
<p>Advertise the NBN Local community program – inviting NBN to attend community events to provide support and information.</p>	<p>Events are now being scheduled with Covid restrictions easing.</p>
<p>Adopt a 10 year Asset Management Plan</p>	<p>Due by June 30, 2022.</p>
<p>Partnering with Wimmera Development Association to develop a distributed housing mode which makes serviced land available for new homes to be built.</p>	<p>Active involvement with Project Control Group.</p>
<p>Review and set a new Road Management Plan including service levels for road types.</p>	<p>Commenced community consultation program in February 2022. Was delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions.</p>
<p>Apply for State or Federal funding to upgrade Heavy Vehicle routes.</p>	<p>Applications open in November 2021 for Heavy Vehicle and Bridge Renewal Funding. Joint applications with Nth Grampians and Horsham to be made also.</p>
<p>Embed the predominant land use of agriculture into the local planning policy framework through a strategic planning scheme amendment.</p>	<p>Through the Local Planning Policy Framework translation into the Planning Policy Framework process through DELWP, Council’s Municipal Strategic Statement in the Planning Scheme was changed to become the Municipal Planning Strategy. This process removed duplication through the Planning scheme and was policy neutral.</p> <p>Almost every section of the Strategic Directions in the Municipal Planning Strategy has reference to agriculture, including Settlement, Environmental and landscape values, Environmental risks and amenity, Natural resource management, Built environment and heritage, Economic development (Agriculture, Industrial, Tourism), Transport, and Infrastructure.</p>

	Planning has commenced for the review of the Yarriambiack Planning Scheme. Outcomes of the review would identify parts of the scheme that do and don't work, and potentially look at elements of the Municipal Planning Strategy where the importance of agriculture can be highlighted or strengthened.
Support the Birchip Cropping Group extension research into Indigenous planting.	Support letters provided by Council to BCG and WDA for funding applications.
Encourage value-adding as a sustainable option for existing products.	Support letters provided to WDA for home based food trail across Wimmera Mallee, awaiting outcome.
Seek funding to upgrade a second ramp at the Livestock Exchange.	Second ramp to be included in the 22-23 budget.
Trial a modified community transport model that utilises existing Council vehicles.	Successful in obtaining funding from CHSP for two years of volunteer transport. Recruitment of Co Ordinator underway.
Highlight job opportunities for working remotely to attract people to live and work in the Shire.	Promoting flexible work arrangements in all job applications.

## A healthy and inclusive community

Action	Update
Expand the Warracknabeal Children's Centre to accommodate the higher demand in kindergarten and childcare.	Delays in issuing Building Permit had resulted in delays to construction. Project construction has now commenced.
Seek funding for Dunmunkle Early Years and Childcare Centre.	Council has committed \$400,000 from the 22/23 Budget. Building Better Regions Round 6 Funding application submitted. Council will be advocating for this project during the Federal Election campaign.
Re-engage with health services (post-covid) to embed intergenerational activities.	
Active involvement with the Regional Partnership Strengthening Children in Communities Program.	Continue to promote program through dedicated workshops for the community. 2 online sessions held in 21/22 to date.
Seek internal or external funding allocations to provide meaningful playgroup programs to families.	Council has secured annual funding for resources related to playgroups. The enhanced MCH funding supports Council's MCH nurses to connect families with playgroups. Council is a

	member of playgroup Vic and we utilise their resources to support groups to set up.
Encourage the use of Library facilities across the Shire for all children and youth.	School holiday programs in conjunction with library venues have had high participation rates.
Deliver short courses that assist Young people to gain employment.	Engage and Freeza funding applications submitted. Council was unsuccessful with the Engage funding bid. Will advocate to the state government for youth funding across the municipality.
Support community initiatives that raise awareness of gender equity and family violence.	
Support volunteers by coordinating their statutory requirements such as Police Checks.	
Continue to implement Council's Cigarette Sales to Minors Program to improve retailer compliance and reduce in incidence of tobacco use in our younger demographic.	
Promote awareness through social media on the signs of family violence and the support mechanisms in place available for victims	
Develop masterplans for Murtoa and Warracknabeal Recreation Facilities	Masterplan consultants have been appointed.
Seek funding for the design and development of the Murtoa Rabl Park Youth Park, Warracknabeal Pump Track and Hopetoun Skatepark upgrades.	Council has applied for Sport and Recreation Funding for Rabl Park pump track, toddler playground and walking tracks, along with Masterplan funding for Warracknabeal Recreation Precinct (Shire Office), Hopetoun Recreation Reserve and Minyip Recreation Reserve.
Develop a Participation Plan for the Beulah, Brim and Rupanyup Recreation Reserves as part of the 2020 Community Sport Infrastructure Stimulus Funding.	Plans for Beulah and Brim finalised. Rupanyup in progress. Joint LG Award winners for Tennis Vic.
Become a Local Government Authority Vic Sport Member	Council has become a member of Vicsport and will be recognised as a 2022 member.
Continue to assist Sporting Clubs and Community Organisations with funding or grant applications to support sport, active and passive recreation programs, initiatives, or infrastructure	Council is undertaking master planning of ANZAC Park and Murtoa Recreation reserve. Has applied for Sport and Recreation Funding for master planning of Warracknabeal Recreation Precinct, Hopetoun Recreation Reserve and Minyip

	Recreation Reserve. Rabi Park grant application submitted. Hopetoun Lighting project in delivery. Application submitted for Hopetoun Bowling Green renewal.
Liaise with communities to ensure all Community Action Plans are up to date	Dedicated staff member assisting communities to update their CAPs. Lascelles and Hopetoun recently completed.
Ensuring representatives from Council attend Progress Association and Consultative Meetings.	Going forward, Director Community Development and Wellbeing and Acting CEO alternate attending Progress Meetings and Consultative meetings.
Promote the Library facilities across the Shire and encourage usage of all resources.	Increased Library Facebook engagement by 11% since July 1 <sup>st</sup> .
Advocate for GP services and specific specialist services to be delivered in place, eg dialysis.	
Utilise the Words on Wheels Van for the delivery of library items and engage communities as a social interaction space.	Ongoing improvement of community library spaces with recent improvements at Rupanyup and Woomelang.
Annual roadshows with Regional Assessment officer to promote services available	Roadshow undertaken through July prior to Covid restrictions.
Provide appropriate support mechanisms and resources to successfully implement community transport model	Volunteer transport funding sourced. COVID restrictions have limited system being implemented. Advertising for volunteers was undertaken.
Implement new client management system to improve our quality of service to clients of the Commonwealth Home Support Program.	A new ICT system has been implemented to ensure client information processing.
Maintain support and promotion of Councils Access and Inclusion Plan to encourage participation and social connection for residents of all abilities.	Council's access and inclusion statement in development and to be included in the Council Plan.

## A robust and thriving environment

Action	Update
Funding to deliver a glass crusher that reduces waste	Procurement of glass crushing machine finalised, MoU with partner Councils finalised. Delivery expected March 22.
Develop a Waste Management Strategy	Community consultation to take place through April - May 22.
Identify Councils resourcing requirements to implement the Victorian Governments waste reform targets	Community consultation to take place through April -May 22.
Participate in Municipal Association Victoria Procurement to group purchase green energy offsets to Council's power contracts.	Have entered into Victorian Energy Collaboration with other Councils.
Development of an Environmental Strategy	
Encourage community groups to seek funding to install solar	eRup successful with funding from Murra Wurra Community Fund.
Install solar on Council owned- Community managed buildings	
Update the Tree Policy, Tree register and ensure a risk-based approach to tree maintenance across the Shire.	Tree Policy in draft and to be advertised for community consultation.
Streetscape works targeted at reducing the heat impacts in main street districts	Beulah and Rupanyup Tree Planting to be undertaken in 21/22 year.
Continue collaboration with Catchment Management Authority for projects that encounter the environmental impacts of roadside weeds and pests	Additional funding received from Mallee Catchment Management Authority for north west Council area.
Seek additional environmental water for Minyip and Warracknabeal initiatives.	Integrated Water Management Funding applications closed Dec 21.
Design Integrated water management systems for the larger townships to ensure preservation of stormwater.	Integrated Water Management Funding applications closed Dec 21 – seek funding for Rupanyup this round. Seek design and costs for Beulah for Round 3.
Support Yarrilinks and Mallee Landcare in attracting funding to the Shire for environmental projects.	Multiple support letter provided to support Landcare funding applications.
Advocate to reduce the grid infrastructure capacity issues.	Active involvement in GNET Project Steering and community implementation committees.

## A Council that who serves its community

Action	Update
Councillor professional development through forum and peer led education.	Seven training days undertaken by Councillors to date in the 21/22 financial year.
Councillors to be kept informed about community events/issues and up to date with legislative compliance.	Regular forum attendance despite Covid restrictions.
Cultural Audit and Workforce Plan carried out to identify skill gaps and training requirements.	People Matters Survey completed with high participation and above state average results. Workforce Plan completed.
Develop a Training Matrix/Plan to deliver on skill gaps and training requirements.	Training Plans finalised for all outdoor staff members.
Action on 'People Matters Survey' to improve gender equality and culture.	Gender Action Plan incorporated into the Workforce Plan.
Ensure performance reviews reflect accountability in all staff roles.	Performance reviews to commence in March 2022, with review of all key performance indicators to be completed.
Review the risk register at an operational level. Monitor, maintain and report on Audit outcomes.	Risk register established. Continuous reduction of Audit items, with 15 audit actions remaining open.
Upgrade the Council's website.	New website implemented.
Strong collaboration between Council and the Audit & Risk Committee including annual interactions with Councils internal and external auditors.	