



Yarriambiack
SHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda

Ordinary Meeting of Council

29 October 2025

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

34 Lyle Street, Warracknabeal

MEETING OF COUNCIL TO COMMENCE AT 9.30AM

We acknowledge that the activities of Yarriambiack Shire Council are being held under the traditional skies and in the waterways and lands of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk people.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY VIEW THE MEETING VIRTUALLY VIA THE LIVESTREAM

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OUR VISION

A strong and connected community prioritising sustainable and innovative approaches to support the wellbeing of our people, economy and environment.

We will achieve this shared vision by:

- ✓ Looking after our communities, with an aim of enhancing social connection through better infrastructure, safety, wellbeing, advocacy, health and education services.
- ✓ Supporting the diversification of our economy by focusing on tourism and agriculture.
- ✓ Committing to environmental responsibility by making decisions that consider the impact on our community ecosystem.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

We drive continuous and sustainable improvement in service provision, operational efficiency, and stakeholder relations to create a leading organisation.

LIVE STREAMING

Council meetings are now live streamed to allow those interested in viewing proceedings greater access to Council decisions and debate without attending the meeting in person.

1 WELCOME

2 STREAMING PREAMBLE

The Chief Executive Officer reads this section as part of the Meeting Governance process.

This Open Council Meeting is to be streamed live, recorded and published online.

I give notice to anyone who is in the gallery, that they may be recorded, and their image may be published online.

Anyone who submits a question as part of item 13 – Public Questions (of this Agenda) will have their name stated and recorded as part of the livestreaming and recording, which is published online.

The Mayor and/or the Chief Executive Officer have the discretion and authority at any time to direct the termination or interruption of livestreaming. Such direction will only be given in exceptional circumstances, where deemed relevant. Circumstances may include instances where the content of debate is considered misleading, defamatory, or potentially inappropriate to be published.

The stream will stop prior to the closed section of the meeting, and that will conclude the Meeting of Council, open to the public.

The public can view this livestream or recording via Council's YouTube Channel, with the link available via Council's website. The recording of Council Meetings will be available for viewing until the next scheduled Council Meeting.

Should technical issues prevent the continuation of the livestream, the meeting may continue provided the gallery remains open to the public in accordance with Council's meeting procedures and Governance Rules, clause 2.42.3 (g).

3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PRAYER

Mayor to open the meeting at **9.30am** by acknowledging the Traditional Owners and offering the opening prayer.

3.1 ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

'We acknowledge that the activities of Yarriambiack Shire Council are held under the traditional skies and in the waterways and lands of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk people, and we pay respects to their Elders, past and present'.

3.2 PRAYER

Almighty God, without whom no Council can stand, nor anything prosper we ask that you be present and guide us in our deliberations today. We pray that we will be fair in our judgements and wise in our actions and that decisions will be made with goodwill and a clear conscience for the betterment and welfare of the people of Yarriambiack Shire.

Amen

4 PRESENT

Mayor	Kylie Zanker	Warracknabeal Ward
Deputy Mayor	Andrew McLean	Hopetoun Ward
Councillor	Corinne Heintze	Dunmunkle Ward
Councillor	Melinda Keel	Dunmunkle Ward
Councillor	Chris Lehmann	Hopetoun Ward
Councillor	Karly Kirk	Warracknabeal Ward

Council Officer	Tammy Smith	Chief Executive Officer
Council Officer	Tim Rose	Chief Operating Officer
Council Officer	Anita McFarlane	Chief Financial Officer
Council Officer	Monique Metlika	Governance Support Officer
Council Officer	Daniel Brandon	Manager Business Systems

5 APOLOGIES

Name / Role	Description of Leave / Absence
Joel Turner, Chief Engineering Officer	On Leave

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES 24 SEPTEMBER 2025 – ORDINARY MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 24 September 2025 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Recommended Motion:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 24 September 2025, as circulated be taken as read and confirmed.

6.1 MINUTES 24 SEPTEMBER 2025 – CLOSED (CONFIDENTIAL) MEETING

Minutes of the Closed (Confidential) meeting of Council held on 24 September 2025 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Recommended Motion:

That the minutes of the Closed (Confidential) Meeting of Council held on 24 September 2025, as circulated be taken as read and confirmed.

7 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Pursuant to Division 2 – Conflict of Interest, of the *Local Government Act 2020* general and material conflict of interest must be declared prior to debate on specific items within the agenda; or in writing to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting.

A Councillor who has declared a conflict of interest in respect of a matter must:

- a) Disclose the conflict of interest in the manner required by the Yarriambiack Shire Council Governance Rules (Chapter 5- Disclosure of Conflict of Interest at Council Meetings).
- b) Exclude themselves from the decision-making process in relation to that matter, including any discussion or votes on the matter at any Council meeting or delegated committee, and any action in relation to the matter.

General conflict of interest is if a relevant person has an interest in a matter if an impartial, fair-minded person would consider that the person's private interests could result in that person acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty.

- a) *Private interests* mean any direct or indirect interest of a relevant person that does not derive from their public duty and does not include an interest that is only a matter of personal opinion or belief.
- b) *Public duty* means the responsibilities and obligations that a relevant person has to members of the public in their role as a relevant person.

Material conflict of interest is if a relevant person has an interest in respect of a matter if an affected person would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter,

- a) The benefit or loss incurred may be directly or indirectly,

OR

- b) In a pecuniary or non-pecuniary form.

Councillors are also encouraged to declare circumstances where there may be a perceived conflict of interest.

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED

Conflict Declared by	Agenda Item	Reason - Explanation

8 BUSINESS ARISING

8.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

As per ongoing and pending actions list, Item 8.2.

8.2 ONGOING AND PENDING ACTIONS

Council Meeting	Recommendation Action	Action Taken
28 August 2024 Item 15.13	Resheet a section of Mellis Road, from Stawell Warracknabeal Road to a property 4.3km to the East.	This job has been delayed at the request of the resident funding the project. Will be deferred until 25/26 financial year.
26 February 2025 Item 15.1	Name the unnamed laneway 04 in Council's Road Register, as "Isbel Lane".	Advertising in Government Gazette has now commenced.
30 June 2025 Item 15.5	Enter into an agreement with the Rupanyup Recreation Reserve outlining that the funds received from the NBN Tower rental must be utilised towards infrastructure upgrades and/or ground and building maintenance at the Rupanyup Recreation Reserve.	Not yet commenced.
24 September 2025 Item 15.4	Enact a Memorandum of Understanding with the Murtoa Swimming Pool Committee outlining that Council is not responsible for the maintenance to the building and/or land as it is owned by DEECA.	CLOSED This MoU has been enacted.

9 PETITIONS

No petitions received.

10 MINISTERIAL AND GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENCE TO COUNCILLORS ONLY

Outgoing		
Date	Recipient	Details
01/10/2025	The Hon Catherine King MP	Letter - Impact of Aviation Consumer Protections Consultation on Smaller Airports
01/10/2025	Dr Anne Webster MP	Letter - Impact of Aviation Consumer Protections Consultation on Smaller Airports
14/10/2025	Minister Jacyn Symes MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Emma Kealy MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Jacinta Ermacora MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Dr Sarah Mansfield MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	The Hon. Wendy Lovell MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Minister Gayle Tierney MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Rikki Lee Tyrrell MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Beverley McArthur MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Joe McCracken MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Georgie Purcell MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Gaelle Broad MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Jade Benham MP	Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects

Incoming		
Date	Sender	Details
01/10/2025	Senator the Hon Murray Watt	Response Letter - Request for Support - Warracknabeal Aerodrome Automated Weather Station
06/10/2025	Mayor Paul Tatchell, Moorabool Shire Council	Email - Clean up of Industrial Waste and Local Government Illegal Dumping Summit
07/10/2025	Dr Anne Webster MP	Response Email - Letter - Impact of Aviation Consumer Protections Consultation on Smaller Airports
07/10/2025	Emma Kealy MP	Email - Copy of Letter to the Hon. Murray Watt - Request for financial assistance regarding the Warracknabeal Aerodrome Automated Weather Station
17/10/2025	Jade Benham MP	Email Response - Impact on Rising Rates and Charges & Pensioner Concession Letter

Incoming		
19/10/2025	Joe McCracken MP	Response Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
15/10/2025	Minister Jaclyn Symes MP	Response Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
14/10/2025	Emma Kealy MP	Response Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects
16/10/2025	Jacinta Ermacora MP	Response Email - Yarriambiack Shire Council - Wishlist Projects

11 SPECIAL COMMITTEES

11.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

The proposed scheduled meeting program is as follows for the next 12 months for the Audit and Risk Committee:

Date	Description
10 November 2025	Ordinary Meeting
09 February 2026	Ordinary Meeting
11 May 2026	Ordinary Meeting
10 August 2026	Ordinary Meeting
21 September 2026	Special Financial Statements and Performance Report Meeting

12 ACTIVITY REPORTS

12.1 MAYOR ACTIVITY REPORT

Mayor Kylie Zanker – Warracknabeal Ward (October)		
Date	Activity	Location
24/9/225	Minyip Community Benefits Meeting	Minyip
29/9/25	Wimmera Mallee Environmental and Agricultural Protection Association Meeting	Warracknabeal
30/9/25	Warracknabeal Action Group Meeting	Warracknabeal
01/10/25	Council Land Use Planning Training	Warracknabeal
01/10/25	MAV Delegate Pre State Council Briefing	Online
02/10/25	West Wind Meeting	Warracknabeal
03/10/25	Mayor, CEO and Deputy Mayor Catch Up	Warracknabeal
7/10/25	Minyip Progress Meeting	Minyip
8/10/25	Council Forum	Warracknabeal
9/10/25	MAV State Council Conference	Melbourne
9/10/25	Meeting with Vic Grid and Resources Victoria	Melbourne
9/10/25	Meeting with Donald Mineral Sands Representative	Melbourne
9/10/25	MAV Annual Service Awards and Gala Dinner	Melbourne
10/10/24	MAV State Council	Melbourne
13/10/25	Interview with Cathy Tishler Federation University Research Interview	Online
14/10/25	Visit to Warracknabeal SDS School re: The Role of Council and Councillors	Warracknabeal
14/9/25	Meeting with Dr Anne Webster MP regarding Aviation Consumer Protections Scheme	Online
14/9/25	Wimmera Highway Action Committee Advocacy Meeting	Online
14/9/25	Warracknabeal Action Group Meeting	Warracknabeal
15/9/25	Long Term Financial Plan and Waste Business Case Presentation	Warracknabeal
17/9/25	Hopetoun Rural Northwest Health Duplex Housing Opening	Hopetoun
17/10/25	Mayor, CEO and Deputy Mayor Catch Up	Warracknabeal

Mayor Kylie Zanker – Warracknabeal Ward (October)		
22/10/25	Opened the Yarriambiack Seniors Festival Concert 2025	Warracknabeal
23/10/25	Rural Councils Victoria Annual General Meeting	Online
24/10/25	BGLC/Local Government Forum	Dimboola
24/10/25	Mayor, CEO and Deputy Mayor Catch Up	Warracknabeal
25/10/25	Opening of the new SES Building	Warracknabeal
26/10/25	MC at Run the Beal	Warracknabeal
27/10/25	ANZAC Park Strategic Planning Meeting	Warracknabeal
28/10/25	Wimmera Pride Committee Annual General Meeting	Horsham

12.2 COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Deputy Mayor Andrew McLean – Hopetoun Ward (October)		
Date	Activity	Location
24/09/25	Minyip Community Benefits Meeting	Minyip
01/10/25	Land Use Planning Training	Warracknabeal
02/10/25	West Wind Meeting	Warracknabeal
03/10/25	Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO Catch Up	Online
08/10/25	Council Forum	Warracknabeal
09/10/25	Opened the Warracknabeal Show	Warracknabeal
14/10/25	Meeting with Dr Anne Webster MP regarding Aviation Consumer Protections Scheme	Online
15/10/25	Long Term Financial Plan and Waste Business Case Presentation	Warracknabeal
15/10/25	Beulah Progress Meeting	Beulah
17/10/25	Official Opening of Rural Northwest Health's New Residence	Hopetoun
22/10/25	Tour of Land Rehabilitation with Farming Community	Ouyen and Surrounds
24/10/25	Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO Catch Up	Online
28/10/25	Woomelang and District Development Association Meeting	Woomelang

Cr Corinne Heintze – Dunmunkle Ward (October)		
Date	Activity	Location
25/09/25	Interview with Cathy Tischler Federation University Research Interview	Online
01/10/25	Land Use Planning Training	Warracknabeal
04/10/25	Murtoa Big Weekend Event	Murtoa
07/10/25	Yarrilinks Meeting	Rupanyup
08/10/25	Council Forum	Warracknabeal
14/10/25	Meeting with Dr Anne Webster MP regarding Aviation Consumer Protections Scheme	Online

Cr Corinne Heintze – Dunmunkle Ward (October)		
15/10/25	Long Term Financial Plan and Waste Business Case Presentation	Warracknabeal
20/10/25	Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Looking at the Future Discussion	Horsham
22/10/25	Tour of Land Rehabilitation with Farming Community	Ouyen and Surrounds

Cr Melinda Keel – Dunmunkle Ward (October)		
Date	Activity	Location
01/10/25	Land Use Planning Training	Warracknabeal
08/10/25	Council Forum	Warracknabeal
15/10/25	Long Term Financial Plan and Waste Business Case Presentation	Warracknabeal
21/10/25	Murtoa Progress Association	Murtoa

Cr Chris Lehmann – Hopetoun Ward (October)		
Date	Activity	Location
01/10/25	Land Use Planning Training	Warracknabeal
08/10/25	Council Forum	Warracknabeal
15/10/25	Long Term Financial Plan and Waste Business Case Presentation	Warracknabeal
22/10/25	Tour of Land Rehabilitation with Farming Community	Ouyen and Surrounds

Cr Karly Kirk – Warracknabeal Ward (October)		
Date	Activity	Location
01/10/25	Land Use Planning Training	Warracknabeal
08/10/25	Council Forum	Warracknabeal
15/10/25	Long Term Financial Plan and Waste Business Case Presentation	Warracknabeal

12.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ACTIVITY REPORT

Tammy Smith (October)		
Date	Activity	Location
24/09/25	Minyip Community Group Meeting	Minyip
25/09/25	Council information session Access and Connections and Community Engagement and Social Values Guide – Vic Grid	Online
25/09/25	Meeting Womens Health Grampians	Warracknabeal
25/09/25	Meeting Internal Auditors	Online
26/09/25	Rural Councils Victoria Executive Meeting	Online
01/10/25	Land Use Planning – Professional Development	Warracknabeal
01/10/25	Meeting with Municipal Building Surveyor Contractor	Horsham
02/10/25	Wimmera Southern Mallee Councils Alliance Workshop CEO Meeting	Online
02/10/25	Meeting with West Wind	Warracknabeal
03/10/25	Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO Meeting	Hybrid
03/10/25	Campbells Bridge Wind Farm Update	Online
03/10/25	VAGO Rural Councils Victoria Stakeholder Meeting	Online
07/10/25	Meeting with Emma Kealy MP	Horsham
07/10/25	Minyip Progress Meeting	Minyip
08/10/25	Council Forum	Warracknabeal
09/10/25	MAV Conference	Melbourne
09/10/25	Meeting with Resources Victoria and Vic Grid	Melbourne
09/10/25	Meeting with Donald Mineral Sands Representative	Melbourne
10/10/25	Meeting with LGExperts regarding Long Term Financial Review and Waste and Recycling Business Case	Melbourne
10/10/25	Meeting with Local Government Mentor	Melbourne
13/10/25	Meeting with newly appointed Community Satisfaction Survey Contractors	Online
13/10/25	Meeting regarding joint submission with Horsham, Northern Grampians and Buloke for the Vic Grid Access and Connections and Community Engagement and Social Values Guide	Online

Tammy Smith (October)		
13/10/25	Meeting with Maddocks regarding the Environmental Effects Statement Hearing preparation for the Warracknabeal Energy Park	Online
13/10/25	Meeting with Department of Transport	Online
14/10/25	Meeting with Anne Webster MP	Online
14/10/25	Meeting with consultants regarding the Wimmera Highway Action Group advocacy	Online
15/10/25	Presentation to Councillors, Audit and Risk Committee and Management on the Long-Term Financial Review and Waste and Recycling Business Case presented by LGExperts	Warracknabeal
16/10/25	In Situ Training Maddocks	Warracknabeal
16/10/25	Meeting with Community Member regarding Warracknabeal Caravan Park	Warracknabeal
17/10/25	Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO Meeting	Online
20/10/25	Farmers Round Table Wimmera Southern Mallee Development	Warracknabeal
20/10/25	Grampians, Wimmera Mallee Tourism Funding discussion	Online
21/10/25	Curyo Wind Farm Update	Warracknabeal
21/10/25	Murtoa Progress Association Meeting	Murtoa
22/10/25	Council CEO Emergency Management Briefing	Online
22/10/25	Rehabilitation Visit - Ouyen	Ouyen
23/10/25	Rural Councils Victoria Annual General Meeting	Online
24/10/25	Local Government Forum Reconciliation Settlement Agreement	Dimboola
24/10/25	Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO Meeting	Online
27/10/25	ANZAC Park Project Control Group Meeting	Warracknabeal
28/10/25	Patchewollock Inc Annual General Meeting	Patchewollock

13 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Division 8 – Public Question Time (Yarriambiack Shire Council Governance Rules)

Community Members (excluding Councillors) may submit a question to Council.

Questions must be submitted in writing, stating the name and address of the person submitting the question, on an approved or permitted form by Council.

[Public Questions for Council – Yarriambiack Shire Council.](#)

Questions must be submitted 24 hours prior to a Council Meeting.

The questions will be answered at a Council meeting by the Mayor (Chairperson), or if delegated by the Chairperson, the Chief Executive Officer, a Councillor or a nominated Officer.

If questions are submitted less than 24 hours before the Council meeting, they will be answered at the meeting where possible, and if no answer can be given, then a written answer will be given to the person as soon as possible after the Council meeting.

No person can submit more than two questions at any Council meeting (unless permitted by the Chair – Mayor).

The question will not be allowed if:

- i. relates to a matter outside the duties, functions and powers of Council;
- ii. is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance;
- iii. deals with a subject matter already answered;
- iv. is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or an Officer;
- v. relates to a personnel matter; or
- vi. contains or refers or relates to Confidential Information.

Questions and answers must be as brief as possible, and no discussion is allowed other than for the purpose of clarification.

The Name of Person and Question will be read out by either the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer, and the nominated Councillor / Officer is to respond.

The party submitting the question need not physically attend the Council Meeting, however if they are not physically present at the part of the meeting allocated for public question time, the Mayor (Chairperson) may determine that a verbal answer will not be provided at the meeting and a written answer will instead be communicated after the meeting.

13.1 QUESTIONS SUBMITTED

Name:	Town:
Question:	
Respondent:	
Response:	

14 COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS

14.1 MAYORS REPORT

Workshop Minyip

On 24 September 2025, the Chair of the Minyip Progress Association and the Chief Executive Officer invited Executive Committee members from local clubs and organisations to attend a strategic planning workshop. The aim of the workshop was to develop an advocacy platform for Minyip, with particular emphasis on State Government investment as the community will be in close proximity to the Donald Mineral Sands mine.

Recognising the multifaceted nature of mining, participants were advised to refrain from expressing personal opinions and instead concentrate on identifying the community's core requirements, given that the mine workplan has already been approved and construction is underway to support future operations.

As the State Government and Resources Victoria continue to formulate community benefit initiatives, this session presented stakeholders with an opportunity to influence strategic investment priorities for Minyip and surrounding areas. It was essential for representatives from clubs and community organisations to contribute their insights to help shape these priorities. Engagement at this stage is critical to ensure Minyip's potential funding prospects are not overlooked in favour of other regions.

The principal objective of the workshop was to identify and consolidate the key strategic priorities for the Minyip Community, and to prepare a comprehensive document outlining investment requirements and associated costs. This document will serve as the foundation for our advocacy efforts regarding investment in our community, which will host mining activities through circumstances beyond its control.

Events

Several successful events have been held throughout the Shire. The Patchewollock Music Festival received positive feedback from attendees, the Seniors Concert achieved full capacity, and the Get to Know You Event in Hopetoun was well attended, serving as an excellent opportunity to welcome new members to our community.

Advocacy

We have been busy promoting our priority projects to our State Government upper and lower house members of parliament, with an aim of highlighting our advocacy for funding. We are conscious that the State Government election will be held in 2026, and we want to see further investment in our Shire.

Closing Remarks

In closing, we are pleased to announce the arrival of a Developer who is currently considering investment and residential construction within our Shire to address growing demand. We anticipate organising information sessions in the near future to keep our community informed of progress.

Additionally, I extend congratulations to Rural Northwest Health on the completion and opening of their new worker accommodation units for staff in Hopetoun.

14.2 ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

Prepared by Anita McFarlane, Chief Financial Officer

Presented by Mayor Kylie Zanker

SUMMARY

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to prepare an annual report in respect of each financial year and the Mayor must report on the implementation of the Council Plan by presenting the annual report at a Council meeting open to the public.

The Annual Report includes the audited annual financial and performance statements that have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and have been certified by the Victorian Auditor Generals Office (VAGO).

Recommended Motion:

That Council adopt the Annual Report for the 2024-2025 financial year that contains the following sections as detailed in section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

- a) A report of Operations of Council.
- b) An audited Performance Statement.
- c) Audited Financial Statements.
- d) A Copy of the Auditors Report on the Performance Statement.
- e) A Copy of the Auditors Report of the Financial Statements under Part 3 of the *Audit Act 1994*, and
- f) Any other matters prescribed in the regulations.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Draft Annual Report 2024-25](#)

DISCUSSION

The Annual Report (Report) has been prepared in accordance with sections 98, 99 and 100 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The Report outlines Council's financial and non-financial performance in the last 12 months and celebrates several key achievements.

The highlights from the 2024-2025 financial year included:

- a) Two successful funding applications through Round One of the Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund:
 - Hopetoun Swimming Pool Upgrade Project (Stream: Indoor Stadiums and Aquatic Facilities), receiving \$1,010,000.
 - Murtoa Recreation Reserve Netball and Tennis Courts Upgrade Project (Stream: Community Facilities), receiving \$918,998.
- b) Completion of the amenities block at the Warracknabeal Caravan Park.
- c) Completion of the new facilities, carpark, and landscaping works at Warracknabeal Memorial Kindergarten.
- d) Completion of the Dunmunkle Community Library Precinct which has undergone a redevelopment.
- e) Completion of the upgrade of the public amenities in Scott Street Warracknabeal.

- f) Commenced work on Stage 2 of the construction of Council's affordable housing project. The Stage 2 houses are being constructed in Rupanyup, Warracknabeal, and Hopetoun by JG King Homes.
- g) The implementation of a 50km/hr speed limits in Cromie Street Rupanyup, and Marma Street Murtoa, was a welcomed addition to support road safety. Furthermore, funding received from the Department of Transport and Planning will address safety concerns at the Lascelles Street school crossing in Hopetoun.
- h) Expansion of both the Community Engagement Van and Library services—introducing self-service libraries in Warracknabeal and Rupanyup—and launched initiatives such as "Meet our Local Laws Officer", "Coffee with a Councillor", Chair Yoga sessions, school holiday programmes, and book clubs to further support community engagement.
- i) Council advocated for our communities, supporting various projects including funding applications and a commitment to undertake project delivery for the Hopetoun Netball Lighting Project, Minyip Recreation Reserve Lighting Project, and the Murtoa Netball and Tennis Court Project.
- j) Council adopted several important policies and strategies, such as the General Local Law, the Sport and Active Recreation Strategy, Master Environment Strategy, updates to the Procurement Policy, Fraud Corruption and Prevention Policy, Public Transparency Policy, and Leases and Licenses Policy, among others.
- k) Council secured funding to implement a Shared Service model for Municipal Building Surveyor services, with Yarriambiack Shire serving as the lead Council for this initiative.
- l) Council successfully transitioned out of kindergarten services in Hopetoun and Beulah and is supporting Emerge to reopen childcare services in Hopetoun.
- m) Council successfully transitioned maternal child health services to West Wimmera Health Service, expanding their service delivery across our Shire.
- n) Council launched the "Little Yellow Wagon" initiative, funded by Sustainability Victoria, to facilitate the recycling of hard-to-recycle materials within our communities.
- o) Council undertook over 30 kms of gravel road resheeting, 11.5 kms of shoulder resheeting, 3kms of road rehabilitation works, 580m of concrete and several quarry dust footpaths were constructed. 413m kerb and channel upgrades were completed and 5.7 kms rural and urban road reseals were completed in the financial year.

The Annual Report endorses the sound framework of the 2021-2025 Council Plan and paints a picture of a Council that understands its purpose to serve its community.

RELEVANT LAW

- *Local Government Act 2020* – Division 3 Reporting - Section 98, 99 and 100.
- Applicable Australian Accounting Standards.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

- Council Plan 2021-2025
- Council Budget 2024-2025

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

26 June 2024 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 15.1 Adoption of the 2024/25 Budget

OPTIONS

Not applicable.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of *the Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

The subject matter of the report does not raise any sustainability implications.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement occurred in the development of the Council Plan 2021-2025 and the Annual Budget. Both documents inform the key performance metrics included in the Annual Report.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Financial Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	The Annual Report includes the Annual Financial and Performance Reports that are audited and certified by VAGO.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The presentation of the Annual Report within the required timeframes outlined in the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> demonstrates Council has met the requirements of section 98, 99 and 100 of the Act.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Strategy Execution and Change Management Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	The Council Plan is Council's overarching strategic document that outlines Council's key actions for a four-year period. The Annual Report identifies, and reports on, how Council has met the actions outlined in the Council Plan.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

14.3 COUNCIL'S POSITION STATEMENT ON MINING, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND TRANSMISSION LINES CHANGES

Presented by Mayor Kylie Zanker

SUMMARY

The Council is aware of the rising tensions within our community in relation to mining, renewable energy and transmission lines. As a Councillor group we developed and adopted a position statement on 29 January 2025, so it was clear to our Community, State and Federal Government what Council's position is in relation to all three elements.

Amendments have been made to the Yarriambiack Shire Council's Position on Mining, Renewable Energy and Transmission Lines Projects. These updates reflect Council's ongoing commitment to ensuring that our position statement remains responsive to emerging challenges and community expectations. The revised position statement incorporates new requirements and advocacy points, strengthening Council's approach to managing the impacts of these projects within our region.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Endorse the amended Yarriambiack Shire Council's Position on Mining, Renewable Energy and Transmission Lines Projects attached and revoke the version adopted on 29 January 2025; and
- b) Continue to advocate to State and Federal Government for legislative changes and significant financial investment in our Shire and Region if mining and renewable energy projects are approved.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Yarriambiack Shire Council's Position on Mining, Renewables and Transmission Line Projects October 2025](#)

DISCUSSION

As a collective body of Councillors, as well as individually, we have engaged with advocacy groups, individuals, and various collectives who have expressed concerns regarding the renewable energy and mining projects proposed within our Shire. We acknowledge that for renewable energy projects to progress, they require support from landowners to host infrastructure on their properties.

Currently, there are four renewable energy projects planned within our Shire, and one already constructed. Additionally, we have one approved mining licence, with its workplan also approved.

Amendments have been made to the Yarriambiack Shire Council's Position on Mining, Renewable Energy and Transmission Lines Projects, originally adopted on 29 January 2025. These amendments stipulate that decommissioning of projects must guarantee restoration of the site to a condition suitable for productive agriculture and ensure that local waste services are not burdened by material disposal.

Additionally, our position statement now includes a new advocacy point: It is crucial for community perspectives to be recognised, thoroughly evaluated, and incorporated into decision-making processes throughout transformational change. At present, these viewpoints have yet to be reflected in the region's final State Government plans and vision.

In this ever-changing environment, it was imperative to include these stipulations in the statement to ensure the best outcomes for our community.

This updated position statement has been developed collectively by the Councillors to clarify our stance on all three elements. This document will be accessible on our website

for public viewing and will be used for advocacy with State and Federal Members of Parliament.

RELEVANT LAW

- *Local Government Act 2020*, Section 8 – Role of a Council
- *Local Government Act 2020*, Section 9 - Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles.
 - Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.
 - The economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.
 - The municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.
 - Regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making.
- *Renewable Energy (Jobs and Investment) Act 2017*

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	• Advocate and support agriculture, economic development and investment in our region. • Proactively communicate and advocate to Government bodies, to deliver positive tourism outcomes for our community, capitalising on opportunities as they arise. • Advocate for continued and enhanced funding to enable strategic investment in our roads, footpaths, and associated assets to support tourism, economic development and social inclusion and connection across our Shire. • Understand, support and advocate for services and associated skilled workforces to unlock economic and community development opportunities across our Shire.
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	• Develop and/or maintain strong partnerships to deliver high quality services and sustainable infrastructure to enhance the social health and wellbeing outcomes for all our residents. • Advocate, prioritise, and invest in infrastructure that supports an accessible, inclusive, and socially connected community to improve liveability. • Plan for and support diverse housing options to meet community needs now and into the future.
A Resilient and Sustainable Natural Environment	• Advocate and strategically position Council to maintain and enhance water security and harvesting. • Advocate for responsible land use, with consideration for the natural environment. • Embed climate change action into everything we do with a focus on decreased emissions, heat reduction and emergency management preparedness. • Elevate community education and positive engagement experience as a key priority while performing regulatory functions.
A Council that serves its Community	• Undertake robust and transparent planning and risk management to ensure our organisation is sustainable now and into the future. • Embed good governance practices into all decision making.

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
	- Advocate for our community, on matters that are important to the entire municipal district. - Build trust through engaging with our community, delivering quality services and outcomes. - Consider a broad base of evidence before making decisions, ensuring value for money and responsive, innovative services and solutions are provided.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Community Engagement Policy and Procedure
	Public Transparency Policy
Plan	Council Plan
Strategy	Economic Development Strategy
Other	Yarriambiack Shire Council's Position on Mining, Renewables and Transmission Lines
	ICARE Values

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

29 January 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 14.2 Yarriambiack Shire Council's Position on Mining, Renewable Energy and Transmission Lines Projects

OPTIONS

Whilst the document has been developed as a collective of Councillors, Councillors have the option not to support this document, and/or propose further changes to the draft as presented with this report.

It is important to note, this document will be an evolving document and will need to be agile to respond to the changing political environment.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Sustainability implications have been considered when developing Council's Position Statement.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This document was developed by the Council after consultation with advocacy groups, individuals, and collectives of individuals.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Council developed this document to address community concerns in relation to Council's position on mining, renewable energy and transmission projects. Whilst Council is not a decision maker in relation to such projects, it has a role to advocate for the community, ensuring it represents the diverse views of its constituents.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Political Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Council was mindful of its role, and decision-making powers in relation to developing the position statement. Council has only taken a stance on any area in which it may be able to affect an outcome through advocacy.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

[AEMO | VNI West \(Victoria to New South Wales Interconnector West\)](#)

[Victoria to NSW Interconnector West | Transgrid](#)

[Victorian renewable energy and storage targets](#)

[Australia's energy strategies and frameworks - DCCEEW](#)

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15 REPORTS FOR DECISION

15.1 ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by Joel Turner, Chief Engineering Officer and Vanessa Lantzakis, Business Lead Assets Systems, Networks and Planning

SUMMARY

The purpose of a Road Management Plan is to establish a management system for Councils road management functions, which is based on policy, operational objectives and available resources; and to set a performance standard in relation to the discharge of duties in the performance of our road management functions. This is in line with section 50 of the *Road Management Act 2004*.

The Road Management Plan is required to be adopted by Council by the 31 October for the year following a council election. In this instance this date is 31 October 2025.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Adopt the Road Management Plan 2025-2029 which is to come into force from the 29 October 2025; and
- b) Revoke the prior version of the Road Management Plan.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Road Management Plan 2025-2029](#)

DISCUSSION

The Road Management Plan is an operational protocol document that is required under regulation 9 of the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016. Its main function is to describe the systems and rules utilised to make decisions and meet the obligation for Councils road and other traffic assets within available resources.

The Road Management Plan is broken up into six sections that cover:

1. Introduction
2. Rights and Responsibilities
3. Road Management Systems
4. Register of Public Roads
5. References
6. Attachments on Hierarchy and Inspections

Each section outlines useful information for all users and interested parties including the public, Council officers and property owners.

The Road Management Plan's content remains consistent with previous versions, with no significant changes to its core. However, the document's format has been updated to align with the Municipal Association of Victoria's template recommendations.

The Road Management Plan was open for community feedback from 15 August 2025 to 12 September 2025. The community were encouraged to lodge their feedback via our online Have-Your-Say platform as well as through three community consultation sessions held in Warracknabeal on 22 August 2025, Rupanyup on 02 September 2025 and Hopetoun on 05 September 2025.

During the Have-Your-Say campaign two submissions were received. The subject of these has been deemed to be outside the content of the Road Management Plan. Both feedback responses are being reviewed from an operational perspective and will be actioned accordingly.

The Road Management Plan is scheduled for review in 2029, after the Council election in 2028. This date may change if election schedules shift or significant legislative or policy updates are needed.

RELEVANT LAW

- *Road Management Act 2004* (including Codes of Practice)
- Road Management (General) Regulations 2016
- *Road Safety Act 1986*

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	• Advocate for continued and enhanced funding to enable strategic investment in our roads, footpaths, and associated assets to support tourism, economic development and social inclusion and connection across our Shire.
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	• Advocate, prioritise, and invest in infrastructure that supports an accessible, inclusive, and socially connected community to improve liveability. • Advocate and support community safety initiatives, that enhance community safety and the liveability of our communities.
A Council that serves its Community	• Undertake robust and transparent planning and risk management to ensure our organisation is sustainable now and into the future. • Embed good governance practices into all decision making. • Build trust through engaging with our community, delivering quality services and outcomes. • Consider a broad base of evidence before making decisions, ensuring value for money and responsive, innovative services and solutions are provided.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Asset Management Policy
Guideline	Asset and Operations Guidelines
Plan	Asset Management Plan
Other	Footpath Hierarchy and Implementation Plan
	Road Hierarchy
	Road Register Local Roads and Streets

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

29 June 2022 – Ordinary Meeting of Council – Item 15.2 Road Management Plan

OPTIONS

- Councillors may request further review of the Road Management Plan, although the document has already been developed with community input and best practice guidelines for rural councils.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	This plan ensures Yarriambiack Shire Council's economic sustainability by balancing current and future resources to maintain service standards.
Social	Service level standards of the assets within the Road Management Plan are set to align with community expectations.
Environmental	The Road Management Plan aligns with the expectations set by environmental regulation.
Financial	To ensure the financial sustainability of Yarriambiack Shire Council, this plan outlines that service level standards are obtained through balancing of all our available resource, including financial resources.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Road Management Plan was open for community feedback from 15 August 2025 to 12 September 2025. The community were encouraged to lodge their feedback via our online Have-Your-Say platform as well as through three community consultation sessions held in Warracknabeal on 22 August 2025, Rupanyup on 02 September 2025 and Hopetoun on 05 September 2025.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not required for this report.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Council is expected to manage its assets in accordance with a variety of external and internal requirements. The Road Management Plan ensures Council aligns its practices with these expectations.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Program and Project Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Council is expected to manage its assets in accordance with set service levels. The Road Management Plan ensures Council aligns its practices with these requirements.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Financial Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	It is important for Council to manage its assets to ensure ongoing financial capabilities are met. The Road Management Plan outlines requirements to ensure finances are managed as expected.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	It is important for Council to manage its assets to a standard expected by the community. The Road Management Plan outlines requirements to ensure the community are served as expected.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.2 ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Prepared by Joel Turner, Chief Engineering Officer and Vanessa Lantzakis, Business Lead Assets Systems, Networks and Planning

SUMMARY

An Asset Management Strategy connects Council plans and resources to assets and the services they deliver to the community.

Yarriambiack Shire Council's Asset Management Strategy is Council's asset plan ensuring we remain compliant with Section 92 of the *Local Government Act 2020* which stipulates the requirement to develop and adopt an asset plan.

The Council must adopt the Asset Management Strategy by 31 October of the year following a council election. For this cycle, the deadline is 31 October 2025.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Adopt the Asset Management Strategy 2025-2035; and
- b) Revoke prior versions of its equivalent, the Asset Management Plan 2022-2032.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Asset Management Strategy 2025-2035](#)

DISCUSSION

The Asset Management Strategy, previously referred to as the Asset Management Plan, is a strategic document that fulfills the requirement to develop and adopt an asset plan as required under Section 92 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. Its main function is to describe how Council aligns its portfolio of assets to best meet the service delivery needs of the community, now and into the future. By providing an overview of the current status of assets and outlining a series of objectives that are set to ensure Council is able to continue to deliver community expectations whilst balancing the ageing and increasingly costly infrastructure against Council's limited resources.

Infrastructure assets are the focus of the Asset Management Strategy and fall into the following areas;

- a) Transport
 - Roads
 - Kerbs and Channels
 - Footpaths
 - Bridges and Culverts
- b) Land, Buildings and Facilities
- c) Plant and Equipment
- d) Other Assets

The content of the Asset Management Strategy is in line with previous versions with a key focus on developing the strategy to reflect and align with the Council Plan 2025-2029 and the Long Term Financial Plan.

The strategic objectives, priorities, indicators, and measures, along with the strengths and challenges faced by Council, were considered to determine future goals and the strategies to achieve them.

The Asset Management Strategy reports an asset renewal gap of \$11.268 million over 10 years, representing the difference between Council's estimated funding needs for asset renewal and its current budget. Council's present revenue is not sufficient to close this funding gap. Council will need to continue to advocate and apply for funding to address the shortfall now and into the future.

Year	Renewal Expenditure '000	Depreciation '000	Renewal Gap (Annual) '000	Renewal Gap (Compounding) '000
2025/26	5,500	6,218	718	718
2026/27	5,500	6,404	904	1,622
2027/28	4,941	6,533	1,592	3,214
2028/29	5,206	6,663	1,457	4,671
2029/30	4,996	6,796	1,800	6,471
2030/31	5,147	6,932	1,785	8,256
2031/32	5,304	7,071	1,767	10,023
2032/33	5,967	7,212	1,245	11,268

The Asset Management Strategy was open for community feedback from 12 September 2025 to 10 October 2025. The community were encouraged to lodge their feedback via our online Have-Your-Say platform as well as through three community consultation sessions held in Rupanyup on 30 September 2025, Hopetoun on 02 October 2025 and Warracknabeal on 09 October 2025.

The Have-Your-Say campaign did not return any community feedback responses.

The Asset Management Strategy will be reviewed in 2029, after the Council election in late 2028. This schedule may change if election dates shift or significant updates are needed to meet legal or policy requirements.

RELEVANT LAW

- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Road Management Act 2004*

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	• Advocate for continued and enhanced funding to enable strategic investment in our roads, footpaths, and associated assets to support tourism, economic development and social inclusion and connection across our Shire.
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	• Develop and/or maintain strong partnerships to deliver high quality services and sustainable infrastructure to enhance the social health and wellbeing outcomes for all our residents.

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
	Advocate, prioritise, and invest in infrastructure that supports an accessible, inclusive, and socially connected community to improve liveability.
A Resilient and Sustainable Natural Environment	- Advocate for responsible land use, with consideration for the natural environment. - Embed climate change action into everything we do with a focus on decreased emissions, heat reduction and emergency management preparedness. - Provide innovative solutions that meet the specific requirements of our community to enable compliance with the State Government Circular Economy policy. - Support community groups to deliver on the Sport and Recreation Strategy and Recreation Reserve Master Plan initiatives, in alignment with Council's policies
A Council that serves its Community	- Undertake robust and transparent planning and risk management to ensure our organisation is sustainable now and into the future. - Embed good governance practices into all decision making. - Advocate for our community, on matters that are important to the entire municipal district. - Build trust through engaging with our community, delivering quality services and outcomes. - Consider a broad base of evidence before making decisions, ensuring value for money and responsive, innovative services and solutions are provided.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Asset Management Policy
	Asset Lifecycle Policy
Plan	Council Plan
	Long Term Financial Plan
	Road Management Plan
Other	Footpath Hierarchy and Implementation Plan
	Asset Revaluation Report

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

29 June 2022 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 15.3 Strategic Asset Management Plan

OPTIONS

Council must adopt an Asset Plan by 31 October 2025. The Asset Management Strategy follows best practice and is now tied to the Long Term Financial Plan.

- a) Council may delay adoption for further development and consultation, but the plan's outcomes are unlikely to change without additional financial input.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	To ensure the economic sustainability of Yarriambiack Shire Council, this plan outlines that service level standards are obtained through balancing of our current and future resources.
Social	The Asset Management Strategy outlines that Council has an increasing renewal gap which will impact the quality of roads and assets now and into the future.
Environmental	The Asset Management Strategy aligns with the expectations set by environmental regulation.
Climate Change	The Asset Management Strategy supports Councils' strategic priorities in relation to climate change.
Financial	To ensure the financial sustainability of Yarriambiack Shire Council, this plan outlines that service level standards are obtained through balancing of all our available resource, including financial resources.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Asset Management Strategy was open for community feedback from 12 September 2025 to 10 October 2025. The community were encouraged to lodge their feedback via our online Have-Your-Say platform as well as through three community consultation sessions held in Rupanyup on 30 September 2025, Hopetoun on 02 October 2025 and Warracknabeal on 09 October 2025.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable for this report.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Council is expected to manage its assets in accordance with a variety of external and internal requirements. The Asset Management Strategy ensures Council aligns its practices with these expectations.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Program and Project Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Council is expected to manage its assets in accordance with set service levels. The Asset Management Strategy ensures Council aligns its practices with these requirements.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Financial Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Council must manage its assets to maintain financial sustainability. The Asset Management Strategy sets out how finances will be managed within affordable limits.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The Asset Management Strategy states that Council cannot close the renewal gap, leaving Shire assets underfunded. This could harm Council's reputation by failing to meet community expectations.	Increases Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.3 COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029 YEAR 1 ACTIONS – QUARTER 1

Prepared by Tammy Smith, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Council must adopt and prepare a Council Plan for the period of at least the next four financial years after a general election. Council must also prepare a Community Vision with an outlook of at least the next 10 years. The Council Plan 2025 – 2029 was adopted on 30 June 2025 and incorporates the Health and Wellbeing Plan.

This report provides a quarterly update on the Year 1 Actions of the Council Plan, outlining their alignment with the plan's strategic priorities and objectives, as well as summarising progress for each action.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Endorse the progress of the Council Plan 2025-2029, Year 1, Quarterly Report as outlined in the body of this report.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Council Plan 2025-2029 Year 1 Actions Quarterly Report](#)

DISCUSSION

The Council Plan 2025–2029 is a comprehensive strategic document that integrates the Community Vision, and the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, whilst also reflecting on the Long-Term Financial Plan, and the Community Engagement Policy and Procedure. This plan was formally adopted by Council in June 2025, following an extensive and inclusive community consultation process conducted in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy and Procedure. This process ensured that the voices and perspectives of residents, stakeholders, and community groups were actively considered in shaping the future direction of the Shire.

The Council Plan sets out four overarching strategic objectives that will guide Council's decision-making, resource allocation, and service delivery over the next four years. These objectives reflect Council's commitment to fostering a resilient, healthy, and connected community, promoting sustainable economic growth, protecting the natural environment, and upholding principles of good governance.

Each action within the Council Plan has been carefully developed to align with these strategic objectives. The actions were developed through community consultation, ensuring that they are responsive to local needs and aspirations, and that Council remains accountable and transparent in its operations.

The enclosed quarterly report offers Councillors and the community a comprehensive update on Council's progress in achieving its Council Plan objectives and priorities.

RELEVANT LAW

The obligation for Council to prepare and maintain a Council Plan, a 10-year Community Vision, and a 10-year Long Term Financial Plan is set out in Part 4, Division 1 – Planning and Financial Management of the *Local Government Act 2020*. These provisions ensure that Council's planning and financial management processes are transparent, forward-looking, and responsive to community needs.

Additionally, Council is required to develop and implement a Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, as mandated by the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. This requirement reflects the importance of promoting and protecting the health and wellbeing of the community through strategic planning and coordinated action.

Together, these legislative frameworks provide the foundation for Council's long-term vision, strategic priorities, and commitment to the health, wellbeing, and prosperity of the Yarriambiack Shire community.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

The Council Plan serves as the principal strategic framework for Council, establishing the key objectives and priorities that will guide Council's direction over the four-year term. These strategic objectives provide the foundation for the development of all other plans, policies, services, and activities, ensuring that every initiative undertaken is aligned with the broader vision and goals of the Shire.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

On 30 June 2025, Council adopted the Council Plan 2025-2029.

- 30 June 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 15.1 Council Plan 2025-2029

OPTIONS

- a) Councillors could choose to revise the Council Plan actions and strategic priorities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The Council Plan is the overarching strategic document guiding the operations and future direction of Council over its four-year term. It establishes clear priorities for Council and outlines how these priorities will be resourced, both financially and through staff allocation. The Plan also incorporates measurable indicators to track progress and ensure accountability in achieving its objectives.

Central to the Council Plan are objectives focused on driving economic growth through diversification, enhancing environmental sustainability by implementing measures to reduce emissions and improve waste recovery, and delivering community wellbeing services that are vital to the health of our townships. Furthermore, the Plan emphasises the importance of robust governance, ensuring that Council consistently serves the community with transparency, integrity, and responsiveness across all areas of its operations.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council undertook a comprehensive community consultation process to inform the development of the Council Plan. Engagement activities included a series of community sessions held across multiple townships, with both day and evening meetings to ensure broad participation. Hard copy surveys were distributed at these sessions and made available at Yarriambiack Libraries branches, while the survey was also accessible online, resulting in 229 responses that were carefully collated and considered.

To further encourage dialogue and gather feedback, Councillors hosted 'Coffee with a Councillor' sessions in eleven townships throughout the municipality. These informal gatherings provided residents with the opportunity to discuss local priorities and share their perspectives directly with Council representatives.

Additionally, Council organised a Budget and Council Plan Roadshow servicing eleven townships across the Shire, offering residents the chance to provide in-person feedback on both the draft Budget and the Council Plan.

The draft Council Plan was also placed on public exhibition, from 03 June 2025 to 29 June 2025, inviting further community input and ensuring transparency throughout the planning process.

This extensive engagement ensured that the Council Plan reflects the diverse needs and aspirations of the Yarriambiack Shire community, and demonstrates Council's commitment to open, inclusive, and responsive governance.

No public comments or submissions were received regarding the revision of the Council Plan. Following this period of public exhibition and consultation, the revised plan was formally adopted by Council on 30 June 2025.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A gender impact assessment is not required for this report.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Progress on Council Plan actions is reported quarterly in alignment with Council's Performance Management Framework. In addition, the Mayor provides an annual report on the achievement of these objectives, as required under the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> . This approach ensures ongoing transparency and accountability in tracking Council's strategic priorities and outcomes.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Strategy Execution and Change Management Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Operational resources, including dedicated staff and financial allocations, are assigned to support the achievement of Council Plan objectives. This ensures that each strategic priority is adequately resourced, enabling effective implementation and delivery of Council's commitments to the community.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Quarterly reporting on Council Plan objectives and actions tracks progress and communicates updates to the community.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

The Council Plan relies on a number of regional and state plans and policies including:

- Wimmera Mallee Destination Management Plan
- Victorian Government Active Recreation Strategy
- Victorian Government Recycling Victoria
- Regional Development Economic Development Strategies
- [State Government Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027](#)

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.4 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026 - 2036

Prepared by Anita McFarlane, Chief Financial Officer

SUMMARY

Under the *Local Government Act 2020* (The Act) Council must develop, adopt and keep in force a Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices, and the scope of a LTFP must be for a period of at least the next ten financial years. The draft 10-year LTFP has been developed and aligns with the Council Plan 2025-2029, and Council's Asset Management Strategy.

Council has undertaken an extensive review and financial health check, which informs the final draft Long Term Financial Plan.

Councillors are asked to formally endorse the presented and attached Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP). In addition, Council will engage in a deliberative process over the coming months to communicate the results of the financial health check to the community and outline the necessary measures to ensure ongoing financial sustainability.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Endorse the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 as attached to this report;
- b) Rescind the previous version of the Long Term Financial Plan adopted on 26 July 2023; and
- c) Endorse for the deliberative engagement to commence from 30 October 2025 to the 19 December 2025 on the Long Term Financial Plan, outlining Councils Financial Health Check and Financial Sustainability challenges, including how Council will mitigate and manage the risks now and into the future.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2036](#)

DISCUSSION

Council engaged LGeX to complete a Long Term Financial Plan Health Check and review, which has informed Councils Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 (LTFP).

The LTFP was developed using the template provided by Local Government Victoria and incorporates elements identified during the Financial Health Review.

The Long-Term Financial Plan attached includes the following underlying assumptions:

Income

- Rates and charges – 2.5% increase for 2026/27 and thereafter.
- Statutory fees and fines – 2.5% increase. These are not under control of Council.
- User fees – 2.5% increase.
- Grants operating - recurrent - Financial Assistance Grants are budgeted to increase by 2.5% per annum.
- Grants operating - non recurrent – 2.5% increase.
- Grants capital - recurrent – Roads to Recovery is a recurring grant and has been modelled as anticipated and tied to the 10 Year Capital Plan.
- Contributions - monetary – No budget has been allocated as amounts are determined when there is a commitment to deliver the project.
- Other income – 2.5% increase which would be in line with future Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases.

Expenses

- Employee costs - 3% increase based on current Enterprise Bargaining Agreement. Employee numbers will be based on 102.7 FTE in 2026/27. The reduction in the FTE is a result of the Kindergartens moving across to Emerge.
- Materials and services - Expect to decrease in 2026/27 due to the delivery of community projects such as the Murtoa Recreation Reserve. Beyond 2026/27 materials and services are budgeted to increase by 2.5% in future years.
- Depreciation - As per asset portfolio.
- Contributions and Donations - Contribution towards halls, recreation reserves, swimming pools, weir pools, progress associations will increase in line with the rate cap.
- Other expenses - as per materials and services.

Financial Sustainability Recommendations

The LTFP makes a number of recommendations which have been included in the model, and include:

Enhance Financial Model Maturity

- Integrate future year forecasts from service managers.
- Strengthen the linkage between the financial model and the asset management plan.

Increase Asset Renewal Funding

- Review and adjust capital renewal budgets to exceed annual depreciation charges, especially for deteriorating infrastructure (roads, kerbs, footpaths).

Update Financial Model for Depreciation

- Ensure recent increases in depreciation are fully incorporated into the financial model to reflect accurate renewal funding levels.

Assess Asset Condition Impacts

- Evaluate how current funding levels will affect asset conditions over time and adjust strategies accordingly.

Establish Strategic Asset Management Reserve

- Implement an annual transfer of \$250,000 to a new Council Reserve.
- Define clear guidelines for its dual purpose: funding new/upgraded assets and serving as contingency for financial risks.

Advance Waste Charge Reform

- Continue transitioning waste charges to full cost recovery.
- Benchmark cost components (including corporate overheads) against similar Councils.

Manage Grant Timing Variability

- Monitor Victorian Grants Commission payment timing.
- Reserve any advanced payments received in June 2026 to stabilise financial planning.

Prepare for Financial Challenges

- Consider and evaluate the following strategic options:
 - Maintain current operations with awareness of worsening asset conditions.
 - Reduce operational costs and increase Council-controlled income.
 - Advocate for additional grants without matching fund requirements.

- Explore the feasibility of applying for rate increases above the cap.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020, Section 91 – Financial Plan

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

The LTFP is an important strategic document for Council, which aligns Council's Vision with financial sustainability. It establishes important short and long-term financial goals upon which Council can base its investment planning. It clarifies the actions required to achieve Council's various financial goals. A financial plan can help Council focus on important immediate steps, such as reducing debt and building savings for emergencies.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

26 July 2023 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 16.2 Long Term Financial Plan 2023-2033

OPTIONS

Council will conduct deliberative engagement and report the results to Council in January or February 2026. This process will allow Council to review the final LTFP and consider any modifications or community feedback.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The 10-year Financial Plan is a key strategic tool used to ensure the financial sustainability of Council. The Long-Term Financial Plan has been developed taking into consideration legislative requirements and internal resources.

Economic	The LTFP describes the challenges and sustainability issues facing Council. Although Council has an Economic Development Strategy, it is not in a position to lead economic development initiatives such as childcare and housing due to limited revenue beyond its core services.
Social	Council is expected to face service delivery challenges in the future due to costs rising faster than revenue. Capital works will be decreased to meet Council's commitments. This change may affect Council's capacity to invest in non-core services and assets related to active recreation and social activities.
Environmental	Council is obligated to carry out waste and recycling activities in compliance with legislative requirements. Given the significant costs associated with these services and a limited population base, Council must regularly evaluate its practices and ensure that the service operates on a full cost recovery basis.
Climate Change	Climate change is being addressed in line with the requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> . Council has developed a Master Environment Strategy and is preparing a Tree Planting Strategy to help mitigate climate change risks. Appropriate resources have been allocated within the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP).
Financial	The LTFP adopts a financially sustainable approach to enable Council to effectively manage and mitigate risks within the scope of available financial resources. However, Council is projected to be unable to meet its renewal gap targets in the future, highlighting the need for ongoing advocacy to address this risk.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Long-Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 will be presented to the community from 30 October 2025 to 19 December 2025. Engagement activities will include social media, newspaper, website, and radio advertising. Council will clearly communicate the challenges faced and outline the strategies that will be implemented to ensure long-term financial sustainability.

Prior to adopting the LTFP, Council is required to conduct deliberative engagement. In preparation, Council has completed a comprehensive review of its current position and developed a robust long-term financial model, providing the community with enhanced

information. As a result, Council is now prepared to proceed with the formal engagement process.

The Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) has been informed by extensive deliberative engagement conducted during the development of both the Council Plan and the Asset Management Strategy. The final version of the LTFP, incorporating community feedback, will be presented to Council in January or February 2026.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not required for this report.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The LTFP has been developed utilising a robust financial model. It has also been informed by an extensive health check.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Financial Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	The LTFP considers current and future financial sustainability, offering recommendations to manage risks and keep Council within its budget.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Strategy Execution and Change Management Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	The LTFP identifies Council's challenges and is incorporated into the Asset Management Strategy, which includes the renewal gap. A reserve is suggested to provide Council with future funding for strategic initiatives.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Talent Management Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The Long Term Financial Plan reports on the projected employment levels and associated costs for the next 10 years.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.5 LEASE OPTION ENDORSEMENT - 18 CROMIE STREET RUPANYUP

Prepared by Jo White, Governance Officer

SUMMARY

The lease of 18 Cromie Street Rupanyup expires on 31 October 2025.

The tenant, MGM Group (Rupanyup) Pty Ltd trading as Hurleys Home Hardware (Hurleys) have advised they wish to exercise the first of two options to extend the lease by two years. Therefore, this report seeks Council's endorsement to enact the first two-year option in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Lease.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Endorse the enactment of the first two-year option in accordance with Schedule 1 of the MGM Group (Rupanyup) Pty Ltd, trading as Hurleys Home Hardware Lease from 01 November 2025 to 31 October 2027;
- b) Endorses the Chief Executive Officer to enact the second option in 2027 should the tenants exercise that option; and
- c) Endorses the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the provision of a longer-term lease prior to the expiry of the second option on 31 October 2029.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Lease – Nutrien Ag Solutions re 18 Cromie Street, Rupanyup](#)

[Attachment: Deed of Surrender – Nutrien Ag Solutions re Lease, 18 Cromie Street, Rupanyup](#)

[Attachment: Transfer of Rights and Obligations - to MGM Group \(Rupanyup\) Pty Ltd TA Hurleys Home & Hardware re Lease 18 Cromie Street, Rupanyup](#)

[Confidential Attachment: Memorandum of Understanding - re Shed Repairs 18 Cromie Street, Rupanyup](#)

DISCUSSION

The original lease for 18 Cromie Street, Rupanyup was endorsed by Council to Nutrien Ag Solutions on 29 June 2022. The lease commenced 01 November 2022 with an expiry date of 31 October 2025. It included two options for further terms of two years each. The lease terms stated the public toilets and the old shed (due to age and safety reasons) were not included in the lease.

Council received notification from Hurleys that they had purchased the business from Nutrien Ag Solutions and wished to take over the existing lease from 01 July 2025.

Council endorsed the Transfer of Rights and Obligations from Nutrien Ag Solutions to Hurleys on 30 June 2025. The terms and conditions of the lease continue to apply without variation until its expiry date of 31 October 2025.

It was discovered that Nutrien Ag Solutions had been utilizing the old shed for an extended period, despite its exclusion from the lease due to safety concerns.

The Council determined that repair costs for the shed would be prohibitive; however, it remained in place at the community's request to preserve local heritage.

Council subsequently informed Hurleys that the shed was not included in the lease agreement and required the removal of all stored items. Hurleys were previously unaware of the shed's exclusion from the lease. They then proposed to fund and complete all necessary repairs, enabling safe use of the shed for storage purposes.

As participants in the building industry, Hurleys indicated they could deploy their own staff and materials for the project. A scope of works and a Memorandum of

Understanding outlining the required improvements have both been agreed upon. Hurleys have committed to investing over \$6,100 in repairs to restore the Council's asset.

As per the Lease, Hurleys wish to enact the first of two options available to them. This was advised in the appropriate timeframe.

The original 2022 lease lacked wording in the Council Report to include options beyond the initial three years and did not authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enact those options, making Council endorsement necessary.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	Advocate and support agriculture, economic development and investment in our region.
A Council that serves its Community	- Undertake robust and transparent planning and risk management to ensure our organisation is sustainable now and into the future. - Embed good governance practices into all decision making. - Build trust through engaging with our community, delivering quality services and outcomes. - Consider a broad base of evidence before making decisions, ensuring value for money and responsive, innovative services and solutions are provided.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Leases and Licences Policy
Strategy	Economic Development Strategy

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

- 30 June 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 15.1 Transfer of Lease - 18 Cromie Street, Rupanyup
- 29 June 2022 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 16.4 Lease 18 Cromie Street, Rupanyup - Nutrien AG Solutions Limited

OPTIONS

- Council could consider not endorsing the enactment of the option, however, it should be noted this is permissible in the original lease which was transferred in its entirety to MGM Group (Rupanyup) Pty Ltd trading as Hurleys Home Hardware and the tenant is funding the repairs to the old shed which provides a benefit to Council, and the broader community.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	Ensures a local business has access to practical storage solutions to enable a wider range of products for sale to the local community.
Social	The repairs prolong the lifespan of a valued historical feature in the local community.
Financial	Council benefits from the rental income from the tenant and the repairs to the old shed at the tenant's cost.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The Lease and options enable Council to meet its corporate governance and compliance obligations and reduces its liability risk.	Reduces Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The enactment of the lease option will ensure that the tenant will continue to operate and service the local community.	Reduces Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.6 PROPOSAL TO GIFT WHEATLANDS AGRICULTURE MUSEUM TO THE WARRACKNABEAL AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Prepared by Tammy Smith, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Extensive consultations have been conducted over several years with the Warracknabeal and District Historical Society Incorporated (the Historical Society) and its sub-committee responsible for managing the Wheatlands Agricultural Machinery Museum, particularly regarding land ownership and site development matters. The Historical Society has made significant investments to redevelop and enhance the asset and is now seeking to undertake further improvements.

It is recognised that Council does not oversee the Museum's operations. At the Committee's request, this paper seeks approval to commence the public notification process regarding the proposed transfer of ownership of the site at 34 Henty Highway, Warracknabeal, to the Historical Society.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) In accordance with Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, commence the community engagement process in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy and Procedure, to gift the land known as 34 Henty Hwy Warracknabeal - Lot 1 and 2\LP68688, R1\LP8688, Lot 2\LP23940 and Lot 1\LP86032 to the Warracknabeal and District Historical Society Incorporated.
- b) If there are no objections to the proposed gifting of land to the Warracknabeal and District Historical Society Incorporated, endorse for the Chief Executive Officer to be given delegated authority to carry out the gifting process, by completing the land transfer, and executing all necessary documentation required for the transfer of land ownership.
- c) Endorse that the Chief Executive Officer (or her delegate) impose obligations and conditions on the gifting of the land through the establishment of a 173 agreement, enacted under section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The conditions and obligations to be imposed are:
 - i. Not using the land for any other purpose than the intended one (agricultural museum) without Council's consent;
 - ii. Returning the land to Council (at Council's option) for nominal consideration in the event the land is not developed and used for the intended purpose; and/or
 - iii. Compensating Council for any loss Council may suffer as a consequence of a breach of such obligations.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Letter from Warracknabeal and District Historical Society](#)

Link: [Wheatlands Agricultural Machinery Museum – Warracknabeal Historical Society](#)

[Attachment: Warracknabeal - A Municipal History 1861-1991 - Wheatlands Agricultural Museum](#)

[Confidential Attachment: Planning Report Consultant Planning Approvals](#)

[Confidential Attachment: Land Valuation 34 Henty Highway Warracknabeal](#)

DISCUSSION

The former Warracknabeal Shire acquired the land for use as a museum in 1968. In 1970, the Council appointed a museum planning committee and obtained funding through community donations and grants to construct the octagon building on the site.

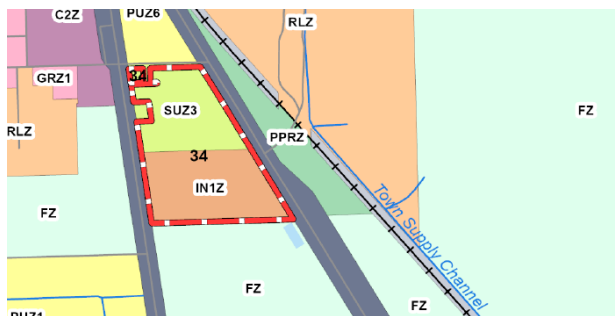
The first machinery display was installed at the museum in 1972. In 1975, the museum did not generate a profit and the Council considered transferring its operations to the Government. In 1981, the Historical Society assumed management of the Wheatlands Agricultural Machinery Museum and has overseen the building and land since then. Volunteers have introduced various changes to develop the site for tourism and historical purposes.

Attached to this report is a letter outlining the Historical Society's involvement and management of the site over the years.

Site Location

The site incorporates Lot 1 and 2\LP68688, R1\LP8688, Lot 2\LP23940 and Lot 1\LP86032 and is referred to as 34 Henty Highway Warracknabeal. It covers an area of 15.9 hectares and incorporates two Planning Zones, public use and industrial.

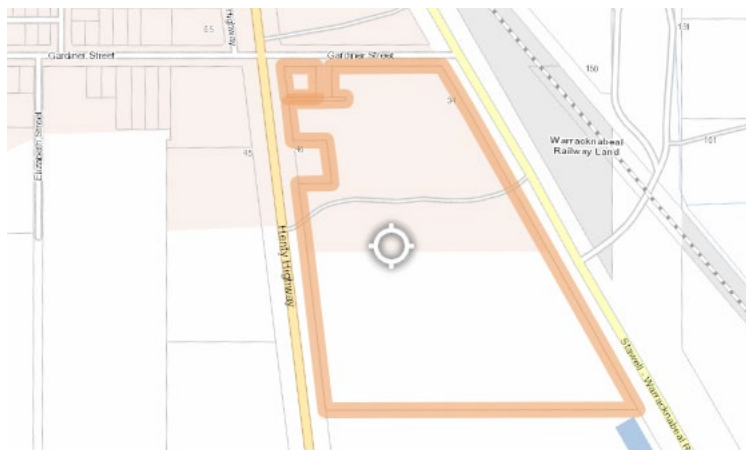
Figure 1: Planning Property Report extract



SUZ3 – Special Use

IN1Z – Industrial 1

Figure 2: Location of Site on Henty Hwy Warracknabeal



Gifting of Land

The gifting of the land discussion has been ongoing since as far back as 2020 between Council and the Historical Society, with Council discussions supporting a planning scheme amendment C25yari which was endorsed on 24 November 2021.

The Warracknabeal Agriculture Museum amendment proposes to rezone a portion of land from Industrial 1 Zone to Farming Zone and to change some areas from Farming Zone to Special Use Zone 3, which pertains to the Agriculture Museum. The amendment also seeks to update the schedule for the site to comply with the current format requirements set by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (now Department of Transport and Planning). Additionally, a boundary adjustment was proposed to align the land allocation with the museum's operational needs.

Council did not begin the process of gifting the land because it planned to complete the planning scheme amendment before starting the next phase.

The planning scheme amendment has taken significantly longer than anticipated, and the Historical Society is growing weary of the process.

To address this, Council proposes to begin gifting the land now, while the planning scheme amendment continues separately to support the Historical Society's activities.

Why Gift the Land

According to "A Municipal History", the origins of the site are rooted in the vision promoted by representatives from the Historical Society, who advocated for the establishment of an agricultural museum. The majority of co-contributory funding for the museum's development was supplied by the local community.

In approximately September 1981, the Historical Society assumed management of the Museum, following the Council's decision to return oversight to the Government due to issues related to profitability. The facility, originally opened in May 1972 to showcase machinery, encountered challenges attracting visitors under the direction of the Shire management committee. As a result, the committee considered transferring control to the Government. Ultimately, the Historical Society accepted responsibility for both the land and museum administration.

The Council implemented a lease on 05 September 2000, initially for 20 years. In 2020, an additional five-year lease commenced, and as of January 2025, the Council adopted a month-to-month arrangement in anticipation of a planning scheme amendment and potential gifting of the land.

Although the Council is the legal landowner, it does not participate in daily operations or site developments. With the Historical Society expressing interest in managing, maintaining, and owning the property, it is proposed that the Council transfer ownership to the Historical Society and establish a Section 173 Agreement on the land to restrict its sale for private benefit or profit.

Key Risks of Current Arrangements

Council is currently subject to several risks associated with its oversight responsibilities on the site, including potential exposure to insurance and compliance matters. The Council is also accountable for preventing environmental harm, ensuring safe access and use, as well as monitoring and enforcing lease conditions. Given that the Historical Society has successfully managed the site for over fifty years, it may not be appropriate for Council to impose additional compliance oversight requirements on this dedicated group of volunteers. Therefore, in order to mitigate Council's risk and enable the Historical Society to continue enhancing the site for both historical and tourism purposes, it is recommended that the land be gifted.

Industrial Land

A portion of the land proposed for gifting is currently zoned Industrial 1. The Council is seeking to have this land rezoned, as it has been identified as surplus to requirements. Additional justification is required to progress the planning scheme amendment, specifically regarding the appropriateness of removing industrial zoning within the municipality and whether existing industrial land meets current needs. Industry activity predominantly occurs in the western and northern areas of Warracknabeal. Additionally, a previous study conducted in 2004 indicated that the IN1Z land was surplus and recommended its return to farming use.

Section 173 Agreement

If Council is intending to gift land, it is best practice that Council would require the purchaser to agree to certain conditions or obligations attaching to the gift, such as developing the land for the intended purpose and returning the land to Council or compensating Council if the land is not developed and used for that purpose.

The most common vehicle for imposing such obligations on a purchaser is an agreement pursuant to section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Section 173 Agreement). This has the advantage of imposing positive enforceable covenants on the purchaser which are recorded on the title and attached to the land, so those obligations are binding upon any successor in title of the purchaser. Common forms of positive obligations to be included in such a Section 173 Agreement include:

- a) Agreeing to commencing and completing the proposed development and commence use for the intended purpose within prescribed timeframes;
- b) Not using the land for any other purpose than the intended one without Council's consent;
- c) Returning the land to Council (at Council's option) for nominal consideration in the event the land is not developed and used for the intended purpose; and/or
- d) Compensating Council for any loss Council may suffer as a consequence of a breach of such obligations.

Land Valuation

A land valuation has been completed by a certified valuer, as required in accordance with the Local Government Act requirements. This valuation was complete on 16 October 2025, and identified that the current market value, as is \$900,000 (nine hundred thousand dollars) exclusive of GST and subject to vacant possession.

Property Rates and Charges

Currently the land is not subject to property rates, and it is recommended that on transfer of the land to the Historical Society, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, the land remains exempt from rates. However, the land will still be the subject of the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund, along with waste and recycling charges.

RELEVANT LAW

- *Planning and Environment Act 1987* – Section 173
- The *Local Government Act 2020* (The Act).

There are three essential elements of compliance with section 114 of the Act as follows:

- (a) Give public notice of the proposed sale in accordance with section 114(2)(a).
- (b) Undertake a community engagement process in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy pursuant to section 114(2)(b).
- (c) Obtain a valuation of the kind specified in section 114(2)(c) at least 6 months prior to the sale or gifting of the land.

The Council is required to ensure that, when publicly advertising the proposed gifting of land, it solicits feedback—whether in support or opposition—in accordance with Section 114 of the Local Government Act.

Previous legal advice in relation to the Cromie Street Murtoa gifting of land decision, confirmed that section 114 does not preclude any proposed gifting of land as long as the following conditions above are met. In the absence of any specific guidelines, Council has been recommended to consider *Local Government Best Practice Guideline for the Sale, Exchange, and Transfer of Land (Best Practice Guideline)* dated June 2009, published by the former state Department of Planning and Community Development.

In the event that land is sold for less than market value or exchanged for land of a lesser value (or, for that matter, gifted), Council should explain the circumstances, reasons or factors which led to the decision to accept a sale price that is less than market value or land on exchange with a lower value or, as in this case, to gift land.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	• Advocate and support agriculture, economic development and investment in our region.

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	- Develop and/or maintain strong partnerships to deliver high quality services and sustainable infrastructure to enhance the social health and wellbeing outcomes for all our residents. - Advocate, prioritise, and invest in infrastructure that supports an accessible, inclusive, and socially connected community to improve liveability. - Promote and support volunteerism throughout our Shire, recognising that collaborative efforts can lead to enhanced outcomes for our communities.
A Resilient and Sustainable Natural Environment	Advocate for responsible land use, with consideration for the natural environment.
A Council that serves its Community	- Embed good governance practices into all decision making. - Consider a broad base of evidence before making decisions, ensuring value for money and responsive, innovative services and solutions are provided.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Asset Lifecycle Policy
	Community Engagement Policy and Procedure
Strategy	Tourism Strategy

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

- 24 November 2021 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 14.2 Planning Scheme Amendment C25yari
- 25 March 2020 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - Item 13.11 Proposed Transfer of Land Beulah Supermarket
- 26 August 2020 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - Item 12.16 Proposed Transfer of Land Beulah Supermarket
- 05 September 2000 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - Item 6.5 Wheatlands Museum Lease
- 11 December 2019 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - Item 13.4 Wheatlands Museum Lease

OPTIONS

- Council could choose not to commence the advertising process to gift the land to the Historical Society, however, Council will need to enact a new lease agreement and will need to increase its compliance oversight to ensure its meeting its governance requirements.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	Donating land for an agriculture museum offers both direct and indirect economic benefits. When the Historical Society owns the land, it builds community ownership, strengthens local identity and pride, and encourages greater civic engagement and economic resilience.
Social	The Historical Society – Wheatlands Agricultural Museum maintains active membership and philanthropic contributions. Council will establish a section 173 agreement for the property, stipulating that if the museum ceases operation, the site will either revert to Council or be transferred to a comparable organisation.

Financial	Transferring land helps Council achieve long-term financial sustainability by lowering asset holdings and reducing safety compliance obligations.
Environmental	The enactment of a 173 Agreement ensures that Council can be compensated for any loss that Council may suffer as a consequence of a breach of condition and/or obligation. This agreement also ensures the land can be utilised for its intended use and purpose only.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement will commence on the 30 October 2025 for 28 days. Council will advertise the proposal to gift the land in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy and Procedure.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

RISK

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Financial Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Transferring land helps Council achieve long-term financial sustainability by lowering asset holdings and reducing safety compliance obligations.	Reduces Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Carrying out the transfer now eases committee frustration and safeguards Council's reputation with members.	Reduces Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Currently Council has a month-to-month lease with the Historical Society. Transferring the land would abolish the requirement for a lease to be in place and enacted.	Reduces Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.7 PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT - 40 ANDERSON STREET WARRACKNABEAL

Prepared by Tammy Smith, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Yarriambiack Shire Council has submitted multiple funding applications for the development of 40 Anderson Street, Warracknabeal; however, these efforts have not yet resulted in secured support. Council now has the opportunity to collaborate with E2E Growth Consultants Pty. Ltd (E2E Growth) (ACN 645 192 918) to advance the development of this site. In light of the ongoing housing shortage within Yarriambiack Shire, this paper outlines the proposed partnership and seeks Council approval to commence a community engagement process. The primary objective is to increase the available housing stock, thereby facilitating worker accommodation, supporting downsizing initiatives, and providing independent living options for local residents.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Endorse a partnership with E2E Growth Consultants Pty Ltd (ACN 645 192 918) to develop 40 Anderson Street, Warracknabeal; and
- b) Commence the community consultation process in accordance with Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* regarding the proposed transfer of land located at 40 Anderson Street, Warracknabeal (Lot 1 on title plan 083017C), to E2E Growth Holdings Pty. Ltd (ACN 670 726 584). This action is subject to successful subdivision and planning approval, and contingent upon the execution of a Section 173 Agreement as detailed in this report.

ATTACHMENTS

[Confidential Attachment: Valuation Report 40 Anderson Street Warracknabeal](#)

[Confidential Attachment: E2E Growth Consultants Business Information](#)

[Confidential Attachment: Reference Letter - CHL for E2E Growth Consulting](#)

[Confidential Attachment: E2E Growth Holdings Pty Ltd ASIC Search](#)

Link: [Registrations Open for Lake Bolac Childcare Centre | Ararat](#)

Link: [New homes for Ararat - Haven Home Safe](#)

DISCUSSION

Background

Yarriambiack Shire Council is currently experiencing a significant housing shortage, with health services, education, emergency services and the agricultural industry finding it difficult to attract and retain staff due to the limited housing options available within in our municipality, and more broadly across the region.

Yarriambiack Shire is on the cusp of further housing demand, with Q&A Hay, Donald Mineral Sands and renewable energy projects commencing construction and/or operations within the next 12 to 24 months. This will place further demand on our already stretched housing market.

Yarriambiack Shire has been presented with an opportunity, facilitated through Regional Development Victoria, to engage with a company currently developing housing, motel, and childcare initiatives within the Ararat Rural City Council area. This company has previously secured Regional Worker Accommodation State Government Funding.

Council purchased the site known as 40 Anderson Street, Warracknabeal in 2021 for \$111,500. An investment of \$2.8 million is required to prepare the site for construction, including the provision of power, water, sewer, drainage, and a shared carriageway. These works are necessary to make the site ready for future housing development.

Council is currently dependent on grant funding to deliver this enabling infrastructure. Despite submitting multiple applications, Council's efforts to secure external funding have not been successful to date. Additionally, there has been limited interest from developers to construct new housing on the site, which has impacted the competitiveness of grant applications compared to fully developed projects with private investment.

Council is seeking a development partner willing to commit to constructing housing units on the site. The objective is to support accommodation options for workers and create opportunities for residents wishing to downsize into environmentally efficient, smaller homes, thereby freeing up larger housing stock within the township.

Figure 1: Site, 40 Anderson Street Warracknabeal



E2E Growth Partnership

E2E Growth has proposed a partnership with Council to develop 14 units on the specified site. The arrangement includes:

- a) Securing development subdivision and planning approval for the construction of 14 units.
- b) Council transferring ownership of the land at 40 Anderson Street, Warracknabeal to E2E Growth, subject to certain conditions and obligations (as detailed in the 173 Agreement).
- c) Funding for connecting infrastructure to be secured by either Yarriambiack Shire or E2E Growth, depending on available opportunities.
- d) E2E Growth constructing 14 units on the site, with a portion allocated for rental and a portion for sale.
- e) Yarriambiack Shire Council recouping its investment in the land purchase through a percentage of proceeds from each unit sale.
- f) E2E Growth being responsible for construction, ensuring compliance with subdivision and planning approval requirements.

173 Agreement

If Council is intending to gift land, it is best practice that Council would require the purchaser to agree to certain conditions or obligations attaching to the land transfer, such as developing the land for the intended purpose and returning the land to Council or compensating Council if the land is not developed and used for that purpose.

The most common vehicle for imposing such obligations on a purchaser is an agreement pursuant to section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Section 173 Agreement). This has the advantage of imposing positive enforceable covenants on the purchaser which are recorded on the title and attached to the land, so those obligations are binding upon any successor in title of the purchaser. Common forms of positive obligations to be included in such a Section 173 Agreement include:

- a) Agreeing to commencing and completing the proposed development and commence use for the intended purpose within prescribed timeframes;
- b) Not using the land for any other purpose than the intended one without Council's consent;
- c) Returning the land to Council (at Council's option) for nominal consideration in the event the land is not developed and used for the intended purpose; and/or
- d) Compensating Council for any loss Council may suffer as a consequence of a breach of such obligations.

In addition, the Council intends to recover the purchase price of \$111,500, distributed across the 14 units. Upon the sale of each unit, a payment of \$7,964.28 will be remitted to the Council, contingent upon the occurrence of such sales.

Supporting Economic Development

Council notes that, without its intervention, private developers are less likely to undertake projects in the Shire due to the significant costs associated with connecting infrastructure, which pose a barrier to development.

To encourage economic growth and expand available housing, it is recommended that Council seek to recover only the initial land purchase costs rather than the current land valuation. This approach is intended to incentivise developers to contribute their own funds towards constructing housing in the Shire. If this initiative proves effective, there may be further opportunities for collaboration on additional projects, with the goal of addressing housing availability and supporting local business expansion, as well as creating employment within the community.

Land Valuation

A land valuation undertaken by a certified valuer on 16 October 2025 recorded the market value of the land at \$150,000 (one hundred and fifty thousand dollars) exclusive of GST and subject to vacant possession.

RELEVANT LAW

- *Planning and Environment Act 1987* – Section 173
- The *Local Government Act 2020* (The Act).

There are three essential elements of compliance with section 114 of the Act as follows:

- (a) Give public notice of the proposed sale in accordance with section 114(2)(a).
- (b) Undertake a community engagement process in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy pursuant to section 114(2)(b).
- (c) Obtain a valuation of the kind specified in section 114(2)(c) at least 6 months prior to the sale or gifting of the land.

The Council is required to ensure that, when publicly advertising the proposed gifting of land, it solicits feedback—whether in support or opposition—in accordance with Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Previous legal advice in relation to the Cromie Street Murtoa gifting of land decision, confirmed that section 114 does not preclude any proposed gifting of land as long as the following conditions above are met. In the absence of any specific guidelines, Council has been recommended to consider *Local Government Best Practice Guideline for the Sale, Exchange, and Transfer of Land* (**Best Practice Guideline**) dated June 2009, published by the former state Department of Planning and Community Development.

In the event that land is sold for less than market value or exchanged for land of a lesser value (or, for that matter, gifted), Council should explain the circumstances, reasons or factors which led to the decision to accept a sale price that is less than market value or land on exchange with a lower value or, as in this case, to gift land.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	- Advocate and support agriculture, economic development and investment in our region. - Understand, support and advocate for services and associated skilled workforces to unlock economic and community development opportunities across our Shire.
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	- Develop and/or maintain strong partnerships to deliver high quality services and sustainable infrastructure to enhance the social health and wellbeing outcomes for all our residents. - Advocate, prioritise, and invest in infrastructure that supports an accessible, inclusive, and socially connected community to improve liveability. - Plan for and support diverse housing options to meet community needs now and into the future.
A Resilient and Sustainable Natural Environment	Advocate for responsible land use, with consideration for the natural environment.
A Council that serves its Community	- Undertake robust and transparent planning and risk management to ensure our organisation is sustainable now and into the future. - Embed good governance practices into all decision making. - Advocate for our community, on matters that are important to the entire municipal district.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Asset Lifecycle Policy
	Community Engagement Policy and Procedure
Strategy	Economic Development Strategy

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

11 September 2024 - Unscheduled Meeting of Council Minutes – Item 8.6 Murtoa Land Transfer 16 Cromie Street Murtoa

Council gifted land to the Murtoa Housing Innovation, Special Purpose Vehicle to support the expansion of housing stock across the Shire.

OPTIONS

- a) Council could choose not to proceed with the partnership, and instead look to sell the parcel of land, acknowledging it does not have the funds available to develop the site.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	Lack of housing is a significant barrier to economic development in the Yarriambiack Shire. The addition of 14 units within the Shire will provide much needed housing options for workers, along with opportunities to downsize freeing up larger housing stock within the community.
Social	Increasing diversified housing options within the Shire provides opportunities for workers to reside within the community in which they work, creating opportunities for greater social connection into clubs and groups. Providing diversified housing options supports people to age in place, retaining a person's connection to community.
Environmental	The development of the land at 40 Anderson Street would be in accordance with planning scheme requirements, land use requirements and the Cultural Heritage Management Plan.
Climate Change	The site is currently subject to a Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. This is to be removed once the Flood Amendment is processed.
Financial	The development of the site, and gifting of the land reduces Council's financial obligations to maintain the site.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement will commence on adoption of the recommendation in accordance with Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Community Engagement Policy and Procedure.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Strategy Execution and Change Management Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Supporting the partnership with E2E Growth Consultants, and the gifting of the land enables the execution of the Council Plan's strategic objectives to support housing development within our Shire.	Reduces Residual Risk Level
Program and Project Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Transferring the land to E2E Growth shifts project management duties to the company, freeing Council from these responsibilities since housing development is outside its scope.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Pursuing a housing partnership can demonstrate that Council is taking steps to address the housing crisis. It is also important for Council to maintain transparency regarding the arrangement to minimise any potential reputational risks associated with this partnership.	Reduces Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

- Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership Economic Development Strategies - [Regional Economic Development Strategies \(REDS\) - Regional Development Victoria](#)
- Victorian State Government – Housing Statement - [More homes for Victorians | vic.gov.au](#)
- National Housing Accord - [Delivering the National Housing Accord | Treasury.gov.au](#)

- Rural Councils Victoria Housing Blueprint -
<https://share.google/RfwESuBzi0I6zZmnv>

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.8 AUTOMATED WEATHER STATION – WARRACKNABEAL AERODROME

Prepared by Tim Rose, Chief Operating Officer

SUMMARY

Council currently has two Automated Weather Stations (AWS) within the municipality. Weather stations are located at the aerodromes in both Hopetoun and Warracknabeal.

The Hopetoun AWS is owned by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) and subject to a ten-year land lease (expiring in 2034) with Council for the unit to be located at the aerodrome (Council land).

In contrast, Council owns the Warracknabeal AWS and is responsible for all servicing and maintenance costs, governed through a ten-year service agreement with the BOM. The current service agreement expired in September 2025.

Due to maintenance cost increases and subsequent discussions around responsibility for providing weather data, Council has not signed the new agreement with BOM. The result of not entering into a new agreement with BOM will result in the AWS being decommissioning on 01 December 2025.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Endorses the Chief Executive Officer (or her delegate) to:
 - i. Enter into a new three-year maintenance agreement with the Bureau of Meteorology to ensure that the Automated Weather Station located at the Warracknabeal Aerodrome remains operational; and
 - ii. Seek alternative sources of financial support to fund the costs associated with the Automated Weather Station maintenance.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Letter – Automated Weather Station – Warracknabeal Resident](#)

[Attachment: Letter - Automated Weather Station - Warracknabeal CFA -23 September 2025](#)

DISCUSSION

In May 2025, the BOM contacted Council to discuss the renewal of the existing ten-year service agreement for the Warracknabeal AWS. The current agreement was signed in 2015 and expired in September 2025, with biannual servicing costs of approximately \$12,700 per year. The BOM has indicated that these servicing costs are now substantially outdated. The BOM proposed a new three-year maintenance agreement at an increased cost of \$38,701 per year. Council negotiated the maintenance intervals, and a final agreement was presented to Council for \$27,959 per year.

Due to these costs presenting a significant challenge to Council in the current financial climate, requests for financial support were sent to various Ministers of Parliament, both Federal and State, and the Victorian Emergency Management Commissioner. Unfortunately, Council has been unable to secure government funding to cover the associated maintenance costs of the Warracknabeal AWS.

As a consequence of the cost escalations, a decision was made to offer the unit to BOM (at no cost), allowing it to become part of their national weather monitoring program. The BOM has assessed Council's offer and determined that it cannot absorb this unit into its program. Ultimately, this means that if Council is unable to sign a new three-year agreement, the BOM will decommission the AWS on 01 December 2025.

Despite the financial challenges associated with maintaining the AWS, this unit provides significant benefit to our emergency service organisations in times of an emergency. This

was particularly relevant during the recent Little Desert National Park fires and in past flooding events. The AWS is also a valued asset for our community and the large proportion of residents working in the agricultural sector.

Given the importance of accurate and timely weather forecasts, Council could enter into a new agreement with BOM as an interim measure until an alternative funding option becomes available. This will ensure that the Warracknabeal AWS remains operational as we approach the summer months.

RELEVANT LAW

Not applicable.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	- Advocate and support agriculture, economic development and investment in our region.
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	- Develop and/or maintain strong partnerships to deliver high quality services and sustainable infrastructure to enhance the social health and wellbeing outcomes for all our residents. - Advocate and support community safety initiatives, that enhance community safety and the liveability of our communities.
A Resilient and Sustainable Natural Environment	Embed climate change action into everything we do with a focus on decreased emissions, heat reduction and emergency management preparedness.
A Council that serves its Community	- Undertake robust and transparent planning and risk management to ensure our organisation is sustainable now and into the future. - Embed good governance practices into all decision making. - Advocate for our community, on matters that are important to the entire municipal district. - Build trust through engaging with our community, delivering quality services and outcomes.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Plan	Municipal Emergency Management Plan

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not Applicable.

OPTIONS

- Councillors may elect to allow the decommissioning of the AWS on 01 December 2025 and continue to seek alternative sources of funding and reinstate the unit in the future, if successful.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental	The loss of accurate data may cause challenges associated with agricultural practices that rely on weather forecasts.
Financial	The significant costs associated with maintaining the AWS will result in a decrease to another area of service within Council.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council has undertaken significant community engagement around this matter, including speaking to key stakeholders and emergency service members. Council also published a media release informing residents on the current issue and that that closure of the AWS may occur.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not required for this report.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Environmental Sustainability Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Maintaining the AWS may help inform environmental related services of Council and support the agricultural industry.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Financial Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Council is facing financial sustainability challenges and a decision that involves expending significant resources requires careful consideration.	Increases Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	While it is rare for Councils to own and maintain an AWS, as it is not core business, community may perceive the decommissioning of the unit as an unnecessary reduction of service.	Increases Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not Applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.9 DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by Matthew Carlin Manager Community Health

SUMMARY

The Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2025–2029 outlines Council’s strategy for managing domestic animals, particularly dogs and cats, across Yarriambiack Shire for the next four years. The Plan ensures that Council continues to meet its obligations under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* and balances community safety, animal welfare, and responsible pet ownership.

The new Plan builds on the achievements of the previous 2022–2025 DAMP, focusing on education, proactive compliance, improved registration processes, and partnerships with rescue organisations. It was developed through community consultation, officer input, and benchmarking against best practice. Once adopted, the Plan will be submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and published on Council’s website.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Adopt the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029 as presented and revoke any prior versions of the Domestic Animal Management Plan; and
- b) Submit the adopted Plan to the Secretary of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action in accordance with Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029](#)

[Attachment: Have Your Say Submission](#)

DISCUSSION

Under Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, all Victorian councils must prepare and adopt a Domestic Animal Management Plan every four years. The Plan must describe how Council will deliver animal management services, programs, and strategies that promote responsible ownership, community safety, and animal welfare.

The 2025–2029 DAMP was developed in collaboration with Council’s Compliance Officers, incorporating community feedback through surveys and listening posts. It sets out four key strategies:

- a) **Education** – Increase community awareness of responsible pet ownership, registration, desexing, and preventing dog attacks.
- b) **Risk-Based Compliance** – Focus resources on matters posing the greatest risk to community safety, supported by improved data management.
- c) **Proactive Approach** – Prevent issues before they occur through education campaigns, school engagement, and review of leash area orders.
- d) **Improved Registration Systems** – Enhance the online registration process, introduce automated reminders, and promote timely renewals.

Key achievements from the previous DAMP include appointment of an additional Compliance Officer, improved response times, new Local Laws addressing stray animal feeding and excessive pet numbers, and stronger partnerships with animal rescues under 84Y agreements.

The Plan will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with legislative obligations and community expectations.

Animal Registration Fees and DEECA

Under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, councils are responsible for collecting dog and cat registration fees on behalf of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), State Government.

A portion of every registration fee collected by Council is forwarded to DEECA to fund the Victorian Domestic Animal Welfare Fund. This fund supports state-wide animal welfare initiatives, including:

- Grants for community desexing and microchipping programs,
- Animal welfare research and education,
- Shelter and rehoming initiatives, and
- Development of animal management resources and training.

The remaining portion of registration fees is retained by Council to fund local animal management services, including compliance, enforcement, community education, pound operations, and emergency animal welfare.

Collecting these fees ensures Council remains compliant with state legislation while contributing to the broader Victorian animal welfare system. It also provides a direct funding source for local animal management operations, reducing reliance on general rate revenue.

RELEVANT LAW

Domestic Animals Act 1994 – Section 68A: Requirement for Councils to prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan every four years. Council must submit the adopted Plan to the Secretary of DEECA.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	• Advocate and support community safety initiatives, that enhance community safety and the liveability of our communities.
A Resilient and Sustainable Natural Environment	• Elevate community education and positive engagement experience as a key priority while performing regulatory functions.
A Council that serves its Community	• Embed good governance practices into all decision making. • Advocate for our community, on matters that are important to the entire municipal district. • Build trust through engaging with our community, delivering quality services and outcomes. • Consider a broad base of evidence before making decisions, ensuring value for money and responsive, innovative services and solutions are provided.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Local Law 2024
	Community Engagement Policy and Procedure
	Dangerous Dog and Restricted Breed Policy
Plan	Domestic Animal Management Plan

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

29 September 2021 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 15.2 Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025

OPTIONS

Councillors could elect to delay submission to DEECA for further alterations and consultations. Noting that this will impact Council's compliance obligations.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	Efficient animal management reduces costs associated with enforcement, impoundment, and animal control.
Social	Promotes community safety, pet welfare, and responsible ownership.
Environmental	Supports humane control of feral cats and protection of native wildlife.
Climate Change	Includes consideration of emergency planning for animals during extreme weather events.
Financial	Plan implementation delivered within existing operational budgets.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community consultation for the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029 was conducted to ensure the Plan reflects local priorities and experiences.

A public consultation process was conducted, and one written submission was received - primarily concerning issues with feral cats within the Shire. While feral cat management is primarily a DEECA responsibility under the Victorian Government's framework, Council continues to play a supportive role through community education and local compliance where relevant to domestic and semi-owned cats.

In addition, Council's Local Laws Officers have been attending community events with the Community Engagement Van, providing residents with education, advice, and opportunities for discussion around responsible pet ownership, registration, and nuisance management. These sessions have proven valuable for both education and informal consultation, allowing residents to engage directly with officers and raise local concerns.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not required for this report.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Adopting the <i>Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029</i> ensures Council remains compliant with its statutory obligations under Section 68A of the <i>Domestic Animals Act 1994</i> . The Plan provides a clear and transparent framework for animal management operations, supporting consistent enforcement, officer accountability, and annual review. This approach maintains Council's low residual risk by reducing the likelihood of non-compliance, reputational harm, or liability arising from unmanaged domestic animal issues.	Maintains Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Adopting the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029 demonstrates Council's commitment to good governance, transparency,	Maintains Residual Risk Level

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
	and compliance with legislative obligations under the <i>Domestic Animals Act 1994</i>. The Plan outlines proactive strategies for community education, responsible pet ownership, and animal welfare, which support positive community perception and confidence in Council's operations. By maintaining a structured, evidence-based approach to animal management, this recommendation helps sustain Council's low reputational risk and reinforces trust between Council and the community.	
Political Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	Adopting the <i>Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026–2029</i> aligns Council with mandatory state legislative requirements and established best practice across Victorian councils. This compliance-based approach minimises the potential for political criticism or community concern regarding Council's management of domestic animals. By maintaining transparency, demonstrating community engagement, and clearly defining Council's and DEECA's respective responsibilities, this recommendation helps preserve Council's low political risk and supports consistent, apolitical decision-making.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

15.10 LEASE ENDORSEMENT – WOOMELANG BOWLING CLUB INC

Prepared by Jo White, Governance Officer

SUMMARY

Yarriambiack Shire Council is the landowner of the Woomelang Bowling Club, located at 18-20 Gloucester Avenue, Woomelang. A formal Lease Agreement is required to be implemented in line with the Council's Leases and Licencing Policy. The proposed lease will facilitate the continued operation of the Council-owned Woomelang Bowling Club facility by Woomelang Bowling Club Inc., clearly outlining the rights and responsibilities of both parties.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Endorse the Lease (as attached) between Yarriambiack Shire Council and Woomelang Bowling Club Inc for the buildings and land known as Woomelang Bowling Club, 18-20 Gloucester Avenue, Woomelang.
- b) Endorse the Lease for a period of seven years.
- c) Endorse the Lease to be a peppercorn lease in accordance with the Leases and Licensing Policy, Schedule 1 – Category A, with a rental fee of \$1.00 (one dollar) + GST per year, deemed as paid.
- d) Endorse the Chief Executive Officer to make any administrative changes required for the Lease to be executed, providing the intent of the Lease is not altered.
- e) Endorse the affixing of the Common Seal to the Lease in accordance with Council's Common Seal and Conduct at Meetings Local Law 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Building Lease – Woomelang Bowling Club Inc](#)

DISCUSSION

The Woomelang Bowling Club Inc has been operating from the Council-owned Bowling Green and Clubrooms for several years, providing valuable sport, recreation and social opportunities to the Woomelang community. In accordance with Council's governance obligations, it is necessary to formalise the arrangement through a Lease Agreement.

The proposed Lease Agreement has been carefully drafted to align with relevant policies and legislative requirements, including those related to public land use, community access, and facility management. Key provisions in the lease cover aspects such as the duration of the lease, maintenance responsibilities, rental terms, and compliance with the Council's broader objectives for community services. Additionally, the lease ensures that the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc will continue to operate within the scope of its community-focused mission, contributing positively to the local community.

By endorsing the Lease Agreement, the Council will be fulfilling its responsibility as a landowner while providing the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc with the security and clarity necessary for its ongoing operation. This arrangement also ensures that the facilities remain accessible to the wider community and continue to meet Council's strategic goals for public recreation and sport.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	- Develop and/or maintain strong partnerships to deliver high quality services and sustainable infrastructure to enhance the social health and wellbeing outcomes for all our residents. - Advocate, prioritise, and invest in infrastructure that supports an accessible, inclusive, and socially connected community to improve liveability. - Promote and support volunteerism throughout our Shire, recognising that collaborative efforts can lead to enhanced outcomes for our communities.
A Council that serves its Community	- Undertake robust and transparent planning and risk management to ensure our organisation is sustainable now and into the future. - Embed good governance practices into all decision making. - Advocate for our community, on matters that are important to the entire municipal district. - Build trust through engaging with our community, delivering quality services and outcomes. - Consider a broad base of evidence before making decisions, ensuring value for money and responsive, innovative services and solutions are provided. - Promote initiatives ensuring safety, respect, and equal opportunities for all genders, aiming to end family violence.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Leases and Licences Policy

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not applicable.

OPTIONS

- Council could choose to undertake public advertisement of the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	The lease supports the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc's operation, contributing to the local economy by providing sports and recreation services and attracting visitors.
Social	The Woomelang Bowling Club Inc promotes community engagement by offering sport and recreational opportunities and social interaction. The lease provides stability for continued programs, attracting new members and enhancing the well-being of residents.
Financial	The lease clarifies rental and maintenance terms, supporting the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc's financial sustainability. It also facilitates investments in upgrades, ensuring long-term viability and maintaining the facilities as a valuable community asset.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council officers met with the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc Committee in mid 2025. During this meeting, Council officers and the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc Committee reviewed the draft Lease, Maintenance and Servicing Guidelines and Fair Access Policy. Additionally, Council officers addressed questions and clarified concerns raised during discussions. As a result of this consultation, Council has received in-principal support from the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc towards the draft lease agreement. As a goodwill

gesture, the lease has been e-signed by the President and Secretary in advance of the endorsement.

Since the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc manages and primarily uses the facilities, and supports the outcome of the consultation, no further community consultation was considered necessary.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Corporate Governance, Compliance and Liability Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The Lease enables Council to meet its corporate governance and compliance obligations and reduces its liability risk.	Reduces Residual Risk Level
Reputational Risk - Residual Risk Level Low	The Lease enables the Woomelang Bowling Club Inc to manage the facilities and have day-to-day control over the operation and upkeep of the facilities.	Reduces Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

16 COUNCIL REPORTS FOR NOTING

16.1 YARRIAMBIACK SHIRE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO WARRACKNABEAL ENERGY PARK ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS STATEMENT

Prepared by Tammy Smith, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The public exhibition period for the Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the Warracknabeal Energy Park opened at 9.00am on Monday, 18 August 2025, and concluded on Tuesday, 30 September 2025. During this time, all stakeholders, including members of the public, were invited to review the EES documents. The consultation period provided individuals and organisations with the opportunity to make written submissions regarding the EES via the Victorian Government's Engage Victoria platform, with a submission deadline of 11.59pm on 30 September 2025.

Copies of the EES documents remained available for public viewing at the Warracknabeal Council Office and the Warracknabeal Library. To ensure Council's response accurately reflects community interests, a planning consultant from Approval Partners was engaged to review the EES and identify key issues for consideration. Additionally, Proud Mary Consulting Pty Ltd was commissioned to prepare a formal submission to the EES inquiry on behalf of Council. Water Technology was tasked with reviewing the Surface Water component of the EES, and Maddocks Lawyers were engaged to review the final submission and represent Council during the inquiry process.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Note the final Yarriambiack Shire Council EES Submission for the Warracknabeal Energy Park project.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment: Warracknabeal Energy Park - Yarriambiack EES - 30.09.2025](#)

16.2 HOPETOUN OLD SCHOOL SITE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prepared by Tammy Smith, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

On 27 July 2022, the Hopetoun Old School Site Advisory Committee of Council was appointed for a three-year term. This report serves to inform Councillors that the Advisory Committee's term has now concluded and outlines the approach for future community engagement regarding the site.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

- a) Note that the Hopetoun Old School Site Advisory Committee of Council Terms of Reference and official appointment has now concluded on 23 August 2025; and
- b) Formally acknowledge the positive contribution of the Hopetoun Old School Site Advisory Committee to the planning of future development at the site.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

DISCUSSION

On 22 July 2022, the Councillors resolved to establish an Advisory Committee to provide guidance on the future direction of the Hopetoun Former School Site. The Yarriambiack Shire Council is the owner of the Hopetoun Former School site, situated at the intersection of Garrard Street and Austin Street. The ongoing development of the site remains a top priority for Council, and efforts have been made in collaboration with the Advisory Committee Chairperson to advocate for financial support and submit grant applications to enhance the location. However, to date, Council has not been successful in securing funding.

To date Council has undertaken and achieved the following:

- a) Developed a master plan as guidance for development.
- b) Adopted a Feasibility Study and Business Case for the development of the site, including accommodation and housing options.
- c) Commenced rezoning the whole site to advance the subdivision and eventual housing on the Garrard Street frontage.
- d) Commenced construction of an affordable house at the site.
- e) The Hopetoun and District Historical Society has a 7-year lease of the Limestone State School with the Patchwork Group occupying a section.
- f) The Council has committed to maintaining the building and surrounds under a peppercorn lease.
- g) Received costings and Architectural Plans for the redevelopment of the vacant Primary School building.
- h) Undertaken service designs and concept plans for a housing subdivision.
- i) A detailed Hopetoun Former School Site Advocacy Document has been created.

The Council has submitted multiple applications for funding, including to the State Government Regional Worker Accommodation Fund, the State Government Enabling Tourism Infrastructure Fund, the Commonwealth Government Enabling Infrastructure Fund, and the Commonwealth Government Regional Precincts and Partnership Program, but has not secured support. Furthermore, the Council collaborated with Wimmera Housing Innovation to pursue additional opportunities; however, these efforts were also unsuccessful.

The Council recognises that progress has been gradual; however, advancements have been made. We remain dedicated to securing funding to develop the site and continue to work diligently towards this objective.

As a Council we wish to express our gratitude for the work and support of the Advisory Committee, especially the Chairperson, Russell Hilton.

Russell's dedication and passion to the project should be commended, and we sincerely thank him for his tireless work and advocacy.

Moving Forward

The Advisory Committee appointment terms ended on 23 August 2025. The Chief Executive Officer will work with the former Chairperson to determine a process for consulting with the community and providing updates on site progress.

Additionally, because the site is primarily focused on economic development, Council will consider options for engaging a broader group of stakeholders in the future. Further recommendations will be provided to Councillors at a later date.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Plan 2025 – 2029 Strategic Objectives	Priorities
An Innovative and Diversified Economy	- Advocate and support agriculture, economic development and investment in our region. - Proactively communicate and advocate to Government bodies, to deliver positive tourism outcomes for our community, capitalising on opportunities as they arise.
A Healthy and Inclusive Community	- Develop and/or maintain strong partnerships to deliver high quality services and sustainable infrastructure to enhance the social health and wellbeing outcomes for all our residents. - Advocate, prioritise, and invest in infrastructure that supports an accessible, inclusive, and socially connected community to improve liveability. - Plan for and support diverse housing options to meet community needs now and into the future.
Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Plans, Strategies and Frameworks	
Policy	Community Engagement Policy and Procedure
Other	Hopetoun Former School Site Master Plan
	Hopetoun Former School Site Advocacy Document

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

- 27 July 2022 – Closed Council Meeting Minutes – Item 18.2 Hopetoun Old School Site Advisory Committee
- 24 August 2022 – Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – Item 13.2 Hopetoun Old School Site Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

OPTIONS

This report is for noting only. Further discussions regarding options of stakeholder engagement will be presented to Councillors at a later date.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic	The Hopetoun Former School Site Master Plan identifies economic development initiatives for the site, that will enhance the prosperity of Hopetoun and the region.
Social	The community is passionate about reviving the Hopetoun Old School Site. This will enhance social wellbeing and connection and create opportunities for housing within the community.
Financial	The Hopetoun Old School Site requires a significant financial investment to bring the master planning to fruition.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Advisory Committee of Council was appointed after a community engagement process was undertaken.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

RISK

Utilising the Risk Management Framework the following assessment has been made:

Strategic Risk Description and Residual Risk Level	Action to Mitigate/Reduce Risk	Does Action maintain or reduce Residual Risk Level
Strategy Execution and Change Management Risk - Residual Risk Level Medium	Significant planning has occurred for the site. Financial investment is required to progress any of the plans into the future.	Maintains Residual Risk Level

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

17 PERMITS ISSUED

List of permits issued in September 2025 is listed below for noting.

Recommended Motion:

That Council:

Note the permits issued by Council between 01 September 2025 to 30 September 2025.

Reference No	Description	Address	Date of Issue
Local Law Permits			
014-25	Conduct a festival – Warrack Show	Warracknabeal	09/09/2025
014-25	Camping in a public area – Warrack Show	Warracknabeal	09/09/2025
19-25	Conduct Festival – Rupanyup Major Events	Rupanyup	12/09/2025
22-25	Conduct a festival	Murtoa	26/09/2025
23-25	Conduct a festival	Murtoa	26/09/2025
100-25	Camping in a public place	Warracknabeal	24/09/2025
121-25	Conduct a festival	Murtoa	26/09/2025
Planning Permits			
PA20250066	Construction of new dwelling and shed	Kellalac	24/09/2025
Septic Tank Permits			
18625	Septic Tank – Reln	Murtoa	30/09/2025
RRWP & APP Permits			
2025-11	Vehicle Crossing	Rupanyup	10/09/2025
2025-12	Vehicle Crossing	Murtoa	11/09/2025
2025-13	Concrete Pump Pouring Slab	Minyip	12/09/2025

The following Council decisions have been made in a Closed Confidential Council Meeting and are being recorded, where appropriate, in the Agenda of an open Council meeting for public transparency.

That Council:

- a) Determines, pursuant to section 125(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, that the Resolution(s) made and outlined in the table below, while a meeting was closed to the public be made publicly available; and recorded in the public Minutes of this meeting.

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19 URGENT BUSINESS

Business cannot be admitted as urgent business, other than by resolution of Council. Council must only admit business as urgent if the business:

- a) Cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting; or
- b) Involves a matter of urgency, as determined by the CEO.

Councillors may ensure that an issue is listed on an Agenda by submitting a Notice of Motion in accordance with Governance rules, item 2.13.

If the CEO rejects the Notice of Motion, they must provide a response to the Councillor as outlined in 2.13 (e) of the Governance Rules.

20 NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 26 November 2025

21 CLOSED

Council will close the Ordinary Meeting of Council and move to the Closed (Confidential) Meeting of Council. Noting the meetings will be considered as two separate meetings.

Recommended Motion:

That the Ordinary Meeting of Council is now closed at (time).

Council will now proceed to the Closed (Confidential) Meeting of Council.

SUMMARY CLOSED (CONFIDENTIAL) MEETING AGENDA

That, in accordance with sections 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the meeting be closed to members of the public for consideration of the following confidential items:

1. NEW MEMBER APPOINTMENT TO THE YARRIAMBIACK TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
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This Agenda item is confidential information for the purpose of section 3(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>:
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- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Because it contains personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (section 3(1)(f)); andb) This ground applies because the Agenda Item concerns personal information about employees that would, if prematurely released, compromise Council's position in relation to the requirement to comply with the <i>Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014</i>. |
|--|