

Council Meeting

to be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 25 May 2021 commencing at 7:00pm.

Attachments

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Thursday 20 May 2021

Distribution: Public

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Nillumbik Shire Council

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Council Meeting

held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 27 April 2021 commenced at 7:02pm.

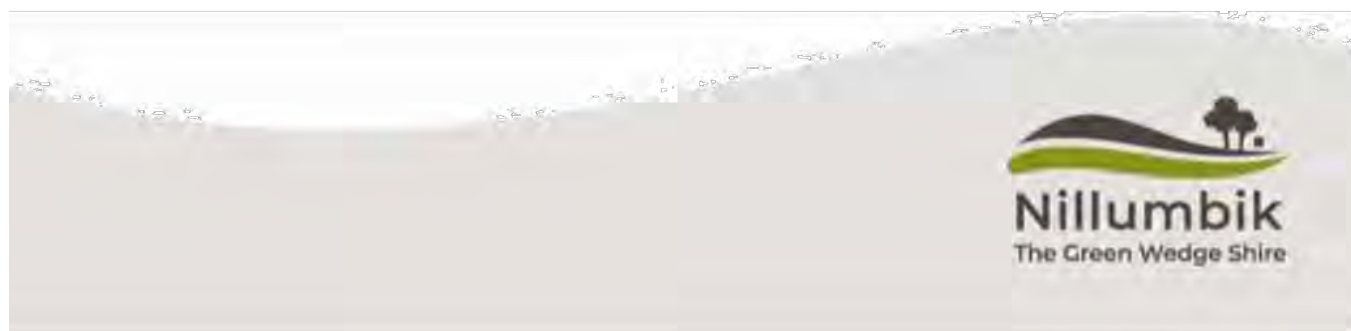
Minutes

Vince Lombardi
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Friday 30 April 2021

Distribution: Public

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Nillumbik Shire Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Nillumbik Shire Council held Tuesday 27 April 2021.
The meeting commenced at 7:02pm.**

Councillors present:

Cr Richard Stockman	Blue Lake Ward
Cr Karen Egan	Bunjil Ward
Cr Natalie Duffy	Edendale Ward
Cr Peter Perkins	Ellis Ward (Mayor)
Cr Ben Ramcharan	Sugarloaf Ward
Cr Frances Eyre	Swipers Gully Ward (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Geoff Paine	Wingrove Ward

Officers in attendance:

Vince Lombardi	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Melika Sukunda	Finance Manager
Hjalmar Philipp	Director Operations and Infrastructure
Katia Croce	Acting Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
Corrienne Nichols	Executive Manager Communities
Jeremy Livingston	Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance
Rosa Zouzoulas	Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety
Emma Christensen	Acting Governance Lead

1. Welcome by the Mayor

2. Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country was read by Cr Natalie Duffy.

For more than 60 thousand years, this land sky and water belonged to the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people. As the owners of this land the Wurundjeri had their own laws, beliefs, ceremonies and environmental ways rooted deep in continuous practice.

Evidence of their long connection to this land can be seen in the eel traps nearby at the Yarra River, the scar trees in the area, oral stories and recorded history.

Wurundjeri remained connected to this land even as the Traditional Custodians of what became the Shire of Eltham and is now Nillumbik Shire Council.

In the Indigenous world view, every event leaves a record in the land and everything in the natural world is a result of the actions of the past.

The practices of acknowledging the Custodians and seeking permission to enter or use resources from the land and waters have always been in place in Indigenous societies around the world.

Cultural practice now is to acknowledge traditional custodianship of the land at the commencement of meetings and events like this Council Meeting. This acknowledgement pays respect to the Traditional Custodians and ancestors.

Importantly it also continues the traditional cultural, spiritual and religious practices of Indigenous people.

Nillumbik Shire Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land. We pay our respect to the Wurundjeri Elders of the past, present and extend that respect to all First Nations people.

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3. Good Governance Pledge

The Good Governance Pledge was ready by Cr Geoff Paine.

4. Prayer

A prayer was read by Captain Allison Footer from the Salvation Army Australia Territory, Greensborough.

5. Apologies

Nil

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6. Presentations

Acknowledgement of Former Councillors

The Mayor acknowledged former Councillors:

- Jane Ashton;
- Grant Brooker (apology);
- Peter Clarke;
- John Dumaresq; and
- Bruce Ranken.

Thank you all for coming tonight, for the well-deserved recognition of your service to the community over the previous term of Council.

Many would underestimate the amount of work and hours involved in, firstly, becoming a Councillor and then, if successful, in fulfilling the role.

As Councillors we're very often the first point of contact for many in the community who need assistance to help work through the varied issues in which Councils are involved.

This is of course as it should be.

As Councillors we have been afforded the honour and responsibility of serving our constituents – the Nillumbik community.

It's a very rewarding and humbling experience to be elected into office and given the responsibility to make improvements that leave a legacy into the future of the area where you live.

However, to carry out the role and effectively serve ones community requires a high level of commitment and energy. You guys have certainly shown that for sure.

The five former Councillors whose service we acknowledge tonight are to be commended therefore, for their efforts on behalf of the Nillumbik community during their time on Council.

Naturally when bringing together a diverse group with strongly held views, there will be differences of opinion, and we experienced those over the previous four years.

Nevertheless, despite these differences of opinion, what we had in common was this commitment to serve and improve the lives of those in our community.

I'd therefore like to formally recognise the service of the five former Councillors, four of whom are here tonight.

Jane Ashton was the Councillor for Sugarloaf Ward from 2016 to 2020.

In that time she served as Chair of the Inclusion Advisory Committee, the Environment Advisory Committee and Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System Advisory Committee, as well as being Council's representative on the Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, among a number of other responsibilities.

Grant Brooker was the Councillor for Blue Lake Ward from 2016 to 2020.

He served as Chair of the Environment Advisory Committee, as well as Chair of the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System Advisory Committee and the Inclusion Advisory Committee.

Grant also chaired the Northern Greenhouse Action Alliance among numerous other roles and responsibilities during his time on Council.

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Peter Clarke served two terms as Mayor and one as Deputy Mayor during his time as a Nillumbik Councillor for Wingrove Ward.

He was also a member of the Audit Committee and represented Council on a number of external platforms – among these on the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service Board of Directors, the Northern Metropolitan Region Councils Group and the Interface Councils Group. On behalf of Council, Peter thanks for your work.

Peter Clarke made speech thanking Council.

John Dumaresq served as Councillor for Edendale Ward.

During that time, among his many roles and responsibilities were, Chair of Council's Recreation Trails Advisory Committee, representing Council on the Eltham Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as on the Metropolitan Transport Forum.

Bruce Ranken was Councillor for Swipers Gully Ward and during his time on Council, Bruce served a term as Deputy Mayor in 2018-2019.

He also served on Council's Audit Committee, was a Councillor representative on the Eltham Chamber of Commerce and Industry and served as Deputy Chair of Council's Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Again, on behalf of Council and the broader Nillumbik community, I would like to thank our former Councillors for their work and service to the community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to present Cr Karen Egan and Peter Clarke with a small token of appreciation for the roles they undertook as Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively in 2019-2020.

Much of the last year of their term of office was of course dominated by the pandemic, a period of great uncertainty and disruption.

Needless to say it was a challenging time for all, including being on Council, and their work was invaluable in helping Council to operate and continue to deliver its services to the community throughout.

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6. Presentations (continued)

Acknowledgement of former Shire of Eltham 150th anniversary

The Mayor acknowledged this month's 150th anniversary of the creation of the former Shire of Eltham, an area which makes up a significant part of today's Shire of Nillumbik.

But of course, no history of the area would be complete without reference to and acknowledgement of its Traditional Custodians, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung.

This acknowledgement is crucial to any comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the area's rich and extensive legacy.

The Shire of Eltham was officially proclaimed on the 6th of April 1871, with its origins stemming from the Eltham Road District Board and a previous volunteer road maintenance committee.

When first established, Eltham had a population of 165 people, with a total Shire-wide population of 2,550.

The Shire offices were at various locations over the years including Wingrove Cottage, the former office of the Evelyn Observer newspaper in Kangaroo Ground, on the corner of Main Road and Arthur Street in Eltham and finally the Shire Office in Main Road.

Helped by the extension of the railway from Heidelberg to Eltham in 1902, the population of the district grew, reaching almost 50,000 residents in 1994.

It was at this point when the state-wide local government restructure saw parts of the Shire of Eltham amalgamated with parts of Diamond Valley, Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges to form what is now Nillumbik.

It's also important to acknowledge the contributions of former councillors and staff of the Shire of Eltham across 123 years for the work they did to help shape the Nillumbik we know and love today.

I would also like to thank the Eltham District Historical Society and President Jim Connor for the fantastic job they do day upon day preserve and celebrate the history of our district - ensuring it lives on for future generations.

Thank you

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6. Presentations (continued)

Anzac Day 2021

This past weekend I and a number of my fellow Councillors had the great honour and privilege of being able to attend a number of events to commemorate our ANZACs.

While always highly significant, this year's events carried an even greater sense of anticipation after last year, either not being held – or if held, proceeding under very different circumstances.

On Friday, I attended the Arthurs Creek Primary School Anzac Ceremony.

This event is fast becoming a highlight on the local calendar and it's no surprise given the enthusiasm with which the school community has embraced the occasion.

It was heart-warming to see such an outstanding example of a younger generation recognising and appreciating the ANZAC legacy.

On Sunday I also attended the Montmorency-Eltham RSL Dawn Service and the Diamond Creek RSL Sub-Branch Service.

Some of my fellow councillors also attended the Hurstbridge Sub-Branch RSL Service and the Friends of Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Park Service.

As I remarked earlier, last year we were forced to forgo these events, as indeed we had to for so much else in our lives during last year, so it was particularly pleasing to attend in person.

These events reinforced the very special place Anzac Day holds in our hearts and in our nation's history.

It's an opportunity for us to recognise the sacrifices made by so many and to reflect and express our undying gratitude.

We commemorate Anzac Day as our way of honouring the pain, suffering and ultimate sacrifices made by our service men and women who fought and played their parts in not just the First World War, but also in the Second World War, in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and in all other theatres of war and in numerous peace keeping efforts throughout the world.

Importantly Anzac Day is also about recognising the sacrifices made by so many mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, wives and husbands whose loved ones either didn't return from war, or who returned so deeply affected that their lives were never the same.

It was rewarding to see our community honouring the deeds of those who, with immense bravery and a strong sense of duty, made great sacrifices, often giving their lives to protect our freedom and the freedom of others.

Equally rewarding was seeing the lessons of this sacrifice – learnt at such great cost – continued to be taught to emerging generations.

Lest We Forget.

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7. Confirmation of minutes

Confirmation of minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23 March 2021.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Karen Egan

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23 March 2021 be confirmed. (Attachment 1).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Nil

9. Petitions

PT.001/21 Petition - Traffic measures in Margaret Street, Research

A petition containing 20 signatures from residents requesting that steps be taken by Council to reduce the amount of 'through' traffic using Margaret Street, Research and reduce the speed at which it is travelling.

The following statement was received from the petition organiser:

To the Infrastructure Team, Nillumbik Shire Council

We are residents of Margaret Street (including Afton Court) in Research which is a 'Local Traffic Only' road and barely more than one lane wide in most parts. In many sections vehicles approaching head on have to stop and negotiate manoeuvring around each other. Over the last few years there has been a noticeable increase in traffic using Margaret Street as a "shortcut". Invariably the 'non-local' traffic is attempting to get from A to B in a minimal time and traverse the narrow and windy sections of road at well above safe speeds.

Many locals use the road in conjunction with, or to get to, the Aqueduct Trail. As such, with no sidewalks and various impassable roadside areas, adults, children and their family pets walk along the road and are in danger of being hit by motorists travelling, and approaching corners, at dangerous but *mostly* "legal" speeds. Indeed when you communicate to motorists that they are travelling too fast the most common response is that they are driving "at the speed limit" and more often than not it is conveyed in an aggressive manner.

I recently watched on in astonishment as a large tipper truck sped into one side of a 'blind corner' that is visible from our property. A 4WD utility approached from the opposite direction, both vehicles travelling too fast to be able to pull up in the event of a vehicle coming towards them. Needless to say the truck had absolutely nowhere to go so the utility was run off the side of the road into the scrub and was stuck on the embankment until the driver exited and engaged his 4WD. Thank goodness a pedestrian, jogger, cyclist or horse rider was not an unwilling participant in this debacle, the results would have been devastating, possibly fatal.

Margaret Street was never designed as a through road, it was apparently not even connected in the middle in the past and does not display on most navigation software as a through road as it is a 'Local Traffic Only' road.

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Our street has natural roadside areas which form part of the habitat for the local fauna and extends right to the road edge and actually overhangs the road in a number of places. As such drivers regularly kill wildlife including Blue Tongue lizards and Tawny Frogmouths. Increased volume and speed of traffic results in increase to the number of animals killed.

It is for these reasons that I respectfully request that some steps be taken to reduce the amount of 'through' traffic using Margaret Street and reduce the speed at which it is travelling. I would like to see a 40kmh speed limit and an appropriate amount of signage indicating such. There is only one sign designating the street as 'Local Traffic Only' which is located on a power pole at the Ingrams Street end. This sign is inconspicuous and only visible after entering Margaret Street. There are no signs to indicate that the street is for local traffic only at the Parsons Street end. I would like to see prominent signage at either end of Margaret Street indicating that it is for 'Local Traffic Only' that are clearly visible to drivers *before* they enter the street.

I look forward to your response to this issue.

Yours sincerely

[Petitioner organiser]

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the petition concerning 'Margaret Street Research traffic' in accordance with the Governance Rule - Meeting Procedure.
2. Refers this petition to the Director Operations and Infrastructure for investigation and response.
3. Notes that officers will advise the petition organizer and Councillors of the outcome.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Frances Eyre

SECONDED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the petition concerning 'Margaret Street Research traffic' in accordance with the Governance Rule - Meeting Procedure.
2. Refers this petition to the Director Operations and Infrastructure for investigation and response.
3. **Writes to the petition organisers and notes the petition has been received and apologises for the delay in actioning.**
4. Notes that officers will advise the petition organizer and Councillors of the outcome.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

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Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Frances Eyre

SECONDED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the petition concerning 'Margaret Street Research traffic' in accordance with the Governance Rule - Meeting Procedure.
2. Refers this petition to the Director Operations and Infrastructure for investigation and response.
3. Writes to the petition organisers and notes the petition has been received and apologises for the delay in actioning.
4. Notes that officers will advise the petition organizer and Councillors of the outcome.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Corrienne Nichols Executive Manager Communities left the meeting during discussion of this item at 7:25pm.

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10. Questions from the gallery

Doug Evans from Christmas Hills Landcare Group asked the following question:

Prior to agreeing to, or offering any alternatives to, Melbourne Water's proposed amendment associated with the sale of land in Christmas Hills, will Council representatives (relevant officers and Councillors) meet with community representatives from the Christmas Hills Landcare Group, the Christmas Hills Mechanics Institute Committee of Management, and the Christmas Hills Fire Brigade to understand their perspectives and together explore options, with the aim of finding a preferred position that can be agreed on and supported by both Council and these community organisations, and if not why not?"

Response

Council is being asked by Melbourne Water to resolve to support (or not) the proposed amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to allow for divestment of their land at Christmas Hills, in order to meet Melbourne Water's timeframes for the project. We have been advised there is no flexibility to change these timeframes.

Melbourne Water intend to refer the proposed amendment to the Government Land Planning Service (GLPS) who will run the amendment process through an Advisory Committee, where Council is a submitter to the process only. The Advisory Committee process will include public exhibition as part of the amendment process where both Council and the community will have the opportunity to prepare submissions to the proposed amendment.

Regardless of tonight's decision, officers and Councillors would be happy to meet with community representatives from the Christmas Hills Landcare Group, the Christmas Hills Mechanics Institute Committee of Management, and the Christmas Hills Fire Brigade to understand their perspectives and elaborate on the GLPS process.

Gila Schnapp asked the following questions:

Question 1

Was there any public consultation on the decision by Melbourne Water to declare the Christmas Hills reservoir site to be no longer required?

Response 1

Melbourne Water has undertaken public consultation regarding the proposed disposal and planning scheme amendment and with key stakeholders.

Since 2017 Melbourne Water have conducted:

- 25 face to face meetings
- 226 direct mail
- 2 community drop in sessions
- 7 enquiry by design sessions
- 102 online submissions.

Further public consultation of the proposed planning scheme amendment will be undertaken by the Government Land Planning Services (GLPS), on behalf of the Minister for Planning who is the responsible authority undertaking the amendment.

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Question 2

Is there an opportunity for Council to request a reversal of this decision following public consultation?

Even if it means a smaller reservoir is used instead, particularly given the shortage in the Shire of potable water and water for farming needs and fire protection.

Response 2

In 2012 approximately 1000 hectares of Melbourne Water land in Christmas Hills set aside as Public Use Zone for a potential reservoir was determined to no longer be required. In 2012, Melbourne Water undertook a comprehensive review of potential augmentations of Melbourne's water supply system which included consideration of the need for the Watsons Creek Reservoir.

The review took into account financial, environmental, social, technical and climatic considerations. As a result of this analysis, it was determined that the Watsons Creek Reservoir was no longer a preferred long term option. The recommendation was supported by State Government and the relevant water retailers. Melbourne Water has since deemed the land as surplus to their requirements.

The Amendment accordingly facilitates the divestment of the land by applying appropriate planning controls (zones and overlays) and removing redundant overlay controls affecting land in the project area.

Kelly Grant asked the following questions:

Question 1

Given that several Councillors have stated their support for Community organisations and the Arts in Nillumbik and that it was known to Council in 2020 that Eltham Craft and Produce Market was seeking to transfer management, on what grounds did the Council not offer support to Rotary to assist with a smooth transition?

Response 1

Eltham Community Market Stallholders Association Inc. (the Committee) who operate the Eltham Community Craft and Produce Market formally advised Council on 22 January 2021 that it would cease operating the market.

The most appropriate process to appoint a new operator is to run a public Expression of Interest process.

Question 2

Moving forwards, what actions will Nillumbik Council take, other than tabling an EOI, in support of the Eltham Craft and Produce Market and to ensure that craftspeople within the Shire continue to have the opportunity to share their work with the Nillumbik and wider community?

Response 2

On tonight's Council Meeting Agenda, Councillors will consider granting a licence agreement to a new operator of the market.

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11. Reports of Advisory Committees

AC.004/21 Advisory Committee Report - 27 April 2021

Distribution: Public

Manager: Blaga Naumoski, Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement

Author: Janet Taylor, Governance Officer

Summary

Council has a range of Advisory Committees which provide a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation. Although they do not make any formal decisions, they provide valuable advice to Council.

In accordance with Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, the minutes of meetings are presented to Council.

The Recreation Trails Advisory Committee Meeting held 24 March 2021 and the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting held 9 April 2021. The minutes of each meeting are attached (**Attachment 1**).

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Frances Eyre

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That the minutes of the Recreation Trails Advisory Committee Meeting held 24 March 2021 and the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting held 9 April 2021. (**Attachment 1**) be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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12. Reports of Special Committees

Nil

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13. Officers' reports

CM.052/21 Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022 - 2026

Distribution: Public

Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety

Author: Megan Sparks, Team Leader Community Safety and Amenity Support
Caroline Correa, Community Safety Coordinator
Jonathan McNally, Manager Community Safety and Amenity

Summary

The 2017 – 2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) was developed in line with section 68A of the *Domestic Animal Act 1994* (the Act). Council has a legislated responsibility under the Act to ensure compliance and delivery of animal management services related to community expectations around responsible pet ownership. This Plan continues to build on the foundation of work undertaken by Council through the development of its adopted 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan. This report provides Council with an annual update of the DAMP, as required by the Act.

Section 68A of the Act also requires every Council to prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan at 4-year intervals. The current plan expires in October 2021, and a new plan must be adopted by Council by December 2021. Any new DAMP must build on the Council's previous plan. The review, development, consultation and adoption of the DAMP will require extensive community consultation and engagement with key stakeholders. Engagement for the DAMP will focus on the core areas of animal management, animal welfare, responsible pet ownership, Local Laws (such as the cat curfew), as well as the importance of educating the community of desexing and microchipping.

Officers have prepared an Engagement Plan (**Attachment 3**) for the development of a new DAMP, with a program of community engagement on domestic animal management to occur through May and June 2021.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Natalie Duffy

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council

1. Receives and notes the actions undertaken to complete Year three of the 2017 – 2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan (**Attachment 1**), including the progress in the attached DAMP Action Plan – Year 3 (**Attachment 2**).
2. Resolves to begin Community Consultation for the 2021 Nillumbik Shire Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan, in line with the attached Engagement Plan (**Attachment 3**).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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13. Officers' reports

CM.053/21 Local Law Review

Distribution: Public

Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety

Author: Shannon Maynard, Coordinator Recreation and Leisure

Jonathan McNally, Manager Community Safety and Amenity

Summary

Local Laws have a maximum 10 year life and Nillumbik's *Amenity Local Law* (**Attachment 1**) and *Infrastructure Assets Local Law* (**Attachment 2**) are set to expire in 2023. Councils use local laws to respond to issues and community needs within a municipality. These local laws complement their responsibilities and powers under state laws.

The review, development, consultation and adoption of Local Laws is generally a lengthy and potentially complex process. It is expected the whole project will take approximately 18 months in order to ensure sufficient time to allow community consultation, commensurate with the significance of the changes and the potential community impact, and undertake a rigorous review process to ensure compliance with the Local Government Act, regulations and best practice guidelines.

The purpose of this report is to seek a Council resolution to formally begin the process to replace both Local Laws, starting with a discussion paper for community consideration.

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr Ben Ramcharan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council resolves to:

1. Formally undertake the process to replace the *Amenity Local Law* and the *Infrastructure and Assets Local Law*
2. Endorse the Community Engagement Plan
3. Endorse the Discussion Paper for the purpose of undertaking the Community Engagement Process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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13. Officers' reports

CM.054/21 Christmas Hills - Melbourne Water Divestment and Planning Scheme Amendment

Distribution: Public

Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety

Author: Leigh Northwood, Strategic Planning Lead

Summary

A review of Melbourne Water's supply system was undertaken in 2012 and identified land reserved for the future Watsons Creek Reservoir is no longer required. The land has subsequently been declared surplus.

Given the land is now surplus it must be divested pursuant to the *Victorian Government Land Transactions Policy and Guidelines* (VGLTP 2016) which controls divestment of government land, and sets out a policy for land transactions.

The amendment area comprises approximately 1,319 hectares of land in the localities of Christmas Hills, Panton Hill and Smiths Gully and approximately 150 land titles which include public land owned by Melbourne Water and private and public land previously reserved (through application of the PAO – approximately 313 ha) for the purposes of the Watsons Creek Reservoir.

Melbourne Water propose an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme in divestment of its land. The purpose of the proposed amendment is to apply alternative zoning - predominantly the Rural Conservation Zone Schedules 3 and 4 (RCZ) and other relevant planning provisions to land within the amendment area, to allow for the sale of this land, over time, in accordance with the VGLTP requirements.

Council have been asked by Melbourne Water to resolve to support the proposed amendment at this Council meeting in meeting their timeframes for the project.

Subject to Council's resolution, the amendment will not follow the traditional planning scheme amendment process. Melbourne Water will refer the proposed amendment to the Government Land Planning Service (GLPS) who will run the amendment process through and advisory committee.

The Minister for Planning is the planning authority for changes to planning provisions for government land that are subject to assistance by the GLPS in this process. The indicative timeframe for this process is 6-8 months.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Does not support the proposed amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme by Melbourne Water to facilitate the divestment of its land at Christmas Hills in its current form for the reasons identified in this report;
2. Provide written advice to Melbourne Water advising Council do not wish to become the committee of management for the Christmas Hills Tennis Court, and therefore application of a public use zone would not be applicable; and
3. Directs officers to prepare a submission to the future Government Land Planning Service Advisory Committee process in consideration of the proposed amendment.

Council Meeting Minutes

27 April 2021

Motion

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

That Council:

1. Does not support the proposed amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme by Melbourne Water to facilitate the divestment of its land at Christmas Hills in its current form for the reasons identified in this report;
2. **Authorises the Mayor to write to the Minister for Planning and local MPs requesting that the Christmas Hills Tennis Courts be retained by Melbourne Water or gifted to Council in order to protect it as a valuable community asset.**
3. Directs officers to **work with councillors and the Christmas Hills community** to prepare a submission to the future Government Land Planning Service Advisory Committee process in consideration of the proposed amendment.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

1. Does not support the proposed amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme by Melbourne Water to facilitate the divestment of its land at Christmas Hills in its current form for the reasons identified in this report;
2. Authorises the Mayor to write to the Minister for Planning and local MPs requesting that the Christmas Hills Tennis Courts be retained by Melbourne Water or gifted to Council in order to protect it as a valuable community asset.
3. Directs officers to work with councillors and the Christmas Hills community to prepare a submission to the future Government Land Planning Service Advisory Committee process in consideration of the proposed amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

27 April 2021

13. Officers' reports

CM.055/21 2021 Annual Community Survey Results

Distribution: Public

Manager: Jeremy Livingston, Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance

Author: James Hartigan, Business Performance Analyst

Summary

The results of the 2021 Annual Community Survey have been received, which was conducted by Metropolis Research in February 2021 (**Attachment 1**). This annual survey is designed to measure community satisfaction with a range of Council services, facilities and activities, and to measure community sentiment on key issues affecting the community.

The survey also assists Council in meeting State Government performance reporting requirements by measuring community satisfaction in a number of areas covered by this survey.

The 2021 survey findings were variable, with results influenced by a change in survey methodology (from face-to-face to telephone) and also the impact of COVID-19 restrictions and closures on resident activity and Council service availability and access.

Among the key results, community satisfaction with Council's overall performance was rated at 6.59 out of 10, a slight decrease of 1.5% compared to the 6.69 result in 2020. Beyond this headline statistic, the survey provides a rich amount of data on community sentiment.

With the level of data and information provided in this survey, Council will be able to analyse the results as they apply to individual areas and activities, and identify service improvement opportunities. The survey's findings can also be used by Council when undertaking future planning and making budgetary decisions.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Richard Stockman

SECONDED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the results of the 2021 Annual Community Survey (**Attachment 1**).
2. Makes the report's findings available to the public on Council's website.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

27 April 2021

13. Officers' reports

CM.056/21 Council Plan Quarterly Performance Report - 2020-2021 - Quarter 3

Distribution: Public

Manager: Jeremy Livingston, Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance

**Author: James Hartigan, Business Performance Analyst
Sue Richards, Business Performance Project Officer**

Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Council Plan Quarterly Performance Report for Council's consideration. The attached report provides the third update on delivery progress and performance of the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan priority actions, which aligns to delivery of the final year of the Council Plan 2017-2021.

Of the 18 actions in the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan, 14 actions are 'on track', one action is complete and three actions have minor issues. The overall position reflected in the report suggests that Council continues to make a solid effort at delivering on the priority actions of the Council Plan and significant outcomes for the community.

The entire year's performance against the delivery of the Council Plan will be published in the Annual Report 2020-2021, which will be presented to the community later in 2021.

Council Resolution

**MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine
SECONDED: Cr Richard Stockman**

That Council receives the Council Plan Quarterly Performance Report (Attachment 1) for the third quarter, being the period ending 31 March 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

27 April 2021

13. Officers' reports

CM.057/21 March Quarter Financial Report

Distribution: Public

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Melika Sukunda, Finance Manager

Summary

This report outlines Council's financial performance and financial position for the period ended 31 March 2021.

The Income Statement shows an overall favourable year to date (YTD) variance of \$685,106 representing 1.98 percent of YTD Budget. This reflects the combined result of lower than budgeted operating income of \$334,406 and lower than budgeted operating expenses of \$1.019 million.

Council's overall financial position at the end of this quarter is sound. The impacts of the state of emergency due to the coronavirus pandemic continue to be monitored.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Frances Eyre

That Council receives and notes the Financial Report for the period ended 31 December 2020 (Attachment 1).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

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13. Officers' reports

CM.058/21 Mayoral and Councillor Allowances

Distribution: Public

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Melika Sukunda, Finance Manager

Summary

This report considers the review of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances paid in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* (the 1989 Act).

Under section 74(1) of the 1989 Act, Council must review and determine the level of mayoral and councillor allowances within six months of a general election or by 30 June, whichever is later.

It is recommended that the allowances for Nillumbik be maintained at the existing levels.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

That Council:

1. Having reviewed the Mayoral and Councillor allowances, determine to fix the allowances at the existing levels for the four-year term of Council as follows:
 - a) Mayoral allowance \$81,204
 - b) Councillor allowance \$26,245.
2. Give public notice of the determination of allowances in accordance with sections 74 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, inviting written submissions within 28 days, and consider any written submissions at the Planning and Consultation Committee meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 8 June 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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13. Officers' reports

CM.059/21 Draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025

Distribution: Public

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Melika Sukunda, Finance Manager

Summary

This report presents the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 (the Plan) for Council approval prior to exhibition for public consultation. The Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 (the Plan) is a newly introduced requirement under section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the 2020 Act).

The purpose of the Revenue and Rating Plan is to establish a rating and revenue strategy.

The Draft Revenue and Rating Plan outlines Council's most significant sources of income and provides a framework for informing the income projections in Council's Financial Plan 2021-2025.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Frances Eyre

That Council:

1. Adopts the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 (**Attachment 1**) for the purposes of section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020* of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday 22 June 2021, the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 (**Attachment 1**).
3. Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 and requests to be heard in support of the written submission, be heard at the Planning and Consultation Committee meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, at 7:00 pm on Tuesday 8 June 2021.
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake any and all administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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13. Officers' reports

CM.060/21 Financial Hardship Policy – COVID-19 Pandemic Event

Distribution: Public

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Melika Sukunda, Finance Manager

Summary

This report presents the updated temporary Financial Hardship Policy – COVID-19 Pandemic Event for Council's endorsement.

Council has a Financial Hardship Policy – COVID-19 Pandemic Event which was endorsed by Council in April 2020, with an extension endorsed in September 2020. The temporary policy provides guidelines to assist in the assessment of applications received for the deferment of rates and charges due to financial hardship.

The temporary policy has updated to extend the temporary provisions to 31 May 2021.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Frances Eyre

SECONDED: Cr Richard Stockman

That Council:

1. Endorses the Financial Hardship Policy – COVID-19 Pandemic Event (**Attachment 1**).
2. Notes that these temporary provisions will be reviewed at the May 2021 Council Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

27 April 2021

13. Officers' reports

CM.061/21 Procurement Policy Update

Distribution: Public

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Lance Clark, Senior Procurement Specialist

Summary

In accordance with Section 186A of the Local Government Act 1989, (LGA 1989) Council must prepare and approve a Procurement Policy and review at least once in each financial year (last reviewed in July 2020).

Under Section 108 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA 2020) Councils will be required to adopt a new Procurement Policy prior to 31 December 2021. The new Procurement Policy cannot be adopted before 1 July 2021.

In order to meet the legislative requirements it is proposed that the current Policy be extended to 1 July 2021, when the new policy will take effect.

The new Procurement Policy under LGA 2020 is being prepared in collaboration with the Northern Councils Alliance (NCA), with the intention to standardise the compliance aspects of the Procurement Policy across all seven Councils.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Frances Eyre

That Council adopts the existing Procurement Policy 2020-2021 (Attachment 1)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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13. Officers' reports

CM.062/21 Informal Meetings of Councillors Records - 27 April 2021

Distribution: Public

Manager: Blaga Naumoski, Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement

Author: Janet Taylor, Governance Officer

Summary

In accordance with *Item 19 of Council's Governance Rule – Meeting Procedure*, adopted on 25 August 2020, Council is required to report as soon as practicable to a Council Meeting a record of each Informal Meetings of Councillors held.

This report lists Informal Meetings of Councillors records submitted since the matter was last reported to Council on 23 March 2021.

An Informal Meetings of Councillors Record was kept for:

- Informal Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting – Urban Tree Canopy held 10 March 2021.
- Informal Meeting with Clean Energy Nillumbik held 16 March 2021.
- Councillor Briefing held 16 March 2021.
- Climate Action Plan meeting held 23 March 2021.
- Pre-Meeting to Council Meeting held 23 March 2021.
- Recreational Trail Advisory Committee Meeting held 24 March 2021.
- Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting held 31 March 2021
- Councillor Briefing held 6 April 2021.
- Pre-meeting to Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held 13 April 2021.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Karen Egan

SECONDED: Cr Frances Eyre

That Council, in accordance with *Item 19 of Council's Governance Rule – Meeting Procedure*, receives the Informal Meetings of Councillors Records held 10 March 2021, 16 March 2021, 16 March 2021, 16 March 2021, 23 March 2021, 23 March 2021, 24 March 2021, 31 March 2021, 6 April 2021 and 13 April 2021 as contained in (Attachment 1).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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13. Officers' reports

CM.063/21 Expression of Interest - Craft and Produce Market in Eltham

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Natalie Campion, Coordinator Property
Jonathon Miller, Manager Property and Facilities Maintenance

Summary

Council was notified by the Eltham Community Market Stallholders Association Inc. (the Committee) on 22 January 2021 that they were no longer able to operate the Eltham Craft and Produce Market under their existing Licence Agreement with Council.

Council's intention is to source an alternative operator, to conduct a craft and produce market from the same location, being in the vicinity of Library Place, Eltham (as depicted in **Attachment 1**).

The most appropriate process to appoint a new operator (and determine the level of interest and on what terms and conditions they are offering) was to conduct a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process; which any business, organisation or community group could respond to by submitting a proposal.

The EOI process has now been conducted. Two submissions were received and have been assessed by an Evaluation Panel (EP).

This report provides a summary of the EP's submission assessment, and recommends granting of a Licence Agreement for the operation of a craft and produce market in Eltham.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Grant a Licence Agreement to Proponent B _____ as shown in (**Attachment 2**) , to operate the Eltham Craft and Produce Market, which includes the following key terms and conditions:
 - **Licence Area:** That part of the land thereon known as:
 - 4-10 Panther Place Eltham (Eltham Library);
 - 829 Main Road Eltham (Alistair Knox Park); and
 - 895 Main Road Eltham (old shire offices).
 - **Permitted Days and Hours of Operation:** 8:30am to 2.00pm on the third Sunday of each month, and also the first Sunday in December. Any additional hours will need to be agreed upon and approved by Council's Manager, Assets and Property, or such person acting in that role.
 - **Licence Fee:** Nil.
 - **Licence Term:** 3 years commencing 10 May 2021.
 - The Licence Agreement be conditional upon the preferred proponent drafting and implementing a Traffic Management Plan for the market, to the satisfaction of Council.

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2. Authorises the Manager Property and Facilities Maintenance to finalise and execute the Licence Agreement.
3. Advises all Proponents accordingly.
4. Resolves that the Evaluation Scorecard – EOI Eltham Craft and Produce Market (**Attachment 2**) remains confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
5. Acknowledge publicly the previous Eltham Craft and Produce Market Committee Members for their volunteer work within the local community.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. Grant a Licence Agreement to Proponent B _____ as shown in (**Attachment 2**) ; to operate the Eltham Craft and Produce Market, which includes the following key terms and conditions:
 - **Licence Area:** That part of the land thereon known as:
 - 4-10 Panther Place Eltham (Eltham Library);
 - 829 Main Road Eltham (Alistair Knox Park); and
 - 895 Main Road Eltham (old shire offices).
 - **Permitted Days and Hours of Operation:** 8:30am to 2.00pm on the third Sunday of each month, and also the first Sunday in December. Any additional hours will need to be agreed upon and approved by Council's Manager, Assets and Property, or such person acting in that role.
 - **Licence Fee:** Nil.
 - **Licence Term:** 3 years commencing 10 May 2021.
 - The Licence Agreement be conditional upon the preferred proponent drafting and implementing a Traffic Management Plan for the market, to the satisfaction of Council.
2. Authorises the Manager Property and Facilities Maintenance to finalise and execute the Licence Agreement.
3. Advises all Proponents accordingly.
4. Resolves that the Evaluation Scorecard – EOI Eltham Craft and Produce Market (**Attachment 2**) remains confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
5. **Acknowledge the previous Eltham Craft and Produce Market Stallholders Association Committee for their efforts over the past 43 years in running this not for profit community market in their volunteer capacity.**
6. **Acknowledge the stallholders who have made the Eltham Craft and Produce Market the local attraction that it has been within Eltham and their most generous donations to local charities and community groups. Council congratulates you all on giving back \$147,000 to our community over the last 12 years of your operation.**
7. **Resolves that the successful proponent be named.**

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THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. Grant a Licence Agreement to Proponent B - Diamond Valley Community Support Inc. as shown in (**Attachment 2**) , to operate the Eltham Craft and Produce Market, which includes the following key terms and conditions:
 - **Licence Area:** That part of the land thereon known as:
 - 4-10 Panther Place Eltham (Eltham Library);
 - 829 Main Road Eltham (Alistair Knox Park); and
 - 895 Main Road Eltham (old shire offices).
 - **Permitted Days and Hours of Operation:** 8:30am to 2.00pm on the third Sunday of each month, and also the first Sunday in December. Any additional hours will need to be agreed upon and approved by Council's Manager, Assets and Property, or such person acting in that role.
 - **Licence Fee:** Nil.
 - **Licence Term:** 3 years commencing 10 May 2021.
 - The Licence Agreement be conditional upon the preferred proponent drafting and implementing a Traffic Management Plan for the market, to the satisfaction of Council.
2. Authorises the Manager Property and Facilities Maintenance to finalise and execute the Licence Agreement.
3. Advises all Proponents accordingly.
4. Resolves that the Evaluation Scorecard – EOI Eltham Craft and Produce Market (**Attachment 2**) remains confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
5. Acknowledge the previous Eltham Craft and Produce Market Stallholders Association Committee for their efforts over the past 43 years in running this not for profit community market in their volunteer capacity.
6. Acknowledge the stallholders who have made the Eltham Craft and Produce Market the local attraction that it has been within Eltham and their most generous donations to local charities and community groups. Council congratulates you all on giving back \$147,000 to our community over the last 12 years of your operation.
7. Resolves that the successful proponent be named.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

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13. Officers' reports

CM.064/21 Tender Report - Contract 2021-48 Provision of Loan Finance

Distribution: Public

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Melika Sukunda, Finance Manager

Lance Clark, Senior Procurement Specialist

Summary

This report recommends the awarding of Contract 2021-48 for Provision of Loan Finance

The purpose of this loan request is to enable Nillumbik Shire Council to fund a portion of the capital works program for the 2021-2022 year.

As per the adopted 2020-2021 Budget, Council resolved to take out \$3.303 million in new borrowings for a number of significant capital projects and to allow Council to respond to Federal Government stimulus opportunities.

The total amount to be borrowed is (Australian) Three Million Three Hundred and Three Thousand Dollars (AU\$3,303,000) and the required loan period is for a ten (10) year term.

The term of the loan is fixed rate, principal and interest based on a ten (10) year repayment term.

The Tender Evaluation Panel (TEP) has assessed all submissions and this report provides a summary of their evaluation in recommending the awarding of the contract for 2021-48 for Provision of Loan Finance.

Pursuant to the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, the value of this contract exceeds the specified financial limits and a Council resolution is therefore required to award the contract.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Accepts the tender submitted by the **Tenderer A** _____ for the sum of \$ _____ and enter into the following contract:
Number: 2021-48
Title: Provision of Loan Finance
Term: Ten (10) years with first instalment due July 2021
2. Authorises the Chief Financial Officer to finalise and execute the contract documentation.
3. Advises all tenderers accordingly.
4. Resolve that the Tender Evaluation Report (**Attachment 1**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

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Motion

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council:

1. Accepts the tender submitted by the **Tenderer A** _____ for the sum of \$ _____ and enter into the following contract:
Number: 2021-48
Title: Provision of Loan Finance
Term: Ten (10) years with first instalment due July 2021
2. Authorises the Chief Financial Officer to finalise and execute the contract documentation.
3. Advises all tenderers accordingly.
4. Resolve that the Tender Evaluation Report (**Attachment 1**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
5. **Resolves that the successful tenderer be named and the sum disclosed.**

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council:

1. Accepts the tender submitted by the **Tenderer A** - National Australia Bank Limited for the sum of \$3,303,000 and enter into the following contract:
Number: 2021-48
Title: Provision of Loan Finance
Term: Ten (10) years with first instalment due July 2021
2. Authorises the Chief Financial Officer to finalise and execute the contract documentation.
3. Advises all tenderers accordingly.
4. Resolve that the Tender Evaluation Report (**Attachment 1**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
5. Resolves that the successful tenderer be named and the sum disclosed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

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13. Officers' reports

CM.065/21 Grant-funded Project

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Enrique Gutierrez, Manager Capital Works

Heath Gillett, Manager Recreation and Leisure

Nathan Roberts, Recreation and Open Space Planner

Summary

This report relates to a grant funded project. In line with common practice, Council has been requested by the funding body to not disclose any information about the funding, or names of successful or unsuccessful projects until the head of the funding body or their authorised representative has made the information publicly available.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Richard Stockman

SECONDED: Cr Frances Eyre

That Council notes this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

27 April 2021

14. Notices of Motion

Nil

15. Delegates' Reports

Nil

16. Supplementary and urgent business

Nil

17. Confidential reports

Pursuant to section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), the meeting of the Council be closed to members of the public for the consideration of the following confidential items:

CM.066/21 Grant Funded Project

This item is confidential because it is private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage pursuant to paragraph (g(ii)) of the definition of confidential information under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. This ground is applied because it is information that, if publicly released at the time, is likely to be inappropriately detrimental to the Council or any person (natural or corporate).

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Karen Egan

SECONDED: Cr Frances Eyre

That in accordance with section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public to consider confidential items.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting closed to members of the public at 8:48pm.

The meeting re-opened to members of the public at 9:04pm

18. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 9:04pm.

Confirmed:

Cr Peter Perkins, Mayor

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Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) Agenda



Date: Wednesday 17 February 2020
Time: 7.00pm – 9.20pm
Venue: via Zoom
Chair: Lisa Pittle
Minute taker: Stephanie Orive
Zoom moderator: Lisa Pittle

1	<p>Welcome Welcome to Country Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Ramcharan, Cr Egan, Cr Paine (arrived 7.38pm) • Officers: Kirsten Reedy, Lisa Pittle, Ian Culbard, Stephanie Orive, Michelle Welsby, Bea Guevara, Leigh Northwood, • ESAC: Alan Thatcher, John Huf, Andrew Robinson, Narelle Campbell, John Brenan, Lauren Poulton, David Turner, Liz Parsons, Sali Bache <p>Apologies: Elle Thomas, Zac Lombardo, Carol Jadraque Absent: Aidan Sommers</p> <p>Council resolved on 24 November 2020 to defer the appointment of Councillors to this and all advisory committees of Council. As part of this resolution it was also advised that the members on the committee are to appoint a temporary chair until such time as a Councillor is appointed. Lisa Pittle was nominated to take the chair for this meeting.</p>	Chair
2	<p>Zoom chat in minutes Consensus that Zoom chat will be recorded as part of the formal minutes and that non related and private messages can be removed from the formal record.</p>	
3	<p>Conflict of interest Conflict of interest provisions are contained in section 80C of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>, the Councillor's Governance Code, the Employee Code of Conduct and the Volunteer Handbook.</p> <p>Narelle Campbell declared a potential perceived conflict of interest as an employee of the Victorian government's Department of Health and Human Services.</p>	Chair
4	<p>Confirmation of minutes Confirmation of the minutes of the December 2020 meeting of the committee Moved: Narelle Campbell Second: Lauren Poulton</p>	Chair
5	<p>Open Actions Accepted</p>	Chair

6	<p>Our People, Our Place, Our Future consultation</p> <p>Council is currently undertaking community engagement to inform a number of strategic documents including our Community Vision, Council Plan, Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan, Financial Plan, Asset Plan and Municipal Planning Strategy.</p> <p>A coordinated Phase 1 consultation process has been designed which includes an online survey, a hard copy survey (which are available at local libraries, Living and Learning Centres and Community Centres or can be mailed out upon request), over the phone survey, online workshops, and public consultation pop-ups at venues & events across the Shire (subject to Covid).</p> <p>Action 1: Email details of OPOPOF consultation opportunities to committee members.</p> <p>Action 2: Schedule a facilitated OPOPOF workshop with ESAC in April/May (Phase 2 consultation).</p> <p>General discussion:</p> <p>Councillors are encouraging everyone to participate in the consultation process and to have their says. The consultation results will inform Council decision making.</p> <p>Zoom Chat:</p> <p>19:22:13 From Narelle to Everyone : Census Nillumbik ! If consultation is going to inform plans, and if it is substantive - is it going to be mailed to people? Many more-elderly and remote people do not have access to/engagement with/ or use on line things from council.</p> <p>19:23:35 From Narelle to Everyone : Oh and is council going to repeat that great outreach it did for CCAP with random reach out?</p> <p>19:27:30 From Narelle to Everyone : Is it just residents, ratepayers and Nillumbikians or is this open to anyone?</p>	Michelle Welsby
7	<p>Green Wedge Management Plan implementation update</p> <p>47 out of the Plan's 56 actions are in progress or complete - these include many operational business as usual items.</p> <p>The Landholders Information Toolkit is currently being prepared, which will encompass a variety of key resources for rural residents.</p> <p>Officers are working to resolve how the Green Wedge conversations program could best work. i.e. How to achieve success via the conversations program, what does success look like, and how would it be measured.</p> <p>Council has just been advised that our federal Smart Farms grant application to co-design community opportunities to support ageing landowners to manage their land while ageing in place was successful. This project will form part of the Green Wedge Conversations program. Likely to commence mid 2021.</p> <p>General Discussion:</p> <p>Discussion that a reporting structure is required for Advisory Committees who have a GWMP oversight role and that this is being worked on.</p> <p>Requirement for GWMP impact and success to be monitored. Need feedback from community to determine whether the programs are supporting landowners to meet good land outcomes.</p> <p>Suggestions for opportunities to collect community feedback and to advise the community of opportunities such as the landholders information toolkit: addition to rates notice, promotion in Nillumbik News, via community groups – including asking them to pass information on via their mailing lists.</p> <p>Transparency is required to examine how much is spent on GWMP implementation and where. A lot of GWMP implementation is operational. An additional \$170,000 was provided for environmental actions and \$60,000 for the Green Wedge conversations program.</p>	Leigh Northwood Bea Guevara

	<p>Action 3: Method by which Advisory Committees are provided with GWMP implementation updates and the oversight role of the committee to be clarified.</p> <p>Zoom Chat:</p> <p>19:40:44 From Narelle to Everyone : Bea - how is "success" measured in a conversations ? What benefit is the benefit to the Green Wedge - or those living in her - from each conversation ? Is the benefit the measure of success?</p> <p>19:42:32 From John Brennan to Everyone : I should perhaps know this, but what is the total annual budget for GWMP?</p> <p>19:44:30 From John Huf to Everyone : Include me in Kirsten (Ageing rural landowners project). It is a real issue for many people I know how they can continue to live on their landholdings as age overtakes us/them and fearing having to downsize or go into retirement homes</p> <p>19:48:19 From Leigh Northwood to Everyone : Nillumbik News</p> <p>19:48:25 From John Huf to Everyone : Run a special segment in the Nillumbik News</p> <p>19:50:00 From Lauren Poulton to Everyone : Thinking out loud... Your Comms team / Rates team may not like diluting the rates notice main message aka payment.</p> <p>19:56:59 From David Turner to Everyone : Make a splash screen when you pay your rates to inform everyone!</p>	
8	<p>Urban Canopy – next steps</p> <p>Alan Thatcher presented on the <i>Nillumbik Urban Forestry Strategy</i>, a proposed project based on a similar plan developed by Frankston City Council. Urban canopy loss mapped against temperature increase.</p> <p>An ESAC subcommittee meeting was held on 3 February with four Councillors plus Liz and Alan to discuss the proposal. Councilors were supportive of ESAC providing them with a recommendation that Council consider developing an Urban Canopy Strategy.</p> <p>Action 4: Schedule an out of session meeting to further refine the urban canopy project motion / recommendation to be presented to Council.</p> <p>Attachment One: Proposed Nillumbik Urban Forestry Strategy paper, Alan Thatcher</p> <p>General Discussion:</p> <p>Regulations to protect existing canopy cover on private property must be backed up by enforcement capacity.</p> <p>Council has an internal policy on how it looks after the 500,000 trees on Council land.</p> <p>There are climate and health benefits of increasing tree cover in urban Nillumbik.</p> <p>Discssion around how can all residents be encouraged to plant one or two more trees, and to maintain the health of existing canopy trees.</p> <p>Suggestion: Could financial incentives/grants be made available for landowners to help pay for arborists to help maintain health of large old canopy trees.</p> <p>Potential first step (brainstorm) – obtain baseline data to provide a sound basis for developing the project. ie tree loss data. Source what data is available to see if there is a problem. Measure this data against temperature/urban heat impact/ global warming; and potentially biodiversity loss.</p>	Alan Thatcher

	<p>Zoom Chat:</p> <p>20:05:48 From John Huf to Everyone : Urban Canopy - a big hole punched in it at Eltham roundabout on Monday</p> <p>20:07:15 From Narelle to Everyone : Interesting that Frankston's reason for tree removal does not include the freeway expansion and subsequent roadside fires (both caused removal) - BTW great presentation Alan/Liz thank you</p> <p>20:09:30 From Cr. Geoff Paine - Nillumbik to Everyone : So council can ask for more rates to maintain the trees? Is that what we're being told?</p> <p>20:12:29 From John Brennan to Everyone : Very quick but very helpful.</p> <p>20:12:33 From Narelle to Everyone : Geoff - Urban Forests are a deliverable of Plan Melbourne and it's subsequent liveable cities planning - it's Victorian Government policy and planning - interestingly it's silent on who pays - but Vic Gov grant may be a start perhaps?</p> <p>20:12:58 From Lauren Poulton to Everyone : We've been planting trees in the middle of the road here in Diamond Creek ;)</p> <p>20:13:37 From David Turner to Everyone : Do we have any idea of the canopy loss in urban Nillumbik?</p> <p>20:14:03 From David Turner to Everyone : Do we know what re sustainable coverage %, ie: what is a good target?</p> <p>20:15:28 From John Huf to Everyone : Has any consideration been given to provide incentives to residents for tree replacement and renewal as many trees are removed because of dieback or disease - termite infestation for instance</p> <p>20:15:50 From David Turner to Everyone : Is this only a heat issue, or do we bring other factors in?</p> <p>20:15:54 From Cr. Geoff Paine - Nillumbik to Everyone : Perhaps we could get sponsors to kick in?</p> <p>20:16:06 From David Turner to Everyone : Biodiversity / ecology / water / flooding / etc</p> <p>20:16:14 From Stephanie Orive to Everyone : We do have the gardens for wildlife program which can include planting trees in urban backyards (and other things)</p> <p>20:17:31 From John Brennan to Everyone : If Alan will move, I shall second a recommendation to proceed with next moves. Great thing is that they will inform next steps.</p> <p>20:17:47 From Karen Egan to Everyone : Rotary has just got a scheme off the ground to plant 5000 trees in urban Eltham.</p> <p>20:17:57 From Karen Egan to Everyone : With help from Council and Edendale.</p> <p>20:20:23 From Ian C to Everyone : I know of one council offering downloadable vouchers for residents to obtain native seedlings as an incentive to plant more locally.</p> <p>20:25:55 From Narelle to Everyone : In considering how to approach funding of any initiative it is important to consider all available funding options isn't it ? if sponsors are prepared to fund arborists to maintain tree canopy - that would be great - perhaps a canopy trust?</p> <p>20:27:51 From Cr. Geoff Paine - Nillumbik to Everyone : Let us know who you think they are and we'll reach out.</p> <p>20:29:35 From Lauren Poulton to Everyone : Could we/you please refine the objectives of what ESAC is proposing to council? I generally support the concept but think it needs further refinement.</p> <p>20:29:57 From David Turner to Everyone : Agree</p> <p>20:30:26 From David Turner to Everyone : Just so that it has the best chance of success</p>	
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	<p>20:30:47 From Narelle to Everyone : My view is that perhaps identifying and evaluating all available funding options is a good start. But thanks for offering to involve the committee in this process.</p> <p>20:31:10 From John Huf to Everyone : I am not clear on what the objective of the tree canopy project is</p> <p>20:36:08 From Narelle to Everyone : How about " ESAC advises council to progress Victoria's Urban Forestry Initiative by compiling tree canopy shift data over the period 2011 - 2019 and replicating data similar to Frankston's Urban Forestry Plan</p>	
9	<p>Waste transition plan update</p> <p>Lisa Pittle presented on the long term waste diversion strategy for Nillumbik including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft transition plan submitted to Department of Environment Land Water and Planning for introduction of glass service • Introduction of container deposit scheme • Uptake of new waste services <p>Attachment Two: Waste update powerpoint presentation</p> <p>General Discussion:</p> <p>Community consultation and integration within Council Plan (and/or other plans) will be important.</p> <p>Question asked around whether waste will feature in the new Council Plan and/or Shire Plan given the scale of the changes. Action 5: Lisa to follow up.</p> <p>Zoom Chat</p> <p>20:46:09 From Lauren Poulton to Everyone : Fantastic clear explanation of how all of these new waste requirements align - thanks Lisa</p> <p>20:50:02 From John Huf to Everyone : The success to the transition plan is to have an industry structure in place to process the categories of waste materials - requires considerable investment and government support for these downstream industries to be set up</p> <p>20:50:48 From Lauren Poulton to Everyone : Setting up that industry structure is underway, lots of incentives emerging at the state level over the last 12 months since the release of the policy.</p> <p>20:51:55 From John Huf to Everyone : The next step is to create the markets for the product</p>	Lisa
10	<p>Review of Land Management Incentive Program Guidelines</p> <p>Stephanie Orive sought suggestions from ESAC on how the existing LMIP guidelines could be enhanced to best meet the current needs of the community and Nillumbik rural landscape.</p> <p>Action 6: Schedule an out of session ESAC meeting to discuss LMIP review further</p> <p>Attachment Three: Land Management Incentive Program Guidelines</p> <p>Zoom Chat</p> <p>20:58:23 From Lauren Poulton to Everyone : Land Management Incentive Program - I think it's a fantastic idea and can see it being useful to older/ageing residents on land.</p> <p>21:02:03 From Narelle to Everyone : Steph - the program does (or did) have limitations around who could apply and the conditions when someone got a grant - can we look at that too please? Really useful inclusions!!!! Thank you</p>	Steph & Kirsten

11	<p>Climate Action Plan development update – for information Council to receive Climate Action Plan community consultation report at March CM.</p> <p>Planning to engage Council's insurance broker to do a climate risk assessment to review climate risk across council business – whole of Council approach. The assessment will quantify risk (likelihood/consequence) and review adequacy of current controls.</p> <p>The risk assessment has a strong adaptation focus.</p> <p>Action 7: Circulate Marsh risk assessment for a NSW Council to ESAC as an example of what may be prepared for Nillumbik.</p>	Kirsten & Lisa
12	<p>Other business:</p> <p>a. Kirsten presented Table Summary of Council environment and sustainability activity, sent out prior to each ESAC meeting. Are ESAC members finding this table valuable and does committee have questions on content?</p> <p>Feedback was overwhelmingly yes, the summary of activity is useful.</p> <p>b. Queensland Fruit Fly in Nillumbik is expanding and continues to be a serious concern for fruit growers.</p> <p>Three short blackberry control videos are being prepared.</p> <p>c. CMA and Melbourne Water are amalgamating.</p> <p>d. There are several environment grant opportunities currently open</p> <p>Action 8: Email ESAC the links to current environment grant opportunities.</p>	Kirsten
13	Meeting closed at 9.20pm	
13	Next meeting date: Has been rescheduled to Wednesday 28 April 2021	

Open Actions:

Meeting date	Action	Owner/s	Status	Comment
6 May 2020	Circulate the Yarra Catchment Integrated Water Management Plan when available.	Lisa P	On hold	Not yet released
17 June, 19 August; 16 December 2020 17 February 2021	Committee members to review the draft list of identified external GWMP stakeholders and provide suggestions ahead of next ESAC meeting	ESAC	Pending	Officer to recirculate ahead of April meeting
17 February 2021	Email details of Our People, Our Place, Our Future Phase 1 consultation opportunities to committee members.	Kirsten	Complete	Emailed to committee on 18/02/21
17 February 2021	Schedule a facilitated OPOPOF workshop with ESAC in April/May (Phase 2 consultation).	Michelle Welsby	In progress	Public Health and Wellbeing engagement scheduled for April ESAC meeting
17 February 2021	Method by which Advisory Committees are provided with GWMP implementation updates and the oversight role of the committee to be clarified.	Leigh Northwood	In progress	June agenda item
17 February 2021	Schedule an out of session meeting to further refine the urban canopy project motion / recommendation to be presented to Council.	Alan Thatcher / Lisa Pittle	Complete	Meeting held 10 March 2021
17 February 2021	Question asked around whether waste will feature in the new Council Plan and/or Shire Plan given the scale of the changes. Lisa to follow up.	Lisa Pittle		
17 February 2021	Schedule an out of session ESAC meeting to discuss LMIP review further	Officer	Complete	Meeting held 10 March 2021 but LMIP discussion held over to April 2021 ESAC meeting.
17 February 2021	Circulate Marsh risk assessment for a NSW Council to ESAC as an example of what may be prepared for Nillumbik.	Officer	Complete	Emailed along with these minutes
17 February 2021	Email ESAC the links to current environment grant opportunities.	Officer	Complete	Emailed to committee on 18/02/21

MEETING MINUTES

HEALTH AND WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday 8 April 2021, 10.00 – 11.30am

Council Chambers, Nillumbik Shire Council, Civic Drive Greensborough

Attendees:

Council Officers: Corrienne Nicholls, Nichole Johnson, Katie Camilleri, Melissa Ensink, Kirsten Reedy, Laura Nix.

Members: Rosie Haszler (Aligned Leisure), Jacinta Geary (Relationships Victoria), Robyn Ellard (YPRL), Johanna Mithen (NEHC), Olive Aumann (healthAbility), Rebecca Tipper (WHiN), Tina Robinson (Vic Pol), Sarah Lausberg (healthAbility), Lachlan McKenzie (Gamblers Help/Banyule Community Health).

Councillors: Cr Richard Stockman (Chair), Cr Geoff Paine

Guests: Grant McNeil (Community Housing Limited)

Apologies: Deputy Mayor Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Ben Ramcharan, Cr Natalie Duffy, Pammella Johnson, Sarah Quirk, Petra Begnell.

Agenda item	Minutes
Welcome Acknowledgement of Country	Acknowledgement of Country was read by Councillor Richard Stockman.
Actions from previous minutes Moving of minutes.	No actions noted. Minutes moved by Rosie Haszler and seconded by Katie Camilleri.
Social and Affordable Housing Community Housing Limited	Grant McNeil, State Manager, Victoria, of Community Housing Limited, presented on the current context of community housing and some updates on the State Government funding program. Key links: Community Housing Limited website State Government 10 year housing strategy



- CHL are currently presenting to many councils as the interest in social and affordable housing is growing.
- CHL started in Blackburn in 1993. It is a not for profit housing association which deals primarily with social housing and some affordable housing. There are 6 officers across the state, both regional and metro. Most of the housing come through partnership projects. Currently they manage 1500 long term properties and have 2 homelessness programs.
- In Victoria there are acute housing needs; 40000+ people on the government housing wait list.
- COVID has escalated government housing provision and has both economic and social objectives.
- Most recently the government conducted a rapid grants round, which closed in March and amounted to \$1.38 billion in VIC.
- Government is purchasing up to 4000 properties, then transferred to NFP's like Community Housing Limited
- A further round of partnership with community org's, LGA or public private partnerships
- CHL will find out late May June what projects they are funded for. The second round of funding coming out down the track, but they are unsure how much this pool will be.
- Housing critical issue – fundamental shift in how government is delivering housing
- Home ownership has become unaffordable for many people
- Varied community response to social housing – sometimes supported other times some objections which can slow projects down.
- State government want to work with Councils - transfer older housing stock – 4 or 5 local Councils manage housing for or transferred stock over the Community Housing Limited.
- Any development over 10 units, the decision needs to be made by stat government, smaller developments will go through regular planning process. Council needs to think about what our role will be into the future.
- State Government tackling Social and affordable housing on a large scale – commitment \$5.3 billion, mostly sits in long term housing strategy (ambitious and broad). Nothing at this level of investment before.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MAV will be assisting councils to encourage more social housing in developments. - During this significant time of change, there is an opportunity for Councils to think about opportunities for Council to play in social housing. - What could councils do? Identify surplus land, commercial redevelopment, section 173 inclusion zoning (negotiate with developers to make some housing social housing). Make concessions in planning process. Trading off car parking or park space. Rezoning.
Highlights of Community Consultation: Our People Our Place Our Future -	<p>Katie Camilleri presented on the highlights of Phase 1 of community consultation for the Council Plan, Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan and other key strategic documents; Our People Our Place Our Future (OPOPOF).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation has now closed and results are being finalised. The report of the findings will go to Council in May. - OPOPOF will help inform several council documents including the Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan - The consultation has a 3 phase approach: OPOPOF, Phase 2 health plan targeted conversations, public exhibition (submissions, speak to submissions). - The components of the engagement were the survey (main piece), online and hard copy, community pop ups, translation services, virtual workshops, internal communications, connecting with community groups and emailing via networks. <p>Slides from the presentation are attached with the minutes.</p> <p>Action: Share the engagement report with the advisory committee after it goes to Council on 4 May.</p>
Climate Action Plan	<p>Kirsten Reedy, Coordinator Environment, spoke with the group about the development of the Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>Kirsten spoke to the clear links between this work and the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.</p> <p>Kirsten sought the group's feedback on what would be important from a health and wellbeing perspective, to include in the plan.</p>

	<p>Action: Consultation questions for the group to be circulated with the minutes. Members are invited to respond to the questions and send the form back to Melissa, to pass on to Kirsten.</p>
<p>Phase 2 Consultation - Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan</p>	<p>Melissa Ensink updated the group on the activities that are being conducted in April and May, as a part of the Phase 2 consultation on the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.</p> <p>These activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advisory Committee 'drop in's' - Councillor workshop - The Health & Wellbeing Partnership Forum - Internal staff workshop - Focused planning sessions with IHP funded agencies (healthAbility, WHiN, North Eastern Healthy Communities) <p>Action: Members to register for the forum. Separate email with invitation has been circulated.</p>
<p>Member updates</p>	<p>Members provided an update on their current initiatives that relate to Health and Wellbeing in Nillumbik.</p> <p><u>Victoria Police</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID has been a big eye opener, many health impacts are more visible (mental health specifically), on the ground respondents have a full work load. Homelessness has been a shock for Nillumbik residents, as there has been an influx of unfamiliar people. There is a lot of action and response coming from this though. - It is challenging for police to know where to refer, but have been doing work in this area. - The police have felt the angst of community who were not used to seeing some of these new issues. - It has been uplifting to see how the community have banded together. <p><u>healthAbility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A lot of services have needed to move online and there has been use of hybrid models. Face to face services are operating on site. Moving back to

'normal' service delivery. Some people prefer the online delivery of services.

- As a part of the work for the next 4 year integrated health promotion plan (IHP), healthAbility have engaged a consultant.
- Add email re: consultant contacting members about vulnerability
- Major MH services coming up more shortly, new services being available

Action: Members to notify Olive if they do not wish to be contacted by the consultant (an opt-out approach).

Women's Health in the North

- Continuing work with the Gender Equality Act, supporting partners, working out what the obligations are and how WHiN can support.
- Currently in a planning phase as the current strategy is up for review. In an information gathering phase.
- Offering training sessions and capacity building for work places. Please contact Rebecca if your organisation is interested in these sessions.

Aligned Leisure

- The facilities are struggling to get people back into the gym environment. Some people are unsure about cleanliness and there is some apprehension.
- They are thinking about how they can support people who aren't comfortable coming back to the gym now and into the future. Looking at how to expand offerings.

Relationships Australia

- There has been a big increase in the number of families who are confronted with issues that may have laid dormant prior to covid such as separations, mental health issues, and family violence.
- A new staff member has been recruited.
- There is a growing waiting list, the service is seeing even longer term relationships breaking apart.
- The service is moving back to face to face in May. This is a better way of doing assessments rather than online.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a growing concern for people who be displaced from home after a separations, a higher percent of these people are male. <p><u>Gamblers Help Northern</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new program has been launched, working with schools on reducing screen time and gaming (link with gambling). The roll out is with year 7-10 students. - Another program is being launched which is about financial literacy for school aged children. - There have been increases in losses from pokies since reopening post lockdowns. - A lot spent on sports gambling, almost as much as pokies now. <p><u>North Eastern Healthy Communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding has been extended to March 2022. The announcement will be included in the minutes. - Looking forward to participating in consultation activities coming up <p><u>Environment team (internal)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council has been successful in receiving a grant to support land owners to age in place. Further information on this project will be shared with the group when it is available. - There are a number of information sessions coming up about deer. These sessions and further information will be sent with the minutes.
Next meeting	<p>Cr Stockman noted that the next meeting would be on Thursday 9 June, 10-11.30am at the Council Chambers (subject to restrictions).</p> <p>We will again provide an online/virtual option.</p>
Close	<p>Cr Stockman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.</p>

Youth Council Formal Advisory Meeting Minutes

Date	Monday 12 April 2021
Time	4-6pm
Venue	Council Chambers
Attendees Councillors and Staff	Cr Ben Ramcharan – Chair Vince Lombardi – Acting CEO Corrienne Nichols – Executive Manager of Community Services Nichole Johnson – Manager Community Partnerships Nicola Clutton – Acting Team Leader Youth Development Molly Jessop – Youth Engagement and Recovery Officer
Youth Council Members	Brianne Keogh, Fieke van der Kamp, Indiana Sandwell, Jack Linehan Joseph Bowman , Kirra Imbriano, Lachlan Wadsworth , Maali Kerta-Rice, Maverick Knight, Orianna Edmonds, Taj Andreetta
Virtual Attendees	Katie O'Brien -- Youth Council Member
Apologies	Bailey Cumming, Cavan Cartwright, Imogen Jaques , Katie Camilleri – Coordinator Youth, Community and Place

Agenda Item	Minutes
Youth Council Individual Photos	All Youth Council members, participated in individual photos and group photo. Missing from the photos was Youth Council members, Katie O'Brien, Bailey Cumming, Cavan Cartwright and Imogen Jaques, images of the four missing members will be coordinated.
Introductions Acknowledgement of County	Vince Lombardi welcomed all attendees to the first Youth Council Formal Advisory meeting. Cr Ben Ramcharan provided an Acknowledgement of Country.
Election of Youth Council Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Youth Council members who self-nominated to run for Youth Mayor or Deputy Mayor had the opportunity to speak to the Youth Council for two minutes on why they would like to be Youth Mayor.

YOUTH



Agenda Item	Minutes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orianna Edmonds – Spoke to her leadership experience through running her own business, through this she has gained confidence and experience in running meetings. Orianna mentioned that she will be inclusive and respectful to all Youth Council Members. Orianna is a music, animal, sport and nature lover and has a passion for young people and striving to work together to make a difference. Orianna finished her speech letting the Youth Council know that she is energised and excited to hear their ideas. • Jack Linehan – Jack shared with the group a story from a recent university assignment he had. The group member who were working on the assignment were happy to go with an easy option to complete the assignment, however Jack wanted to go above and beyond. Jack reached out to Peter Hitchener and was able to secure and interview, using this example Jack explained that when he puts his mind to something, he will achieve it and that is the energy and commitment he will bring to the role of Youth Mayor. Jack then went on to mention particular community project interests that each Youth Council member has, showing that he is committed to supporting the entire group. • Maverick Knight- Spoke to his previous experience working with Council, local youth groups and the YMCA, he believes this experience working in these settings allows him to bring a confidence to the role. Maverick expressed that he knows the processes and what might work in a Council setting. His priorities are adding more bins and lighting at recreation spaces to create a cleaner and safer environment for young people. Maverick promised to be committed to the role and give everyone in the room a voice to speak to their own priorities. • Katie O'Brien- Lead her speech by linking her education experience with the role, Katie is studying urban planning, she hopes to have the opportunity to work for a local Council or in politics in the future. Katie believes that young voices are often over looked and is passionate about bring these voices to the forefront and making them heard. Katie spoke to her leadership qualities, including being open minded, approachable, a team player who is interested in sharing responsibilities around to ensure everyone is getting what they want out of this experience. Katie closed of her speech saying that she is excited about the opportunity to hear the voices of the community which is relevant to her future work. • Fieke van der Kamp- Fieke shared with the group her passion for the environment and reversing climate change, she wants to allow others to access what they are passionate about as beautiful things happen when people are passionate. Fieke spoke to her leadership qualities, through her extra curriculum work with her school and how she will bring those skills into this role. Fieke mentioned that she is extremely excited by the opportunity to shadow the Council Mayor and attend Formal Council Meetings, she mentioned that a lot of what young people hear about politics is negative, and that she would like to change that view. She finished her speech off mentioning that she enjoys public speaking and would be honored to represent the Youth Council and speak about the ideas the group comes up with, so we can really express and make an impact, and be the change we want to see in the world!

Agenda Item	Minutes
Silent Voting for Youth Mayor and Deputy Mayor	<p>All Youth Council members present participated in a silent voting for the Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor elections, numbering each candidate 1-5.</p> <p>Votes were then collected by Council Officers, Nichole Johnson and Nicola Clutton, and counted using the Australian Ballot counting system.</p>
Announcement of Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor	<p>Votes were tallied with the below result.</p> <p>Youth Mayor: Fieke Van Der Kamp</p> <p>Deputy Youth Mayor: Jack Lineham</p> <p>Cr Ben Ramcharan then declared that Fieke van der Kamp having received an absolute majority of vote was declared the nominee to be elected Youth Mayor of Nillumbik Youth Council for the 2021 Council year.</p> <p>Cr Ben Ramcharan also declared that Jack Linehan, having received the second majority of votes was declared the nominee to be elected Deputy Youth Mayor of Nillumbik Youth Council for the 2021 Council year.</p>
Photos of Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor	<p>Youth Mayor Fieke van der Kamp, Deputy Mayor Jack Linehan, Cr Ben Ramcharan and Acting CEO Vine Lombardi had their Mayor and Deputy mayor photos taken.</p>
Activity: If you were mayor for the day what would you implement	<p>The Youth Council moved on to an activity, members pair up and discussed <i>'if they were Mayor of Nillumbik Shire for a day, what would you implement'</i> ideas were then shared with the room. A summary of the ideas are below.</p> <p>Joey: Would initiate more skating competitions with prizes being vouchers for local business to grow our community's economy.</p> <p>Jack: Would extend the dual train line from Eltham to Hurstbridge.</p> <p>Brianne: Would facilitate conversations in schools around youth leadership within the community.</p> <p>Lachlan: Would create a regular community sports tournament for all abilities.</p> <p>Indy: Would implement more education on wildlife conservation and the local environment.</p> <p>Maverick: Would have more bins throughout the community and more youth groups.</p> <p>Kirra: Want to see more inclusiveness and have people of all ages meet to get to know each other.</p> <p>Fieke: Would have more solar panels installed across the shire.</p> <p>Orianna: Would consult with the community and listen to what the community wants and bring that back to the Council. More events for young people to volunteer and learn lost trades.</p> <p>Maali: Would provide less fortunate people with access to resources like technology and provide mental health checkups throughout the community.</p> <p>Taj: Would like to see skate parks upgraded and new ones built. Facilitate morning classes for kids and people of all abilities to learn how to skate.</p>

Agenda Item	Minutes
<p>Guest Speaker- Melissa Ensink – Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025</p>	<p>Melissa Ensink, Social Planning and Policy Officer at Nillumbik Shire Council facilitated a workshop focusing on the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group was provided with an overview on Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and then asked for their feedback on the draft concept. The Youth Council have been invited to make a formal submission on the proposed plan either as individual community members or as a group if they believe the plan can be changed to represent the youth community better. <p>Youth Council split into three groups to discuss the following three questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you think are the top three priority areas for Nillumbik's health and wellbeing? The top three themes discussed were: Climate Change, Healthy Lifestyles and Mental Wellbeing. What are the top three topics areas that are most important to the Nillumbik Community? The top three themes were: Climate Change, Events, Community Engagement and Mental Health and Wellbeing Write down some words or short phrases that could contribute to our vision for a healthy and well Nillumbik. Responses included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events, inclusive, social connection, happy, environment, physical health, supporting, community, safe, community engagement. <p>Youth Council Members who were not in attendance are welcome to submit their answers for this activity to Nicola via email before the next Youth Council Meeting.</p>
<p>Questions and Ideas</p>	<p>Cr Ramcharan mentioned that at the last Council Meeting, Councillors raised two motions to be proposed to the Youth Council</p> <p>Motion One: Formal Youth Council Advisory meetings are livestreamed and open to the public.</p> <p>The group discussed this motion, Jack believes this will be a good idea as the meetings should be transparent and available for the community. Orianna agreed that it would be great for the community to be able to attend.</p> <p>Motion moved by: Orianna Edmonds</p> <p>Seconded by: Lachlan Wadsworth</p> <p>The Youth Council unanimously voted in favour of Motion One.</p> <p>VOTE: Yes 11 No 0</p> <p>Motion Two: Allow the three unsuccessful applicants the opportunity to be part of discussions and attend meetings of the Youth Council. These members will not be provided with a vote or payment but will be welcome to contribute to discussions.</p>

Agenda Item	Minutes
	<p>The group discussed this motion, Jack believes it will provide the unsuccessful applicants with experience and allows for easy substitute if an existing member leaves. Maverick and Lachlan both agreed it is better to have more voices in the room for different perspectives.</p> <p>Nicola to reach out to unsuccessful applicants to invite to next meeting.</p> <p>Motion for applicants to join is to be tabled at the next formal meeting pending interest from applicants.</p>
Next Information Workshop Meeting	<p>The next informal Youth Council meeting will be on Monday 26 April 2021. Nicola Clutton mentioned to the group over the next three workshops the group will cover:</p> <p>April 26: Making an Engagement plan – The basics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a youth strategy and what is engagement? • What issues are important to you? What do you want to hear more about? <p>May 10: How are we going to engage?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you want to engage with young people? What styles do you want to us? • What will this look like? • Who and where? • What capacity do you have as a Youth Council? <p>May 24: Finalising the engagement plan?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locking in the plans
Next Formal Youth Council Advisory Meeting	Monday 7 June – 4.00-6.00pm in Council Chambers

Action Summary

Action	Responsibility
Coordinate photography for missing Youth Council members	Nicola Clutton
Share Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan with Youth Council Members	Nicola Clutton
Speak with unsuccessful Youth Council candidates to invite them to attend future Youth Council Formal Advisory Meetings.	Nicola Clutton Katie Camilleri
Coordinate next Formal Advisory Meeting to be public and live streamed	Nicola Clutton Katie Camilleri

OUR PEOPLE

OUR PLACE

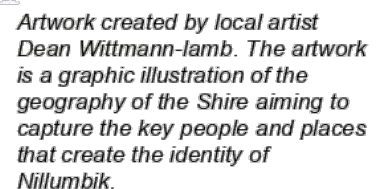
OUR FUTURE

The collage features numerous community names and landmarks, often with associated phone numbers or postal codes:

- Strathewen** (3099)
- Arthur's Creek** (3099)
- St Andrews** (3099)
- Panton Hill** (3097)
- Green Wedge**
- Hurstbridge** (3099)
- Diamond Creek** (3090)
- Kangaroo Ground** (3097)
- Eltham** (3095)
- North Warrandyte** (3088)
- Nillumbik**
- Watson's Creek** (3067)
- Christmas Hills** (3085)
- Yarraambat** (3099)
- Mt. Macedon**
- Black Kettle**
- Plenty** (3090)
- Wattle Glen** (3094)
- Springvale** (3099)
- Traralgon** (3099)
- Geelong** (3220)
- Ballarat** (3240)
- Bendigo** (3480)
- Seymour** (3690)
- Shepparton** (3630)
- Mildura** (3640)
- Horsham** (3640)
- Ararat** (3470)
- Colac** (3260)
- Geelong** (3220)
- Traralgon** (3099)
- Warragul** (3590)
- Wodonga** (3680)
- Albury** (3600)
- Swan Hill** (3580)
- Renmark** (3500)
- Barmera** (3500)
- Robinvale** (3500)
- Nullarbor** (3500)
- Port Augusta** (3500)
- Whyalla** (3500)
- Victor Harbor** (3500)
- Adelaide** (5000)
- Perth** (6000)
- Sydney** (2000)
- Melbourne** (3000)
- Geelong** (3220)
- Traralgon** (3099)
- Warragul** (3590)
- Wodonga** (3680)
- Albury** (3600)
- Swan Hill** (3580)
- Renmark** (3500)
- Barmera** (3500)
- Robinvale** (3500)
- Nullarbor** (3500)
- Port Augusta** (3500)
- Whyalla** (3500)
- Victor Harbor** (3500)
- Adelaide** (5000)
- Perth** (6000)
- Sydney** (2000)
- Melbourne** (3000)

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Nillumbik Shire Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people who are the Traditional Custodians of Land known today as Nillumbik. We pay respect to Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians.

Introduction

Nillumbik Shire Council developed the Our People, Our Place, Our Future engagement program to capture the views and priorities of the Nillumbik community to inform the development of key strategic planning documents in line with legislative and regulatory requirements.

During the first stage of the engagement program, which ran from 15 February to 28 March 2021, Council asked the community to identify what is important to them in relation to their wellbeing, neighbourhood and surrounds both now and into the future. Council also asked the community what areas Council should focus on in order to support the delivery of these priorities and aspirations.

In line with Nillumbik's Community Engagement Policy, and in an effort to reach as many people as possible, a range of promotional tools and information resources were provided to the community to encourage and support meaningful participation in the program. These included posters, postcards, video presentations, emails, social media posts, media releases, newsletters, and fact sheets.

Council provided a variety of options for people to participate in the engagement program. During the engagement period, Council engaged with over 2,000 voices through survey responses, community pop-ups, workshops, written submissions, online workshops, phone calls, visits to the Participate Nillumbik website, and emails.

This report presents a summary of the key findings from the first stage of the engagement program for the Our People Our Place Our Future initiative. The report provides high-level analysis of feedback received from the community during February and March 2021. The findings will be used to inform the development of the following documents:

- Asset Plan
- Community Vision
- Council Plan
- Financial Plan
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Municipal Planning Strategy.

Subsequent engagement phases will be delivered over the coming months, in line with individual document requirements and the Our People, Our Place, Our Future engagement program.

Project background

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires councils to develop an integrated, longer-term approach to strategic planning organised around a long-term community vision.

Strategic planning is the process of defining an organisation's direction and priorities and then deciding how to allocate resources to pursue these. Much of the strategic planning for councils is to occur within the first year of a four-year Council term.

Nillumbik Shire Council's approach to strategic planning supports the efficient and effective delivery of strategic outcomes in line with Council resources and legislative and regulatory parameters. Central to this approach is the effective, deliberate, and thorough engagement with the community.

In recognition of legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020*, and guided by Nillumbik Shire Council's Community Engagement Policy, Council has undertaken engagement with its community to develop the following strategic planning documents:

Table 1: Strategic planning documents

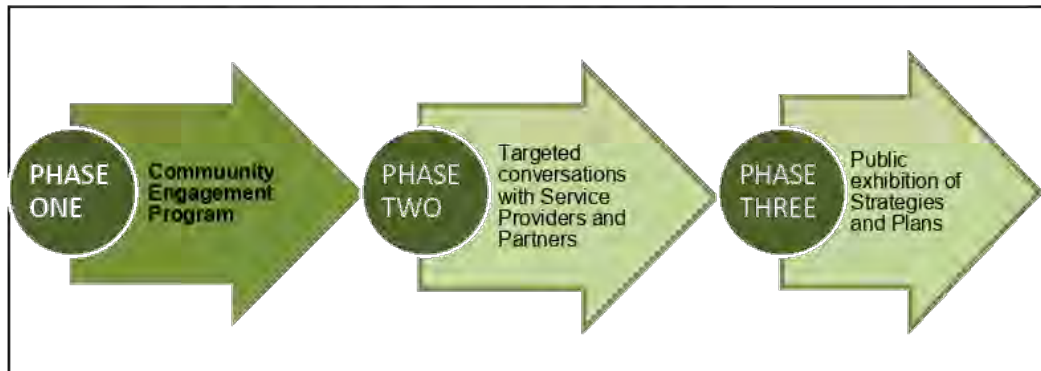
Strategic Planning Document	Adoption Required	Relevant Act
Municipal Planning Strategy (Planning Scheme) The Municipal Planning Strategy will strengthen Nillumbik's Planning Policy and as well as better integrating State Planning Policy. The new Municipal Planning Strategy will ensure consistency, effectiveness and efficiency in relation to planning activities and initiatives.	June 2021	Victorian Planning Provisions and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>
Community Vision A community vision must have an outlook of at least ten years and should describe the municipal community's aspirations for the municipality.	October 2021	<i>Local Government Act 2020</i>
Council Plan A Council Plan contains Council's key strategic directions, informed by the Community Vision and other strategic commitments to deliver services and infrastructure. The Council Plan is the key planning document of a newly elected council.	October 2021	<i>Local Government Act 2020</i>

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan A Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan supports Council's obligation to protect, improve and promote health and wellbeing in the Nillumbik community. The Plan will include an examination of health data for Nillumbik and will identify strategies for creating a community in which people can achieve maximum health and wellbeing.	October 2021	<i>Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008</i>
Financial Plan A Financial Plan provides a long-term view of the resources that are expected to be available to Council and the proposed use of those resources. The Financial Plan illustrates how the viability and sustainability of Council will be achieved over a ten-year period.	October 2021	<i>Local Government Act 2020</i>
Asset Plan An Asset Plan provides a long-term view of how Council intends to manage its portfolio of assets. The Plan will define Council's strategic asset management priorities and is required to address all aspects of asset management including maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, and disposal or decommissioning of all classes of community assets.	October 2022	<i>Local Government Act 2020</i>

While each document has its own unique requirements, strong strategic links were identified between each that will direct and influence initiatives, activities, and projects undertaken by Council. The identification of these links provided an opportunity for Council to engage the community in an integrated and efficient manner, avoiding duplication and mitigating the risk of engagement fatigue. As such, Council created the Our People, Our Place, Our Future engagement program as a way to encourage enhanced community engagement outcomes through a targeted and streamlined approach of engagement.

The program encompasses three distinct phases of community engagement that run from mid-February 2021 through to the adoption by Council of each of the documents outlined above.

Figure 1: Our People, Our Place, Our Future engagement program



The first phase of engagement ran from 15 February to 28 March 2021. This phase represented broad-level engagement with the community through a range of engagement activities supported by a community survey. Council asked the community to identify what was important to them in relation to their wellbeing, neighbourhood and surrounds both now and into the future. In line with Nillumbik's Community Engagement Policy, and in an effort to reach as many people as possible, a range of promotional tools and information resources were provided to the community to encourage and support meaningful participation in the program.

The second phase of engagement takes place from April 2021. This phase involves targeted conversations with service providers and partners to identify operational responses to key priority areas. Further, consultation with Council officers will bring together a range of expertise to inform the development and implementation of strategy deliverables.

The third and final stage of the engagement program involves the public exhibition of the strategy and plans developed as part of the Our People, Our Place, Our Future initiative. Legislative requirements will determine the adoption date for each of these documents.

Engagement approach

Community members, local residents, businesses, service providers, workers and visitors were asked to share their thoughts on the Our People Our Place Our Future engagement from 15 February to 28 March 2021. In the planning of this initiative, Council aimed to engage 1,000 voices throughout the engagement period.

Promotional activities and tools


Throughout the engagement period, Council worked to engage the community and encourage participation in the initiative through a variety of ways. All communication materials informed the community about the intent of the program, promoted engagement opportunities and encouraged people to visit the Our People, Our Place, Our Future Participate Nillumbik website for more information about the project. Officer details and phone/text numbers were also provided, acknowledging that not all participants have access to online services or may feel more comfortable contributing information over the phone.








Over 3,400 people engaged with the project information and resources provided on the Participate Nillumbik website. The following promotional activities were used to inform the community about the project and promote their participation in the engagement approach.

Figure 2. The Our People, Our Place, Our Future posters and post cards, complete with QR codes to provide access to the online survey.



Table 2. Engagement tools

	<p>Website</p> <p>The initiative was hosted on Council's Our People, Our Place, Our Future Participate Nillumbik webpage. The page contained information about the program including resource materials, promoted engagement activities, copies of the surveys, registration opportunities and contact information.</p> <p>During the engagement period, a total of 4,612 visits were recorded the Our People, Our Place, Our Future Participate Nillumbik website. The project was also promoted on Council's webpage and linked to the Our People, Our Place, Our Future Participate Nillumbik website.</p>
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	<p>Posters</p> <p>Posters containing the program's iconic artwork were displayed across the Shire in both council and non-council locations (Figure 2). The posters included a QR code that linked to the project website.</p>
	<p>Postcards</p> <p>Postcards were available and distributed at a variety of locations across the Shire including Council buildings, businesses, and rural post offices (Figure 2). Postcards were also distributed at community events. The postcards included a QR code that linked to the project webpage.</p>
	<p>Social media</p> <p>Social media posts (Facebook and Instagram) were used to promote and encourage participation in the engagement program reaching over 13,500 individuals.</p>
	<p>Newsletters</p> <p>A Nillumbik News article promoting the project was included in the Summer Edition of Nillumbik News and distributed to over 23,000 households and businesses in the Shire.</p> <p>The project was also promoted through a range of Council and non-Council newsletters that included school groups, kindergartens and playgroups as well as community and sporting groups.</p>
	<p>Fact Sheets</p> <p>A series of seven fact sheets were developed to support deliberative engagement with the initiative (Figure 3). The fact sheets were available on the project website. Fact sheets were also offered to participants at community pop-ups and community workshops and were also emailed to participants of the online sessions.</p>
	<p>Frequently Asked Questions</p> <p>A set of Frequently Asked Questions were developed to explain the intent and scope of the program, opportunities to participate, where to find more information, and how to contact Council.</p>
	<p>Drop boxes</p> <p>Survey drop boxes and hard copies of the survey were left at 15 key community locations including libraries, community centres, rural post offices, and other Council buildings.</p>



	Word of mouth Councillors, Council Officers and Community Groups were encouraged to promote the program through their networks. Project information and resources were provided to support this promotion.
	Advertisements An advertisement for the project was shown at Diamond Creek Movie Night.

Figure 3. An example of one of the seven fact sheets developed to support deliberative community engagement – the community health and wellbeing factsheet, complete with QR to provide access to the online survey.



Community health and wellbeing Fact Sheet

Councils play an important role in facilitating good planning to activate diverse housing, community infrastructure, and access to transport and economic opportunities.

Strategies need to be developed to encourage and support active and engaged communities. These strategies should be feasible, innovative, and allow for the interests and aspirations of the community.

Overall, the population of Nillumbik is at the higher end of the socio-economic gradient in Melbourne. This means that in many aspects, the population of Nillumbik enjoys better than average health and wellbeing. However, certain widespread health inequalities persist within the municipality, affecting different population groups in different ways.

SEIFA index of disadvantage

The higher the SEIFA score, the more advantaged the area. A higher score means better socio-economic outcomes. Nillumbik's score shows that it is one of the best performing regions from a socio-economic perspective.

Nillumbik: 1008
Greater Melbourne: 1002

Food environment

2,436 of people in Nillumbik meet both fruit and vegetable consumption (based on the National Health and Medical Research Centre 2013 guidelines).

Alcohol, tobacco and drugs

7,056 of the Nillumbik community is at risk of alcohol related harm over their lifetime.

The Nillumbik community shows a higher than average incidence of increased risk of lifetime alcohol related harm, meaning that they are drinking more than two standard drinks a day.

1,553 of the Nillumbik community are current smokers.

Although the proportion of smokers in Nillumbik is lower than average, it is of concern that the proportion of the population classified as a current smoker increased from 2011 to 2017.

Mental Health

21% of Nillumbik residents have reported been diagnosed with depression or anxiety.

The incidence of experiencing depression or anxiety increased from 2011 to 2017. Given the impacts of COVID on mental health, this is likely to increase.

Family violence

796 family violence incidents per 100,000 population were recorded in Nillumbik in 2014/2020. In Nillumbik, the rate of family violence incidents (recorded by police has been) steadily increasing since 2017/18.

Active lifestyles and recreation

37% of residents engage in insufficient physical activity in terms of time and sessions.

The proportion of the community who do not engage in sufficient physical activity has increased since 2014 and is currently at a level similar to regional and state averages.

Community safety

60% of residents say they definitely feel safe when walking down their street alone after dark.

41% of residents say they definitely think most people can be trusted in 2017. With a further 16% saying people can sometimes be trusted (56% in total).

Community health and wellbeing in the future: what we can expect

Proactive steps need to be taken in order for Nillumbik to continue to experience a high level of advantage; however this does not negate the need to address areas of disadvantage.

Community health and wellbeing in the future: what can we do?

Further enhance programs and frameworks to promote health and wellbeing in the community.

If you would like to attend a community pop-up or virtual information session please go to participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/our-future for more information.

Source:
Nillumbik 2040: Towards a Community Vision for Nillumbik Background Paper (2022)
Nillumbik Shire Council
Nillumbik Shire Council Community Profile 2020 (2021) ASOF Research and Nillumbik Shire Council



Scan the QR code to access the survey








Engagement opportunities

Council developed a range of resources to promote the program and to encourage meaningful engagement, providing a variety of options for people to participate in the program.

During the engagement period, Council engaged with over 2,000 voices through survey responses, community pop-ups, workshops, written submissions, online workshops, phone calls, visits to the website, and emails.

Throughout the engagement period, Council monitored and adapted promotional materials and engagement activities to ensure that these were accessible and responsive to the needs and wants of the community.

Table 3. Engagement activities

	A total of 2,019 voices were captured during the engagement period.
	<p>Community Survey Community surveys were central to this program, with Council promoting them as the main form engagement. The surveys were designed to elicit a variety of views relating to the project deliverables. With participation and accessibility in mind, three variations of surveys were developed. During the engagement period a total of 1,111 surveys were completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General survey – 728 surveys completed • Easy read survey – 9 surveys completed • Children's survey – 374 surveys completed. <p>Access to translating and interpreting services was also made available to participants. Nillumbik's Chinese and Arabic communities accessed these services (two from the Arabic-speaking community and three from the Mandarin-speaking community).</p> <p>Following the survey deadline, an additional six surveys were received. While not captured in this report, the responses have been recorded and the data made available to the individual project teams.</p>
	<p>Pop-ups Council hosted a total of 11 community pop-ups (public consultation events) throughout Nillumbik (Figure 4). A range of engagement activities were provided at the pop-up events including interactive idea boards, children's activities, hard-copy surveys and opportunities to discuss issues with Council officers.</p> <p>A total of 604 people were recorded as pop-up participants during the engagement period.</p>
	<p>Workshops A total of 283 people participated in 12 community workshop events during the engagement period.</p>
	<p>Virtual sessions Council developed and promoted four virtual workshop sessions. The sessions were spread over weekdays and weekends and scheduled for morning, afternoon and evenings. A total of four people registered to attend a virtual session, with two people attending.</p>






	<p>Website During the engagement period a total of 4,612 visits were recorded on the Our People, Our Place, Our Future website. The website also recorded 10 interactions whereby community members posted comments and suggestions to support the development of key council documents.</p>
	<p>Phone Council received less than 10 phone enquires relating the program. Council did not receive a request to complete a survey or provide a submission over the phone.</p>
	<p>Text Council provided the opportunity to community members to engage with the project via text messaging as a means to enquire about information relating to the program or to submit a survey response. At the conclusion of the engagement period no text message interactions were recorded.</p>
	<p>Social media Council created posts for both Facebook and Instagram which reached 13,500 individuals.</p>
	<p>Written submissions Throughout the engagement period Council received seven written submissions from community groups and members.</p>

Figure 4. 11 pop-ups with a range of engagement activities were hosted throughout Nillumbik during the consultation period.

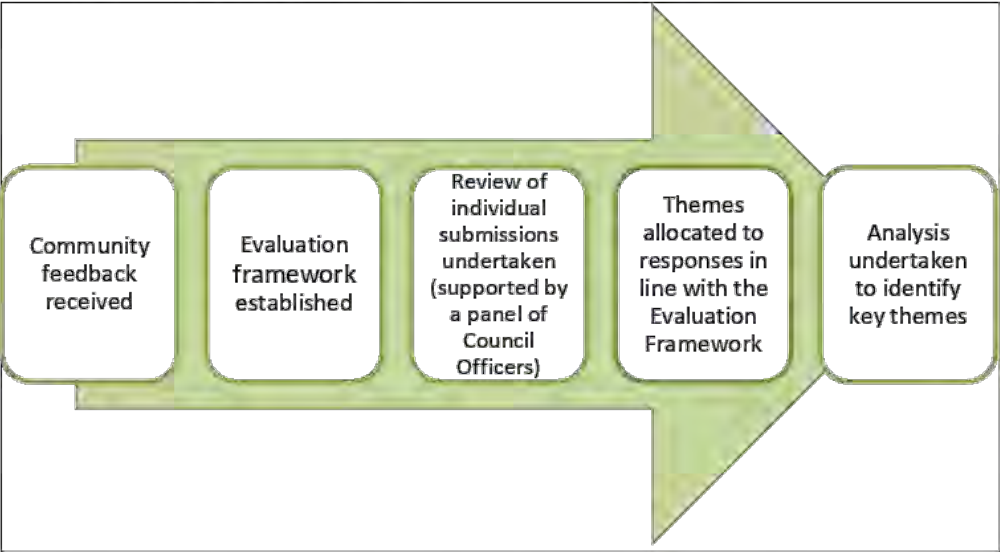


Evaluation of engagement results

Participants provided their feedback in a variety of ways including surveys, idea boards, participating in workshops, through conversations with Council officers, and for a large number of our youngest participants through illustrations.

Regardless of the form, all feedback was recorded, collated and analysed in order to identify key themes. The procedure for reviewing the content of all the submissions is shown below:

Figure 5. Thematic analysis process



A suite of key themes were informed by the ‘social determinants of health’ and ‘domains of liveability’ as a basis. Many of these themes are referenced throughout this report, however a full list (including references) is provided in the Appendix of this report.

Limitations and considerations

The Project Team acknowledges that there were some limitations and considerations of the engagement process. These included:

- Given that the program allowed multiple opportunities for engagement, it is possible that a participant’s views may have been captured more than once.
- Survey questions were not mandatory, therefore some questions received more responses than others. This includes the collection of demographic information. Council received feedback relating to the functionality and length of the online survey. Of those participants that contacted Council, officers provided support to assist them in completing the survey over the phone or by providing a hard-copy version. It is possible that these issues impacted on the number of surveys being submitted online and Council may have lost respondents as a result.

- While there were significant benefits in developing an integrated survey that would provide information to inform a range of strategic planning documents, the volume of the information collected was considerable. Council favoured 'free text' options to promote unrestricted responses from community. This greatly increased the complexity of evaluation and analytical processes.
- Scheduling of the engagement program was organised around legislative timeframes as set out in the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. Council allocated as much time to engagement as the legislative timeframes would allow.

Key findings

During the engagement period a total of 2,019 voices provided their feedback to the initiative through a range of activities. The following findings represents the data collected through these activities. Given the diversity of engagement activities, it was not always possible to present the key findings as a total proportion of participants. Where commonalities existed in the collection of data, this analysis was combined. In cases where this was not possible, the data was analysed separately.

Direct quotes from participants have been included into this report to illustrate sentiment to what was broadly heard and received by this community engagement.

Figure 6. Idea boards were provided at certain engagements events as a means for community members to provide feedback.



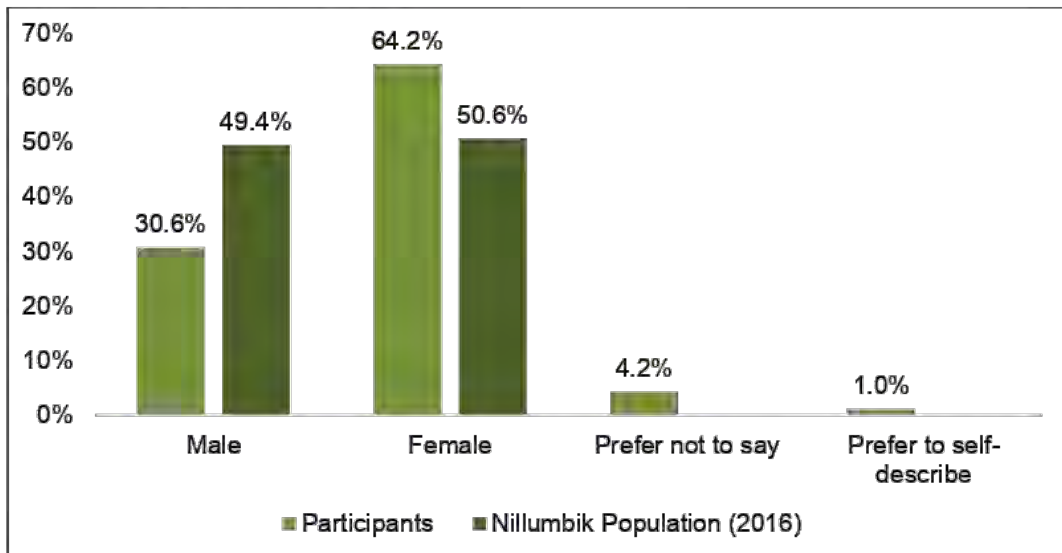
Participants

To understand who we reached through the engagement program, we asked a series of demographic questions including age, gender, and location as well as questions pertaining to access, equity, and inclusion. This information was important to record as we wanted to ensure that we had heard the views of a range of people from the Nillumbik community. The collection of this information also provides an opportunity to reach out to those groups that were underrepresented.

Age and gender

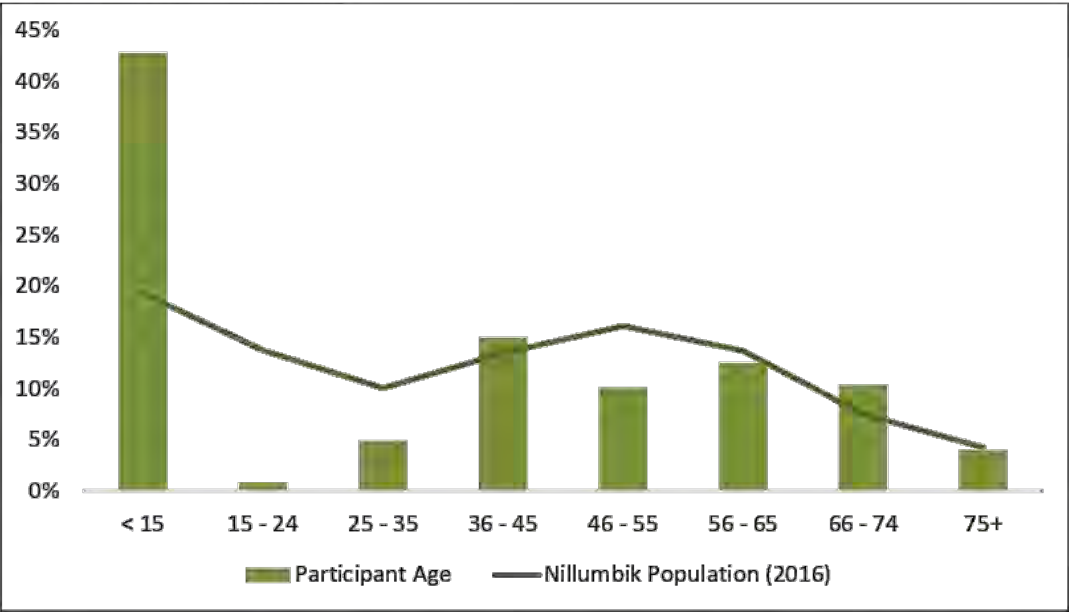
Of the respondents that provided their demographic information, 64.2% identified as female, 30.6% identified as male, 1% preferred to self-describe and 4.2% preferred not to say (Figure 7). Based on Nillumbik's population breakdown according to the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), we engaged a higher percentage of females and a lower percentage of males than the Nillumbik population.

Figure 7. Participant gender (n=575)



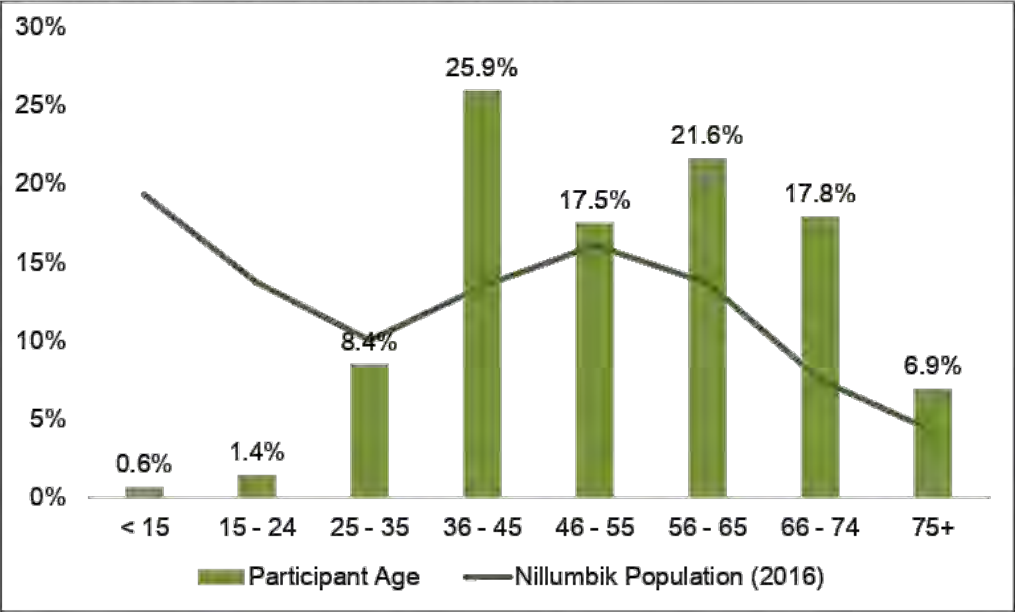
A total of 884 participants provided their age in the standard, children's, and easy read surveys (Figure 8). Of these, the highest proportion were aged <15 years (42.7%), with a median age group of 36-45, and an age range of 3-75+ years old.

Figure 8. Participant age (n=884)



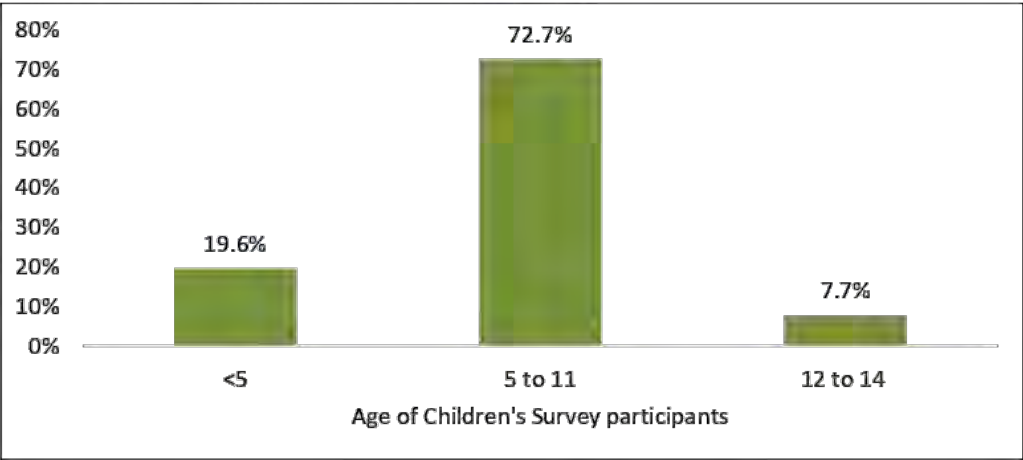
For the general surveys (Figure 9), the highest proportion were aged 36–45 (25.9%), followed by 56–65 (21.6%). The median age group was 46–55.

Figure 9. Participant age – general surveys (n= 510)



Of the 362 children who provided their age (Figure 10), the majority were aged 5 to 11 years old (72.7%), with a median age of 10 years old.

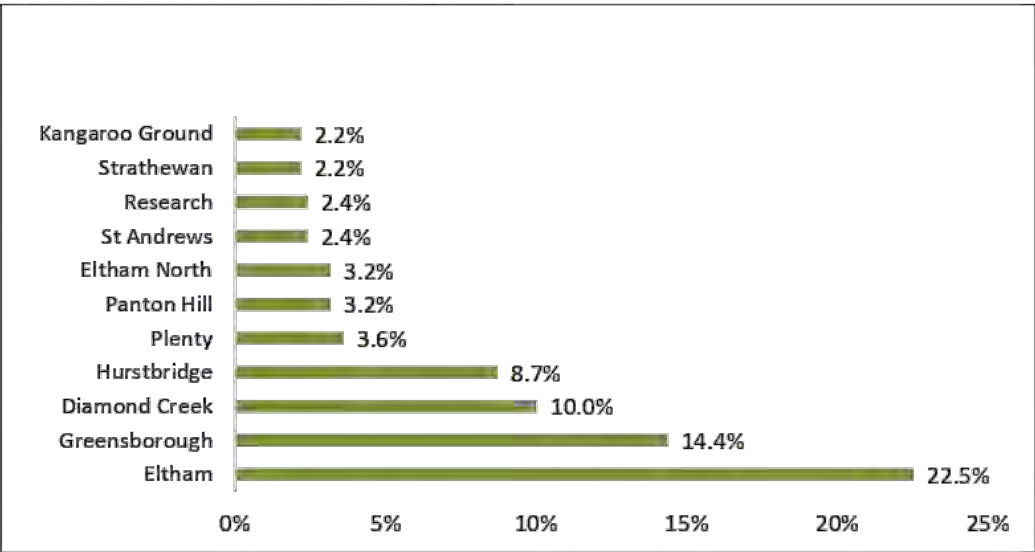
Figure 10. Participant age - children's surveys (n=362)



Location

As shown in Figure 11, 919 participants provided their township or suburb, with the highest proportion residing in Eltham (22.5%), Greensborough (14.4%), Diamond Creek (10%), and Hurstbridge (8.7%).

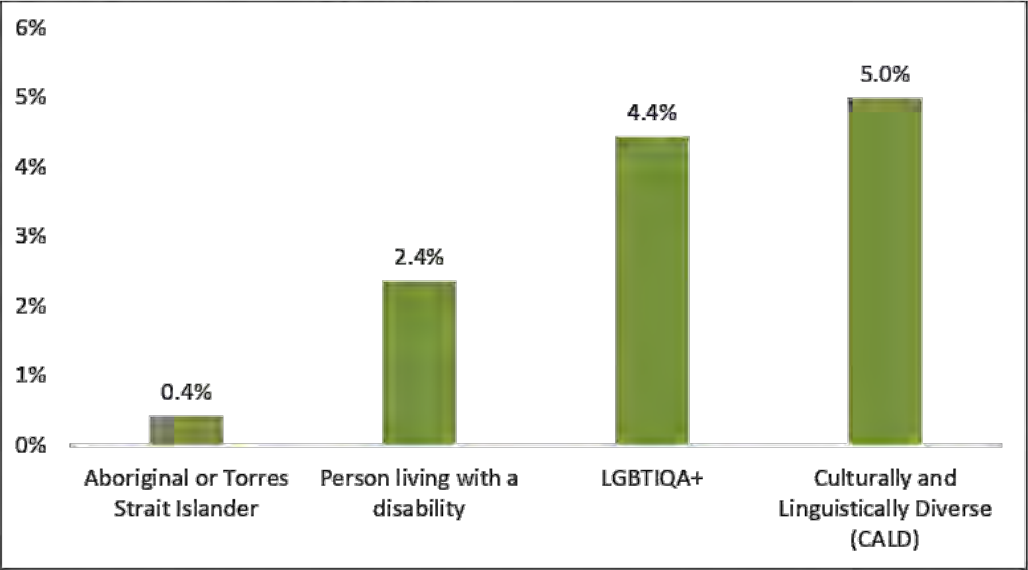
Figure 11. Participant township/suburb (n=919)



Access, equity and inclusion

Of the 722 general survey participants, 5.0% identified as Culturally or Linguistically Diverse (CALD), 4.4% identified as LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual +), 2.4% identified as a person with a disability, and 0.4% identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person (Figure 12).

Figure 12. Participant diversity (n=722)

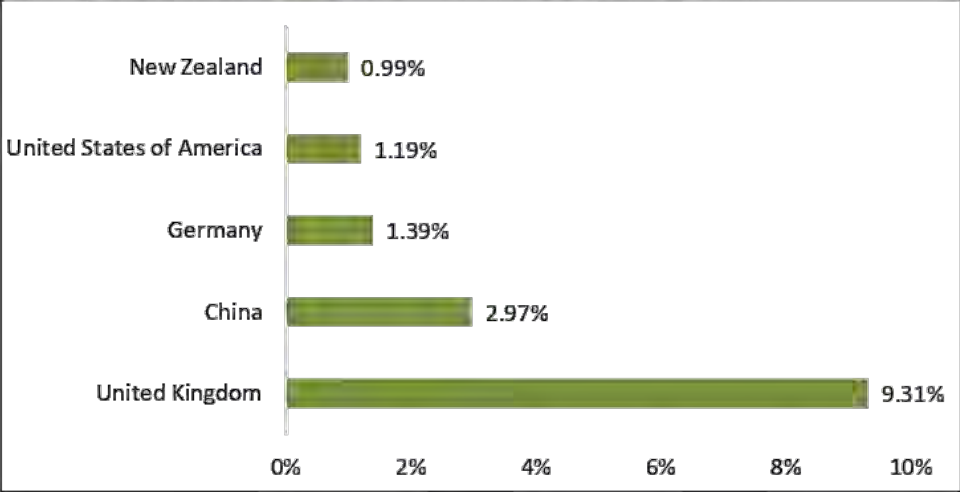


We engaged with a higher proportion of people who identify as LGBTQIA+ (4.4% of participants compared to 2% of households, as per 2016 Census).

We engaged with a representative sample of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (0.4%, the same amount as the 2016 Census).

We engaged with a higher proportion of people who were born overseas (22.4% compared to 16% from the 2016 Census).

Figure 13. Birthplace of participants born outside of Australia (n=505)



Our People

We wanted to understand what the community prioritised in relation to their wellbeing. We asked the community to identify the top three most important priorities under the themes of inclusion, healthy behaviours, employment and learning, resilient and safe and connected and engaged. We also asked participants to share their other “People” ideas. These questions were incorporated into the general and easy read surveys, and also formed the focus for conversations and activities at community pop-ups and workshops.

Figure 14. Community workshop with the Eltham Chinese Senior Citizens group, and the activity table at the Eltham North Adventure playground pop-up.



Inclusion

Social inclusion covers factors that determine how well an individual can participate in their community. Inclusion is a key determinant of health and plays a significant role in our community’s wellbeing. It is particularly important from a built environment and service perspective, to ensure that people with a disability or physical limitation can access services, people who speak a language other than English can source the information they need, people in low-income households have equal opportunity to access basic resources, and people of all genders and sexualities have equal opportunities in workplaces and social situations.

Inclusion – top 3 issues	
1. Opportunities for all	28% of participants
2. Accessible community and health services	17% of participants
3. Support for children and families	15% of participants

"A community that, although is less diverse than other LGAs, shows more awareness and respect for underrepresented groups - especially people with a disability and the LGBTQIA+ community" – Survey Respondent

"A health hub for rural communities" – Survey Respondent

"It is our big opportunity to do whatever we can to make women and women with children safe" – Survey Respondent

Healthy behaviours

There are a range of behaviours that are broadly recognised as contributing to poorer health outcomes for individuals including smoking, poor eating habits, psychological distress and family violence. However, these behaviours are modifiable.

Council has a role in understanding these behaviours and in working to improve both the built and social structures that can help to minimise these behaviours. Council also has an important role in encouraging positive health behaviours through the provision of services and facilities.

Healthy behaviours – top 3 issues	
1. Mental wellbeing	24% of participants
2. Physical wellbeing	19% of participants
3. Active lifestyles	18% of participants

"A stronger focus on mental health for post-pandemic life" – Survey Participant

"Connectedness to others makes you feel like you belong. Promoting tolerance, acceptance of difference, and a sense of belonging is important in our towns. It is also important that everyone's physical and mental well-being is supported and provided for." – Survey Respondent

"Free to low cost opportunities for people to socially connect, to be creative, physically active and social. Connecting people with their local community." – Survey Respondent

Employment and learning

Employment, education and learning have significant impacts on financial capabilities, which impacts an individual's ability to participate in society. Having an understanding of education, employment, income and local businesses allows Council to better position itself from an economic sustainability standpoint.

Employment and learning – top 3 issues	
1. Education and lifelong learning	28% of participants
2. Local business mix	23% of participants
3. Social enterprise	18% of participants

"Continue and expand upon courses through Living and Learning Nillumbik for local employment in community and personal care roles" – Survey Respondent

"Value add to our smaller communities by encouraging development of small boutique businesses" – Survey Respondent

"Improve work from home opportunities" – Survey Respondent

Resilient and safe

Resilient communities foster social cohesion by increasing a sense of belonging and engagement which in turn strengthens self-reliance and empowerment to address a range of issues including health and environmental emergencies.

Resilient and safe – top 3 issues	
1. Climate health	26% of participants
2. Community safety	24% of participants
3. Fire and emergency preparedness	23% of participants

"Reduce risk of bushfires. Educate the community about climate change causes and actions for a safe climate future including how they can access financial assistance to do this." – Survey Respondent

"I believe it is essential that people in the shire are aware of the dangers of bushfires and the need for measures that ensure our safety" – Survey Respondent

"Good public lighting in the shopping centre, carparks and around the libraries. Footpath safety maintenance. More signage to slow cyclists down on the shared recreational trails." – Survey Respondent

Connected and engaged

The health and connectedness of communities can be measured by the presence of social capital. Social capital is the benefit obtained by having links that bind and connect people within and between groups. It can provide sources of resilience against poor health, and can help people find work or cope with hardship.

Connected and engaged – top 3 issues	
1. Informed and consulted communities	18% of participants
2. Social connections	14% of participants
3. Local recreation and leisure options	11% of participants

"Authentic, transparent community outreach and engagement" – Survey Respondent

"Promoting social connections to prevent social isolation and improved mental health for our community" – Survey Respondent

"Engage with sporting and recreation clubs to help people connect with these groups" – Survey Respondent

Our Place

We wanted to understand what the community prioritised in relation to their neighbourhoods, townships and surroundings. We asked the community to identify the top three most important priorities under the themes of healthy environments, housing, open space and sustainability and accessible transport. We also asked participants to share their other “Place” ideas. These questions were incorporated into the general and easy read surveys and also formed the focus for conversations and activities at community pop-ups and workshops.

Healthy environments

Healthy environments include both the built and social structures within the community that promote health, wellbeing and resilience. These structures include community infrastructure, activities, and services that are available to residents and visitors to utilise. Community safety is also an important aspect of a healthy environment which has implications for Council in relation to public space management and vegetation, drainage and road maintenance.

Healthy environments – top 3 issues	
1. Public amenities	19% of participants
2. Parks and playgrounds	17% of participants
3. Clean and inviting spaces	15% of participants

“Access to amenities by bike and walking should be a main priority for our residents – a great way to reduce our carbon footprint” – Survey Respondent

“Weatherproof parks and playgrounds. Playgrounds for all ages and abilities, including older people” – Community Pop-up Participant

“Safe clean spaces for people to exercise, play, catch up without fear of violence, infection, or littering” – Survey Respondent

Housing

Safe, affordable and secure housing is associated with better health, which in turn impacts on people's participation in work, education and the community. Understanding how people live can help identify opportunities to support people who are in insecure housing and is also key to developing housing and residential strategies that are responsive to the needs of our community. Knowledge of the particulars of housing within our municipality can also help to identify opportunities for improving sustainability outcomes at a household level.

Housing – top 3 issues	
1. Protection of local history and heritage	19% of participants
2. Eco-friendly design	16% of participants
3. Ageing in place	15% of participants

"Maximising the heritage values of places such as the old Killeavey property, Laughing Waters, the mud brick homes, artists colonies etc. Some are appropriately publicised, others are not. An interpretive sign or two in significant sites can make a walk so much more." – Survey Respondent

"Offer rate reductions for the first few years for new building plans where people are taking ecofriendly built designs including gardens" – Survey Respondent

"Increase housing diversity in the Shire" – Community Workshop Participant

"In a society that has so many aged people (over 60) take more time to understand their needs and totally incorporate this in your planning and development processes" – Survey Respondent

Open space and sustainability

Public open spaces play a critical role in local communities as they provide accessible spaces and places that are unencumbered by economic or social constraints. Understanding how people use public open space assists in maintenance and infrastructure planning. Further, open spaces make an important contribution to health, wellbeing, biodiversity and environmental conservation.

Open space and sustainability – top 3 issues	
1. Preservation of the Green Wedge	21% of participants
2. Protecting agricultural use	13% of participants
3. Action on climate change	11% of participants

"Climate change affects us all. Make it easier for us to reduce energy and recycle re-use, and reduce waste" – Survey Respondent

"We need small-scale sustainable agriculture set up to provide employment and healthy local food. To make this work we need good infrastructure for water, energy, mulch, drainage, and runoff controls. We need to link this in with education, so we are always building and enhancing knowledge about how to make small scale farms work well." – Survey Respondent

"Trees, trees and more trees" – Community Pop-up Participant

Accessible transport

Understanding how people move throughout the Shire can assist Council to plan for future road, bike-path and footpath infrastructure. It can also assist in advocacy to State and local governments to increase opportunities for increased public transport options and improved road infrastructure. Planning that results in less traffic congestion, shorter commute times and greater public transport options can have significant benefits on people's health and wellbeing.

Accessible transport – top 3 issues	
1. Public transport options	30% of participants
2. Community transport	23% of participants
3. Connected walking paths/trails	16% of participants

“Better public transport and connections” – Survey Respondents

“We have to make this area less reliant on individual cars, have more pedestrian-friendly areas and paths and have robust public transport” – Survey Respondent

“More bike parking in Eltham” – Community Pop-up Participant

Our People and Our Place summary findings

The following provides an overall summary of what we heard across the themes of Our People and Our Place.

More broadly, our residents consider community connectedness and social inclusion as very important as they are viewed as a way to build resilience, foster a sense of belonging, improve mental health and is key in preventing and reducing social isolation.

Participation in life-long education, volunteering, social and sporting groups are key contributors to community connectedness.

The role of leisure and recreation facilities and activities were often cited by participants, as were community festivals and events.

The need for easier access to public and community transport is seen as essential for enabling connections, especially for younger people and older residents.

Participants value the proximity to open space and the natural environment, notably for the physical and mental health benefits these provide through encouraging a range of readily accessible outdoor activities including walking, cycling, sports and leisure activities.

Community pop-up and workshop participants placed a high value on the natural bushland environment and Green Wedge that Nillumbik contains. Specific comments addressed the need to protect and enhance the environment with a particular focus on loss of biodiversity and mitigating the effects of climate change.

Survey participants placed high importance was placed on access to local services and amenities, including health, retail, dining and education options.

References to Nillumbik’s culture and neighbourhood character were frequent. Comments were often focused on the protection of local history and heritage, both Indigenous and non-indigenous.

All themes referenced throughout the engagement and evaluation were dependent on the Council taking a lead role in keeping the community informed and connected. Community engagement was viewed as fundamental to all Council business regardless of its theme.

Our Future

What is valued and what needs to change?

Looking ahead to 2040, we wanted to understand what the community valued about Nillumbik and also what they felt needed to change to protect the things that were valued. These questions were incorporated into the general and easy read surveys, and also formed the focus for conversations and activities at community pop-ups and workshops.

In reviewing the feedback, it was noted that many things that were valued in Nillumbik were also listed as things that needed to change. In evaluating the feedback it became clear that the 'changes' referred to actions that respondents felt needed to occur in order to protect and/or promote what was valued. For example, respondents reported having important connections with their local townships and valued the neighbourhood character, generally appreciating the limits and controls placed on residential development, particularly in the Green Wedge areas of the Shire. Overdevelopment was cited as a concern, however appropriate housing development in line with neighbourhood character and green wedge values were identified as ways that could address areas of concern including local business development, local employment opportunities and affordable housing.

The following tables and quotes represent the 'top three' highest rated 'things you would like to see valued' along with the 'top three' rated areas that 'need to change in Nillumbik'. Quotes by respondents have been included to provide context for these results.

Things you would like to see valued in Nillumbik	
1. Preservation of the Green Wedge	41% of participants
2. Protection of environment and biodiversity	12% of participants
3. Action on climate change	7% of participants

Participants also identified a sense of neighbourhood character and identity as being something that they valued, along with access to passive recreation spaces such as parks and reserves. Participants also referenced 'informed and consulted communities' as being something that was of significance.

What needs to change in Nillumbik	
1. Responsible urban housing development	27% of participants
2. Community leadership	15% of participants
3. Traffic management	15% of participants

Issues relating to reducing waste and recycling, and taking more decisive action on climate change also featured in participants responses to 'what needs to change in Nillumbik'. Issues relating to transport and amenity throughout the Shire also featured.

"The very special Green Wedge environment we are privileged to live in and which can never be replaced."

"Protection of the Green Wedge"

"Leadership that puts a greener future at the core."

"Climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental reinvigoration."

"Leadership to tackle climate change"

"Protection of, and an increase in biodiversity."

"The character of our townships, including community volunteerism supporting each other, and protection of that character."

"Preservation of local character – don't turn it into just another suburb."

"More medium density housing close to shops and train stations and a stop to housing development of bush land."

"Sense of community, collaborative relationships, sustainable lifestyles."

"Social connections, environment and local character."

"Climate action, green space and responsible development."

"Respect for community input."

"Genuine and transparent community engagement and consultation."

"Roads. Bike paths. Making locals safe accessing facilities."

"Safer roads."

"Roads and dedicated bike paths. Improving these facilities to handle increasing traffic in the congested, once rural communities."

Participant ideas

During the engagement process we encouraged participants to 'think big', asking them to share their big idea for Nillumbik.

These 'big ideas' were collected through survey responses, captured on interactive boards at community pop-up events and discussed in community forums, school classrooms, and online sessions. During the engagement period we collected over 550 'big ideas' which included the following:

"We should go out on Mondays and clean up the parks"

"Put a stronger focus on and campaign for community gardens, increasing resilience and educating children on where their food comes from and how it's made"

"A more diverse, inclusive and better informed community"

"A community hospital and health hub"

"Declare a climate emergency and take fundamental action to address the underlying structural and strategic basis for climate change, and implement actions and response that will have a direct effect"

"Splash park, youth hub, gallery and performance space"

"A mix of residential, agriculture, education and tourism, with careful controls on development to maintain the green wedge"

"A community power scheme where locals access local power"

"Nillumbik becomes the perfect example of a sustainable, carbon neutral, climate friendly, largely self-sufficient (food, energy, water) community that leads the way in Australia of an example of what is possible"

"Maintain the green wedge and improve walking and cycling infrastructure"

"Being a positive and inclusive community"

"A playground for older people"

"I would like Nillumbik to be wheelchair friendly. When my daughter became disabled 10 years ago I had never realised how difficult it was for a disabled person to negotiate around the shire on their own."

"To see Nillumbik as a balanced, progressive and bushfire-safe Shire that attracts businesses and people to work and live"

"A greyhound slipping track"

"Preserve the existing environment especially the Green Wedge for future generations"

"More social housing"

"A regional destination playspace featuring a ninja warrior course (park warrior) that will draw crowds from near and far and boost local economy in the process"

"A Shire that is completely off the grid"

"Regenerative farming alongside environmental zones as a foundation that is fully integrated into township, lifestyle, business and recreation activities"

"A better way to tackle traffic congestion"

"Making Nillumbik more accessible - firstly by foot, by bicycle (safely) and for children, older people and people with disabilities. Nillumbik is beautiful, unique and full of potential, however it is not fully functional due to lack of access and infrastructure"

"I want Nillumbik to remain a green and inspirational community space"

"A Shire which celebrates and sustains its leafy, treed and green environment to support a community that is healthy and happy"

As detailed above, responses spanned a variety of areas identified by the community as a key or priority. The responses ranged from aspirations for the Shire to practical improvements and innovative projects as well as the preservation of things the community values now.

Children's surveys

Thinking about Nillumbik's future, it was of paramount importance that we heard from our future leaders. In addition to hearing from our youngest residents at community pop-ups and events, we designed a children's survey to capture their thoughts. We received over 340 responses. These responses were evaluated in the same way as the general survey, where responses were assigned a theme. Below represents the top three priority areas for participants.

Quotes and illustrations from participants have also been included into this report to provide context and sentiment to what was broadly received.

What do you love about where you live?	
Parks and playgrounds	23% of participants
Social connections	12% of participants
Accessible places and spaces	12% of participants

"There is a park across the road from my house. I play at the park on the slide and swings." Isabelle, age 4

"There's fun parks nearby and there's fun bike trails to go on" Apollo Parkways Primary School, age 9

"I love that I live close to my friends" Jack, age 4

"I am very close to school and my friends" Apollo Parkways Primary School, age 12

"It's close to everything, there's a lot of animals, my sport is just down the road, there's a CFA and a police academy nearby, my friends live close by, it's a safe place" Apollo Parkways Primary School, age 10

"I love that where I live is so close to the bush and that it is so close to the shops. I love where I live is that I can walk home." Apollo Parkways Primary School, age 9

Figure 15. Children's survey response submitted by a participant, aged 7½



Why should adults listen to kids?	
Informed and consulted communities	47% of participants
Support for children and families	22% of participants
Community leadership	13% of participants

"Kids should be allowed to have a say" Maddie, age 11

"Kids have many ideas that make this community better" Apollo Parkways Primary School, age 10

"Because we want to be safe. I feel safe at Playhouse. I feel happy." Hazel, age 3 ½

"Because they help me do things" Violet, age 4

"Adults should listen to kids because they have great ideas" Kinglake, age 9

"Adults should listen to kids because they also have good ideas and they have great imaginations. And were fresh and their stale :)" Flynn, age 11

"Adults should listen to children because we might have some great ideas adults don't know of" Shani, age 10

Figure 16. Lachlan and Isabelle, age 4, from Community Kids Haven Greensborough, with their completed surveys.

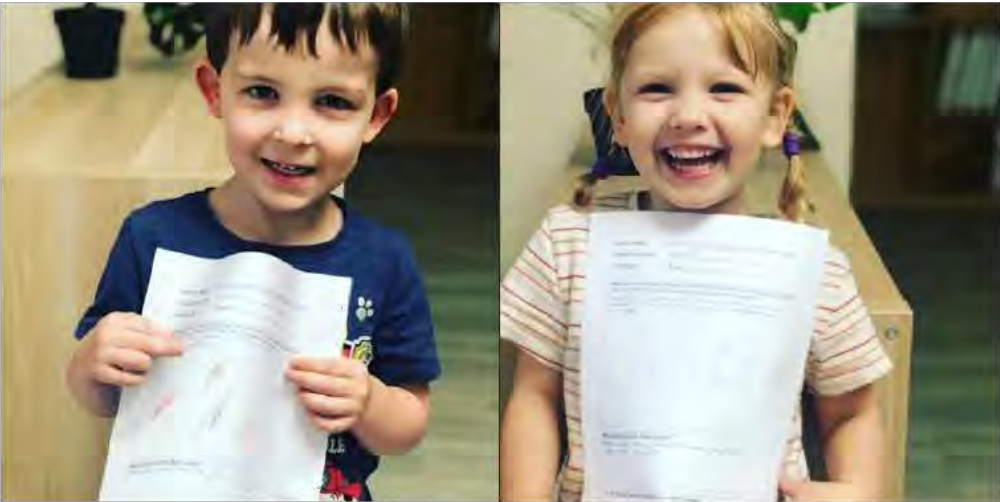


Figure 17. Community workshop with the Little Scooters Early Learning Centre & Kindergarten



To be happy, healthy and safe my family needs ...	
Physical wellbeing	30% of participants
Healthy eating and drinking	21% of participants
Social connections	18% of participants

“We need to stay away from snakes, eat all our vegetables and stay in bed all night without calling” Sylvie, age 4

“We need fresh food, clean and fresh water, a nice house to be warm in, a nice play to have a nice sleep in” Apollo Parkways Primary School, age 10

“Fresh food and fresh and clean water” Apollo Parkways Primary School, age 10

“Fruit, eating veggies” Mila, age 4

“Vegetables and fruit. Puppy dogs.” Ashton, age 4¾

“Mummy and daddy and my brother” Ash, age 4

“Support & love.” Stella, age 12

Financial and asset management

Councils have limited means to raise funds, and currently have their rates capped under State Government policies. Nillumbik’s financial sustainability continues to require active management year-on-year. Due to the lack of diversity in its rate-base, Nillumbik faces significant challenges in meeting the needs of the community, maintaining existing assets, and developing new infrastructure. Compared to other municipalities, the revenue growth obtained from residential and non-residential sources is limited, as is the ability to grow these rate-bases.

We wanted to find out what the community thought about Council’s current expenditure across its main services, as well as its’ spend on capital works.

Survey participants were presented with a chart that detailed how Council allocates its expenditure across the main services it delivers for every \$100.00 of rates it collected. Participants were asked to think about whether or not funds needed to be directed from one service to another, by indicating ‘spend more’, ‘spend the same’ or ‘spend less’, and where a redirection took place, the reasoning for this.

Figure 18. The chart below details how Council allocates its expenditure across the main services it delivers for every \$100.00 of rates that Council collects.

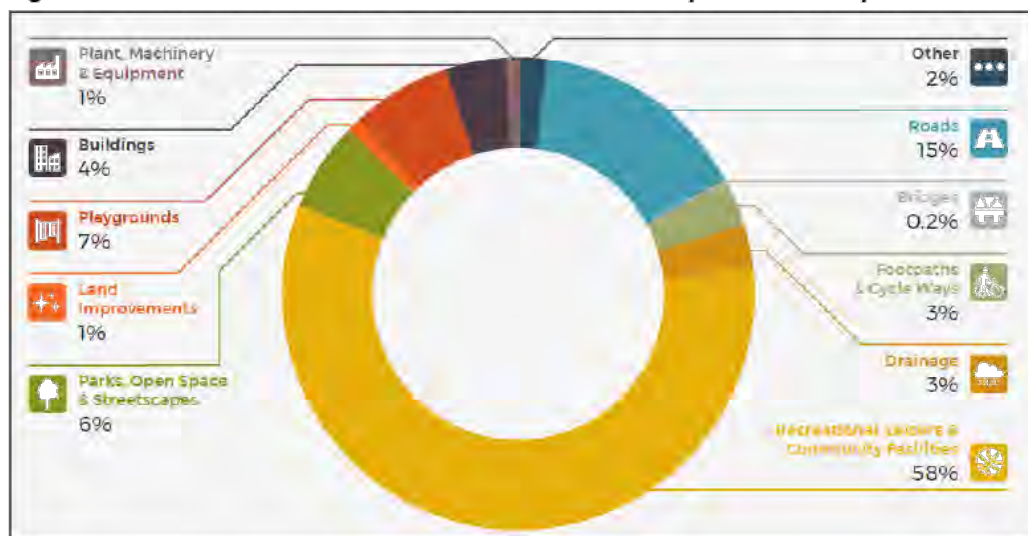


The following table represents the top three areas of redirections across the range of services presented.

Rate expenditure	
Spend more	
Environment, parks and open space	17%
Recreation and leisure	15%
Waste and recycling	12%
Spend the same	
Libraries, education and culture	9%
Planning and development	9%
Family, child and community services	9%
Spend less	
Customer service and corporate support	17%
Governance	14%
Debt servicing	13%

Survey participants were also presented with a chart that detailed how Council allocates its expenditure on capital works, and were similarly asked to think about whether or not funds needed to be directed from one area to another, by indicating 'spend more', 'spend the same' or 'spend less' and where a redirection took place, the reasoning for this.

Figure 19. The chart below details how Council allocates its expenditure on capital works.



The following table represents the top three areas of redirections across the range of assets presented.

Capital works expenditure	
<i>Spend more</i>	
Parks and open space	19%
Footpaths and cycle ways	15%
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	12%
<i>Spend the same</i>	
Plant, machinery and equipment	12%
Planning and development	11%
Family, child and community services	10%
<i>Spend less</i>	
Land improvements	17%
Roads	17%
Buildings	15%

Overall, participants reported that these questions were somewhat difficult to answer and that additional more detailed information was required. As a result, responses regarding redirections were limited.

Conclusion and next steps

This report presents a summary of the key findings from the first stage of the engagement program for the Our People Our Place Our Future initiative. The findings will be used to inform the development of key strategic planning documents for Council, including:

- Asset Plan
- Community Vision
- Council Plan
- Financial Plan
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Municipal Planning Strategy.

Further analysis of the engagement data and subsequent engagement phases will be delivered over the coming months in line with individual document requirements and in line with the Our People, Our Place, Our Future engagement program.

This report will be made available on Council's website and communicated through social media channels. Respondents who provided contact details will be advised of how and where to access this report.

We wish to thank every person who made a contribution to this Our People, Our Place, Our Future community engagement exercise.

Appendix – Definitions of key themes

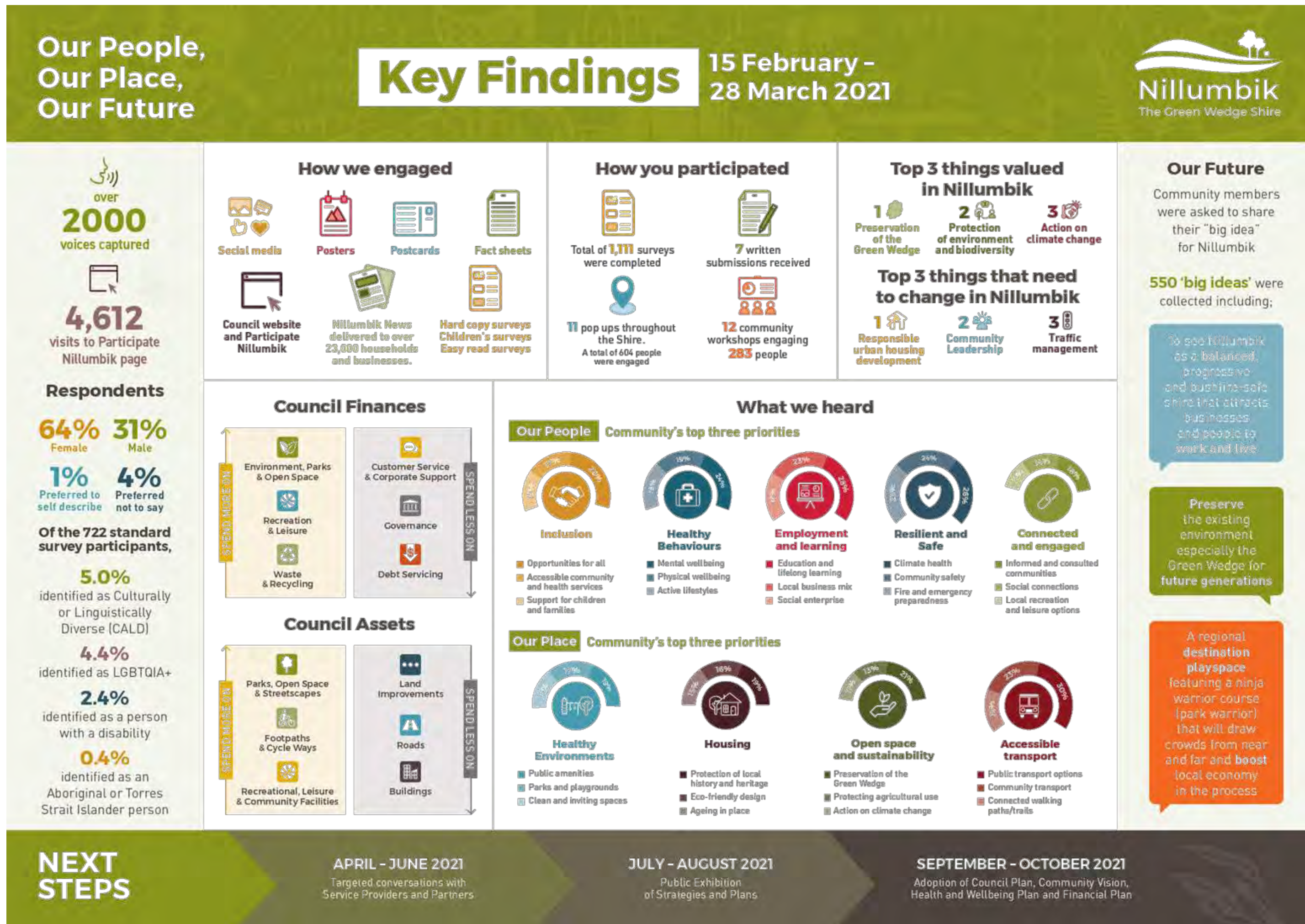
The below themes were informed by the 'social determinants of health' and 'domains of liveability'.

Theme	Description
Accessible community and health services	Ensuring that all community and health services accommodate all members of the community, regardless of ability, gender, sexuality, race, religion, location, or socioeconomic status.
Accessible places and spaces	Ensuring that Council grounds and services accommodate all members of community, regardless of ability, gender, sexuality, race, religion, location, or socioeconomic status.
Action on climate change	Enacting plans, strategies, or targets to combat climate change.
Active lifestyles	Encouraging physical activity.
Ageing in place	Ensuring that residents can remain living in their own community.
Clean and inviting spaces	Ensuring all Council grounds and services provide a tidy and welcoming atmosphere.
Climate health	Responding to health issues caused by the increased intensity and frequency of extreme weather events (e.g. heatwaves)
Community leadership	Encouraging and providing opportunities for community members to play an active part in leading their community.
Community safety	Ensuring Nillumbik is a community where residents can live, work and play without risk to health or wellbeing.
Community transport	Providing transport options for those who would otherwise find it difficult to travel throughout their community.
Connected walking paths/trails	Creating and connecting walking paths and trails throughout the Shire.
Drainage and road infrastructure	Improving drainage and road infrastructure.
Eco-friendly design	Encouraging and enforcing environmentally sustainable buildings.
Education and lifelong learning	Provide funding and opportunities for community members to further their education.
Fire and emergency preparedness	Providing education and funding to ensure the community is prepared for any natural disasters, particular bushfires.

Healthy eating and drinking	Provide education about and opportunities to partake in healthy eating and drinking.
Informed and consulted communities	Ensure that community members are informed and consulted about any actions/plans that may affect them.
Local business mix	Provide support and opportunities for local businesses to thrive.
Local recreation and leisure options	Provide recreation and leisure facilities and events.
Mental wellbeing	Support, fund, and encourage services, initiatives, and facilities that support mental health and welfare.
Opportunities for all	Providing opportunities for all members of Nillumbik's community to participate and be heard.
Parks and playgrounds	Provide and maintain parks and playgrounds in the Shire.
Physical wellbeing	Support, fund, and encourage services, initiatives, and facilities that support physical health and welfare.
Preservation of the Green Wedge	Ensure that the Green Wedge is protected.
Protecting agricultural use	Ensuring that agricultural areas are retained and protected.
Protection of local history and heritage	Safeguarding the history and heritage of the Shire.
Protection of environment and biodiversity	Safeguarding the environment and the protection of biodiversity.
Public amenities	Providing public services, resources, and spaces.
Public transport options	Improve public transport services within the Shire.
Responsible urban housing development	Ensuring all future urban housing developments are in line with the long-term vision of the Shire.
Social connections	Encouraging and providing opportunities for interpersonal relationships and social interactions to occur and develop.
Social enterprise	Encouraging organisations and businesses which aim to function sustainably and improve the social, mental, and physical wellbeing of the community.
Support for children and families	Support, fund, and encourage services, initiatives, and facilities that support children and families.
Traffic management	Implement strategies and initiatives to reduce traffic around the Shire.

**References: Centre for Urban Research (2017) Developing a Pilot Liveability Index
Nillumbik Shire Council (2016) Nillumbik Health and Wellbeing Profile**

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Council Finances

SPEND MORE ON

- Environment, Parks & Open Space
- Recreation & Leisure
- Waste & Recycling

SPEND LESS ON

- Customer Service & Corporate Support
- Governance
- Debt Servicing

Council Assets

SPEND MORE ON

- Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes
- Footpaths & Cycle Ways
- Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities

SPEND LESS ON

- Land Improvements
- Roads
- Buildings

What we heard

Our People Community's top three priorities

Inclusion

- Opportunities for all
- Accessible community and health services
- Support for children and families

Healthy Behaviours

- Mental wellbeing
- Physical wellbeing
- Active lifestyles

Employment and learning

- Education and lifelong learning
- Local business mix
- Social enterprise

Our Place Community's top three priorities

Healthy Environments

- Public amenities
- Parks and playgrounds
- Clean and inviting spaces

Housing

- Protection of local history and heritage
- Eco-friendly design
- Ageing in place

Open space and sustainability

- Preservation of the Green Wedge
- Protecting agricultural use
- Action on climate change

Accessible transport

- Public transport options
- Community transport
- Connected walking paths/trails

NEXT
STEPS

APRIL - JUNE 2021

Targeted conversations with Service Providers and Partners

JULY - AUGUST 2021

Public Exhibition of Strategies and Plans

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2021

Adoption of Council Plan, Community Vision, Health and Wellbeing Plan and Financial Plan





A ground-breaking plan to protect and enhance the Yarra River, Birrarung

The Yarra Strategic Plan:

- is the very first plan to protect and enhance the Yarra River and its parklands as one living and integrated natural entity, from source to sea
- is, proudly, the first plan for the Yarra River developed in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. The actions in this plan respect and support Traditional Owners to co-manage the river and its lands
- fosters river management without borders; the 15 state and local government authorities involved in managing the river and its parklands co-designed this plan and will work together, with communities, to protect the Yarra along its length
- connects planning law and water management, for the first time, to protect the natural beauty and health of the Yarra River's landscapes.
- supports and builds on the 50 Year Community Vision, which was developed by more than 2500 Victorians who described their long-term aspirations for the Yarra River corridor.
- builds on its 'sister' strategy, the regional *Healthy Waterway Strategy*, to deliver multiple-partner, priority projects for a healthy river and lands
- outlines a pioneering plan to improve and celebrate the Yarra's parklands for a growing population – protecting important environmental and cultural values while enabling an array of outstanding river and parkland experiences.

The phrase Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn means 'keep the Yarra alive'.

The story of the Yarra and its parklands

The Yarra River has flowed for at least 100 million years. Initially, it joined with the Werribee, Patterson and Little Rivers, draining directly into Bass Strait. With rising sea levels, between 8000 and 6000 BC, the basin flooded forming Port Phillip Bay, moving the 'mouth' of the Yarra some 50 kilometres inland. The river continued to shift and cut new paths across the landscape, with its current position helping shape Melbourne.¹

From the near-pristine flanks of Mount Baw Baw, the Yarra River flows for 242 km through its forested catchment, agricultural land, townships and suburbs into the heart of Melbourne and out to Port Phillip Bay.

The Yarra is a valuable natural asset that supports the community by providing water for potable and agricultural uses, areas for recreation, and protected areas that allow native flora and fauna to thrive.

The river is a key contributor to Melbourne's famous liveability; it encourages people to exercise, appreciate, enjoy, observe and explore. It provides an estimated \$730 million in value to the community annually, with recreation and aesthetic benefits the largest contributors. This is in addition to the significant value provided by the river as the city's main water supply.

To the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, the river is known as the Birrarung, meaning 'river of mists and shadows'. It is the sacred lifeblood of Country, providing food, water and meeting places, as well as being a central element in their cultural, economic and spiritual life. The role of the river has been captured and carried in oral memory for tens of thousands of years.

Colonisation led to large-scale devastation of the Aboriginal population in Victoria. In direct contrast with the harmonious management of the river by Traditional Owners, early colonists', land clearing, sewage and industry polluted the Yarra's lower reaches.

From 1835 onwards, the Yarra became a focal point for colonial settlement. Access to fresh water, proximity to good grazing lands and a river port helped to establish Melbourne as an international centre for commerce and industry. The river also played an important role in the social lives of settlers; it was a popular place to swim and gather for public events (and remains so to this day).

Ships were able to sail up the river to the turning basin below the Yarra Falls (Queensbridge Square). However, the meandering nature of the ancient river could not accommodate the shipping demands of a growing city. Beginning in the 1860s, widening, dredging and straightening of the river allowed for safe navigation by larger and larger ships. These works also helped to ease flooding in the city. Today, there are many visible reminders of the Yarra's rich maritime history, including the wharves, vaults and warehouses dotted along the lower part of the river.

Early Melbourne's were well aware of the value of parks for human health and wellbeing, with areas of Yarra Bend first reserved for parklands in 1877. The Metropolitan Town Planning Commission's *Plan for General Development* (1929) identified land along key waterways, including the Yarra, as future open space networks. It wasn't until the middle ring suburbs developed during the 1970s that many of these parklands were realised, with Warrandyte State Park opening in 1975, and Westerfold's Park in 1977. The Yarra Ranges National Park was established more recently in 1995, and the central business district's Birrarung Marr in 2002.

Though the river's course has changed naturally over time, colonial settlement resulted in rapid shifts in the flow of the river. It has been diverted from its natural course; widened, dredged and, most significantly, dammed to create reservoirs to store water for homes, farms and industry. Land clearing for agriculture has resulted in less water being absorbed by the landscape, faster runoff speeds during storms and higher rates of erosion. Urbanisation has meant more hard surfaces from roofs, pavements and roads. When it rains now, more water flows into the river at higher speeds bringing with it litter and pollution from streets and stormwater drains.

The shifts in natural flows have removed the natural cues and conditions for fish and platypus to breed. Before controls and regulations were put in place, the river would flood more frequently, expanding and contracting across the floodplain, to exchange nutrients and support river and floodplain ecosystems. Since 2011, releases of water from reservoirs have been used to mimic natural flows and wetting events that used to occur, helping to restore some of the functions of these important ecosystems.

Over the last century, there have been several successful government and community-led campaigns to improve the health of the Yarra River and its lands. As Melbourne faces its third, and largest, wave of population growth, modern governance and management will be more important than ever to protect the Yarra.

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Credit: Doug Gimesy,
Grey-headed flying fox, Yarra River



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MINISTERIAL FOREWORD

The Yarra River, Birrarung, together with its parklands is the lifeblood of Melbourne. It flows through and nourishes our forests, farmlands, towns, suburbs and city. It is a place where we can rest, play and enjoy.



To address the challenges presented by climate change and population growth, it is vitally important to have an overarching plan to guide future urban development and planning both for the waterway and its surrounds.

In listening to the community and the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, the Traditional Owners of much of the Yarra, and state and local government authorities with responsibility for the area, have developed the Yarra Strategic Plan to address their aspirations and challenges.

The Yarra Strategic Plan is a regional strategy that guides local planning and decision making and outlines the first 10 years of work to deliver the 50-year community vision for the Yarra.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have partnered in the development of the plan, outlining their priorities and ambitions for the Birrarung, recognising Traditional Owners' voices in the governance and protection of the Yarra River.

The landmark Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung munyon) Act 2017 enshrines in law the protection of the river and its management as one living and integrated natural entity.

This plan will help underpin the commitments we made in the creation of the Act.

We want to ensure our city is sustainable and liveable for future generations, which is why we are acting to protect this wonderful river.



Hon Lisa Neville MP
Minister for Water



Hon Richard Wynne MP
Minister for Planning

WURUNDJERI FOREWORD

We, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, are the Traditional Owners of a large area of Country that includes the lands through which the Birrarung flows- from its source through to the sea. The Birrarung, which has sustained us for millennia, forms part of our Dreaming. We have inherited a sovereign responsibility to care for and manage the Birrarung and its lands.

Historically, our peoples' rights to the management of waterways, have been excluded from legislation, planning, management policies and programs.

Nhanbu narun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit and Lore the Yarra) outlines our aspirations for the Birrarung and this policy sets out our future plans for the social, cultural, economic, environmental and heritage outcomes for the Birrarung. It is an evolving policy and process.

With our recognition in the *Wilip gin Birrarung murrn (Yarra River Protection) Act 2017* our people also gained a legislative mechanism and a formal process through which to engage with responsible public entities to work collaboratively and oversee the governance of the Birrarung and its lands as one living entity.

Our inclusion in the Act was highly significant because for the first time a legislative mechanism included a placed-based approach to the management of a waterway – pairing right Country with the right people – our people. Our future work regarding waterway and land management on our Country will also be founded on bespoke placed based legislation which articulates our role.

Within the context of this significant governance reform, the Yarra Collaboration Committee, through the implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan has committed to embedding our continued inclusion in formal, resourced, and self-determined partnerships for culturally appropriate management of the Birrarung and its lands.

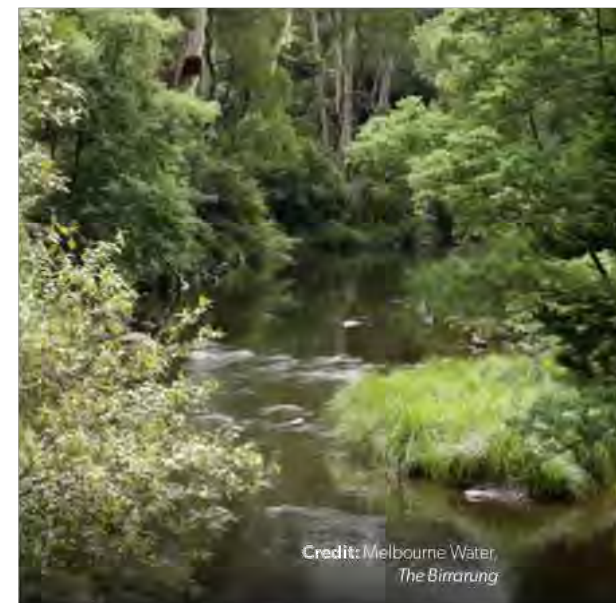
Through supporting our aspirations for water justice, the granting of unencumbered water rights and embedding our active participation in management of the Birrarung and its lands, we believe that the Yarra Strategic Plan will deliver the necessary changes needed to realise broader reforms.

We look forward to working with all partners to see the Yarra Strategic Plan come to life and remain hopeful that once the actions defined in the plan are implemented the Birrarung will continue to sustain not only our people, but all communities who rely on the Birrarung, for centuries to come.



Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Community

Wurundjeri
Woi-wurrung
Yarra River Protection
Act 2017



Credit: Melbourne Water,
The Birrarung

PREFACE

The Yarra Strategic Plan is a requirement of the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017* (the Act). It is the first plan to protect and enhance the Yarra River and its land as one living and integrated natural entity from source to sea.

Fifteen state and local government authorities, as well as Traditional Owners, care for the river and its land, each looking after the river corridor within their own remit of responsibilities. These agencies invest over \$50 million annually, through projects and programs to improve the environment and Yarra communities.

The Yarra Strategic Plan adopts a holistic 'river without borders' approach. It:

- integrates, coordinates and harmonises the plans, regulations and investment programs of authorities and organisations
- identifies key gaps in activities, and proposes a series of actions to address them over a ten-year period
- brings statutory planning and land and waterway management together for the first time setting out directions for future land use and development for the entire river corridor
- recognises the rights of Traditional Owners, as articulated in the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly to conserve and protect the environment of traditional lands.

The plan does not take the place of Yarra-relevant policies, plans and strategies made under statutes such as the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and the *Water Act 1989*.

The plan will be a living document with ongoing review, commitments and oversight.

Why this plan was developed

Shifting the foundation: new law and policy for the Yarra's care

In 2015, the Victorian Government established the Yarra Ministerial Advisory Committee to provide recommendations for improved management, promotion and protection of the Yarra River. The committee was assisted by Elders representing the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to provide the cultural framework. Following extensive consultation, the committee made 30 recommendations, which included developing a Yarra Strategic Plan to align objectives and integrate decision-making.

Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017

To refocus the way the Yarra is managed and protected, the Victorian Government worked with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to deliver the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017*. This legislation enshrines in law the protection of the Yarra and acknowledges the significance of the river to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, highlighting their ongoing role in its management.²

This legislation was introduced into parliament by Elders of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. It is the first Victorian legislation with a dual Indigenous language title and

preamble. The phrase Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn means 'keep the Yarra alive'.

The legislation combines Traditional Owner knowledge with modern river management expertise, setting the context for the Yarra Strategic Plan. The Act calls for collaborative management, driven by the development and implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan and a long-term community vision. Together, these documents will ensure that the Yarra is protected 'as one living and integrated natural entity'.

Birrarung water policy – Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation developed *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung*, meaning 'Ancient Spirit and Lore of the Yarra', to define their ambitions for planning, policy and decision-making for the Birrarung. *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* was launched in May 2018, and the aspirations within it continue to evolve.

The policy has informed the plan, ensuring that the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung's aspirations for the river are prioritised and Traditional Owners are included in the ongoing management of the Birrarung. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation is self-determining its participation in the plan, and many actions within the plan align with its aspirations. This is part of the Victorian Government's commitment to meaningful partnership with Traditional Owners on their Country.

The Yarra Strategic Plan provides a step change in managing the Yarra in the following ways:

Addressing the impacts of climate change and population growth

While planning and investment have maintained the city's liveability, the *State of the Yarra and Its Parklands 2018 Report* indicates that the river is already experiencing the impacts of climate change and population growth. Key threats to its health are litter, sewage, pollution, urban development and invasive species, that will be exacerbated by climate change and population growth.³

The plan addresses the impacts of climate change and population growth in two ways: Part 1 includes actions to better understand and address the impacts of climate change and population growth on biodiversity and the values provided by parklands and waterways; In Part 2, the land use framework provides spatial directions for land use in the corridor in the context of a warmer and drier climate and increased frequency of intensive rainfall events causing flooding.

Outlining a better way to manage the river collaboratively

The success of this plan hinges on a sincere commitment by all relevant authorities and organisations to collaborate and work beyond boundaries and to manage the river corridor as one living and integrated natural entity. It is important that investment in activities and projects consider upstream and downstream benefits and impacts more broadly, as well as lateral connections.

Underpinning this shift to collaborative management is the plan's decision-making framework that ensures organisations consider the impacts of their work and policies on Yarra River land and look for opportunities for collaboration and alignment. The framework will also guide partnerships with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, strengthening the ties of recognised Traditional Owners with management of the Yarra.

Emphasising the rights and aspirations of the Traditional Custodians of the Birrarung

In line with the *United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, the plan has been developed with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and will include Traditional Owners in decision-making and determination of priorities on their Country as the plan is implemented. The plan also builds on the ratification of international and local documents that prioritise Indigenous land and water rights, as well as Connection to Country.

Promoting the ties of recognised Traditional Owners to the Birrarung, and supporting customs and management practices, will help ensure the success of the plan. By blending Traditional Owner knowledge with new science, the plan seeks to protect the Yarra for future generations, while promoting opportunities for self-determination among Traditional Owners. Caring for Country is also an important land and water justice aspiration for Traditional Owners, which will be achieved by actively including recognised Traditional Owners in developing and implementing the actions in the plan and the land use framework.

At the time of publication, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation is the only Registered Aboriginal Party, recognised under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, along the Yarra River, Birrarung (see **Appendix A**). While no Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) has been formally appointed downstream of Merri Creek, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong/Boonwurrung people are acknowledged as having an interest in this land.

The plan aims to bring to the fore cultural land and water management practices, while acknowledging the close cultural and spiritual connection the Traditional Owners maintain with the Birrarung and its parklands. Traditional Owners will, as self-determined, hold a place in the governance throughout the plan's implementation, and act as planners, decision makers and delivery agents on their Country alongside local and state authorities.

The involvement of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people from the plan's outset, including drafting and ratifying the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrumbidgee) Act 2017*, has grounded the plan in Traditional Owner perspectives, enabling the river corridor to be viewed as one living and integrated natural entity.

Currently, there are Treaty negotiations underway in Victoria, which may in coming years impact how the Yarra Strategic Plan is implemented. In line with the government's commitment to self-determination, DELWP's *Pupangarli Marmamepu (Owning our future) Aboriginal self-determination reform strategy 2020-2025* aims to enable self-determination for Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians.

Respecting the river as one living and integrated natural entity

The Traditional Owners have always considered the Birrarung to be the lifeblood of Country. It flows across organisational boundaries, encompassing the land and waters of the river as well as its unique ecosystems. The Act and the plan return to this holistic view that recognises the Yarra and its lands as a connected entity – requiring focus, care and reverence across all reaches of the river.

Agreement to collaborate in decision-making, align investment in actions, and to use statutory planning mechanisms, including the land use framework, will cement this holistic view of the river as one living and integrated natural entity.

Environmental net gain

The Act stipulates that there should be ‘net gain’ for the environment in the area of Yarra River land arising out of any individual action or policy that has an environmental impact.

The intent of this clause is reflected in several actions in Part 1 of the plan, and directions in the land use framework (land use directions) in Part 2 of the plan. Additionally, environmental net gain has been incorporated into the plan’s decision-making framework to ensure that all projects and programs considered on Yarra River land provide net gain.

Using planning law to protect the whole river corridor

For the first time, waterway and land use planning are connected within a single, integrated plan. Including the land use framework marks a step-change in how the river is managed by ensuring that activities on both public and private land deliver on the plan’s performance objectives and protect the Yarra and its significant values.

As Melbourne grows in population and continues to experience the impacts of climate change, the land use framework will ensure that the Yarra is a central consideration in land use planning and development. The framework provides broad direction at a whole-of-river scale, while also recognising the myriad of landscapes and environments with differing degrees of development, access, land use and management.

In implementing the plan, the land use framework will be embedded in the planning schemes of eight local governments and state planning policy.

Incorporating transport infrastructure

Victoria is investing in new and upgraded road and rail infrastructure to allow for greater frequency and reach of transit options as well as improving the state’s freight capacity. Melbourne’s transport system needs the capacity to cope with an additional 10.4 million trips a day by 2050 — up from the current figure of 12.5 million trips a day. Projects already identified by the Victorian Government as critical to Melbourne’s growth, including West Gate Tunnel, Level Crossing Removals, Metro Tunnel, North East Link and the Suburban Rail Loop were added in a 2019 Addendum to *Plan Melbourne* which aims to guide Melbourne’s growth to 2050.

Under the Act the plan is required to incorporate any agreed strategic transport infrastructure including identified current or future river crossings and principle bicycle networks. More detail on current and proposed transport infrastructure is included in the land use framework in Part 2. Information on strategic cycling corridors that intersect with the Yarra in the suburban and inner city reaches is provided in **Appendix B**.

Involving the community

An initial step in developing the plan was forming the Yarra Collaboration Committee, with representatives from state and local government authorities and the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

Melbourne Water, in collaboration with the committee, designed and implemented a four-phase engagement strategy (see **Appendix C**, and ‘Imagine the Yarra’ website (<http://www.imaginetheyarra.com.au>)).

The Yarra River Community Assembly, made up of 24 people from communities along the river, was formed to write the vision for the Yarra. The assembly also came together to test whether the directions of the draft plan aligned with their vision. Development of the plan has been informed by community feedback, background studies, and complementary strategies and policies already in operation (see **Figure 1**).

Although the production of the Yarra Strategic Plan is led by Melbourne Water, the plan is a whole-of-government initiative, co-designed with the Yarra Collaboration Committee, and guided by the community.



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Yarra River, central Melbourne

Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision

The Act calls for a long-term community vision that identifies the community's 'values, priorities and preferences' managing the Yarra. The vision sets out the community's long-term aspirations for the Yarra and the plan provides an overarching policy and planning framework to bring the vision to life.

The vision was launched in May 2018 by the Hon. Lisa Neville, MP, Minister for Water, the Hon. Richard Wynne, MP, Minister for Planning and the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio, MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

'As the Traditional Owners of the Birrarung and its surrounding country, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung will bring their unique knowledge, connections and understandings of the River and the wider Yarra catchment into the Yarra Strategic Plan to enhance the integrity of the Plan.'

– Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin
twarn Birrarung

Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, is recognised around the world as an iconic example of a nurturing relationship between a river and its community.

Flowing from source to sea, it is the resilient lifeblood of past, present and future generations of Victorians. It connects and enriches our flourishing city, suburbs, regions and beyond.

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, its essential role in our lives and its rich history, are respected, understood and protected. It has cared for us for thousands of years and will for thousands to come.

The vital and continued role of Traditional Owners as custodians of the River, and its role in their culture, is recognised and celebrated.

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, and its diverse surrounding landscapes provide a place of refuge, recreation, learning and livelihood. It brings communities together and supports sustainable local economies.

Its clean waters and connected network of thriving green spaces nurture biodiversity, and deepen the relationship between people and nature.

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, is respected as a sacred natural living entity and everyone takes responsibility for its care. Its health and integrity are paramount and uncompromised.

What is good for the Yarra is good for all.

Strategies, policies and plans that informed the Yarra Strategic Plan

DEVELOPMENT

INCEPTION

Yarra River Protection
 (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017

NHANBU NARRUN BA NGARGUNIN TWARN BIRRARUNG (BIRRARUNG WATER POLICY)

Provides the ambitions of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung for planning, policy and decision-making in the Yarra River corridor.

CORE STRATEGIES AND POLICIES INFORMING THE YARRA STRATEGIC PLAN

PLAN MELBOURNE 2017–2050

A policy under Direction 6.5 seeks to protect and enhance the health of urban waterways including the Yarra River.

WATER FOR VICTORIA

The Yarra River is identified as a priority waterway in Water for Victoria. Action 3.1 seeks to improve arrangements for urban waterways by responding to the Yarra MAC recommendations of which the Yarra Strategic Plan is one.

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS FRAMEWORK 2018–2023

The VAAF self-determining actions and principles has been used to guide partnership and decision-making with Traditional Owners to develop the Yarra Strategic Plan.

HEALTHY WATERWAYS STRATEGY 2018

Outlines water quality targets for values and conditions of waterways across the Yarra catchment, informs implementation of actions in the plan and provides a basis for monitoring and reporting on outcomes.

PROTECTING VICTORIA'S ENVIRONMENT – BIODIVERSITY 2037

Highlights the need to protect native vegetation and waterways to improve biodiversity and protect related ecosystem services.

STATE OF THE YARRA AND ITS PARKLANDS REPORT

Provides a baseline from which to measure the outcomes of the plan's 10-year performance objectives.

BACKGROUND STUDIES

- Key gaps and opportunities for areas of high environmental and landscape value
- Cultural heritage scoping study
- Demographic study
- Land use framework gap analysis
- Yarra River social research
- Economic benefit of the Yarra River

FIGURE 1. Strategies, policies and plans that have informed the Yarra Strategic Plan



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Dights Falls, Abbotsford

How this plan works

This plan has two parts: Part 1 – working together to achieve the community vision, and Part 2 – land use framework.

About Part 1 – working together to achieve the community vision

In Part 1, the plan acknowledges the history of Traditional Owners and recognises their intrinsic relationship to the Yarra River, Birrarung. It identifies the responsible local and state government authorities already investing in and managing the Yarra, and outlines a modern governance approach to enable these authorities and Traditional Owners to work together to manage the river as one living and integrated natural entity.

Also in Part 1, are four performance objectives, which represent the change the community is seeking for the Yarra over the next 10 years. These objectives set the foundation for achieving the 50 Year Community Vision and alignment with the Birrarung Water Policy. They also align with the protection principles in the Act and the objectives contained in the Yarra River Action Plan.

Nested under each of the performance objectives are collaborative actions to be carried out over the next 10 years (see page 35). Completion of these actions will be dependent on the availability of funding.

Part 1 also includes priority projects to immediately begin the work of the plan (see page 30).

Decisions about the implementation and timing of actions and projects listed in the plan will be made in line with government policy and budget processes.



About Part 2 – land use framework

Part 2, the land use framework, provides broad direction for future land use and development, to protect the river and its values. Implementing the land use framework through planning schemes will ensure that land use and development, on both public and private land, can deliver on the plan's performance objectives outlined in Part 1.

As well as providing whole-of-river directions, the land use framework provides directions for each of the river's four 'reaches': upper rural, lower rural, suburban and inner city.

Within Part 2 significant places and new areas for protection have been identified together with related opportunities for future projects and alignment with other plans and strategies.

The land use framework will be translated into local and state planning policy, whereas the collaborative actions in Part 1 will be delivered through partnerships, collaboration and discrete funding opportunities.

PART 1 - WORKING TOGETHER TO DELIVER THE COMMUNITY VISION

Custodianship of the Birrarung

Traditional Owners bring their unique knowledge and understanding of the river to the plan. Their involvement in policy planning, decision-making and management of the river will help preserve and restore the wellbeing of the Birrarung.

Collaborative management

A collaborative approach for investment and management for the protection and improvement of the Yarra, including use of a transparent and coordinated decision-making framework for activities and projects affecting Yarra River land.

Collaborative actions for the next 10 years

A series of collaborative actions and priority projects to achieve the four 10-year performance objectives.

PART 2 - LAND USE FRAMEWORK

The land use framework is a regional framework with a spatial structure to ensure future land use and development align with the 10-year performance objectives, community vision and Birrarung water policy. Operating at three distinct scales - whole-of-river, reach and local - it sets broad land use directions, while recognising existing landscapes and environments.

Scope of the Yarra Strategic Plan⁴

To guide and manage activities on public and private land, the Act designates three categories of land to which the plan applies.⁵



Yarra Strategic Plan area defines the boundaries of the plan. The area includes land of any kind located within 1 km of the banks of the Yarra River. Some areas are defined as excluded land.⁶

Yarra River land is designated to allow for coordinated management of public land along the waterway. Yarra River land is the largest category of land protected by the Act. It includes the bed, soil and banks of the Yarra River, and Crown and state government-owned land parcels within 500 m of a bank of the river.⁷ Yarra River land does not include private land and some areas are defined as excluded land.⁸

Greater Yarra Urban Parklands recognises the network of parklands along the Yarra River as one of Melbourne's greatest open space assets that enhances the city's economic prosperity, vitality and liveability. At present, Greater Yarra Urban Parklands include Yarra River land that is zoned as public open space between Punt Road, South Yarra, and the urban growth boundary in Warrandyte.



PART 1 – **WORKING TOGETHER TO DELIVER THE COMMUNITY VISION**



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Row boats, Studley Park

Over the next 10 years, transformative and collaborative action will be vital to protect the Yarra and its parklands against future decline triggered by climate change and population growth.

To help guide this step-change in management, the community assembly distilled the 50 year Yarra Community Vision into four performance objectives. These objectives address the environmental, social, recreational, cultural and management protection principles of the Act.

In turn, the 15 state and local government authorities identified in the Act, together with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, have identified whole-of-river and transformative actions to progress the performance objectives.

These objectives and actions set the foundation for achieving the community vision and alignment with the Birrarung Water Policy, and make up Part 1 of the Yarra Strategic Plan.

Collaborative management of the Yarra

State and publically owned lands along the Yarra corridor have been declared 'Yarra River land' to enable their coordinated management and ensure the continued health of the river. Collaborative management of the river will rightly see Traditional Owners and authorities working together to manage Yarra River land.

Each of the organisations involved in the Yarra's management traditionally deliver work within their remit making the most effective use of funds available to them.

The Yarra, however, flows through and beyond all geographic boundaries and requires a more holistic approach to its management. For this reason, the Act calls for modern governance and for state and local authorities to work together to manage the river as one living and integrated natural entity (see **Appendix D**). This is achieved through the Yarra Collaboration Committee, which currently:

- includes representatives of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and 15 other responsible public entities with responsibilities for managing the river
- is a long-term governance arrangement, which aims to evolve in its sophistication and approach over the coming years
- will oversee the delivery of the plan and ensure works on Yarra River land are aligned through the application of the decision-making framework (see **Appendix E**).

In order to implement the plan, the Yarra Collaboration Committee recognises that long-term change needs to be embedded in the way organisations work together, and proposes four changes to implement over the next 10 years:

- The Yarra Collaboration Committee will oversee implementation and ensure whole-of-government decision-making for Yarra River land.
- Member organisations will coordinate investment decisions on Yarra River land through use of the plan's decision-making framework.
- All stakeholders, including communities, will be involved in taking care of the river, evolving over time to include more direct community input.
- Traditional Owners and government agencies are supported in their transition to deliver the 50 Year Community Vision, Yarra Strategic Plan and Birrarung Water Policy.

Managing the Yarra River corridor

The plan has been prepared by Melbourne Water in collaboration with these members of the Yarra Collaboration Committee:

Yarra City Council: local government responsible for riverside suburbs including Burnley, Richmond and Abbotsford.

Over 20 km of the Yarra River runs through Yarra City with approximately 275 ha of Yarra River land in the council area.

Banyule City Council: local government responsible for riverside suburbs including Ivanhoe, Heidelberg and Lower Plenty.

Over 20 km of the Yarra River runs through Banyule, with approximately 281 ha of Yarra River land in the council area.

Nilumbik Shire Council: local government responsible for riverside suburbs including Eltham and Bend of Islands.

Over 45 km of the Yarra River runs through Nillumbik, with over 1000 ha of Yarra River land in the council area.

INNER CITY REACH

SUBURBAN
REACH

SUBURBAN REACH

LOWER
RURAL

LOWER
RURAL

Manningham City Council: local government responsible for riverside suburbs including Bulteen, Templestowe and Warrandyte.

Over 50 km of the Yarra River runs through Manningham, with over 1000 ha of Yarra River land in the council area.

Boroondara City Council: local government responsible for riverside suburbs including Hawthorn, Kew and North Balwyn.

Over 23 km of the Yarra River runs through Boroondara, with approximately 164 ha of Yarra River land in the council area.

Yarra Ranges Council: local government responsible for the largest area of the Yarra River. Its area stretches from the lower rural to the upper rural reach.

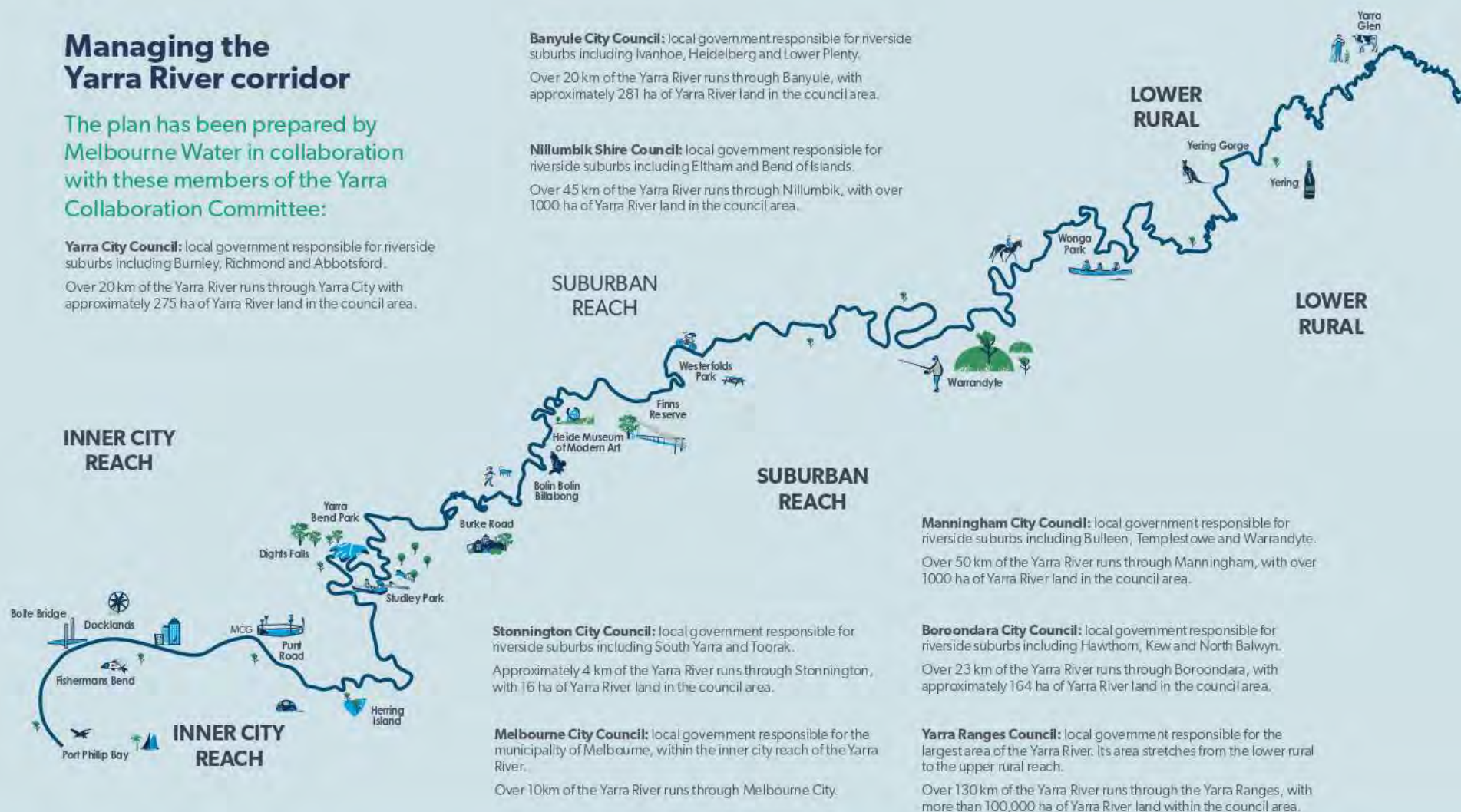
Over 130 km of the Yarra River runs through the Yarra Ranges, with more than 100,000 ha of Yarra River land within the council area.

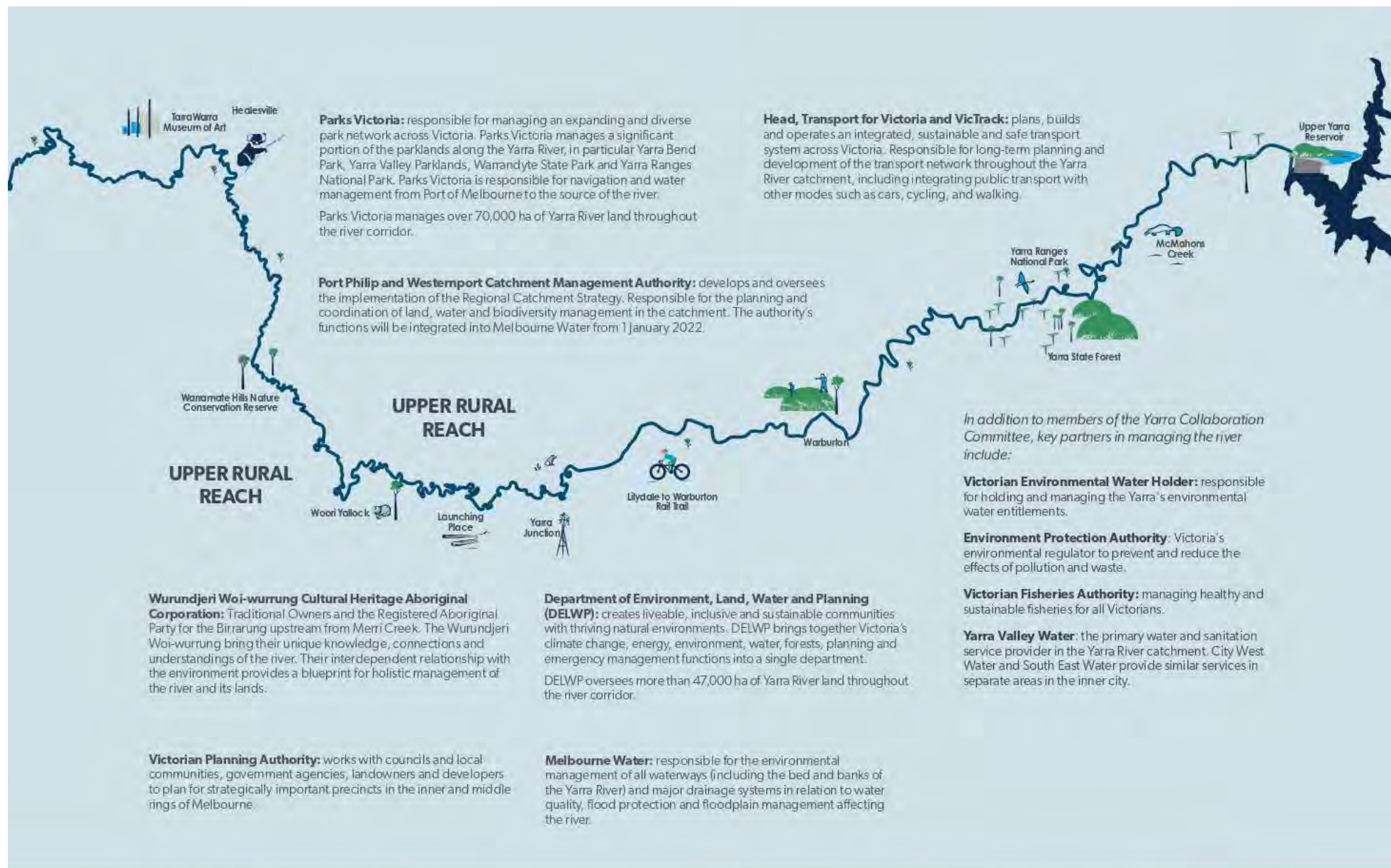
Stonnington City Council: local government responsible for riverside suburbs including South Yarra and Toorak.

Approximately 4 km of the Yarra River runs through Stonnington, with 16 ha of Yarra River land in the council area.

Melbourne City Council: local government responsible for the municipality of Melbourne, within the inner city reach of the Yarra River.

Over 10km of the Yarra River runs through Melbourne City.





Legislative requirements for responsible public entities

The primary legislation for all responsible public entities was amended to ensure alignment with the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrnong) Act 2017*. The various acts now set out the following obligations of responsible public entities in relation to Yarra River land:⁹

- Responsible public entities must not act inconsistently with any part of the Yarra Strategic Plan that is expressed to be binding on the entity when performing a function or duty or exercising a power under specified legislation in relation to Yarra River land.
- Responsible public entities must have regard to the Yarra protection principles, and those parts of the Yarra Strategic Plan not expressed to be binding on the entity, when performing a function or duty or exercising a power under specified legislation in relation to the Yarra Strategic Plan area that may affect Yarra River land.
- The obligations above do not apply where the responsible public entity's function, duty or power relates to a declared project within the meaning of the *Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act 2009* (e.g. section 64JA of the *Transport Integration Act 2010*).

The *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrnong) Act 2017* requires responsible public entities to prepare a report on their implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan. These reports will highlight activities and projects that contribute towards the plan's performance objectives, and will inform the annual report prepared by the lead agency for the Birrarung Council.

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Part 3AAA) sets out the following requirement for planning authorities in relation to Yarra River land:

- A responsible public entity which is a planning authority must not prepare an amendment to a planning scheme that relates to Yarra River land that is inconsistent with anything in the Yarra Strategic Plan expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity.
- Any planning scheme amendment to zoning controls that allows for Greater Yarra Urban Parklands land to be used in a way that is inconsistent with the Yarra Strategic Plan be ratified by Parliament (in accordance with section 46AAB and 46AAC of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*).





Custodianship of the Birrarung

The Yarra Strategic Plan is, proudly, the first plan for the Yarra River, Birrarung, developed in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

The following dedicated chapter authored by the corporation and its Elders, 'Custodianship of the Birrarung' is a powerful inclusion for the plan, outlining the history, aspirations and opportunities for Caring for Country and water justice for the Birrarung.

We, the Woi-wurrung, the First People, and the Birrarung, belong to this Country. This Country, and the Birrarung are part of us.

The Birrarung is alive, has a heart, a spirit and is part of our Dreaming. We have lived with and known the Birrarung since the beginning. We will always know the Birrarung.

Bunjil, the great Eagle, the creator spirit, made the land, the sky, the sea, the rivers, flora and fauna, the lore. He made Kulin from the earth. Bunjil gave Waa, the crow, the responsibility of Protector. Bunjil's brother, Palliyang, the Bat, created Bagarook, women, from the water.

Since our beginning it has been known that we have an obligation to keep the Birrarung alive and healthy—for all generations to come.

Preamble of the Wilip-gin Birrarung murrum Act 2017

Introduction

We, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have a deep cultural obligation and a birthright to look after the Birrarung (Yarra River) – to make sure the river and its lands are healthy and continues to support all life now and for generations to come. As Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people we do not separate the Birrarung from Port Phillip Bay (Narrm) or regard the Birrarung as segmented according to reaches, nor disassociate the corridor from the rest of the rivers' catchment. The landscape, through which the Birrarung flows, from its source to the sea, is one integrated, living, cultural landscape. As such, we want to be self-determining and active partners in the ongoing management of the Birrarung and its lands with all responsible public entities who contribute to the management of the Birrarung as one living entity.

This chapter provides an overview of our aspirations for co-management of the Birrarung and emphasises key areas of focus for us in the Yarra Strategic Plan and its implementation – including water justice, significant places and the decision-making framework for transformational projects.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Peoples connection to the Birrarung

As the Traditional Owners of the Birrarung we are the first and only Aboriginal people with the cultural, legislated and moral authority to speak for this Country – our Country. We have an unbroken relationship with our Country which extends north to the Great Dividing Range, west to the mouth of the Werribee River, south to the mouth of Mordialloc Creek and East to Mount Baw Baw.

For thousands of years prior to European contact, the Birrarung was central to the civic, commercial (trade), cultural and ceremonial lives of our people. The wealth of our Country was immediately evident to Settlers. From 1835 onwards, Melbourne grew out from the banks of

the Birrarung which allowed it to become the vibrant city it is today. However, this has come at great expense to the Birrarung and our people. Only one of the Woi-wurrung clans survived European settlement, the Wurundjeri Willam balluk clan of the Birrarung.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation

We are represented by a peak body established over 35 years ago – the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (the Corporation). Predominantly employing Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and other Aboriginal people, the Corporation is a self-funded charity which provides opportunity for engagement with our people and culture.

The Corporation operates in a complex federal, state and local government legislative and policy ecosystem including planning and environmental statutes. The Australian Government has also ratified UN declarations that have a bearing on how the State should work with Traditional Owners.

Two significant Victorian legislative frameworks that the Corporation operates within include the Victorian Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act (2006) (the Corporation was appointed as a Registered Aboriginal Party in 2008 over a portion of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country), and the Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn Act (2017) which identifies and acknowledges us as the Traditional Owners of the Birrarung.

Alongside Victorian state departments, local government authorities are priority partners for the Corporation given the large number of them are on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung traditional homelands.

A core focus of the Corporation's work is the protection, preservation and revitalisation of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung culture and cultural practices and expression of culture in a contemporary way.

The Corporation, is also active in the governance of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, including working with the state and its other agencies and partners to achieve this. To this end, the Corporation offers several key services including: Cultural Practices for events (Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremonies as well as yidaki performances), Cultural Heritage services, Cultural Consultations, Language and Naming, Cultural Education (including tourism) experiences, Natural Resource Management, Research, and more recently Water centred collaborations with selected responsible public entities.



'The Birrarung is part of our identity.'

– Aunty Margaret Gardiner

*Corporation's response to the Wilip-gin
Birrarrung murrn Act 2017 and
Community Vision - Nhanbu narrun ba
ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit
and Lore of the Yarra)*

Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn Act 2017 (the Act)

The Act is the first piece of Victorian legislation with a bilingual title and preamble in Woi-wurrung language and it acknowledges the privileged position of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Birrarung. This recognition and empowerment of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language, values, and Elders was a profoundly important moment not only for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, but also for Indigenous Australians and First Nations peoples globally.

The bill itself was introduced to Parliament by Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders, who delivered an address on the significance of the proposed legislation.

In response to the Act and Community Vision, the Corporation facilitated a community driven process whereby the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung community gathered to determine their aspirations for the Birrarung and a framework for their involvement in the development of the Yarra Strategic Plan. The deliberative process also shaped the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung vision for the Birrarung – complementing and strengthening the broader Community Vision.

Together, the Community Vision and *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* underpin the Yarra Strategic Plan and set the aspiration and expectations for what needs to be achieved in management of the Birrarung as one living entity.

Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung

Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung is an important document that outlines expectations about the nature of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung involvement in the development of the Yarra Strategic Plan. This plan outlines Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung contributions to the objectives of the Yarra Strategic Plan, the decision-making framework and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung performance objectives and targets.

Further, *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* unambiguously sets out the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung priorities for the Birrarung. The policy provides clear guidance to government, stakeholders and all responsible parties on engagement with the Corporation with respect to planning, policy and decision-making. The policy highlights the Corporation's intention for collaboration and partnerships alongside its expectation for these to be culturally respectful and appropriately and adequately resourced – through human and financial resources.

Securing and protecting the footprint of the Birrarung is essential for the health of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and Country, the wellbeing of the diverse river communities and indeed the city of Melbourne.

Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung is not intended as a static response to the Act or Community Vision. Like other key policy documents that inform the strategic direction of the Corporation, *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* will be responsive to policy shifts and pressures on Country, including threats from large infrastructure projects, both the sale of and/or inappropriate access of Crown land, changes in land use and rapid urban expansion and agricultural intensification. The performance objectives and targets in both *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* and other key internal policy documents underscore the need for a whole of system approach, including the need to establish cultural and environmental corridors that connect areas beyond the Yarra River lands.

The following projects were identified by the Corporation as immediate priorities in response to the context within which the Act was introduced, and are reflected in the priority actions of the Yarra Strategic Plan:

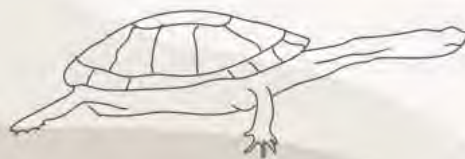
- Cultural practice, knowledge and cultural mapping
- Direct meaningful engagement with Abbotsford River Structure Plan
- Direct meaningful engagement with Bulleen-Banyule Cultural River Precinct Structure Plan
- Bolin Bolin Billabong complex rewatering, research and practice.



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Launch of the community vision and *Nhanbu
narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung*, May 2018

'Having our name in the Act finally gives us a legal mechanism to have a say about the Birrarung. We want to protect our homelands'

— Allan Wardin



Bringing the intention of the Act to life for the benefit of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people

The responsible public entities who will deliver and implement the 40 actions of the Yarra Strategic Plan have a significant responsibility to deliver the social, cultural, economic, environmental and heritage outcomes that the Act anticipates for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. This will sit alongside delivery of broader educational outcomes, to which the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people aspire, as outlined in *Nhanbu narun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung*.

Serendipitously, although the Act reflects a planning land use framework, the Minister for Water has ultimate responsibility for the Yarra Strategic Plan and deliverables through its implementation. This ideally positions the plan as the vehicle responsible for executing the directives of the Act to support both the land and water justice aspirations of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

Caring for Country is an important land and water justice aspiration for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people which we believe can actively be achieved through Part 2 – land use framework.

The opportunity for achieving water justice and water rights for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung through the actions of the Yarra Strategic Plan is particularly evident and inclusion of Action 8: *Support the aspiration of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to pursue justice for their people and Country via delivering water justice through water rights, participation in water management and broader water reform*.

To understand and contextualise this opportunity it is critically important to understand that historically, Aboriginal peoples' rights to water have largely been excluded from water planning and management policies and programs. The time line at the end of this chapter represents a specific set of experiences to assist the reader appreciate the current context – it is not intended as an exhaustive history.

Water Justice: Yarra Strategic Plan as a mechanism for change

A recurring challenge for Traditional Owners is that legislation and associated policy is often silent on First Peoples matters, or underpinned by Settler/Colonial understandings of colonialism and culture. This also includes the perception that the cultures and interests of First Peoples are static and time locked to the environments, practises, and of societies, the First Peoples governed at the time of European settlement. It is evident in Acts written to support Traditional Owners such as the *Native Title Act 1993*, the *Victorian Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2006* and *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010*, however is beyond the scope of this chapter.

In 2017, 182 years post contact, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people gained a legislative mechanism within which to formally engage with and influence the governance of the Birrarung and its lands, which is central to Woi-wurrung people's Dreaming and wellbeing.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung participation has only been possible because the Act employed a placed-based approach, pairing right Country with the right people – the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. Now with strategic planning and governance reform the Yarra Strategic Plan will support the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people achieve water justice outcomes.

Comprising three pillars, water justice is characterised by:

1. water rights
2. participation in water management
3. broader water and policy reform resulting in treaties and political agreements.

This definition of water justice is not a Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung concept. It has been adapted specifically for this chapter from the National Cultural Flows Research Project, which is currently considered the gold standard for water justice in Australia. This is a national initiative that aims to secure a future where Indigenous water allocations are embedded within Australia's water planning and management regimes.

Water justice for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people

'It's a living lifeline, the main highway for our resources and our spirituality.'

– Aunty Margaret Gardiner

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Water Ownership/Rights

Foundation of water justice for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. Control and decision making over ground and surface water. The Yarra Strategic Plan and responsible public entities have the ability to support and realise this essential aspiration for the Birrarung.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung participation in Water Management

The Yarra Strategic Plan provides an opportunity to ensure Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people's co-management of water, one of three key areas for water justice for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

Transform Foundation to empower Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people

Reform of wider policy and governance structures on Country, including treaties and political agreements, cultural rights, better recognition of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung lore and custom with benchmarking against International Agreements. The Yarra Strategic Plan and responsible public entities have the ability to support and realise this essential aspiration for the Birrarung.



Credit: Melbourne Water, Interpretive signage trail at Pound Bend Reserve, Warrandyte State Park

FIGURE 2. Water justice for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people

The inclusion of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people in the *Wilip gin Birrarung murrion Act 2017* has allowed the Corporation participation in Water Management and decision-making for the Birrarung (Figure 2).

Actions 8 (see page 38) and 31 (see page 52) support Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people in their aspiration to progress additional rights, in particular water rights and agreement making with key agencies who manage aspects of Country. Current Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung water and land justice priorities include:

- The return of an appropriate parcel of land within the Bulleen Banyule precinct to the Corporation to establish a permanent cultural centre and base of operations. It was the first place our Ancestors requested as a Reserve from the Port Phillip Aboriginal Protectorate in 1840.
- Appropriate development and zoning of lands within the Bulleen Banyule precinct that secures the Birrarung's footprint for the benefit of the river. The Birrarung needs its lands to enable natural systems including flooding. Planned sporting facilities and other forms of development are to be directed away from the Birrarung to more appropriate locations that are significantly set back from cultural places.
- Prioritise the hydrological functions of the Bolin Bolin and networked billabongs at current or improved levels in the face of development and infrastructure upgrades (NELP). A priority example is an in-perpetuity watering solution for Bolin Bolin billabong and networked billabongs so that they never dry out.
- Immediate moratorium on the implementation of the *Parks and Crown Land Legislation Amendment Act 2020* (scheduled commencement date 1 September 2021) on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung homelands, including the Birrarung and its tributaries, until the Corporation is appropriately resourced to undertake a systematic program of cultural mapping. Consultation with Traditional Owners after legislation has been developed and enacted in law is inconsistent with the States commitment to Treaty, the Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework, and DELWP's self-determination policy framework.

- Secure funds to develop a bicultural understanding of net gain imbued with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung values. Once 'bicultural net gain' is established, work with responsible public entities to implement the definition as part of the Yarra Strategic Plan.
- The development of a cohesive strategy to ensure that legislation and policy pertaining to land, water and heritage works together effectively to protect Country.
- Naming all unnamed waterways to ensure cultural heritage sensitivity overlay is more broadly applied to ensure cultural protections.
- The requirement that any planning amendments or ground works that impact upon and occur within the declared lands (1 km either side of the river) leads to a voluntary Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) process and engagement with the Water Unit.
- Securing 'cultural flows' by identifying the cultural water (volume and timing) required to sustain the natural, cultural, and spiritual values for the length of the Birrarung and its tributaries, and secure a water entitlement (unincumbered by fees and ongoing costs) required to meet those values.
- Systematic and sustained rewatering of wetlands and billabongs.
- Establishing Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Birrarung Rangers (land and water).
- Immediate cessation of sale of Crown lands where Native Title has not been extinguished and the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* can be applied.
- Protect, re-wild, rewater and/or rehabilitate significant sites.
- Water for commercial activities (cultivate native bush foods and aquaculture).
- Restoring/reintroduction of important species and ecological communities.
- Recognition and implementation of Climate Change Strategies which will reduce damage to cultural landscapes, cultural places, and cultural values.

A number of these priorities are being addressed through the actions in the Yarra Strategic Plan.

Significant sites and areas for protection

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people are often called on to outline or describe where there are sites of significance or cultural value. When referring to 'place' within Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, it is as much based upon emotion, knowledge, stories and intangible value as it is on artefacts and tangible heritage.

Place boundaries are mutable and movable, shifting location even between individuals. These are concepts that do not always align with the modern legal process of property boundaries, values, and ownership which restrict access and defined land use.

- All of Country is important to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, being a continuous and interconnected landscape.
- Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung values do not end at property boundaries and do not just occur on Crown land.
- Some places will have values that are not public knowledge.
- There are places across Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country which contemporary Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people are yet to reconnect with as access to cultural landscapes has been disrupted for many generations.
- Place and space are conceptually different and a Place may be linked by many points through song lines, stories, view lines, and some links may be astrological.

There are also areas that are unknown, such as ancient billabongs and waterways. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung acknowledge that the Birrarung landscape is dynamic, having changed its course over millennia. These changes are recorded within stories that form part of our oral tradition. The evidence of a changing watercourse is seen in the numerous billabongs of the Birrarung. These ancient places, filled with sediment over time, still have potential for evidence of ancestral occupation despite urbanisation. The filled billabongs are often connected hydrologically to the Birrarung and visible from aerial imagery.

Table 1 describes some areas which have known values to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and are still semi-accessible to people today. These are identified in Part 2 – land use framework. Table 2 lists sites as areas for immediate protection, which are also identified in Part 2.

TABLE 1. Publicly known Places of Significance

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people consider the following places along the Birrarung (Yarra) to be sites of significance:	
Federation Square*	Traditional meeting place for cultural business and ceremonial life for the Kulin Nation.
MCG*	Significant ceremonial ground that was utilised until the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people were displaced from current day City of Melbourne. A site of inter-clan cultural business.
Dights Falls	Birrarung crossing place for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung. This area is also associated with Billibellary's (Ngurungaeta) resting place.
Yarra Bend	Site of the first Aboriginal School in Victoria. Also known as an important Kulin meeting place and one of headquarters of the Native Police.
Yarra Flats	Area of significant cultural resources: food, fibre, and medicine. It was also living area for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung.
Confluence of the Maribyrnong and Yarra*	High-resource area in the swampy salt flats. Higher ground on the western side for meeting and trade with other Kulin groups.
Bend of Islands	Environmental Living Zone where landowners are required to maintain and manage the environmental and cultural values of the land. Adjacent to the Birrarung (nil invasive species).
Coranderrk	Established in 1863, Coranderrk was located on the lands of the Wurundjeri-balluk clan of the Woi-wurrung. The station was established for the Wurundjeri people and members from other Kulin (Victorian) tribes who were forcefully displaced from their traditional lands some 30 years previously. The reserve, which originally comprised 2300 acres of land, was later extended to 4850 acres, and was situated on the Yarra Flats bordered by the Birrarung, Badger Creek, Watts River and the slopes of Mount Riddell (currently the Shire of Yarra Ranges).
Confluence of the Plenty River and the Birrarung	A recognised ceremonial place.
Birrarung (the Yarra) Falls*	Natural crossing point for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, located south of current-day Queen Street. This waterfall was the natural rock barrier that separated the salty tidal water from the fresh water that flowed from the Birrarung. The Yarra Falls were blasted away with explosives in the 1880s to make way for Queens Bridge and shipping purposes.

* Acknowledging the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people's consideration of this location as site of significance, Traditional Owners have not yet been recognised through legislative processes for this area by the state of Victoria.

TABLE 2. Known Key Places requiring Protection

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have identified the following sites as areas for immediate protection:	
Bolin Bolin Billabong and connected billabongs (Banskia St wetlands and Annulus Billabong)	Traditional eel fishing ground and living area that was highly significant to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. It was the subject of a Cultural Values Study lead by the Corporation. It was the first place that our Ancestors requested as a reserve from the Port Phillip Aboriginal Protectorate in 1840. Multiple Creation stories are associated with this cultural landscape.
Merri Creek Confluence	Initiation place for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and associated with Ngurungaeta (leader) Billibillary's resting place.
Brushy Creek Confluence	Ngurungaeta (leader), William Barak's birthing place is located on the banks of Brushy Creek.
Laughing Waters (Garambi Baan)	Traditional aquacultural site, containing historic eel traps, which are actively maintained by the Corporation in association with Parks Victoria. The site of a contemporary ceremonial ground with scarred trees (dendroglyphs).
Bulleen-Banyule Flats	Important living area rich in resources. Bulleen is a place where important Settler and Indigenous relations played out within the political context of the Aboriginal Protectorate. It is currently subject to development considerations (NELP).
Yering	The 'Battle of Yering' occurred on the former Yering Station property, 13 January 1840. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung warriors fought troopers of the Border Police to secure the release of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Ngurungaeta (leader) Jaga Jaga.

'Water Rangers would allow us to practice our culture without asking government permission to do so. In real terms, we could actually be custodians of the river.'

– Aunty Gail Smith

'The river was the main source of our culture and economy. Our relationship is both physical and spiritual. Cultural Flows are a modern way of interpreting this relationship.'

– Uncle Bill Nicholson



Decision-making framework – Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation engagement protocols for responsible public entities named in the Act

The Corporation has a unique organisational structure and operates from a model of consensus and representative decision-making. Engagement with the Corporation occurs across three interlinked tiers:

1. Legislation and Policy – Direct engagement in legislation and policy development with the State of Victoria regarding the interests of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and Country,
2. Partnership – Self determined agreements with other parties (i.e., relevant government agencies, non-government organisations, research institution etc.) that deliver valued outcomes in an ongoing and meaningful manner.
3. Contracted services – Of particular note in the context of the Yarra Strategic Plan is the opportunity to Care for Country via an on-ground Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Natural Resource Management presence that can focus on restoration, rehabilitation, protection, education, knowledge gathering and sharing (research).

The decision-making framework (Appendix E) and the below overview of protocols will support our aspirations with respect to achieving co-management of the Birrarung and its lands as one living integrated entity, and help us deliver components of *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* and other key strategic documents of the Corporation.

Protocols are in place to ensure Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people's sovereign rights are respected and Country is protected. There is to be an ongoing cycle of involvement between responsible public entities and the Corporation. These protocols with respect to the Yarra Strategic Plan will:

1. Support responsible public entities in developing their understanding of the rights and responsibilities of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to Country (land, water, planning).
2. Demonstrate to responsible public entities and the broader community the value of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung inclusion and participation.
3. Support the Corporation to further engage with the community it represents including providing culturally relevant employment opportunities.
4. Further develop and consolidate cultural, environmental, social, political and economic relationships with water.

As with *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* these protocols will evolve over time. More detailed protocols for engaging services will be available upon the implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan.

Due to cultural considerations the Corporation has expanded expectations of broader engagement by responsible public entities than identified in the current decision-making framework. Considering cultural sensitivities, we believe it essential in delivering on the Yarra Strategic Plan priority actions and transformational projects that responsible public entities named in the Act understand and adhere to a number of protocols. Further details of the engagement protocols associated with decision-making will be included in the implementation plan for the Yarra Strategic Plan.

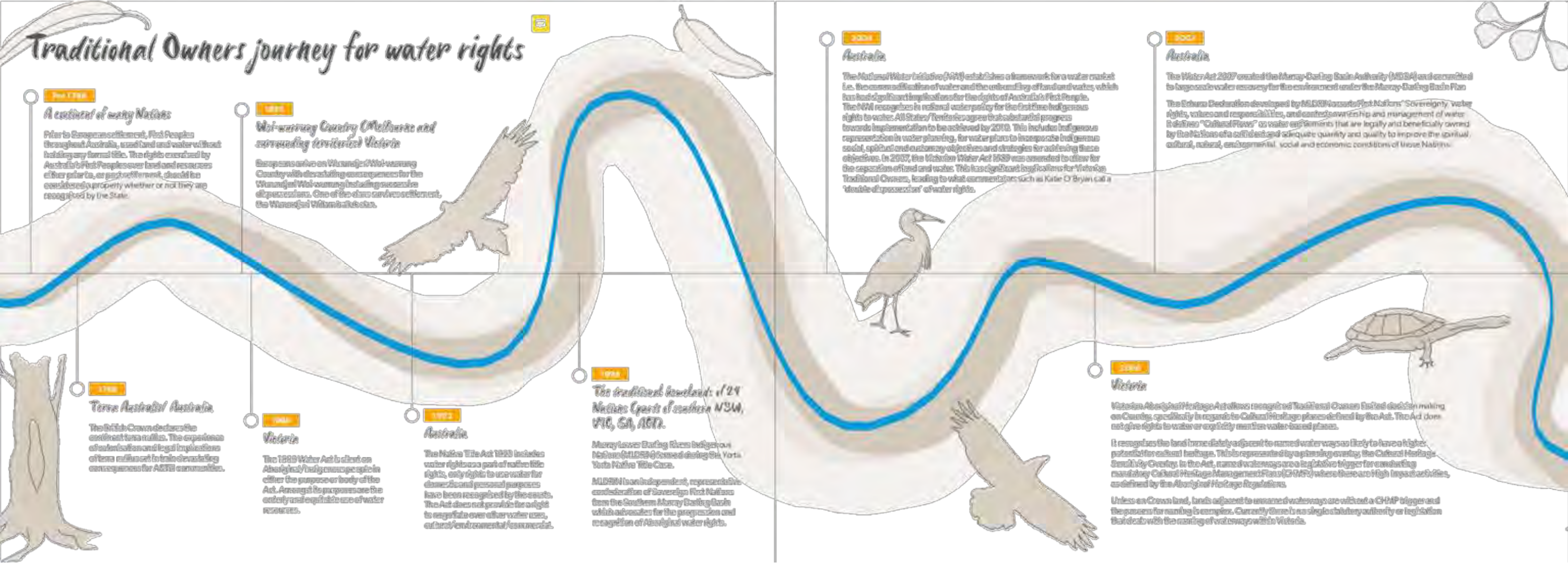
This chapter is dedicated to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders and community who supported and informed the development of this work.

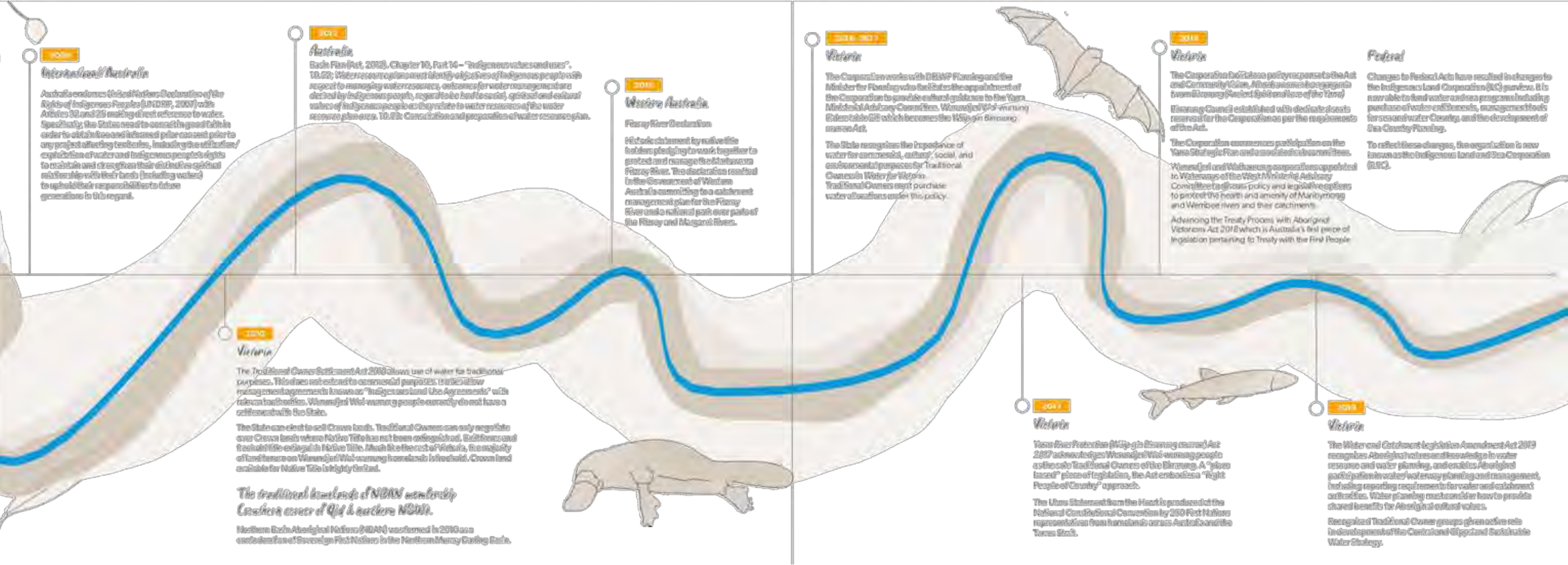
Special thanks to the following Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation staff members: Jordan Smith and Karmen Jobling (Water Unit) and Fiona McConachie (NRM Policy Officer) who contributed to an earlier draft.

'The Yarra is one of the major transport routes. We didn't have a train system in those days, we had a water system.'

- Ron Jones

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Priority projects

The plan sets out a series of priority projects and foundational actions to achieve the 10-year performance objectives. These projects recognise Aboriginal cultural values of the Birrarung and deliver stormwater and environmental water benefits for the river, including its billabongs. They are innovative, represent a shift toward collaborative management between authorities and partnership with the Traditional Owners, and will deliver significant change across the river corridor.

The Birrarung Rangers

The Birrarung Rangers project is an initiative of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. It will ensure the ongoing involvement of the Traditional Owners in the day-to-day management of the Yarra River, Birrarung, and use of cultural land practices to care for their Country.

Led by Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, the project will build on the existing work of their natural resource management team, establishing a pathway for building capacity and capability for Birrarung rangers. Once established, the rangers will provide important cultural and natural heritage management services into the future. The project will be implemented in three stages: co-design, piloting and evaluation.

Yering Billabongs

The Yering Billabongs project will see 100 hectares of the Yarra River floodplain restored to functional billabongs. Led by Yarra Ranges Shire Council, the project aims to safely reconnect the floodplain by creating ephemeral and semi-permanent water bodies to mimic natural habitats and provide water quality treatment, while also extending Spadoni's Reserve.

The first priority of the project is to reconnect remnant billabongs, improve floodplain conditions and water quality, establish riparian corridors, and enhance the existing values in adjoining reserves (Spadoni's and Murrup Brann). Project works will be staged to lay the foundation for future partnerships.

The convergence of three waterways in this location – Olinda Creek, Stringybark Creek and Muddy Creek – is an area of Aboriginal cultural heritage and working with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation will ensure these values can be protected.

By securing and enhancing these significant billabongs, this project will create opportunities for engagement, recreation, volunteering and appreciation of the river, setting the foundation for a strong relationship between the Yarra River and its communities for decades to come.

Yarra Flats

The Yarra Flats billabong complex, located between Bulleen and Heidelberg, is a historically significant area that continues to be important for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and features in their Dreamtime stories. As an area of high cultural, environmental and liveability value, the Yarra Flats billabongs have potential to deliver significant outcomes for the community and environment. This was reflected in the concept plan developed in 2013 by Parks Victoria in consultation with Banyule City Council, Melbourne Water and the community.

Melbourne Water has been provided funding to undertake a trial watering of Annulus and Banksia Street billabongs and design of a long-term solution for an onsite stormwater treatment wetland to supply water to these billabongs. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation are working with Melbourne Water on ecological and cultural aspects of this project.

In the longer term, the plan is to improve water quality and recreation, while providing opportunities to connect the community to the river and local environment of Yarra Flats.

Floatlands

Led by Melbourne City Council, this innovative project will trial floating wetlands on the Yarra River, within the heart of Melbourne.

The project will support the community's connection to the river and the environment by providing a place of refuge and learning in the bustling centre of the city. While ensuring the continued safety in navigation on the river for commercial and recreational users, the wetlands will help improve water quality and provide habitat in areas of the river with concrete banks and limited biodiversity. Through collaboration between Melbourne City Council, Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water, DELWP and recognised Traditional Owners, the project will highlight the iconic character of the river and provide an opportunity to incorporate native vegetation into areas of the river that have been urbanised.

The project will contribute towards an Aboriginal cultural narrative for the river, which will be developed in collaboration with the Traditional Owners. This will provide an insight into the character of a pre-colonisation river wetland.

The results of the trial will be used to determine whether floating wetlands should be installed in other parts of the river and in more permanent forms.

Polystyrene in the Yarra River

Led by the Yarra Riverkeeper, this project looks at the relative contribution of industries to polystyrene in the river. The project includes building a stronger evidence-based understanding of litter sources, creating educational material for community and business on the extent and impact of polystyrene pollution, improving engagement with communities, and building an open-source interactive polystyrene pollution layer into the Yarra Atlas (<https://www.yarraatlas.org.au/>).

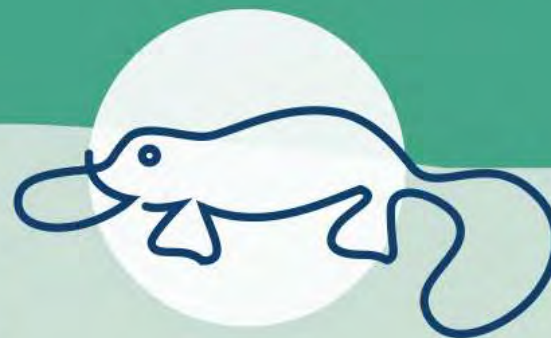


Credit: Melbourne Water,
Sandridge Bridge



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Platypus, Yarra River

10-year performance objectives and collaborative actions



Performance Objective 1: **A healthy river and lands**

Improving the water quality of the Yarra River
and protecting its land, floodplains and
billabongs to achieve greater biodiversity.

THIS PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IF:

- Terrestrial and aquatic habitats are improved, connected and maintained resulting in improved biodiversity, increased resilience and net gain in their overall extent and condition.
- Waterway condition/water quality is improved in accordance with targets set in the *Healthy Waterway Strategy*.
- Populations of native fish including threatened species are improved.
- There is increased participation in land management activities by land owners, recognised Traditional Owners, managers and wider community resulting in improved native vegetation, water quality and biodiversity.

With population growth, rising temperatures and decreasing rainfall, the health of the Yarra is under significant pressure. Building its resilience is crucial to delivering the Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision, which calls for the Yarra's health and integrity to be 'paramount and uncompromised'.

Water quality in the river must be improved and the surrounding land, floodplains and billabongs protected and enhanced to achieve greater biodiversity. The river is an important habitat for native fish, including the nationally significant Australian grayling, and the endangered Macquarie perch and Murray cod. More than 150 species of birds flourish along the Yarra, including the Australasian bittern, kookaburras, superb fairy-wrens, powerful owls (Australia's largest owl, listed as threatened in Victoria), and the critically endangered helmeted honeyeater (Victoria's state bird emblem).

The Yarra is also home to a myriad of Australian mammals, including platypus, koalas, echidnas, possums, sugar gliders, and a spectacular array of bats. There are over 15 species of frogs and many species of snakes.

Native vegetation along the river provides critical habitat in addition to protecting the river's water quality by filtering nutrients, reducing the inflow of sediment and stabilising its banks. Important and unique plants that live along the river include the rare Yarra gum, endangered Upper Yarra swamp gum, kangaroo grass and sweet bursaria.

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung have called for a change in how all Victorians think about and actively respect the Birrarung – not as a resource to be exploited but rather to recognise the complex, living system that is sensitive to its surrounds and a uniquely Victorian treasure. There is opportunity to work together to restore and improve the condition of the river and its lands for the future use and enjoyment of all.

Strategies and mechanisms for a healthy catchment

The Yarra Strategic Plan complements many of the existing government strategies and mechanisms, including the *State Environment Protection Policy (Waters)*, *Biodiversity Strategy 2037*, *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018*, the *Regional Catchment Strategy*, the Yarra Integrated Water Management forum and the *Sustainable Water Strategy*. The plan does not take the place of other policies, plans and strategies; rather, it provides an overarching strategy to integrate and harmonise the many plans, regulations and investment programs of the various agencies and organisations to assist in the management of the river corridor.

While the plan focuses on achieving greater biodiversity in the river corridor, the *Healthy Waterways Strategy* sets out performance objectives to achieve targets for environmental values and conditions for waterways across the entire Yarra catchment. The strategy's Yarra Catchment Program was developed with the Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision at its heart, recognising that a healthy river requires a healthy catchment. The Yarra Strategic Plan aligns with the *Healthy Waterways Strategy*.

All the actions included were prioritised through extensive community consultation and collaboration with the Yarra Collaboration Committee. The actions will deliver on the plan's four performance objectives as well as the community vision.



Credit: Peter Robertson,
Growling Grass Frog

Water quality

Water quality is an important indicator of river health and is critical for the survival of aquatic habitat and ecosystems.

With increasing development to provide for Melbourne's growing population, there will be more hard surfaces such as concrete and asphalt. Rainwater that would previously have been absorbed by the landscape instead rushes into our rivers and creeks as stormwater, carrying with it litter and other pollutants. Stormwater can lead to poor water quality and changes to flow regimes, reducing aquatic diversity and threatening ecosystems.

Tributaries that feed into the Yarra River in the inner city reach include Gardiners and Moonee Ponds creeks. Each of these drain large urbanised catchments. There are also major drains in the inner-city reach that carry stormwater, litter and other pollutants into the river; in particular, the Elizabeth Street Main Drain that drains most of the Melbourne CBD and the Prahran Main Drain that drains much of South Yarra and Prahran.

The suburban reach has more drains and waterways that carry stormwater, litter and other pollutants into the Yarra River. These include Jumping, Andersons, Mullum Mullum, Diamond, Ruffey, Banyule, Salt, Koonung, Glass, Darebin and Merri creeks and Plenty River. These waterways run through catchments with a mix of existing urban and new greenfield development that contribute contaminants, litter and sediments to the Yarra. A prominent major drain that is known to contribute large quantities of rubbish is the Banksia Street Main Drain which services most of the shopping centre and hospital in Heidelberg.

Within the upper and lower rural reaches, rural and urban runoff enters the river via tributaries including Woori Yallock, Stringy, Olinda and Brushy creeks. Runoff from agricultural lands may contain sediment, nutrients and pesticides, which can impact water quality in the river.

Traditional custodians of the Yarra, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, have expressed deep concern about water quality and litter in the river.

'Rubbish, sediment and pollutants have built up and are choking the river, stopping the Birrarung from breathing clearly. The health of the Birrarung underpins the health of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, and the damage that has been done over the past two centuries is felt by all Wurundjeri people. We, along with many other Victorians, are worried that without a process of restoration and healing the pressures on the wellbeing of the river will become insurmountable.'

– Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn
Birrarung, 2018

Wurrundjeri Woi-wurrung people have called for a whole of system approach to the removal of refuse and pollution. This will require the collaboration of all stakeholders and engagement with partners like DELWP, Melbourne Water, councils, Yarra Valley Water, South East Water, EPA, and non-government environmental organisations.

There are a number of programs that aim to reduce litter in the Yarra including public awareness campaigns, litter traps and clean-up days. Government agencies are working with stakeholders and community organisations to develop a consistent and coordinated approach to managing litter, including for example, funding the Yarra Riverkeeper to investigate polystyrene litter and prevention at the source. Greater education and awareness is required to ensure the community understands the impacts and sources of litter and other pollutants carried by stormwater.

Planning reforms and policy directions to improve stormwater management

The Improving Stormwater Management Advisory Committee was established in 2018 to provide independent advice to the ministers for water and planning. The committee recommended short-term planning reforms and longer-term policy directions, with a focus on changing the planning system to improve stormwater management and encouraging integrated water management. This included new planning provisions that came into effect in October 2018 expanding the existing stormwater management requirements to commercial, industrial and residential multi-dwelling developments as well as public use developments. These stormwater management requirements previously only applied to new residential developments.

In line with the committee's recommendations, the EPA is also developing new guidance to improve capability and understanding for the design and assessment of urban stormwater treatments that will increase the removal efficiency for nutrients and pollutants.

The Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018 considers individual threats from stormwater, as well as cumulative threats such as the combination of warmer temperatures and changing intensity of stormwater flows. It also promotes reuse of stormwater for environmental, cultural, economic and social purposes.

Actions

1. Develop a place-based pilot project (in an area where stormwater is threatening the Yarra's health and amenity) to explore innovative re-use of stormwater:
 - use stormwater for urban greening, protecting and enhancing the environment
 - identify opportunities where potable water is being used for watering purposes, and can be substituted with suitably treated stormwater.
2. Implement a Yarra-specific stormwater awareness and behaviour change campaign targeted at reducing litter and contamination entering the river.
3. Increase education, awareness and regulatory compliance to reduce pesticides and chemicals entering the river (including the impacts of agricultural runoff on water quality in the upper and lower reach).



Integrated water management (IWM)

As Melbourne's population continues to grow, it is estimated that by 2041 there will be around 140,000 additional dwellings in the Yarra River corridor – 90 per cent of these will be located in the inner city reach. Without better guidance and controls, development will increase stormwater runoff, impacting the health of the Yarra and compromising the river's landscapes and economic activities. Higher density living will increase demand for public open space as well as placing pressure on existing parklands.

Integrated water management (IWM) provides an opportunity for urban water management to address the impacts of climate change and urbanisation while delivering broader benefits to the community and the environment. Throughout the state, agencies are working together in IWM forums to identify projects and programs that manage water sustainably and enhance the resilience and liveability of our communities.



Credit: Melbourne Water
Water sensitive urban design, inner city reach

Yarra Integrated Water Management (IWM) forum

The Yarra IWM forum, which was established in December 2017 recognises the importance of the Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision. The forum has pledged to work collaboratively to improve water system practices and deliver bold 21st century solutions for stormwater management, water sensitive blue and green infrastructure and sustainable land use planning that will ensure communities across the Yarra catchment remain healthy, prosperous and among the world's most liveable. The forum is developing their *Integrated Water Management Plan for the Yarra Catchment*, which will be released in 2021, and is expected to support investment in a range of projects, such as installing recycled water systems, stormwater harvesting schemes for urban irrigation and constructed wetlands to treat stormwater runoff and improve environmental conditions.

Actions

4. Develop the integrated water management plan (including bicultural approaches) for the Yarra catchment to optimise water cycle planning and reduce stormwater pollution into the river.

Septic tanks

Domestic wastewater is derived from bathrooms, kitchens, laundries and toilets. It includes human waste (containing pathogens), paper, soap, detergent residues and food scraps. Effective treatment and management of this wastewater is necessary to protect public health and the environment. It is managed either through discharge to a reticulated sewerage system or to an onsite wastewater treatment system – most commonly a septic tank.

Currently, across the whole of the Yarra catchment it is estimated that there are more than 30,000 septic tanks in various states of operation.

Septic systems can fail due to their age, neglect and lack of maintenance, resulting in risks to surface and ground water quality. Old systems that discharge untreated and partially treated wastewater to waterways continue to be a source of pollution. Septic tank effluent contains a wide variety of pollutants including pathogens, faecal bacteria, phosphorus, nitrogen, organic matter, suspended solids, pharmaceutical compounds and household detergents. All of these pose risks to the river.

Yarra Valley Water is the primary water and sanitation service provider in the Yarra catchment and has a critical role in improving wastewater management. Their Community Sewerage Program is targeted at properties that are not capable of onsite containment of sewage under the current council-led management framework. This includes properties with septic tanks in areas such as Eltham South, Woori Yallock, Launching Place and Warburton.

**The Victorian Auditor-General's Office report
Managing the Environmental Impacts of
Domestic Wastewater**

In 2018, an audit conducted by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) found that, despite significant efforts, responsible agencies had not made enough progress to protect the environment and public health from poorly managed septic tanks. In general, property owners have a low understanding of their role in maintaining septic tanks, how to prevent their failure and best practice septic management. At the time Yarra Valley Water had 10,900 high-risk unsewered properties on its Community Sewerage Program, 7482 of which were in the Yarra Ranges Council.

The audit put forward a number of recommendations including the development of a standard risk assessment framework for septic systems. This included monitoring to track progress and to confirm that servicing options reduce environmental and public health risks.

To meet and exceed the recommendations of the VAGO audit, Yarra Ranges Shire Council has developed a *Draft Wastewater Management Plan 2020–2025* to assist in the critical assessment of sites that generate wastewater without the availability of reticulated sewer for disposal. Nillumbik Shire Council also revised its *Domestic Wastewater Management Plan* in 2019 to address recommendations in the VAGO audit.

In response to the audit, DELWP has established an Onsite Wastewater Steering Committee with Yarra Valley Water and the councils to action the recommendations.

Actions

5. Develop an integrated program to improve management of domestic wastewater in non-sewered areas (places serviced by septic tanks)
 - investigate the extent and location of wastewater pollution in the Yarra River and its tributaries to guide future projects and actions
 - develop and implement programs (education, compliance and infrastructure improvements) to target areas where domestic wastewater has the greatest impact on water quality.

Billabongs and wetlands

A 'billabong' is a waterbody left behind following a change in river course; it is a type of wetland usually still connected to the river and periodically flooded. 'Wetlands' are areas of permanent or temporary inundation supporting plants and animals that require wet conditions to complete their life cycle. Urban wetlands do not always need to be inundated by river flooding but can receive water from tributaries, local rainfall runoff and groundwater.

Billabongs and wetlands each have their own set of values, issues and threats, which need to be considered in establishing watering regimes.

The connection that a billabong has with the river is important because it not only provides the billabong with water, but allows the exchange of living organisms, animal and plant material and nutrients between the river and the billabong. Billabong flooding induces ecological responses including cues for plant recruitment. Yarra billabongs tend to be wet for 3–4 months of the year, followed by a drying period, which is just as important for their ecological health.

Urban development, stormwater, drainage and vegetation clearing, as well as the construction of levees and harvesting of water, means that river-fed billabongs and wetlands are not inundated as frequently and are not able to act as nursery and breeding areas for the many plants and animals previously dependent on them.

The Dreaming of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people links the billabongs, wetlands and swamps in the upstream forests, across the floodplains and out to the bay. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have called for reestablishment of the billabong systems that are important cultural, spiritual and environmental features of the Yarra currently and historically.

There are over 21,000 wetlands and billabongs in the Yarra catchment. Many of these wetlands and billabongs have significant ecological and cultural values with deep histories going back many thousands of years. Today they are also highly valued for their recreational value as places to walk, cycle or connect with nature.

Water for the environment

Melbourne Water prepares and submits a seasonal watering proposal to the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH). The Seasonal Watering Plan is issued by VEWH in July each year and guides environmental watering decisions in the Yarra. Melbourne Water, as a delivery partner, implements the seasonal watering plan.

Environmental water can be released from the Upper Yarra, Maroondah and O'Shannassy reservoirs to support ecological processes and environmental outcomes in downstream river reaches and wetlands. Environmental water delivery focuses on maintaining habitat for aquatic life and supporting the migration and breeding requirements of native fish and vegetation. The extent to which additional water (releases from reservoirs) is required to meet flow requirements varies between dry, average and wet years.

There are numerous billabongs throughout the Yarra that are drier than natural, due to river regulation and modifications to natural flow paths. Melbourne Water is implementing a landscape-scale approach to watering floodplain billabongs that will consider the ecosystem services provided by different billabongs, and indicate a watering program. The approach considers the ecological, cultural and liveability values of the billabongs.

Watering at Yering Backswamp and Annulus Billabong is considered a high priority in 2020-21. In previous seasons water has been made available for Banyule, Bolin Bolin, Burke Road and Willsmere billabongs.

The *Healthy Waterways Strategy* includes an objective to increase the environmental water reserve for the Yarra River by 10 GL by 2028 to meet ecological watering objectives and cover projected shortfalls in available water due to climate change. Plans for achieving the additional reserve will be considered as part of the *Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy*, which is in preparation.

Actions

6. Investigate options to restore billabongs and wetlands on private and public land by using water for the environment to mimic natural water cycles and undertaking complementary land and water management works.
7. Work with partners, primarily Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, the Victorian Environmental Water Holder and Parks Victoria, to implement a landscape scale approach to improving the condition of wetlands and billabongs for the Lower Yarra billabongs. This must include the prioritisation of wetlands for water regime management and delivery of environmental water and cultural flows.
8. Support the aspirations of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to pursue water justice for their people and Country
 - deliver water justice through water rights, participation in water management, and broader water and policy reform (as per the definition of water justice identified in the *National Cultural Flows Research Project 2020*)
 - deliver options to support water rights for the Birrarung such as the possibility of the reallocation of the former Amcor entitlement.
9. Work with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung to enhance knowledge, monitor and understand ecological change in prioritised Lower Yarra billabongs which have received environmental water.

Includes working with partners, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, North East Link and Transport for Victoria to protect the water levels in the Bolin Bolin billabongs from the impacts of potential groundwater drawdown. The North East Link Project, in accordance with its environmental performance requirements, is required to design the project to mitigate the changes to groundwater levels in the billabongs including undertaking pre-construction, construction and post construction groundwater monitoring.



Credit: Merilyn Serang, Helmeted Honeyeater, Yellingba Nature Conservation Reserve



Habitat connectivity

One-third of Victoria's animal species are found in the Yarra catchment, including a diverse range of fish, frogs, birds, macroinvertebrates and plants.¹⁰ A number of threatened species also call the Yarra home; this includes the helmeted honeyeater considered critically endangered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. There are only three small populations of the helmeted honeyeaters in the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve. The Leadbeater's possum is also critically endangered and is found in the upper rural reach.

The loss and fragmentation of habitat threatens the conservation of biological diversity. Habitat links and corridors, both terrestrial and aquatic, can support increased biodiversity. These links provide habitat, can be used as pathways by animals and can allow species to move into isolated habitats to recolonise; for example, areas affected by bushfires. Habitat links also contribute to ecological processes such as seed dispersal and provide important social benefits for people as places for recreation.

While there are areas of high biodiversity, in many locations the Yarra's ecological value has been depleted by land clearing, farming and grazing and later through urban development.

In the suburban reach, the Yarra has been highly modified; however, it flows through a near-continuous network of parklands that provide critical habitat and a connection to nature.

In the inner city reach the land along the river has been highly modified, with much of the native vegetation removed. With the expected population growth and development in this reach over the next 10 years, it is vital that parklands are extended and maintained to protect native species, strengthen urban biodiversity and improve liveability (see Performance Objective 3 for actions to improve parklands).

Rehabilitating native vegetation along the river can enhance habitat connectivity for native flora and fauna and improve human health and well-being.

Education and awareness raising campaigns can be used to encourage landholders, river users and visitors to protect, maintain and enhance native vegetation along the river. There is also the option of using land use planning controls and directions and incentive programs to increase the width and quality of vegetation to improve connectivity between habitats on both public and private land.

Plans to restore habitat corridors and improve our natural environment

To address the trend of deterioration in riparian vegetation, the Yarra River has been allocated a 10-year priority vegetation plan in the *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018* to restore habitat corridors by increasing vegetation extent and quality along waterways. Habitat suitability models for instream values (aquatic macroinvertebrates, fish, and platypus) were also used in combination with spatial conservation prioritisation software (Zonation) to inform planning of other works, such as stormwater management, for protection and improvement of aquatic biodiversity in the Yarra and its tributaries.

In 2017, the state government released *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037*, a plan to stop the decline of native plants and animals by improving the natural environment. DELWP have developed tools and systems, regulations and standards, and collaborative planning processes to support implementation, which are relevant to implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan.

Actions

10. Undertake vegetation works to strengthen terrestrial and aquatic habitat corridors to improve biodiversity. Revegetation should include species identified as culturally important to the Traditional Owners and where feasible works should be delivered by Traditional Owners groups. Priority areas include:

- Yarra Junction to Healesville billabongs and wetlands
- Healesville to Yering billabongs and wetlands
- Yering to Warrandyte landscape protection
- Kinglake to Yarra biodiversity corridor.

(Note: this action is supported through establishing areas for protection, which are documented in the land use framework [see Part 2, page 70].)

11. Increase and enhance the extent and quality of urban greening in the inner city reach on public and private land downstream of Gardiners Creek to combat air and noise pollution, create habitat for local wildlife and reinvigorate local communities appreciation of nature and the environment.

12. Follow the goals and principles as set out in *Protecting Victoria's Environmental Biodiversity 2037* for habitat and species conservation planning. This includes using associated decision support tools, *Nature Print* and *Strategic Management Prospects* as an addendum to the plan's decision-making framework, and incorporating environmental net gain when planning for whole of river biodiversity outcomes.

DELWP and Wurundjeri Water Unit will work together to develop a bicultural approach to assessing net gain, considering cultural values and practices. They will explore ways to integrate this approach to support the Birrarung as a single living entity. Resourcing to be provided for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung participation.

13. Explore and support the use of incentive mechanisms to build skills, knowledge and capacity in restoring landscape function, protecting biodiversity, increasing nutrient and water cycling and building soil carbon for resilient enterprises that can mitigate climate-related pressures.

14. Promote the use of conservation covenants to protect priority conservation values on private land as well as enhancing habitat connectivity and, where possible, incorporating Traditional Owner aspirations and involvement.
15. Plan and undertake terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna assessments to ascertain where opportunities exist to reintroduce and restore native plants and animals, including species that are important to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung as totems, seasonal indicators and resources required for ceremony and other uses. Selection of plants and planting methods will also consider impacts of climate change and opportunity to increase resilience.
16. Provide resourcing to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to develop and pilot flora and fauna assessments as critical planning tools for future management of the catchment. This will require external agencies providing access to relevant data.

'A time-lapsed, Bunjil-eyed view of the river over tens, hundreds, thousands of years would show a living thing expanding (flood) and contracting (drought), changing beds, looping cutoffs and billabongs, running faster or slower, in different unpredictable patterns.'

– Kristen Otto author of *Yarra: A Diverging History of Melbourne's Murky River*¹⁰

Native fish

The Yarra River, including its estuary and wetlands, supports relatively healthy populations of native fish with value scores of moderate to very high shown in the *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018*. There are 16 native fish species, including threatened species Australian mudfish and Australian grayling. Freshwater species such as Macquarie perch, Murray cod and river blackfish, and estuarine species mullet, bream and estuary perch are highly valued by the fishing community.

To maintain healthy populations, fish rely on variations in natural water flows, including floods or 'freshes', to trigger breeding, spawning and migration. A large number of species, such as Australian grayling and the short-finned eel, need to be able to move between the ocean and freshwater habitats to complete critical stages of their life cycle, such as breeding. The structure of waterways is also vital to fish because they need deep pools for resting, undercut banks and logs under which to hide, and streamside vegetation as an important food source.

As outlined in the *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018*, improvements to environmental conditions, particularly riparian vegetation, water quality, environmental flows, stormwater management and ensuring the Dights Falls fishway is effective, will ensure a score of very high for native fish in the long term.

Plans to protect native fish and restore recreational fisheries

The *Freshwater Fisheries Management Plan 2018*, provides a state-wide approach to build better recreational fisheries by bringing together fish, water and land management activities.

Ongoing education and awareness campaigns will improve understanding of the river environment, regulations, fish stocks and other fisheries-related matters.

A key measure of the success of the plan will be the extent to which its priorities are supported and implemented by the Victorian Fisheries Authority, recreational fishers, Traditional Owners and other government agencies.

Actions

17. Invest in habitat restoration and environmental watering to:
 - increase native fish in the Yarra River, its tributaries and billabongs
 - support a healthy ecosystem
 - improve opportunities for recreational fishing and cultural practices.
18. Work in partnership with angling groups to develop and implement a community education program on protection of native fish (especially for Macquarie perch and other threatened species). This will include promoting bag limits and areas where the taking of native fish is prohibited and increasing participation in monitoring and assessment programs.
19. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to lead and explore the feasibility of research projects identifying current extents, habitat needs, and best practice recovery programs for culturally valued freshwater aquatic species, which are in decline in the greater Melbourne region. This includes species such as river blackfish, freshwater crayfish and short-finned eel.

Pest plants and animals

Invasive plants and animals cause environmental, economic and social impacts on both private and public land. Pest plants can severely decrease the productive capacity of land, alter water flow, lead to erosion and provide harbour for pest animals. They can also out-compete and displace native plants and lead to loss of biodiversity. Pest animals impact vegetation through grazing, trampling and other disturbance factors. Predators such as foxes, cats and dogs threaten the survival of native animals such as lyrebirds and platypus.

Pest plants, including declared noxious weeds and native plants classified as environmental weeds, are plants growing outside of their normal range that lack natural environmental controls. This allows them to quickly establish and take over areas of native vegetation such as bushland and forests, along waterways or native grasslands.

There are 47 prohibited, 51 controlled and 31 restricted plants (declared noxious weeds) listed under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* for the Port Phillip and Westernport region, which land owners, both public and private, have a legal responsibility to control. There are no formal regulations for control of native plants defined as environmental weeds.

Weeds of a high priority for control and eradication along the Yarra include blackberry, St John's wort, willow, English ivy, spear thistle, pittosporum, African boxthorn, serrated tussock and honeysuckle.

There are a number of local strategies and programs implemented by Melbourne Water, councils and other agencies for weed management. These generally aim to reduce the spread of established weeds on roadsides, council land, other public land and private land; avoid new weed species establishing; and reduce noxious and environmental weed infestations.

Community education is another focus of local councils for managing weeds. This includes providing information to identify common garden and agricultural plants that are environmental weeds as well as methods to eradicate them, and to suggest alternative native species for gardeners to use.

Pest animals that are a high priority in the Yarra catchment include rabbits, foxes, feral goats, wild dogs, cats and deer. Currently, sambar, fallow and red deer are of particular concern in the upper and lower rural reach of the river.

Deer trample vegetation, snap shrubs and young saplings, ring-bark trees by 'antler rubbing', and make large wallows in wet areas. They also have negative impacts on agriculture, including fouling of pasture, crops and water, spread of weed and soil borne diseases, and damage to infrastructure including fences and nets. Deer are also potential vectors of livestock disease such as foot-and-mouth, and parasites that can contaminate drinking water reservoirs, e.g. *Cryptosporidium*.

Carp, an introduced fish, is a major factor in the decline of native fish. They are present in high numbers in the Yarra and are a declared noxious aquatic species.

Although authorities involved in managing the river have pest control programs, there is room for better coordination between them and with the Traditional Owners and private landowners.

This plan aligns with the government's invasive plants and animals policy framework, which adopts a risk-management approach to reduce the impact of invasive species. The aim is to prevent the entry of new high-risk invasive species, eradicate those high-risk species that are at an early stage of establishment, contain where possible species that are beyond eradication and protect key assets from the impact of widespread species.



Credit: Reg Gordon,
wild deer.

Investigations and initiatives focusing on the management of deer

The *Victorian Deer Management Strategy* was released in October 2020. It sets out a long-term coordinated plan to control wild deer numbers and reduce the threat they pose to the environment, farming, public safety and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

As part of the strategy, an outer suburban management plan will be developed in partnership with local councils, Parks Victoria and Traditional Owners to identify effective measures to reduce the impacts of wild deer and make the roads safer.

The strategy is being delivered under the *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037* and is also a commitment under the *Sustainable Hunting Action Plan*, complementing the government's expansion of the areas that deer can be recreationally hunted, and complementing the legislative changes allowing hunters to have wild deer butchered for personal use.

The strategy recognises that effective deer management requires a partnership approach between all levels of government, Traditional Owners, conservation groups, catchment managers, the hunters, the commercial deer harvest industry and the community.

Actions

- 20.** Adopt a multi-agency collaboration and investment approach to management of invasive animals and plants in the Yarra corridor:
- quantify and measure numbers and impact of invasive animals and plants
 - evaluate the effectiveness of existing control programs
 - coordinate the delivery of new programs and projects to control and eradicate where possible invasive animals and plants in the Yarra corridor
 - set targets for control programs over the next 10 years and monitor progress towards their achievement.
- 21.** Build capacity of the Wurrundjeri Woi-wurrung Narrap ('Country') team to manage and eradicate deer in the Yarra catchment.



Credit: Dan Harley,
Critically endangered Leadbeater's Possum

Climate change

Victoria's climate has been undergoing rapid changes in recent decades and climate change has become a critical issue for Victoria and the world. The effects of climate change will continue well into the future impacting on temperature, rainfall, frost, sea level rise and extreme weather events including fire and flood.

Regional climate model projections, under a high emissions scenario, indicate that maximum daily temperatures are expected to show a median increase of 1.9°C by mid-century, compared to temperatures recorded in 1986–2005.¹² Under a medium emission scenario, maximum temperatures increase by a median of 1.6°C. With conditions progressively becoming hotter and drier during summer, more people are likely to seek refuge from the heat near the river and in its parklands. There will be more stress on waterways with higher risks of algal blooms and reduced dissolved oxygen levels. Warmer and drier conditions will also affect the distribution of plants and animals and their habitats as they adjust to the changes.

Regional climate modelling also shows that, over time, annual rainfall totals are likely to decline, more so under high emissions scenarios, with the greatest decreases in the cooler seasons. Greater Melbourne's rainfall is naturally highly variable, and this natural variability will continue to dominate the rainfall over the next decade. Under a high emissions scenario, by mid-century median annual rainfalls are projected to decrease by 8 per cent, and 6 per cent under medium emissions.

With the ongoing change in Victoria's climate, the risk of bushfires is increasing. Higher temperatures and drier conditions will increase the frequency of days of extreme fire danger. The Yarra runs through landscapes that are at extreme risk for bushfires, especially in the upper reaches of the river. These bushfires not only threaten communities and their livelihoods but also Melbourne's water supply.

Flood events are predicted to become more common due to climate change, and the area of land inundated is expected to increase due to higher intensity rainfall and rising sea levels. The increasing frequency of flood events in the Yarra catchment may pose hazards to people, infrastructure and the delivery of essential services. Flood inundation and extreme storm events can cause substantial damage to property and infrastructure as well as place the health and safety of people at risk.

The Victorian Government is taking strong and lasting action on climate change to safeguard our natural environment and living cultural heritage. Government action is driven by the *Climate Change Act 2017* and its long-term emissions reduction target of net zero by 2050. Action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build the resilience of natural and built systems aim to reduce Victoria's risk and harness the opportunities posed by climate change.

Increased education, awareness and science-informed planning will help in understanding climate change risks and the adaptive capacity of the river. Planning should include practical actions to manage risks, involve communities and strengthen the resilience of the river and its surrounds.

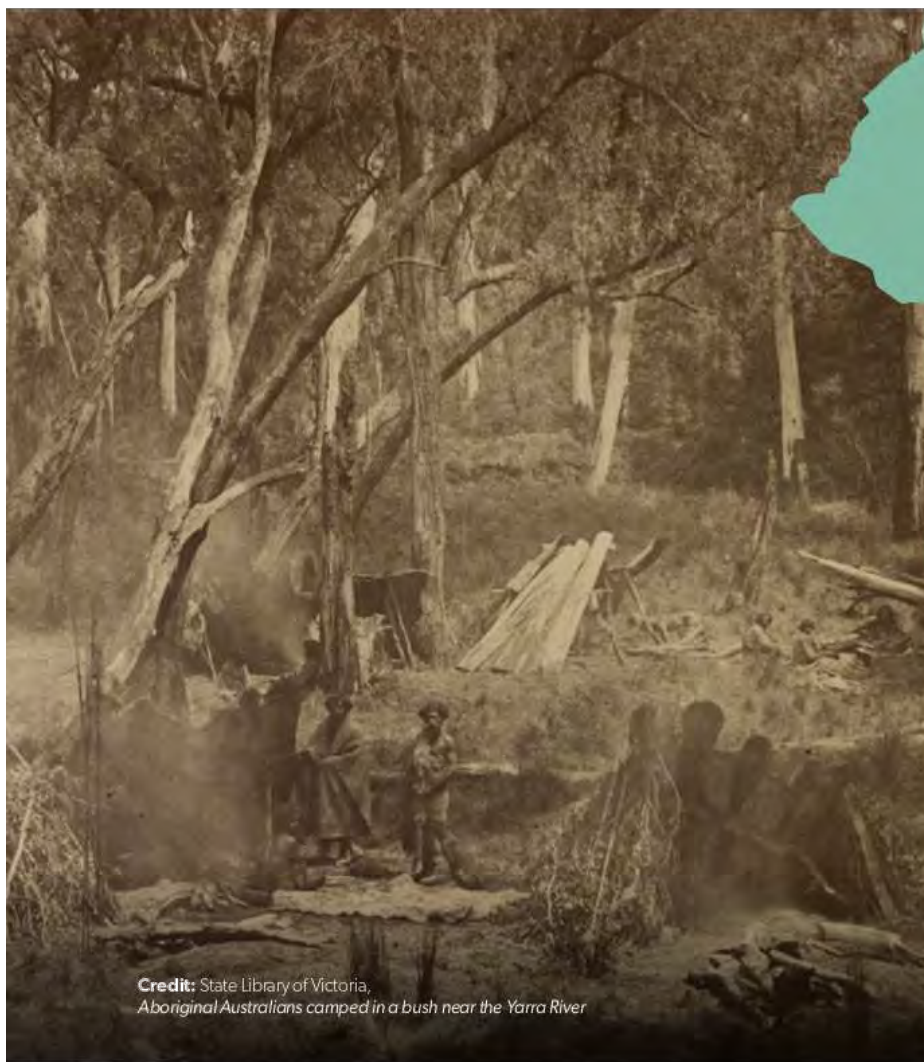
Strategies and initiatives to manage the effects of climate change

The Victorian Government has provided funding for the local development of six regional climate change adaptation strategies across Victoria including development of a *Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for Greater Melbourne*. These strategies will provide an opportunity to identify and prioritise actions over the next five years. Seven state-wide sector plans are being developed in parallel to the regional strategies.

Local councils and statutory authorities have also prepared climate strategies and are implementing initiatives to better manage the effects of climate change and adaptation to changing climatic conditions. For Melbourne Water, priorities include reducing greenhouse gas emissions and investing in research to understand the impacts on stream flows and the species and processes that depend on them. This research is informing environmental watering programs that are helping, for example, to protect drought refuges for native fish and other aquatic species.

Actions

22. Deliver an interactive education program along the river corridor to enhance awareness and understanding around climate change and the adaptive capacity of the river.
23. Map key risks to the Yarra for climate change and develop a climate change adaptation and resilience action plan. The plan will inform responses to extreme weather events including, heatwaves, drought, flood and fire, and promote land management approaches such as cultural burning to mitigate risks and assist recovery.



Credit: State Library of Victoria,
Aboriginal Australians camped in a bush near the Yarra River



Performance Objective 2:
A culturally diverse corridor

Acknowledging, protecting and
commemorating the rich heritage of the
Birrarrung and its stories.

THIS PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IF:

- Sites and areas of cultural and historical significance, as well as historical river and land based practices, are increasingly protected, recognised and celebrated.

The Yarra River has been central to the lives of Traditional Owners for many thousands of years and, more recently, those who settled in Melbourne after colonisation in 1835. Because of this intertwined history, the river holds heritage values that are both tangible (embodied in physical places) and intangible (such as cultural practices, knowledge and oral traditions). To preserve the cultural and historical significance of the river, agencies and private landowners must protect, conserve and manage the river's cultural heritage values.

The Yarra's history is deeply connected to the history of its Traditional Owners. Evidence of human settlement and land management along the Yarra can be found in stone artefact scatters, scarred trees, hearths, middens and fish traps. Numerous places along the river hold great cultural and spiritual significance for the Traditional Owners.

The Yarra also has had a rich and varied history since colonisation, with remnants of the early colony including the port and other relics of maritime trade and industry found along the river. It is vital we identify and record the cultural heritage values to ensure they are protected for future generations.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung lived in the Yarra Valley for tens of thousands of years before British colonisation. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people call the Yarra River 'Birrarung', meaning place of mists and shadows, and the river marks the centre of Wurundjeri Country.

During this time, the geomorphology of the Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay changed dramatically. An early colonist, William Hull, recorded the following from 'the Yarra and Coast tribes': 'the river (Yarra) once went out at the Heads, but that the sea broke in, and that Hobson's Bay, which was once a hunting ground, became what it is'.¹³

There are many known Aboriginal cultural heritage sites along the river. One such site for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung is Bolin Bolin billabongs in Bulleen. During eel breeding season the billabongs acted as a gathering site for members of the Kulin Nation. The billabongs are still highly valued for their ecological, cultural and recreational attributes.

The original loop in the river (west of today's Docklands), which was removed in 1886, is also a known Aboriginal cultural heritage site due to its extensive low-lying wetland that provided a source of food, fibre and medicine. The confluence of the Maribyrnong and Yarra rivers is also recognised as a meeting place for Kulin groups.

The river's history and heritage are documented in numerous sources. However, no single heritage assessment exists for the Yarra River, Birrarung, and information contained in council studies is inconsistent. Pressure for new urban development may threaten the protection of these important places.

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation has commenced stage one of a mapping project to identify culturally significant landscapes along the river. Some information from this work will be shared publicly, while some sites will remain part of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people's cultural knowledge. Further mapping is dependent on the availability of funding.

To deliver a culturally diverse corridor and share the stories of the river, Aboriginal heritage assessments and interpretive and educational programs are needed that involve all Traditional Owners connected to the river.

All Aboriginal cultural heritage is protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. The Act provides mechanisms for protecting and managing Aboriginal cultural heritage during land use and development activities. This includes cultural heritage management plans, which are required for high impact activities proposed in areas of cultural heritage sensitivity.

Actions

- 24.** Develop or, where existing, enhance interpretive and educational programs for sites that have Aboriginal cultural heritage values and historic heritage values. Potential sites are:
- Collingwood Children's Farm
 - Dights Falls and Merri Creek confluence
 - Bolin Bolin Billabong
 - Brushy Creek confluence.
- 25.** Deliver interactive educational programs (e.g. signage, and smart device applications) that include storytelling about the rich culture and heritage of the Yarra. Indigenous cultural intellectual property agreements must be put in place for use of Traditional Owner intellectual property and programs.
- 26.** Support a program of cultural value studies by the Traditional Owners for the Yarra, Birrarung, and its lands.
- 27.** Explore with the Traditional Owners the possibility of registering the Yarra as a cultural landscape.

Historic heritage

Prior to colonisation, the Yarra River was radically different from what it is today. The river was originally tidal up to a basalt ledge known as 'the falls' (where Queens Bridge now stands). These falls acted as a barrier to the saline tidal flows, meaning a permanent source of fresh water could be found upstream of the rocks.

In the early 1830s, colonists arrived and began to use the river for agriculture as well as shipping and trade. Enterprize Park, on the north bank of the river, is where the first Europeans landed to start the development of Melbourne. The first bridge across the river was Princes Bridge, built in 1844 and later replaced with the current bridge in 1888. The 1850s saw the beginning of the Victorian gold rush with significant changes to Melbourne. At Warrandyte, where gold was first discovered in 1851, the river was extensively mined, creating the Pound Bend Tunnel and the Big and Little Peninsula Tunnels above Warburton.

Driven by industrialisation and the importance of shipping, major infrastructure works took place on the lower part of the river in the late 1800s. The Coope Canal was constructed in 1886 to improve access for large ships to Melbourne's main docks. This included the creation of Victoria Harbour, which was dug out from swampy land in what we now call Docklands.

There are many visible reminders of the Yarra's rich maritime history including the goods sheds, cranes, dry docks, warehouses wharves and vaults dotted along the lower part of the river. The Polly Woodside tall ship and museum in South Wharf provides insights into the importance of shipping to the growth of Melbourne. This includes the Duke and Orr's Dry Dock, built in 1875 and largely reconstructed in 1901. This large timber-lined dock currently houses the Polly Woodside and is one of the few surviving relics of a once-extensive ship building and repair industry that stretched along the south bank of the river.

Other significant sites linked to the Yarra's maritime history include the turning basin and the heritage-listed Mission of Seafarers building. The turning basin just downstream of the rocky outcrop forming the Yarra Falls and roughly in line with William Street was the furthest point that ships could navigate up the Yarra River. In 1857, the Victorian Seaman's Mission was founded to support seafarers working far from their homes. This building continues to serve seafarers coming to Melbourne today.

Trade by sea was, and is still, crucial to Melbourne's economic prosperity. Today, the mouth of the river is used for container shipping by the Port of Melbourne. The inner city reach, which is inaccessible to larger watercraft, has seen increased use for both transport and recreational boating (including kayaking, canoeing and rowing).

The Yarra's maritime history has been acknowledged and captured in policies and actions in the City of Melbourne's *Yarra River Birrarung Strategy*. The strategy aims to deliver a culturally diverse corridor and share the stories of the river, the Yarra Strategic Plan supports working together to

bring this history to life through heritage assessments and interpretive signage and storytelling in the inner city reach.

Historical records associated with the Yarra provide important expressions of Victoria's identity and experience. They help tell a story, a celebration of past and ongoing human endeavour and activity, provide a sense of community identity, and reflect a diversity of values and experiences. Loss of these places, and the loss of knowledge about them, diminishes communities.

Actions

- 28.** Develop a holistic heritage assessment to understand historic heritage values using the Yarra River (Birrarung) Cultural Heritage Scoping Study thematic framework.



Credit: Heritage Council Victoria
Polly Woodside tall ship and museum, South Wharf





Performance Objective 3:
Quality parklands for a growing population

Improving the river's parklands to support community wellbeing and strengthen the relationship between the Yarra River, its community and visitors.

**THIS PERFORMANCE
OBJECTIVE WILL BE
SUCCESSFUL IF:**

- Opportunities for access to the river, community connection, recreation and cultural awareness are increased and enhanced whilst improving and protecting biodiversity.
- Areas of parklands are increased to improve habitat connectivity and reduce fragmentation.
- Traditional Owners are increasingly involved in decision-making and management of parklands.

Birrarung is central to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people's identity; it forms part of their Dreaming. A life source, the relationships between the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and Birrarung are layered – spiritual, ancestral, social, cultural and economic. The river has shaped Country and the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung world view. The Yarra has also shaped Melbourne, while the city and its surroundings have transformed the river.

The corridor of parks, reserves and open spaces along the Birrarung are a world-class natural and cultural landscape treasured by Victorians. The river weaves through the heart of the parklands, connecting communities, histories, activities, culture, art and landscape into one living and integrated natural entity.

These parklands contain a complex mix of ecosystems, including wetlands, billabongs, floodplains, creeks, tributaries, tree gorges, woodlands, rainforests, coastal marshes and an estuary.

As well as wilderness areas, the parklands include landscaped areas, playgrounds, sporting facilities, gardens, rail trails, national and state parks, and many places of environmental and cultural significance.

The parklands help secure Melbourne's world-class liveability, providing a strong connection between the health of the natural environment and human wellbeing. People obtain many benefits from being in the outdoors, including physical, psychological, cultural and social health and wellbeing. The parklands provide places for exercise, relaxation, play, learning and discovery. They provide respite from the pressures of urban living, and are often the first and most frequent contact that children have with nature.

Vision for the Yarra's 'Birrarung parklands'

Representatives of the Yarra Collaboration Committee developed the following vision for the Yarra's 'Birrarung parklands' drawing on community consultation and stakeholder input.

In 2070...The globally renowned Birrarung parklands are a sacred, living and internationally important ecological asset for Melbourne.

They are celebrated for weaving stories of Melbourne's history and people along a historic waterway through cultural heritage landscapes. Visitors to the river connect to its spirit and to each other.

The parklands are visited for refuge, recreation, learning, volunteering and livelihood. Contemporary and universally designed visitor infrastructure enable outstanding experiences that connect people to, and along, the Yarra.

These experiences make a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of everyone in the community – regardless of age, gender, cultural background or socio-economic status.

The parklands are a place where people work together to protect natural and cultural values. Traditional Owner knowledge and practice is central to the management of cultural heritage, ecological health and biodiversity.

The rich heritage of the parklands is acknowledged, protected and commemorated. Visitor access is carefully managed to ensure protection of key sites, and education and interpretation deepens the connection of the community to a sacred, living Birrarung.

Declaration of the Greater Yarra Urban Parklands

Under section 59(1) of the Act the declaration of the Greater Yarra Urban Parklands enables parklands in the vicinity of the Yarra River to be given a common identity and to be treated as one living and integrated natural asset of state significance. Declarations are intended to ensure the holistic management and protection of the river and its associated public lands, focusing on Crown and freehold government land parcels that are ecologically and strategically significant to the waterway. These declared parklands are protected from planning scheme amendments that change the zoning of that land so that the land may be used in a way that is inconsistent with the Yarra Strategic Plan, by requiring such amendments to be ratified by Parliament.

In February 2018, declarations were made for parklands between Punt Road, South Yarra, and the urban growth boundary in Warrandyte (see land use maps in Part 2). Criteria for declaration of these land parcels are that they are publicly accessible, of environmental significance and have frontage or direct relationship to the river. Additional land may be added or removed from the Greater Yarra Urban Parklands subject to provisions in the Act.

Living parklands

Parklands are critical for maintaining biodiversity in urban areas. The indigenous vegetation in these parklands provides critical habitat for native animals, supports fragile plant species, and helps protect water quality and flow in waterways.

The parklands are home to the iconic platypus and other mammals including koalas, echidnas, possums, sugar gliders, bats, bandicoots, kangaroos and wallabies. There are many species of frogs, lizards and snakes. Over 190 species of birds inhabit the parklands, with insectivores, honeyeaters, birds of prey, seedeaters, songbirds and waterbirds using the parklands for feeding, nesting and breeding.

The parklands provide critical links for biodiversity, with corridors that run along the many tributaries that flow into the Yarra. These biodiversity corridors allow species to travel between areas to find resources such as food and water and for breeding. Fragmentation of these corridors is a key risk for the survival of many species of plants and animals.

Recreation and wellbeing

The Yarra's extensive open spaces and parklands make a significant contribution to the physical, emotional and social health and wellbeing of Victorians. The proximity of the river's parklands to the city and suburbs means that these urban and peri-urban parks represent, for many people, their first and most regular contact with nature and the outdoors.

The parklands provide equitable access to natural open space and connection to the environment. Studies have confirmed that Traditional Owners' perception of their own or their community's health is closely intertwined with the health of their Country. There is central importance of land to their identity, spirituality, community and culture; in short, 'healthy Country promotes Healthy people'.¹⁴

The parklands are a destination for international and local tourists and visitors, offering a diverse array of passive and active recreational activities, including sightseeing, walking, running, cycling, events, picnicking, BBQs, climbing, horse riding, bird watching, swimming, rowing, kayaking, canoeing, boating, fishing, golf, photography, nature appreciation, art and culture appreciation, camping and socialising. The parklands also support new and emerging recreational activities including electric bikes and skateboards, and flying of drones.

The Main Yarra Trail is part of an extensive network of regional shared trails that accommodate multiple user groups (particularly pedestrians and cyclists), are mostly off-road, have a relatively long and continuous length and have a regional scale, purpose and impact. The Main Yarra Trail begins in Abbotsford and follows the Yarra through Fairfield, Rosanna, Templestowe and Eltham with a proposed future extension to Warrandyte.

The *Eastern Regional Trails Strategy* (2018) recommends that councils and other land management authorities work together towards an interconnected and well-used trail network. The strategy outlines opportunities to improve condition, usability, safety and connectivity. This includes upgrades and extensions to the Main Yarra Trail, the new rail trail from Lilydale through to Yarra Glen and Healesville, and development of a Yarra River paddle trail between Yarra Glen and Abbotsford.

Major parkland attractions near the city include Southbank Promenade, Royal Botanic Gardens, National Gallery of Victoria, Federation Square, Birrarung Marr, Olympic Boulevard, Yarra River cruising, Abbotsford Convent, Collingwood Children's Farm, and the Studley Park and Fairfield boathouses.

Yarra Park, which includes the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) and other stadiums, epitomises the sporting focus of many of the Yarra's parklands. Further upstream, the parklands provide a mosaic of sports ovals and playing fields for both community and school-based sports. The

wider sections of the river downstream of Dights Falls are also used for rowing, with school and club rowing sheds scattered along the banks from Hawthorn through to Southbank.

Yarra Park is culturally important for Traditional Owners. It is a gathering place and retains tangible culture in the form of a remnant scar tree. There are numerous other trees in the parklands providing cultural importance. Examples include the Corroboree Tree in Burnley Park, Richmond, and Yingabeal in the grounds of Heide Museum of Modern Art, Bulleen.

There are many places in the parklands that offer space for family enjoyment and individual reflection, such as the sculpture park at Heide Museum of Modern Art and the AIDS Memorial Garden behind the former Fairfield Hospital in Yarra Bend Park.

There are a significant number of commercial businesses providing recreational, entertainment and wellbeing services for visitors across the parklands. This includes over 100 tourist operators licensed by Parks Victoria providing river cruises, sight-seeing, horse trail riding, mountain biking, rock climbing and outdoor education activities. The Yarra also represents an idyllic location for nature appreciation activities including photography, painting and bird watching.

A large number of people participate in environmental stewardship activities and citizen science projects that contribute to their wellbeing and community connection. Friends groups and volunteers are strong park advocates and make significant contributions to the parklands. They undertake important conservation work including revegetation, weeding, trail maintenance and environmental monitoring.

Caring for Country and co-governance of parklands with Traditional Owners

Traditional Owners have cared for Country throughout time. Through embedding recognised Traditional Owners in the shared governance of the river and its parklands, their continued role as custodians is recognised.

The *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrnong) Act 2017* calls for collaborative management of the Yarra River corridor. The Act implicitly speaks to the delivery of the social, cultural, economic, environmental, and heritage outcomes that the Act intended for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, as well as the educational outcomes, to which the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people aspire and which are outlined in *Nhanbu narun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung* (Ancient Spirit and Lore of the Yarra).

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people consider the entirety of Country a cultural landscape, and have articulated a number of locations along the Birrarung as significant (as shown on maps in Part 2). This is not a full list of significant places – only what was agreed to be shared for the plan.

Traditional Owners have important cultural, economic and spiritual connections with the Birrarung and its parklands. Hence, the importance of their involvement in their management, ensuring that opportunities for use of these parklands for cultural, spiritual, social and economic practices and connection to Country can continue.

The parklands face many challenges. Victoria's population is growing and, with it, rapid urban development and suburbs are spreading into rural areas. Additionally, the climate is changing, becoming warmer and drier with more extreme weather events. Communities, the Traditional Owners and government authorities realise that to meet these challenges we need to work differently – collaboratively and together.

Actions

29. Plan, design, and manage the river parklands as one living and integrated natural entity, ensuring that all parklands are managed to a consistently high standard and celebrate the relationship between the river and its parklands.
30. Develop, with the Traditional Owners, a consistent conservation, cultural and visitation brand identity for the Yarra and its parklands to:
 - embed in the community, recognition of the parklands and river as one living and integrated natural entity
 - celebrate the nurturing relationship between the Yarra's parklands and the community
 - encourage proactive behaviour to protect and nourish the Yarra and its parklands
 - support national and international recognition of, and investment in, the Yarra's parklands.
31. Establish formalised partnership agreements (including resourcing) with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Traditional Owners to manage the parklands.

Balancing access and conservation

The Yarra's parklands provide a broad range of community and individual opportunities to interact with nature. However, many forms of recreation in the natural environment inherently result in localised impacts to wildlife due to human disturbance, habitat fragmentation and the introduction of non-native species. These impacts can be exacerbated with increased numbers of visitors, especially where people congregate or enter the river.

Many people have expressed a need to balance increased access with the need for conservation of areas with high biodiversity value. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people believe strongly that parklands management should consider conservation over human desires and needs.

Careful design and management of activities and facilities, including location of trails and river access points, can minimise impacts while maximising the benefits of outdoor recreation. Trails in particular can help protect resources by redirecting use away from sensitive areas, fostering appreciation of the outdoors and ensuring that users minimise impacts by enjoying the trail experience in appropriate sites and locations.

Actions

32. Investigate locations and options for improved access to the Yarra and its parklands that enable outstanding nature and culture based experiences while conserving the high biodiversity, cultural and landscape values that the community wish to protect. This includes identifying and mapping locations and options for improved:
 - on-water experience for kayak/canoe and boating access points at key locations (giving consideration to health and safety and being fit-for-purpose)
 - signage and information for on-water journeys
 - bicycle and pedestrian trail experiences
 - experience and connection to nature for recreational and leisure pursuits.

Assist Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to identify crown land river frontages with grazing licences that are unsuitable for camping due to cultural values, tangible and intangible, natural values, protecting or allowing revegetation, managing or preventing a biosecurity risk or public safety.

Extending the parkland network

The parklands network of interconnecting linear parks, wetlands and waterways support outstanding visitor experiences and high biodiversity. These parklands along the river are one of Melbourne's greatest open space assets, enhancing the city's economic prosperity, vitality and liveability.

The acquisition of land for parklands can support recreational, social and cultural uses, and increase biodiversity by reducing fragmentation and improving habitat connectivity.

Currently, a number of sites within the river corridor are being prioritised for acquisition by the state government so the parklands network can be expanded and enhanced.

Actions

- 33.** Over the next 10 years, the state government to investigate opportunities to improve and extend the area of parklands and deliver on priorities for acquisition.

Infrastructure and services

Infrastructure and services have been developed to cater for passive and active recreation, which occurs on both land adjacent to the river and on the river itself. The environmental context within which these activities occur varies considerably from highly sensitive sites to significantly modified sites in urban areas.

Nearly all recreational activities within the Yarra's parklands require built infrastructure and services that enable access to sites and facilitate the needs of users. This includes infrastructure and services such as entrance roads, car parks, pavilions, amenities, lighting, boat ramps and jetties, sports grounds and courts, and constructed paths and trails.

The community's expectation is that the infrastructure and services for the Yarra's parklands are assessed regularly, well maintained and updated on a consistent basis, and they should be updated and replaced in environmentally sensitive ways.

There is also an expectation that infrastructure and services are contemporary, inclusive and provide multiple benefits. There is a need to cater for a diversity of experiences that connect people with the parklands and surrounding areas, and provide for strong nature and culture-based tourism. Community infrastructure, such as education hubs, arts and entertainment spaces, are particularly important to create a broader identity for the parklands.

Actions

- 34.** Conduct a strategic assessment of infrastructure and services in the Yarra's parklands to ensure they are contemporary, inclusive and provide multiple benefits, while respecting and protecting the conservation and cultural values of the parklands and the river.
- 35.** Consider green infrastructure investment and solutions at the local and landscape scale within parklands. Examples include constructed wetlands for stormwater treatment and creating habitat, placement of trees to improve visual aesthetics and amenity, permeable surfaces to increase groundwater recharge, and rain gardens to manage run-off from hard surfaces.

- 36.** Develop a 10-year berthing strategy for the lower Yarra River.

- 37.** Ensure access and egress for vessels to priority berthing sites along the inner city reach of the Yarra River through investment in a comprehensive dredging operation and ongoing maintenance dredging of the river to ensure boats and vessels can move safely along the river to maintain its status as a tourism precinct.

- 38.** Establish a Lower Yarra River management committee to guide commercial berthing, events and activation, and river infrastructure development and improvement. The committee's main objectives:

- drive the development of a 10-year berthing strategy for the lower Yarra River (from Dights Falls to the Port of Melbourne) including options for commercial berthing, events and activation, and infrastructure investment
- ensure activities and safe waterway usage is reflected in Yarra River waterway rules
- drive the alignment of Parks Victoria and Melbourne City Council annual works programs
- oversee the implementation of the outcomes of the Yarra Strategic Plan for the lower Yarra River.



Credit: David Hamrah,
Fishing, Yarra River



Inner city reach

The inner city reach, extending from Dights Falls to the city, includes industrial areas on the river flats, well-established residential neighbourhoods, the central business district, sporting grounds, wide pedestrian promenades, and extensive areas of formal parks offering opportunities to walk, ride, picnic, and relax. While each reach is highlighted here, Traditional Owners adopt a whole of river view, with all sites forming part of the cultural landscape.

Nature appreciation, walking, cycling, picnics and BBQs, rowing and dog walking are popular in this reach. Other activities include events such as White Night and Moomba, markets and celebrations in Birrarung Marr and Southbank Promenade, and tourist destinations including Abbotsford Convent, Collingwood Children's Farm and the Royal Botanic Gardens.

- 1 Melbourne is a significant traditional meeting place of the Kulin Nation with the annual Tanderrum ceremony held adjacent to the river.
- 2 Ferries and passenger craft operate along the inner city reach.
- 3 Threats to the Yarra parklands near the city include inappropriate development, building and construction along the river bank, and ineffective management of stormwater and litter pollution.
- 4 Docklands, Federation Square, Birrarung Marr and other city riverside locations host a range of events, including Tanderrum, the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, Moomba (including the Birdman rally) and were sites for Commonwealth and Olympic Games.



Credit: Parks Victoria 23

- 5 Yarra Bend Park is an important Kulin meeting place, featuring the site of the first Aboriginal Police Corps. It contains significant bushland, a grey-headed flying fox colony and viewing platform.
- 6 Dights Falls is a meeting place for Kulin people and the location of the first post-contact Aboriginal School in the Melbourne region.
- 7 The Collingwood Children's Farm was established in 1979 so that children living in an urban environment, often without backyards, could learn to care for animals and nature. Nearby, Abbotsford Convent houses artists' studios, performing spaces, festivals, cafes and restaurants, and gardens.
- 8 The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people operate from two sites. The community has rented office space at the Abbotsford Convent since 2007.
- 9 The Burnley circus site, originally for travelling circuses and now a large space for cultural events, features large old river red gums and sugar gums. Nearby, McConchie Reserve features fishing and bird watching at Burnley Harbour, and beneath the freeway a rock climbing wall and wetlands.
- 10 There are some 85,000 members of rowing clubs, and the annual Head of the Yarra rowing event attracts over 10,000 people.



Credit: Parks Victoria 17

- 11 There are excellent recreational fishing areas close to the city. Surveys at 43 sites between Abbotsford and Millgrove recorded over 10,000 fish, comprising 22 species and two types of crayfish, with native Australian smelt, common galaxias and short-finned eel, roach, Macquarie perch, common carp, redfin and brown trout the most common.
- 12 Alexandra Gardens and Domain parklands, totalling 123 hectares abutting the river, cool the city, support biodiversity, profile cultural heritage, and are important for economic development. The area includes rowing boatsheds, a skate park, the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, the Shrine of Remembrance, and La Trobe's Cottage.
- 13 The Tan, a 3.8km loop around the Royal Botanic Gardens is Melbourne's most popular running route. The gardens include the new Birrarung Gate – along the northern border where the Yarra once flowed through the gardens – celebrating Aboriginal values of place and the Indigenous landscape, plants, animals, and people.
- 14 Herring Island, with its arts centre, Environmental Sculpture Park, and Summer Arts Festival, provides a sense of remoteness, with access only via water.

Suburban reach

The suburban reach, from Warrandyte to Dights Falls, is lined with a near-continuous network of parklands and conservation areas, transitioning from rural to suburban settings.

The main recreational activities in this reach are bike riding, canoeing and rowing, walking, organised sport, and visiting cafes and restaurants. Over a thousand people cycle to work every day in this reach, along a connection of trails. Other activities include cultural and sports events, festivals, and markets.

- 15 Commencing in 2011, Westgarth Kindergarten's Bush Kinder Program at the Darebin Parklands was a pioneer of the increasingly popular Bush Kinder movement in Victoria.
- 16 Many golf courses, such as Ivanhoe Public Golf Course, support recreational and environmental values of the river.
- 17 The popular Studley Park Boathouse, established in 1863 as the first boathouse on the Yarra, features a restaurant, café, and boat hire. To the north is the Fairfield Park Boathouse, established in 1908.
- 18 Explore heritage and art at the Monsalvat heritage site and former artists' colony, the Heidelberg School Artists' Trail, and the Heidi Museum of Modern Art.
- 19 The Bolin Bolin Billabong was a highly significant living area and gathering place for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung during iuk (eel) harvest time. Bolin Bolin remains one of many highly significant sites for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.
- 20 Wombat Bend, at Finns Reserve, is a multi-award-winning play space connecting families with nature. Melbourne's original all-abilities playground, Hay's Paddock in East Kew, opened in 1998 and quickly became one of Melbourne's most innovative and beloved playgrounds.

Experiencing the value of the Yarra Parklands

- 21 The numerous urban parks along the Yarra feature diverse landscapes, bushland, billabongs, open grassland, heritage orchards, golf courses, wetlands, outdoor art destinations, community gardens, and playgrounds.
- 22 Westerfolds Park is recognised as a premium paddling area with all-abilities access.
- 23 Eltham Lower Park features the Diamond Valley miniature railway.
- 24 Caitlin's Retreat is a beautiful property in Eltham that gives families with special needs the opportunity to spend time in nature.

- 25 Viewing platforms overlook the Yarra and parklands, including those at the 100 Steps, Tikalara Park and Pound Bend Tunnel.
- 26 There are many picturesque swimming spots, including Warrandyte, Launching Place, and Healesville. The extensive open space network along the river's floodplains includes Warrandyte State Park, the closest state park to Melbourne and a haven for picnickers, bushwalkers, canoeists, birdwatchers, and swimmers.

- 27 Endangered species may be threatened locally by global problems such as population growth, rising temperatures and decreasing rainfall. Lack of infrastructure means recreational access can cause damage, such as riparian erosion.





Lower rural reach

The lower rural reach, from Healesville to Warrandyte, features open, expansive agricultural land with views across the Yarra Valley framed by surrounding mountain ranges.

The main recreational activities in this reach are visiting cafes and restaurants, picnics and walking. Other activities include visiting wineries and galleries, viewing nature, and enjoying tourism activities such as hot air ballooning.

Credit: Parks Victoria



- 28 Threats to Yarra parklands include pest plants and animals, inappropriate recreational usage, stock damage, litter, erosion, pollution, sewage, stormwater and agricultural runoff.
- 29 There are many sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity and significance in the lower rural reach. Garambi Baan, or Laughing Waters, was where Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung ancestors practiced sophisticated and sustainable aquaculture, and the site contains historic eel traps.
- 30 Markets abound along the Yarra, including the Warrandyte Riverside Market, Wonga Park Farmers Market, and Healesville Organic Farmers Market.
- 31 There are isolated open spaces and other areas ideal for walking along the Yarra, such as Spadoni's Nature Reserve and Sugarloaf Reservoir Park.
- 32 Clifford Park in Wonga Park is a significant scouting site, having held two jamborees (1948-49 and 1955-56) and World Rover Moot in 1961, it continues to be used as a campsite by the Scout Association.
- 33 The Yarra and its parklands are inhabited by a large variety of mammals, with 38 known species within 50 metres of the river.

- 34 There are more than 25 unique vegetation communities along the Yarra, its tributaries, and within billabongs, wetlands and swamps.
- 35 There are spectacular treed gorges in Yering Gorge Bushland Reserve, and nature reserves along both sides of the Yarra from Yering Gorge to Tarrowarra.
- 36 On 13 January 1840, on the former Yering Station property, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung warriors fought troopers of the Border Police and by tricking them into armed action secured the release of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung leader Jaga Jaga. This is known as the Battle of Yering.
- 37 The TarraWarra Museum of Art was established in the early 2000s as Australia's first significant, privately funded, public museum.
- 38 Vineyards comprise over 500 hectares of land in the Upper rural reach. Over 1 million people visited the Yarra Valley in 2018.
- 39 Galeena Beek cultural centre (Healesville) is one of two sites that the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people operate from. Part of the original Coranderrk Mission Station footprint, Galeena Beek was returned to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people in 2018.
- 40 People can walk, canoe, and fish at Everard Park Streamside Reserve.

Upper rural reach

Much of the upper rural reach, extending from the Upper Yarra Reservoir to Healesville, is surrounded by the Yarra Ranges National Park. The river passes through a steep gorge enclosed by forests before flowing through flatter terrain surrounded by fertile agricultural land.

The main recreational activities in this reach are nature appreciation, picnics and bird watching. Other activities include cultural events, festivals, markets and sports events.

Credit: Parks Victoria



- 41 Coranderrk Aboriginal Cemetery and Coranderrk Aboriginal Reserve are highly significant sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage. Coranderrk Station was established in 1863 for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Taungurong people and members from other Kulin tribes who had been forcefully displaced from their traditional lands.
- 42 Warramate Hills Nature Conservation Reserve provides bushland areas with a sense of remoteness.
- 43 Bushland parks, such as the Yarra Bridge Streamside Reserve, provide access to the river in rural areas.
- 44 There are many high-value environmental areas, such as Yellingbo Conservation Area critical for protection of helmeted honeyeaters.
- 45 Farming and tourism, which rely on the river and its surrounding landscape, support employment and are major contributors to the local and regional economy.
- 46 Lilydale – Warburton Rail Trail. The Giro Della Donna cycling race is held at Mt Donna Buang.
- 47 Downstream of Warburton is designated as a Heritage River.
- 48 Events and festivals along the Yarra include the Warburton Trail Fest.
- 49 Friends Groups and volunteers make a significant contribution to the condition of the parklands and to visitor experiences. Groups are active in many parts of the parklands in all reaches of the Yarra Valley Parklands, the Bend of Islands, Warrandyte State Park, Yarra Bend Park, and Herring Island.
- 50 The Yarra Ranges National Park around Warburton has kayaking access points, mountain bike trails, and hiking tracks.
- 51 There are many spectacular views along the Yarra, such as the Upper Yarra Reservoir Park's lookouts, Mountain Ash forests and majestic rainforest scenery.
- 52 The Yarra River corridor is exposed to many threats and pressures, including habitat loss and fragmentation, and invasive pests that threaten endangered species. Bushfires pose a risk for flora, fauna and water quality. As Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people continue to work with other groups to protect and manage Country, including weed management, and working on areas for cultural burning.
- 53 Over 190 species of birds inhabit the Yarra river, using the river and its wetlands for feeding, nesting and breeding.



Performance Objective 4:
**Protecting the natural beauty of
the Yarra River corridor**

Respecting the significance of the Yarra River's landscapes. Where we build, we will protect and celebrate the river's natural beauty, landscapes and views.



The community has expressed that the river and its surrounding landscape and views are protected by planning for and managing the impacts of development and changes to land use.

The Yarra River provides natural beauty as it journeys from the mountains to the bay, it transitions through a rich variety of landscapes. In the upper rural reach, the forests create a sense of seclusion and offer a wilderness experience. Through the lower rural reach, the river's setting opens out to expansive and picturesque rural landscapes with billabongs and scattered woodlands. Within the suburban reach, the parklands and conservation areas have created a near-continuous corridor of native bushland along the river's edge, screening views of residential neighbourhoods that lie beyond. As the river flows through the inner city reach, activity and urban development are in close proximity and beauty is provided through landscaped gardens and parks.

Protect landscapes and views

The Yarra's landscapes are highly valued for their scenic qualities, environmental diversity, amenity and cultural values. There are numerous locations from which to view the river and its landscapes. This includes formal lookouts, the many bridges that provide vantage points, and recreational trails that run alongside the river and through the parklands.

Within the inner city and suburban reaches, the extensive parklands along the river's edge allow for direct access to the river and, in some places, provide an 'immersive' experience of the landscape. In the rural areas there are fewer parks and recreational trails, and opportunities to access and experience the river are more isolated.

As the city grows, there is a need to ensure land use and development along the Yarra is undertaken in a consistent way that aligns with Traditional Owners' aspirations and the community vision. The river's diverse landscapes must be protected and its vegetation corridor strengthened. Where appropriate, there is a need to create new opportunities to view, access and experience the river, while ensuring the river's continued protection.

The land use framework, in Part 2 of the plan, will be implemented into local and state planning policy to protect the Yarra's natural beauty throughout the corridor, on both private and public land.

Actions

39. Protect the river's landscapes and views through improved planning and management of the river corridor and incorporation of the Yarra Strategic Plan land use framework into local and state planning policy.

Monitor changes in land use

The Yarra River encountered by early colonialists was vastly different to the river seen today. Its banks were lined with gums, wetlands and grasslands – with creeks joining the river, and falls frequently breaking the river’s flow. Since the arrival of colonialists, the Yarra’s course has been progressively disrupted and the river widened in places, while the surrounding land has been modified to accommodate agriculture, housing and industry.

Today, the river supports the social, cultural, economic and recreational needs of a diverse community. The vegetation that lines riverbanks forms a significant biodiversity corridor, supporting indigenous plants and animals, and providing Melburnians with a unique connection to nature.

Despite the Yarra’s cultural, social and environmental significance, the river is facing pressure from changing land use brought about by urban development and infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing population.

To help protect the river’s natural beauty the Yarra Collaboration Committee will work together to support land use planning goals and directions and gather accurate information on changes in land use and development. Technologies such as satellite imagery and geospatial and remote sensing can be used to monitor and analyse land use changes to inform better policy and planning decisions. There is also opportunity to incorporate cultural techniques and knowledge in the assessment of land use change and landscape values. As part of this process, environmental assets in the river corridor can be monitored to demonstrate the value of protecting the water, land, soil, forests, biodiversity and views.

Actions

40. Set land use planning goals and monitor changes in land use using satellite imagery, geospatial and remote sensing techniques and cultural practices and knowledge.



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Yarra River flowing through the Yarra Valley

PART 2 – **LAND USE FRAMEWORK**

Overview: the Yarra River at the centre of planning

This second part of the Yarra Strategic Plan, Part 2 – land use framework, complements the collaborative actions set out in Part 1. The framework covers the Yarra River’s 242 km long corridor, setting broad direction for future land use and development to protect the river and its significant values. These directions are intended to give effect to the plan’s four performance objectives, the Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision and *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)*.

Where required, directions will be translated into the Victoria Planning Provisions and become part of municipal planning schemes – meaning that relevant decision making on land use and development is consistent with the land use framework.

Implementation of the land use framework will be multi-staged and occur iteratively across the life of the Plan, beginning with an initial planning scheme amendment. Where implementation of land use framework directions require additional strategic work to be undertaken, further planning scheme amendments will be progressed once relevant strategic and technical work is complete.

Purpose of the land use framework

The land use framework delivers on the intent of the Act and also reflects the unique characteristics of the Yarra River. The objectives of the framework are:

- to provide an overview of the Yarra River, giving spatial context to the significant places and projects, and directions for future land use
- to identify priority actions at a whole-of-river scale that strengthen statutory protections or extend protections to new areas
- to provide broad direction for land use and development that reflects the diversity across each of the four reaches
- to strengthen protections for riparian and biodiversity values across private and publicly owned lands within the Yarra River corridor

- to recognise significant places where localised planning opportunities and future projects will complement the Yarra Strategic Plan and align with its performance objectives.

A framework with a regional approach

The directions for future land use and development are broad and purposefully high level and, where necessary, will be translated into specific planning provisions. The directions:

- enable appropriate statutory mechanisms, such as planning policies or controls, to be determined at a state, regional or local level
- provide high-level guidance for places of regional significance to guide precinct or local scale plans, such as the *Yarra River – Bulleen Precinct Land Use Framework Plan*
- allow responsible public entities with obligations under the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrum) Act 2017*, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and other relevant acts to make informed and aligned decisions at a local level
- operate at three distinct scales – whole-of-river, reach and a local scale – enabling the Yarra to be protected as one living and integrated natural entity, while also recognising the myriad of landscapes and environments, with differing degrees of development, access, land use and management. Each scale includes spatial plans, discussion of significant values and directions and/or opportunities relevant to the area (see **Figure 3**).

Development of the land use framework has drawn on the experience of developing and implementing the many existing planning studies, strategies and projects in the Yarra corridor. The framework is designed to operate at a regional level, however it also informs planning policies, provisions and controls at local levels (see **Figure 4**). The framework does not take the place of other strategies, frameworks and policies, but operates in conjunction with existing statutory protections to ensure that the Yarra is managed as one living and integrated natural entity.

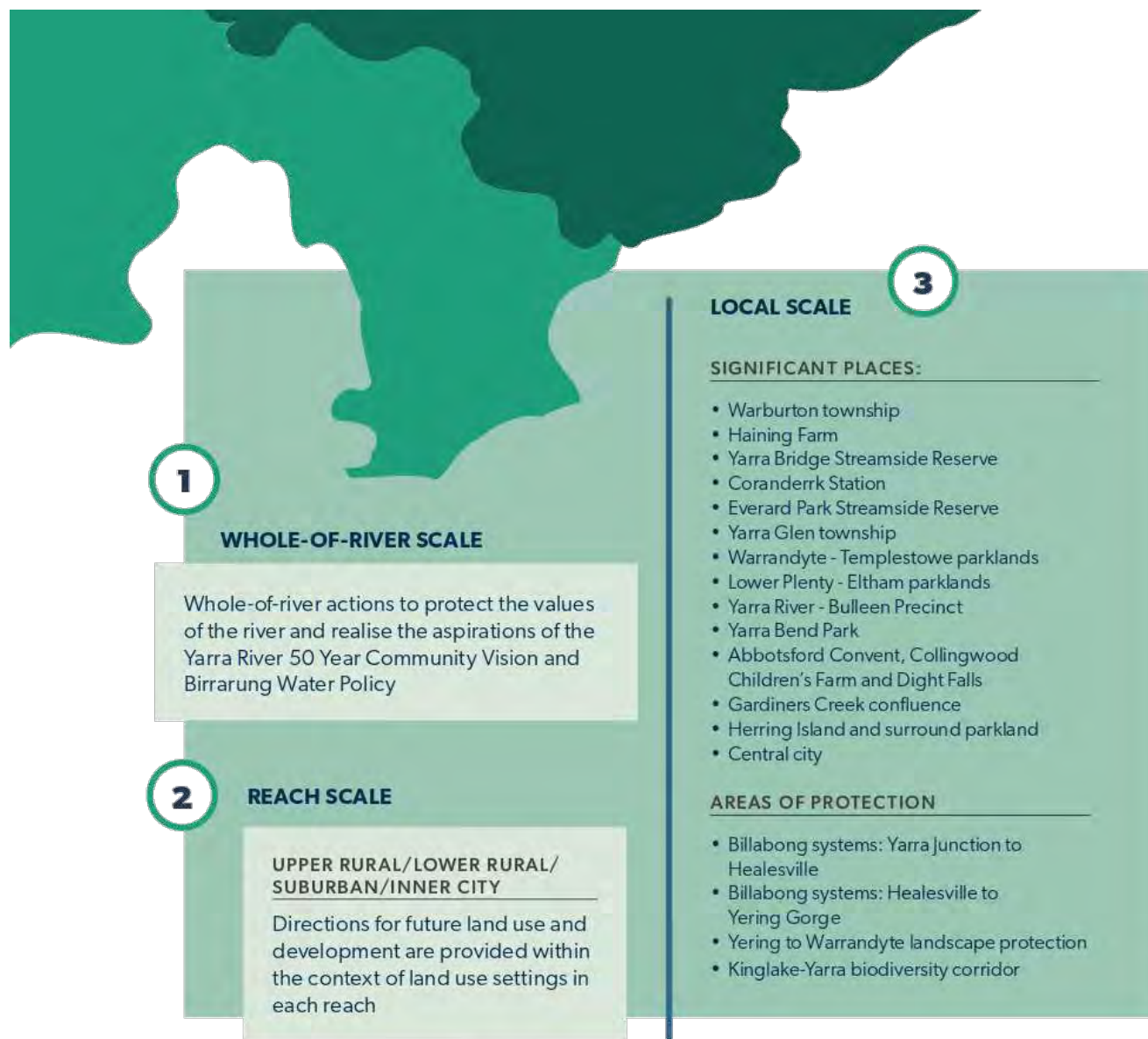


FIGURE 3. Land use framework spatial hierarchy



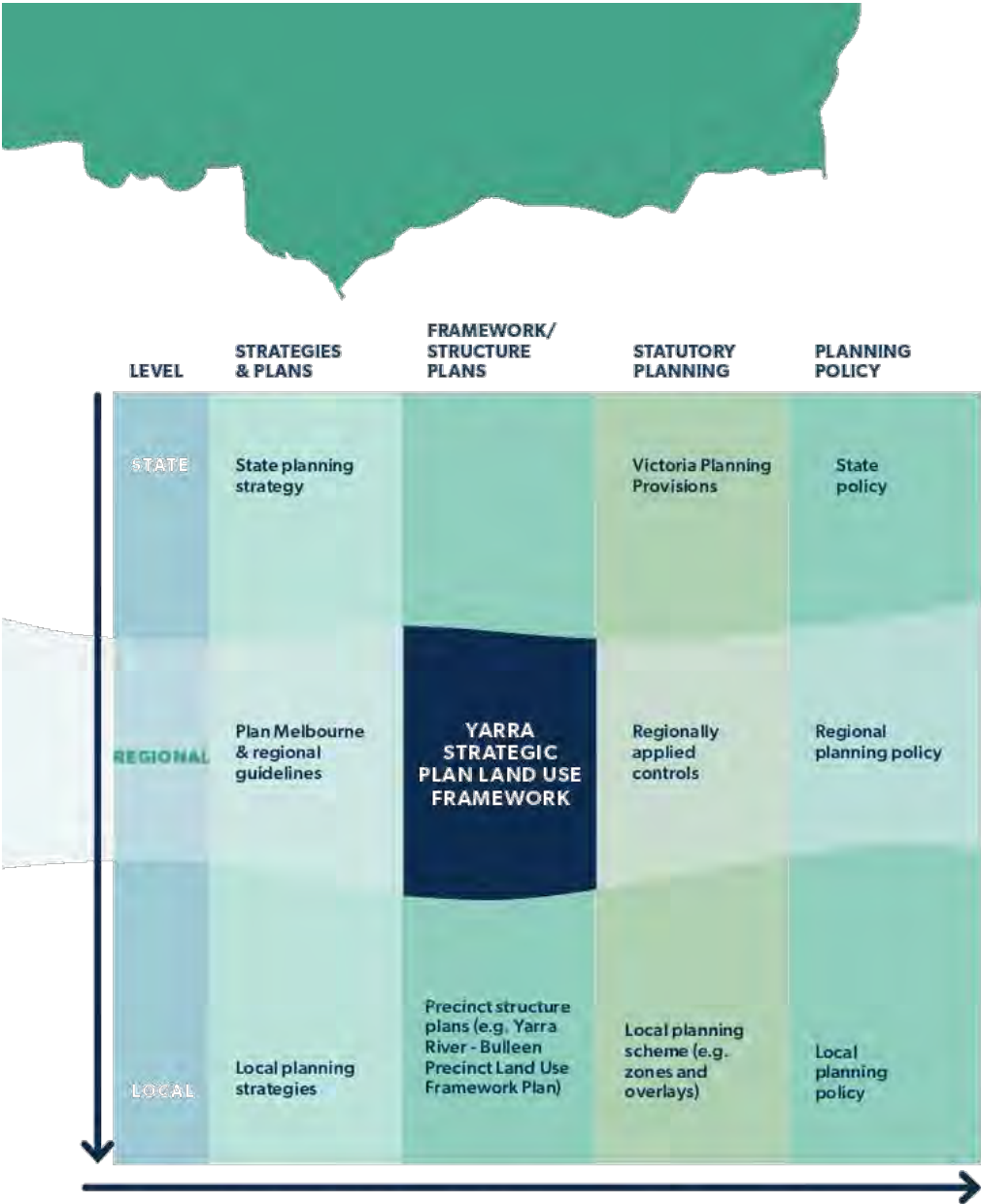


FIGURE 4. The Yarra Strategic Plan sits at a regional level in the state planning framework

Implementation of the land use framework

The land use framework will be given effect in planning schemes through a state-led planning scheme amendment process, in consultation with councils and the broader Yarra Collaboration Committee. This is likely to occur through a staged delivery process and includes the following stages.

		TIMING
STAGE 1	Giving initial effect to the Yarra Strategic Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clause 12.03-1R 'Yarra River Protection' of the Planning Policy Framework found in the Victoria Planning Provisions will be updated, for which the Yarra Strategic Plan will become a reference document.	Following approval of the plan
	Permanent implementation of Interim Planning Controls (GC48) <p>Implementation will involve refining and making permanent the interim design and development and landscape management controls between Richmond and Warrandyte. The existing interim controls prescribe maximum building heights, minimum development setbacks and overshadowing controls, and strengthened vegetation controls for all new development. Targeted consultation with relevant municipal councils and other stakeholders will occur in relation to the operation of the existing interim controls and their refinement.</p>	Before 30 April 2021
STAGE 2	Whole-of-river actions <p>Future stages of implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan will deliver each of the whole-of-river actions to give stronger place-based effect to regional policy, ensuring the values of the river are protected and the 50 Year Community Vision can be realised. Delivery of these whole-of-river actions will form a discrete state-local government project.</p>	To be determined action by action

Maps supporting the land use framework

The Act calls for the land use framework to include spatial plans for the Yarra Strategic Plan area. The maps that follow, beginning on page 66, provide the broader whole of river context for the plan.

Map 1 is a whole of river map outlining the Yarra River corridor, emphasising its catchment boundary, priority tributaries, billabongs, Yarra River land, parkland, open space and urban forest. This map provides context for performance objectives 1 and 4 (1, a healthy river and lands, and 4, protecting the natural beauty of the Yarra River corridor).

Map 2 examines the whole of the Yarra from a perspective of cultural and community importance. This map emphasises parkland and open space as well as sites of Aboriginal and cultural heritage, areas in which community activities tend to take place, and areas of attraction and tourism. This map also supports performance objectives 2 and 3 (performance objective 2, a culturally diverse corridor, and performance objective 3, quality parklands for a growing population).

Additional whole of river maps provide context for projected climate change impacts, flood and bushfire risks. Climate change modelling projects increased temperatures and decreased long-term average rainfall. Drier conditions will increase bushfire risk and periods of extreme fire danger, especially in the Yarra Valley and the upper reaches of the river. Climate change projections also indicate an increased frequency of higher intensity rainfall events, resulting in more floods, including those known as one in 100 year flood events. In the inner city reach, closer to the bay, these floods will be exacerbated by rising sea levels.

The increasing frequency of flood events will pose hazards to people, infrastructure and the delivery of essential services, causing substantial damage to property and infrastructure as well as placing the health and safety of people at risk. Whole of river maps setting out flooding and bushfire risks can be seen inlaid on **Map 1**, and in **Appendix H** and **Appendix I**.

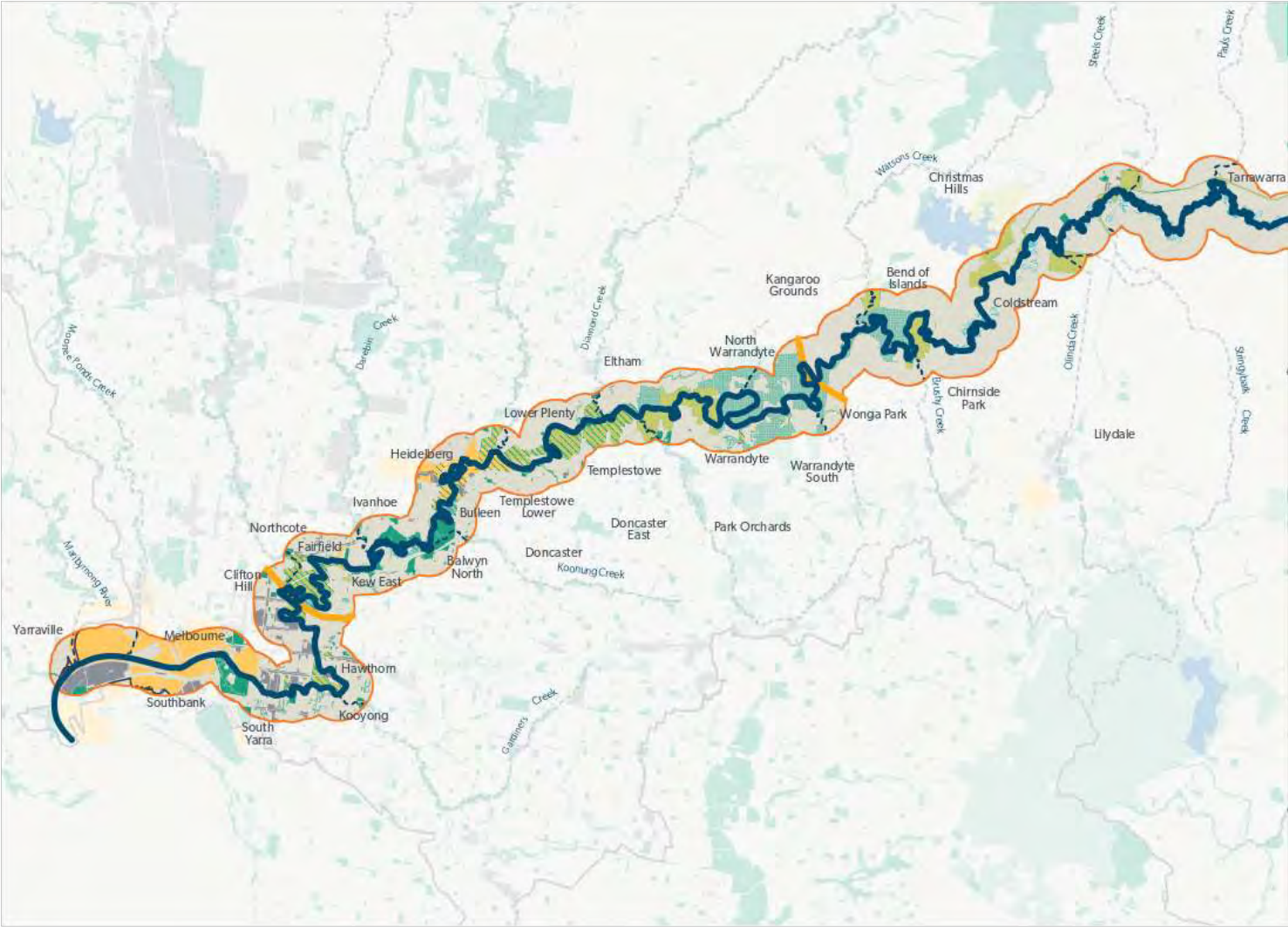


Credit: Melbourne Water,
Yarra at Warburton

**MAP 1. THE YARRA,
ONE LIVING AND
INTEGRATED NATURAL
ENTITY**

Legend

- Reach boundary
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Billabong
- Yarra River
- Priority tributary
- Catchment boundary
- Industrial and commercial zone
- Greater Yarra urban parkland
- Key area experiencing development
- Yarra River land
- Open space
- Urban forest





Notes

These notes apply to all maps in the land use framework.

Key views: Includes viewpoints (to and from) that offer a special place to experience the river. These include viewing platforms, lookout points and other key locations. Sourced from online engagement, Parks Victoria Asset Map, Lower Yarra River Corridor Study, Stonnington Yarra River Biodiversity Project, Middle Yarra River Corridor Study, Yarra River Social Research Report, Visit Yarra Valley Tourist Map, and site surveys (see more detail on reach maps).

Billabong: A type of wetland formed when the path of a creek or river changes, leaving the former branch with a dead end. Sourced from Melbourne Water spatial dataset.

Priority tributaries: Main rivers and creeks that flow into the Yarra River. Sourced from Melbourne Water, 2020. Additional tributaries may be identified as priority during implementation.

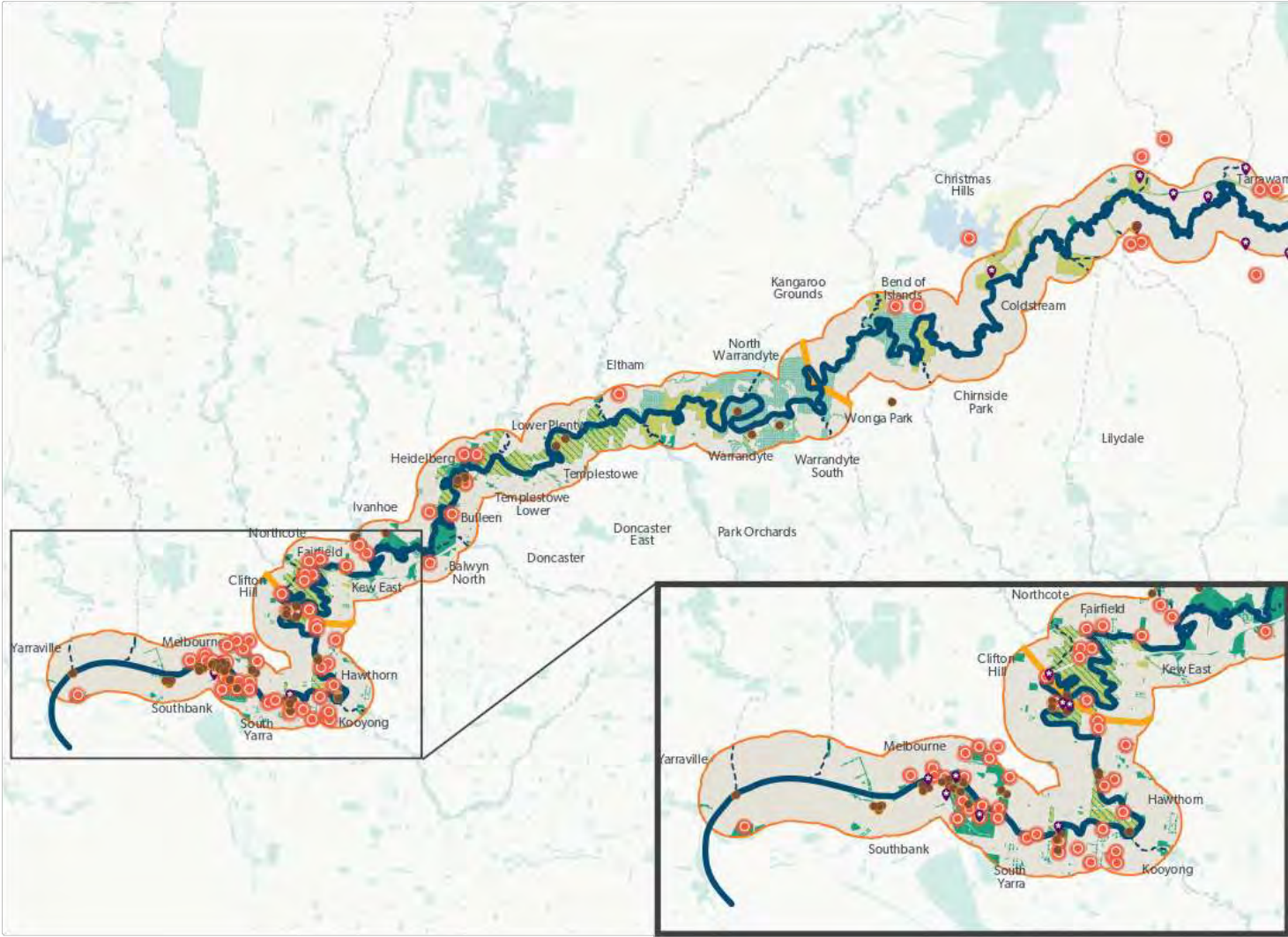
Key area experiencing development: Areas with the potential for urban revitalisation or renewal that may interface with the Yarra River. Sourced from Plan Melbourne, DELWP major residential redevelopment sites spatial dataset and local council mapping for major infrastructure projects and activity centres.

Urban forest: The Yarra River and its parklands combine with street trees, private gardens and vegetation along transport corridors and other waterways to form a critical part of Melbourne's developing urban forest. Map 1 illustrates 50% and above percentage cover by any tree in the reaches along the corridor. Sourced from DELWP, 2014 spatial dataset. Note that in urban areas, local government is increasing tree canopy in the streetscape through strategic urban forest planning. This level of detail cannot be shown on maps at a regional scale.

Bushfire Management Overlay: Planning scheme overlay applied to areas where there is potential for extreme bushfire behaviour including crown fire, extreme ember attack and radiant heat. Sourced from the Victorian Government, in partnership with the CFA and CSIRO.

MAP 2. THE YARRA, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE

- Legend
- Reach boundary
 - Yarra Strategic Plan area
 - Yarra River
 - Priority tributary
 - Greater Yarra urban parkland
 - Yarra River land
 - Open space
 - Urban forest
 - Cultural sites
 - Community activities
 - Key tourist destinations





Notes

These notes apply to all maps in the land use framework.

Open space: Includes municipal open space and state government owned parklands. Sourced from VEAC Metropolitan Melbourne Open Space Inventory (see more detail on reach maps).

Community activity site: Includes sites where cultural events, festivals, markets and sports events occur. The listed activities and sites should be considered as indicative of the types of use that occur along the Yarra and may change in the future. Sourced from Melbourne Water spatial dataset.

Key tourist destination: Activities, wineries, natural features and precincts in the corridor that are tourist destinations have been identified using local council data and research.

Cultural heritage site: Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and historic heritage sites. Sourced from Yarra River Cultural Heritage Scoping Study, 2018. Not all sites that have Aboriginal cultural significance are formally listed as cultural heritage sites, however they are culturally significant to Traditional Owners and require appropriate protection.

Stormwater catchments: highlight areas where integrated water management (IWM) principles be applied to reduce stormwater run-off and protect water quality in the river. Sourced from *Healthy Waterways Strategy*.

Whole-of-river actions

The Yarra's landscapes are distinct and valued for their scenic, environmental, social, cultural and economic values. Planning controls are needed to protect those values and landscapes and to ensure that any development respects the river and its environs. A coordinated approach to planning controls for the whole-of-river will align land use and development to the community's long-term vision and protect the river's significant values into the future.

The Yarra Strategic Plan recommends the following whole-of-river planning actions. These actions will be led by the state government, in consultation with the Yarra Collaboration Committee.

1. Permanent controls for the Yarra River

In 2017, the Minister for Planning implemented interim planning controls between Richmond and Warrandyte, recognising the urgent need to protect the suburban areas of the Yarra River from further inappropriate development. The interim planning controls, for the first time, bring a consistent approach, introducing height, setback and overshadowing controls along with consistent vegetation protection across six suburban municipalities.

In June 2020, the Victorian Government announced it would ensure that the Yarra River remains protected by introducing permanent planning controls. The government will finalise the controls in partnership with the relevant councils – Banyule, Boroondara, Manningham, Nillumbik, Stonnington and Yarra – as well as Melbourne Water.

These controls include mandatory elements and recognise the importance of the Yarra River and its parklands, and are a key instrument in achieving the intent of the Yarra Strategic Plan in the suburban and inner city reaches. Permanent controls will ensure:

- all development is appropriately sited and designed to avoid encroachment on the Yarra River and its environs
- landscape and environmental values of the Yarra River are protected from inappropriate land use and development.

2. New controls from Warrandyte to Warburton

The coordinated approach used to protect the landscape and environmental values of the Yarra River from Richmond to Warrandyte will be applied upstream, from Warrandyte to Warburton. A landscape assessment approach will be used to inform arrangements for new or amended planning controls.

3. Coordinated approach to landscape design and native planting

To assist with the interpretation of planning controls, new guidelines will be prepared to provide advice on how landscape design and native planting can be achieved at the river's interface to deliver on the requirements of the planning controls. The guidelines will take into consideration the bicultural landscape and climate change resilience.

4. Strengthening the protection of the Yarra River's heritage values

The Yarra River is home to many thousands of sites of cultural significance. In line with the Act, Aboriginal tangible and intangible cultural values and other cultural and heritage values will be recognised and protected through the introduction of new or amended protection mechanisms such as the Heritage Overlay that is used to protect sites of significance. Part 1 of this plan includes actions under Performance Objective 2 to increase understanding and awareness of cultural heritage.

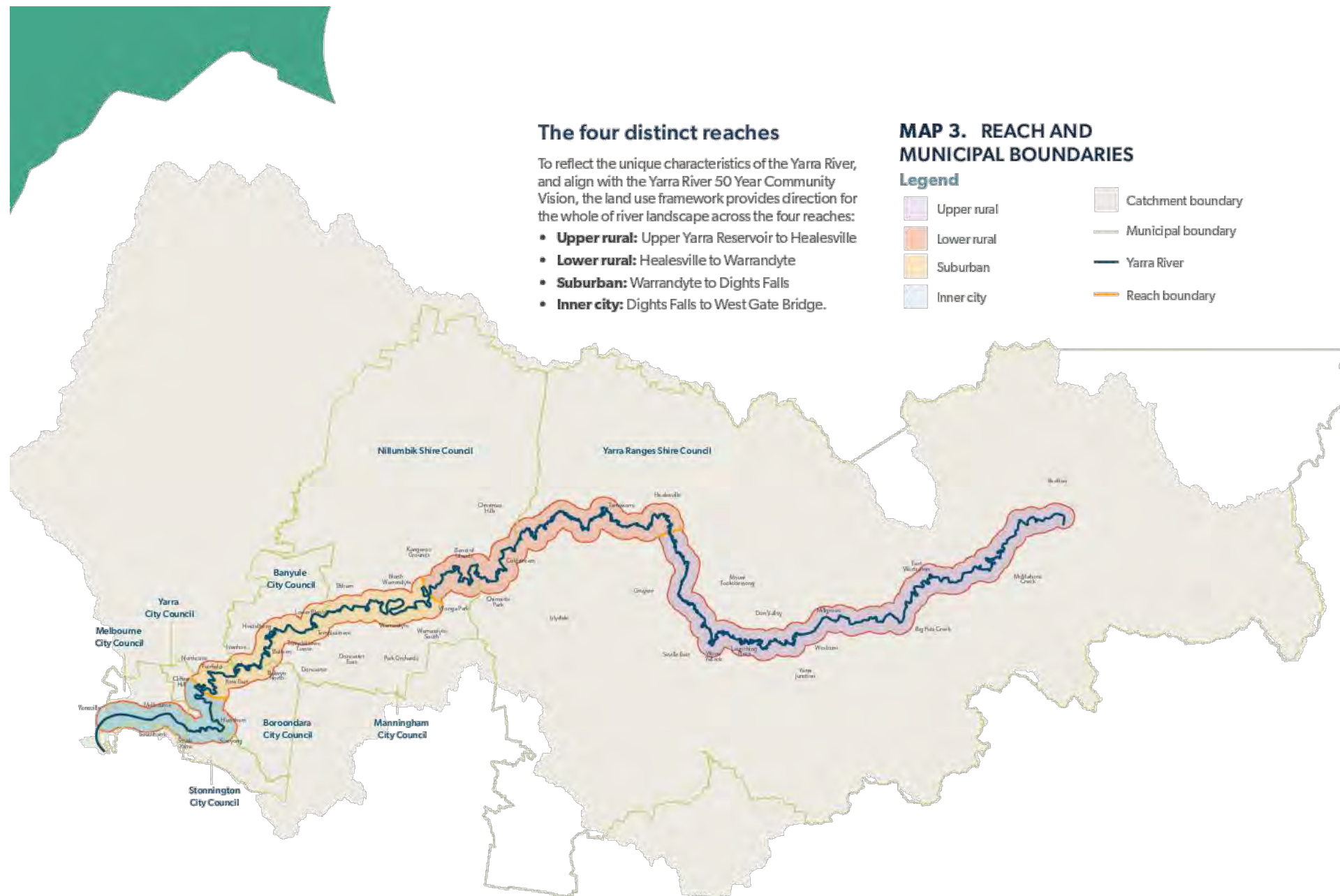
5. Strengthening protections for riparian and biodiversity values

The Yarra River corridor, as well as its tributaries and green spaces, provide vital habitat and connectivity for native animals and plants, with over one-third of Victoria's animal species found in the Yarra catchment. Many of these areas have existing protections; however, some lack the necessary control measures to protect against future development and disturbances (see Part 1, Performance Objective 1, Action 10).

Four 'new areas for protection' have been identified.

- Yarra Junction to Healesville billabongs and wetlands (page 90)
- Healesville to Yering billabongs and wetlands (page 102)
- Yering to Warrandyte landscape protection (page 103)
- Kinglake to Yarra biodiversity corridor (page 104).

For the four 'new areas for protection' the suitability of planning mechanisms or other options to provide protection will be investigated. In addition to these sites, further assessment will be undertaken to identify other areas of high biodiversity value requiring protection from disturbance, and needing the introduction and/or an update of appropriate planning controls, such as the Environmental Significance Overlay.



Land use analysis

A land use analysis has been undertaken to understand existing land uses, anticipated threats and pressures (e.g. population growth and climate change); identify values of the reach; and understand how Traditional Owners' aspirations and the community vision can be achieved.

The analysis aligns with the relevant requirements set out in Section 21 of the Act. (Further detail on the current state analysis can be found in the Yarra Strategic Plan Map Book.)¹⁵

Achieving the community vision

Each reach has its own specific community vision, priorities and values that define the community's aspirations for the reach in 50 years. The directions set out in the land use framework respond to the community's aspirations and outline the objectives for both private and public land in the next 10 years.

Directions for future land use and development

The 242 km Yarra River corridor features a myriad of landscapes and environments, with differing degrees of development, access, land use and management.

To reflect these diverse characteristics and manage the increasing pressures on the Yarra River corridor, directions for future land use and development have been categorised into six land use settings. All activities occurring within the Yarra Strategic Plan area must adhere to the directions set out by the relevant land use settings.

Land use settings include:

- **Yarra River land** – comprised of publicly owned land that has been declared for protection under the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung munro) Act 2017*. The role of Yarra River land is to support the health of the Yarra River and, where appropriate, allow people to access the river in its most natural state.
- **Bush residential** – privately owned land used for agriculture, rural residential properties and agritourism, with many land parcels having direct frontage to the Yarra River. The low level of development on bush residential land will allow for the restoration of a continuous corridor of native vegetation along the Yarra River and its tributaries.
- **Townships** – historic townships that are focal points in the upper and lower rural reaches for community access to the Yarra River, commercial activity and tourism.
- **Suburban** – comprised primarily of residential neighbourhoods, through which the Yarra River and its parklands form a continuous landscape corridor that will be protected and strengthened.
- **Urban** – more intensely developed areas in the inner city reach that include a mix of established residential neighbourhoods, retail activity centres and key employment precincts undergoing significant redevelopment. Managing development and strengthening the Yarra River's landscape values are key directions for this land use setting.
- **Central city** – within the CBD the Yarra River is a focal point with views along the corridor framed by linked parklands, promenades and surrounding buildings.

Relevant directions for land use and development will be given effect through translation into the Planning Policy Framework. For further details on how this will occur see page 64.

New areas for protection

There are currently many forms of statutory protection in place to manage the different values of the Yarra River. These are implemented through legislation, regulation and the planning system, including:

- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, which provides the legal framework for Victoria's planning system
- *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018*, which declares all land within 200 m of the edge of named waterways and land within 50 m of registered Aboriginal cultural heritage places as having potential cultural sensitivity
- *the National Parks Act 1975 and Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*, which apply to forested areas and many of the parklands
- Victoria Planning Provisions, including zones and overlays.

To realise the aspirations of the community vision and the *Nhanbu narun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)*, and to deliver on the requirements of the Act, the Yarra Strategic Plan identifies new areas for protection. Protecting these areas through statutory planning measures will help safeguard against future pressures and ensure that the Yarra River is respected as a sacred natural living entity.

The four new areas for protection (outlined in the whole-of-river planning direction no 5 on page 70) have been selected by:

- Working with the Yarra Collaboration Committee and undertaking an assessment of each reach to identify areas with high environmental, landscape and cultural value. This included:
 - » analysis of relevant reports and information
 - » analysis of current state values mapping
 - » incorporation of community feedback
 - » consideration of habitat connectivity and strategic links within the corridor.
- Assessing future threats to these values and preliminary review of the effectiveness of existing protection mechanisms including:
 - » assessment of the rate of change and trajectories (including climate change and population growth)
 - » assessment of current protection mapping
 - » analysis of planning scheme provisions allowable uses.
- Considering the full range of protection mechanism required to manage threats and protect values for future generations including:
 - » whether values have been identified
 - » whether protection currently exists and whether it is adequate. If protection exists but is not considered adequate in light of future threats, consider improvement. If no protection exists, propose new area for protection.

In addition to the new areas for protection, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have identified sites of significance and areas for protection. These places have values that are known to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and are still semi-accessible to people today. There are also more places that are yet to be investigated that retain their cultural value and significance, some of which occur within the four new areas for protection. This overlap in sites and areas for protection will need to be managed in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

Respecting significant places

Significant places have been identified to recognise their regional significance and to outline opportunities at a local scale. These places were identified in partnership with the Yarra Collaboration Committee and reflect community feedback throughout the development of the plan. They contribute to biodiversity, improve the parklands network and access to the river, protect cultural heritage and provide opportunities that improve, embrace and respect the Yarra.

Improvement and investment opportunities for each significant place are outlined and will guide delivery of future projects that align with the performance objectives of the Yarra Strategic Plan.

The land use framework identifies 14 significant places:

- Warburton township (page 84)
- Haining Farm, Launching Place (page 86)
- Yarra Bridge Streamside Reserve, Woori Yallock (page 87)
- Coranderrk Station, Healesville (page 88)
- Everard Park Streamside Reserve, Healesville (page 89)
- Yarra Glen township (page 100)
- Warrandyte – Templestowe parklands (page 114)
- Lower Plenty – Eltham parklands (page 116)
- Bulleen Precinct (page 118)
- Yarra Bend Park, Fairfield and Kew (page 120)
- Abbotsford Convent, Collingwood Children's Farm and Dights Falls (page 130)
- Gardiners Creek confluence, Hawthorn and Toorak (page 132)
- Herring Island and surrounding parkland, Richmond (page 133)
- Central city, Melbourne (page 134).



Credit: Frank Pierce, *Powerful Owl in tree hollow, Bend of Islands*

MAP 4. WHOLE OF RIVER LAND USE SETTINGS

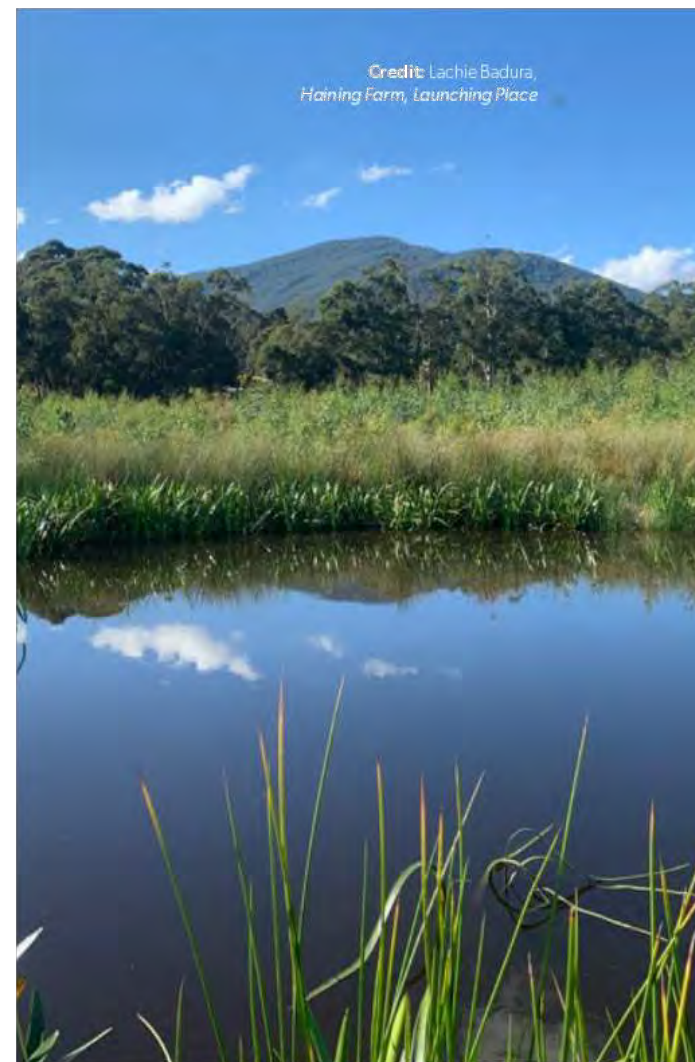
Legend

- Reach boundary
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Yarra River
- - - Priority tributary
- Yarra River land
- Open space
- Billabong
- Area of protection
- Greater Yarra urban parkland
- ★ Site of Aboriginal cultural significance
- Significant places

Land Use

- Bush residential
- Central city
- Port of Melbourne (excluded)
- Suburban
- Township
- Urban





Upper rural reach

UPPER RURAL REACH 50-YEAR COMMUNITY VISION

Goodness flows from the top down.

Careful and innovative management of our Yarra River, Birrarung, and its neighbouring lands ensures the natural replenishment of local billabongs and wetlands and supports a continuous envelope of spectacular indigenous vegetation.

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, supports employment and the social and economic wellbeing of local communities. Those communities and their landholders provide a valuable connection with the natural environment and the water.

The potential of our reach's biodiversity is fostered and enhanced by our enthusiastic local custodians, supporting the environmental health of the entire Yarra River, Birrarung.

Land use analysis

The Yarra River in the upper rural reach is surrounded by a magnificent landscape of mountains, valleys, forests and floodplains.

Upstream of Warburton, the river is enclosed by the Yarra Ranges National Park and State Forest. Tall Eucalypt forests, filled with wildlife, meet the river in many locations providing significant ecological values.

Between Warburton and Healesville, the terrain opens out and agricultural areas become more expansive. While there are areas of high biodiversity, in many locations the river's ecological value has been depleted by farming and grazing activity close to the river's edge.

Rural townships including Warburton, Millgrove, Yarra Junction and Woori Yallock, are hubs of community and commercial activity within the rural landscape.

Public access to the river is limited to small parks and conservation areas where public land adjoins the river, short sections of recreational trails and walking tracks within adjacent forests. Access to the water for paddling is popular and there are several boat launch sites. The proposed Yarra Valley Trail will provide new connections from Healesville to the Lilydale–Warburton Rail Trail.

Coranderrk is a place of cultural significance to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and other Aboriginal people and is protected as a site of national heritage significance.

The mid-Yarra catchment, which extends through the upper and lower rural reaches is Melbourne's largest open drinking water supply catchment.

Key considerations for this reach are protecting its significant cultural, environmental and landscape values, improving habitat corridors, protecting the riverbank, billabongs and floodplains, and minimising impacts of land use or development on sensitive flora and fauna.

Warramate Hills Nature Conservation Reserve is located in this reach and contains one of the last remaining areas of undisturbed bush in the Yarra Valley. It is home to more than 200 species of trees, shrubs and grasses and provides habitat for native birds, reptiles and mammals including the endangered tree goanna. The reserve is managed by Parks Victoria and requires improvements to visitor infrastructure including car parking and walking trails and tracks.

Maximising opportunities for community connection to the river is an important consideration for the upper rural reach.

Fire and flood risks need to be carefully managed and planning scheme overlays for Bushfire Management and Land Subject to Inundation apply to large areas of this reach.

Prior to council amalgamations, the *Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Regional Strategy Plan* was prepared by the Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority to enable increased protection for the special features and character of the region including the former shires of Healesville, Lilydale, Sherbrooke and Upper Yarra.

Following council amalgamations and the introduction of new format planning schemes in the 1990s, the requirements of the Regional Strategy Plan that could not be readily implemented under the standard Victoria Planning Provisions were integrated into the Planning Scheme at Clause 51.03 – Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Strategy Plan and given legislative weight through the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Clause 51.03 is unique to the Yarra Ranges Planning Scheme and provides strong protections for the region's unique values.

Existing projects in this reach include:

- The Yellingbo Conservation Area is being established to assist in the conservation of the area's significant biodiversity and ecological values, and a number of threatened species including the critically endangered helmeted honeyeater and the lowland Leadbeater's possum. It will also result in improved water quality and river health. The project area is made up of approximately 3,000 hectares of existing public land reserves and Crown water frontages along waterways across a broad area from Healesville in the north to Cockatoo in the south. This includes in the Yarra Strategic Plan area, the Yarra River between Millgrove and Healesville, and along tributaries of the Yarra including Little Yarra and Don rivers, Hoddles, Woori Yallock and Coranderk creeks. The *Yellingbo Conservation Area 10 Year Plan* sets out actions and directions for the continued and future management of the area.
- Haining Farm is a collaborative project involving Parks Victoria, Greening Australia, Zoos Victoria, DELWP, Melbourne Water and the community, to transform this former educational dairy farm into a public park, with habitat for endangered native species.



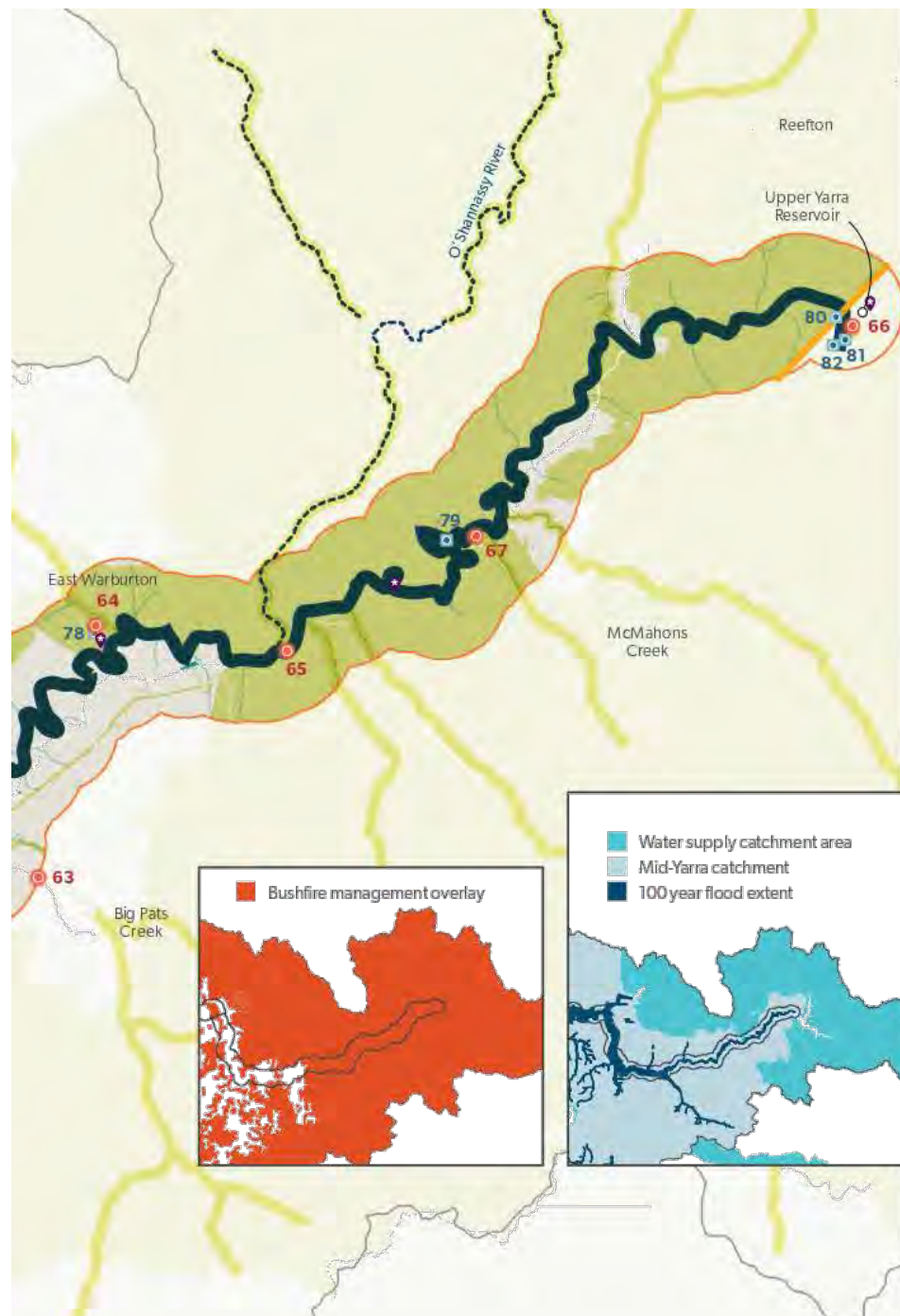
Credit: Melbourne Water,
Wedge-tailed eagle, upper rural reach

MAP 5. UPPER
RURAL REACH
CONTEXT

Legend

- Key tourist destinations
- Cultural heritage sites
- Community activities
- Key views
- Wurundjeri site of significance
- Recreational trail
- Reach boundary
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Stormwater catchments
- Billabong
- Yarra River
- Priority tributary
- Other tributary
- Municipal parkland
- Yarra River land
- High-quality riparian vegetation





Wurundjeri sites of significance

- **Coranderrk Station** Land procured by Wonga and Barak for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Aboriginal people displaced from their homelands, originally including Healesville on the Yarra River
- **Coranderrk Aboriginal Cemetery**, is located on former lands of Coranderrk Station.

Key views

70. River view, Launching Place
71. River view, Yarra Junction
72. Swing Bridge, Warburton
73. Brisbane Bridge, Warburton
74. Bramich Bridge, Warburton
75. River view, Warburton
76. River and redwood trees, Warburton
77. River view, Warburton
78. Redwood Forest, Cement Creek
79. Viewing platform, tunnel entrance, Big Peninsula Picnic Area, McMahon's Creek
80. Brimbonga Outlet Lookout, Upper Yarra Reservoir Park
81. Lower Reservoir Lookout via Bridge Crossing, Upper Yarra Reservoir Park
82. Upper Reservoir Lookout, Upper Yarra Reservoir Park

Heritage sites

This reach of the Yarra is treasured for a number of other **heritage sites** such as:

58. Coranderrk Aboriginal Cemetery, Healesville
59. Wanderstore, Launching Place,
60. Yarra Junction War Memorial, Yarra Junction
61. Inverarity Mill, Millgrove
62. Alpine Retreat Hotel, Warburton
63. Ezards Sawmill, Big Pats Creek (near Warburton)
64. Cement Creek plantation (near Warburton)
65. Cumberland Scenic Reserve, Warburton East
66. Upper Yarra Dam
67. Big and Little Peninsula Tunnels, McMahon's Creek

Tourist destinations include:

- Big and Little Peninsula Tunnels, Warburton
- Cement Creek Redwood Forest
- Warburton Township
- Upper Yarra Reservoir Park
- The Riverstone Estate, Coldstream
- Soumah of the Yarra Valley, Gruyere
- Hanahan Vineyards, Gruyere

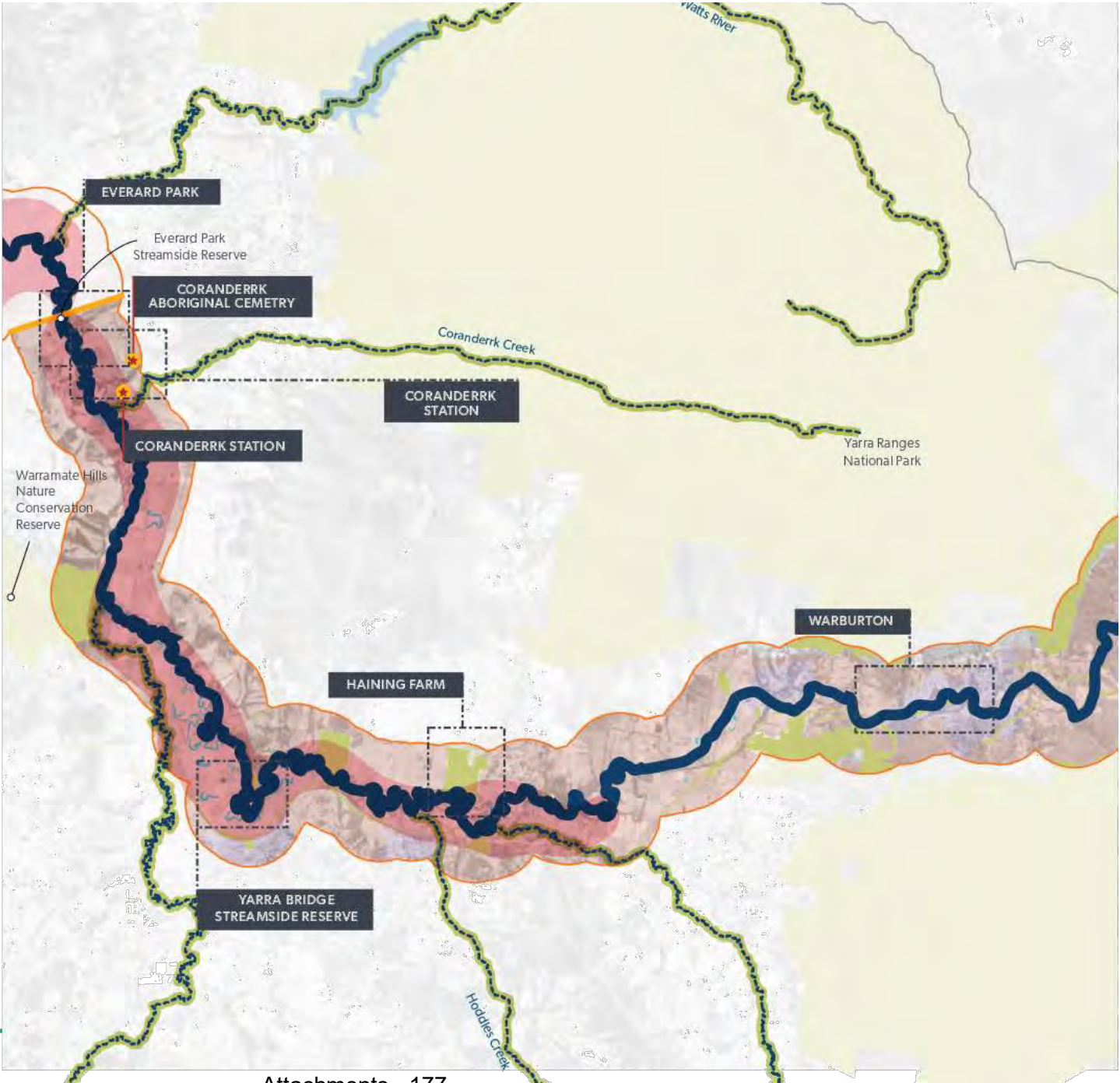
Key community activities include:

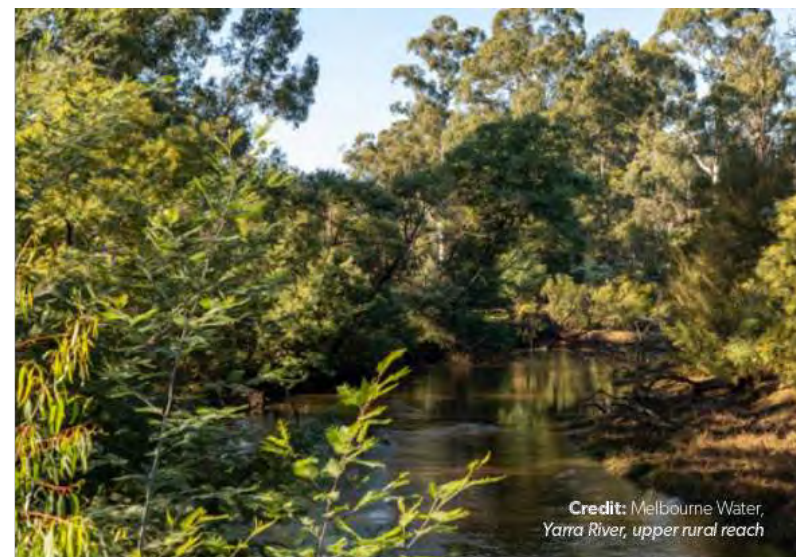
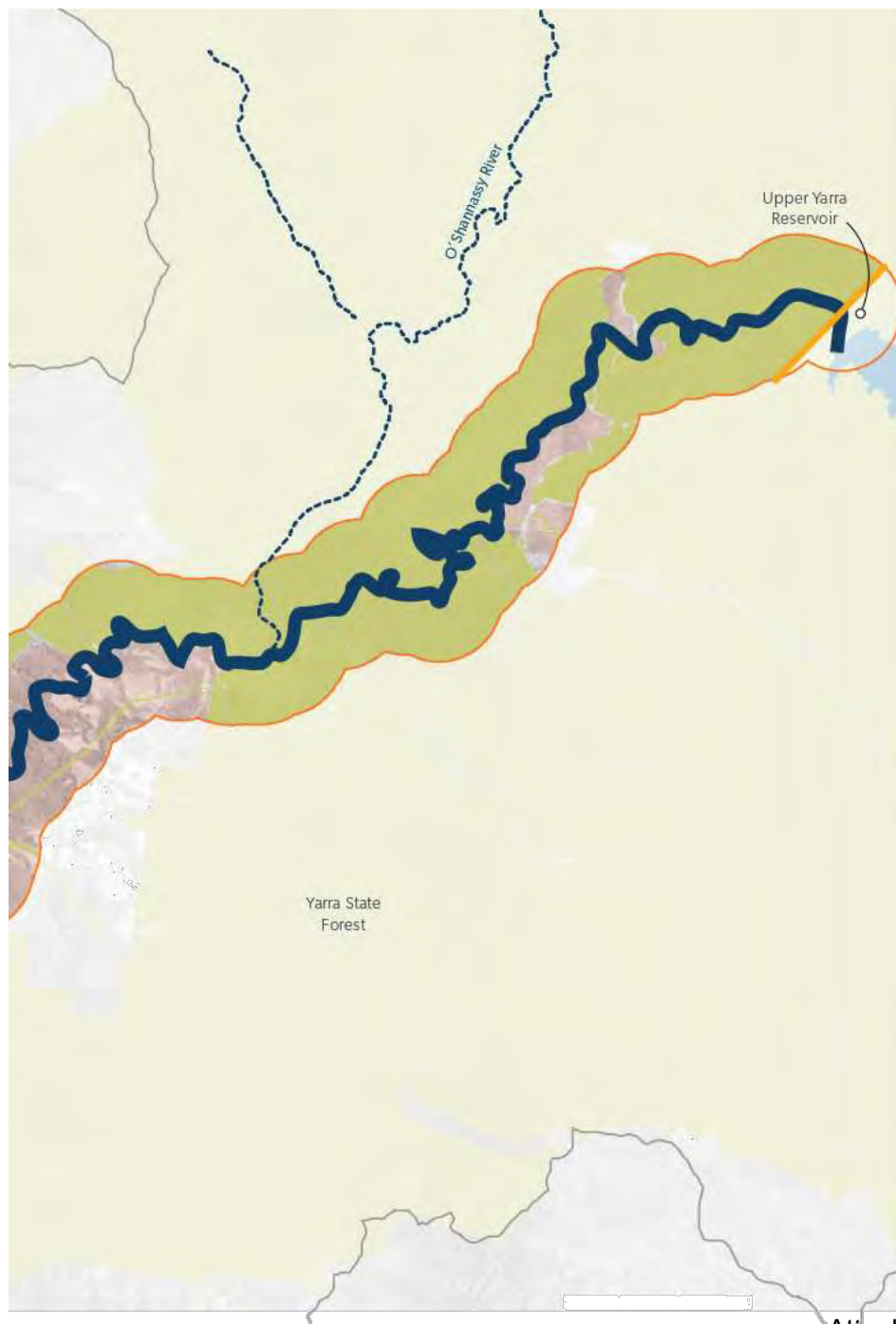
- Woori Open Day, Woori Yallock
- The River Folk Festival, Warburton
- Warburton Trail Festival, Warburton
- Warburton Market, Warburton

MAP 6. UPPER
RURAL FUTURE
DIRECTIONS

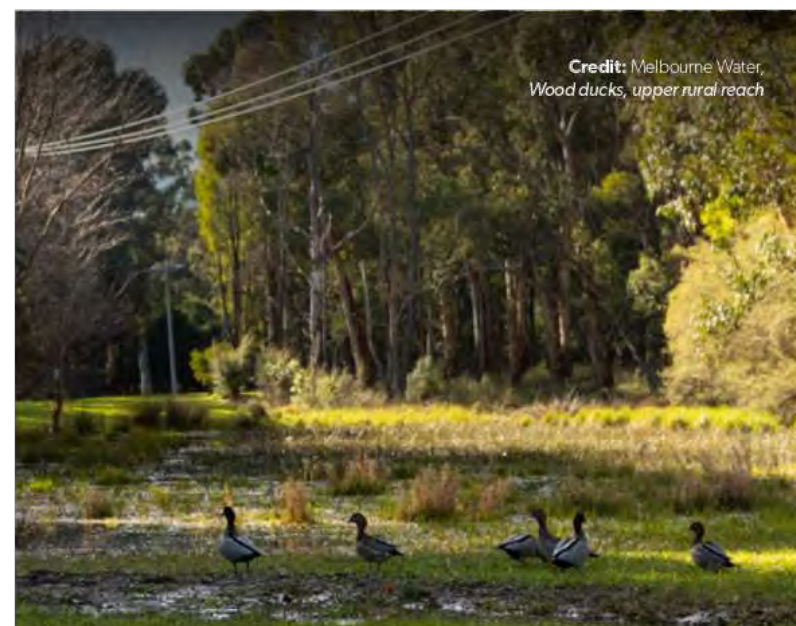
Legend

- Wurundjeri site of significance
- Reach boundary
- Significant place
- Area of protection
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Yarra River
- Priority tributary
- Yarra River land
- Biodiversity corridor
- Bush residential
- Township





Credit: Melbourne Water,
Yarra River, upper rural reach



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Wood ducks, upper rural reach

Community priorities and values	Resulting land use directions for the upper rural [UR] reach:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and celebrate local cultural heritage through collaboration and community education. 	UR 2 and UR 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop new opportunities around local tourism, including river-based learning. 	UR 3, UR 4, UR 15, UR 16 and UR 17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate and promote opportunities for people to immerse themselves in the unique landscape, local wildlife and incredible biodiversity. 	UR 2, UR 3, UR 4, UR 5, UR 9, UR 11, UR 12, UR 16 and UR 17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an expanded river access network for recreation and social connection. 	UR 3 and UR 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster healthy local ecosystems for the river, its wetlands and billabongs, which are recharged through environmental flows. 	UR 5, UR 6, UR 9, UR 10 and UR 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local farming communities to ensure sustainable water use. 	UR 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate personal connections to the river. 	UR 2, UR 4 and UR 16

Directions for future land use and development in the next 10 years

The land use framework in the upper rural reach sets out future directions for private and public land over the next 10 years. This will assist in achieving the Yarra Strategic Plan performance objectives and ultimately the aspirations of the 50 Year Community Vision and the *Nhanbu nairun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)*.

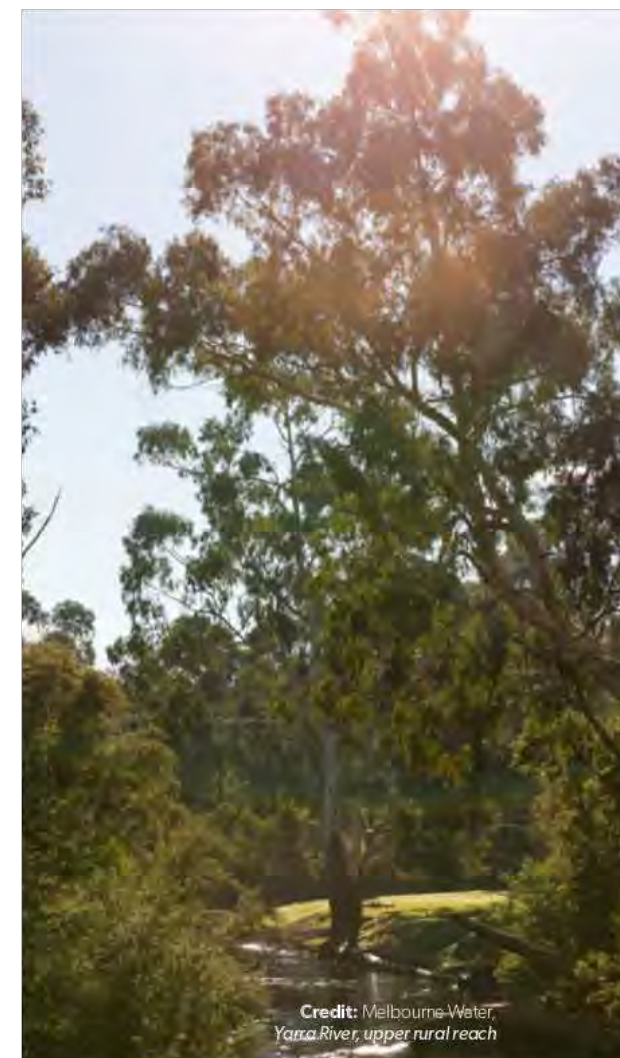
These are the upper rural (UR) land use directions.

Yarra River land	PO (Part 1)*
UR 1 Ensure decision making for land use, development and land management is guided by the Yarra Protection Principles set out in the <i>Yarra River Protection (Wilipgin Birrarung murrumbidgee) Act 2017</i> . **	PO1, PO2, PO3, PO4
UR 2 Work with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation on flora and fauna assessments to inform restoration and strengthen critical habitat, vegetation and cultural corridors.	PO1, PO2
UR 3 Create unobtrusive bushwalking tracks, where appropriate, to allow people to connect to the Yarra River.	PO3
UR 4 Ensure the siting and design of new public buildings and infrastructure complements the Yarra River's natural landscape setting and respects key view points.	PO4
UR 5 Protect and enhance native vegetation to provide habitat connections between conservation areas, and along the Yarra River and its tributaries.	PO1
UR 6 Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
UR 7 Partner with recognised Traditional Owners to investigate ways to reflect and celebrate the story of the ancient Yarra River and its people in the design and landscaping of public spaces and parklands.	PO2, PO3

*Alignment with performance objectives in Part 1 ** Decision making can be supported by applying the decision-making framework outlined in Appendix D.

Bush residential		
UR 8	Encourage sustainable land management practices to protect the health of the Yarra River and its tributaries, while supporting the livelihood of farming communities.	PO1, PO4
UR 9	Protect and enhance native vegetation to provide habitat connections between conservation areas and along the Yarra River and its tributaries.	PO1
UR 10	Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
UR 11	Protect, rehabilitate and re-engage floodplains, wetlands and billabongs to sustain and enhance their natural, cultural and spiritual values and minimise water quality impacts (including Yarra Junction to Healesville billabongs and wetlands).	PO1, PO2
UR 12	Ensure the siting and design of new buildings and infrastructure complements the Yarra River's natural landscape setting and respects key view points.	PO4
UR 13	Avoid development in the floodplain.	PO4
UR 14	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4

Warburton township		
UR 15	Apply permanent planning controls to manage building heights and setbacks to protect the Yarra River landscape corridor and ensure development maintains the heritage character of townships.	PO4
UR 16	Apply permanent planning controls to ensure new development creates a positive interface with the Yarra River landscape corridor and facilitates public access to the river where appropriate.	PO4
UR 17	Improve native planting along the bank of the Yarra River to restore and enhance the natural environment.	PO1
UR 18	Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
UR 19	Apply integrated water management principles to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection.	PO1
UR 20	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Yarra River, upper rural reach

Upper rural reach – Significant places



Credit: Melbourne Water
Bridge crossing at Warburton, upper rural reach

Warburton township

Warburton is significant as the largest township in the upper rural reach and the gateway to the Yarra Ranges National Park. It is a historic rural township with significant character and cultural values. Established around the Yarra River, it provides opportunities for direct experiences of the river's environment.

Development of tourism is recognised as a priority in the Yarra Ranges' Economic Development Strategy 2012-2022, with the natural beauty of the river and surrounding environment a key feature. The Warburton Place Plan (in preparation) will guide Council's directions and actions over the next 20 years, ensuring that the town's future matches the values and culture of the area.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Develop Warburton as a destination for nature-based tourism and recreation.
- Enhance opportunities to experience the river at Warburton by upgrading the Yarra River Walk circuit trail and connections between the different public spaces along the river, as well as providing visitor facilities as required.
- Upgrade launching facilities for paddlers at Mayer Bridge.
- Provide interpretive information at key locations to share stories of the river's history and environment.
- Protect views to the river from the Warburton Highway and the Lilydale–Warburton Rail Trail.
- Strengthen the riverbank environment through additional planting of appropriate species.
- Amend existing planning controls to ensure that new buildings present a positive interface with the river and its adjoining parklands, provide adequate setbacks for planting and allow for the creation of public access to the river where appropriate.





UPPER RURAL REACH – SIGNIFICANT PLACES

UPPER RURAL REACH – SIGNIFICANT PLACES



Haining Farm

Haining Farm is a 59 hectare property at the confluence of the Yarra and Don rivers in Launching Place managed by Parks Victoria. The property was gifted by Sir John T Reid in 1974 to the Victorian Conservation Trust for the people of Victoria to use as an environmental study park to introduce school children to rural life. Parks Victoria is currently implementing the final plan for the site to transform this former dairy farm into a new public park providing habitat for two of Victoria’s most threatened species, with opportunities for community access and education.

The aim is to provide an immersive experience, where visitors can interact with nature, see threatened species such as the helmeted honeyeater and lowland Leadbeater’s possum, and can learn the stories of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung and the trials and tribulations of farming a flooding landscape.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Ensure efforts to increase visitation and river access are balanced against conserving ecological values.
- Develop community, education and commercial activities that contribute to the vision for environmental, social, heritage and farming history values of the area.
- Continue habitat restoration and maintenance along the waterways within and adjacent to the farm, including control of weeds and pest species.
- Develop and upgrade recreational trails and access points to the water, including connection to the Lilydale–Warburton Rail Trail.



Credit: Lachie Badura
Revegetation works, Haining Farm

Legend

- Key views
- Yarra River
- Billabong
- Yarra River land
- Municipal parkland
- Priority tributary
- Recreational trail
- Improved access

Yarra Bridge Streamside Reserve

Yarra Bridge Streamside Reserve is an area of about 12 hectares of declared Yarra River land, just north of Woori Yallock managed by Parks Victoria. It is a significant place in the upper rural reach as it provides direct access to the river and contains one of the few billabongs in this reach that is on public land. It has a bushland character with views across picturesque farmland. Its walking tracks are well used by the community, but are in need of upgrading. The billabong provides important habitat for native wetland species, but it is at risk from pest plants and animals, especially deer. The reserve has significant potential as a place for the community to experience and enjoy the river and as a key site for billabong enhancement.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Improve environmental conditions by controlling weeds and pest species, implementing watering plans, protecting significant trees and improving habitat structure with supplementary planting (aligns with initiatives in the *Healthy Waterways Strategy* and *Yellingbo Conservation Area 10 Year Plan*).
- Upgrade recreational trails and improve visitor access and facilities.
- Improve connections to Woori Yallock and the Lilydale-Warburton Rail Trail for pedestrians and cyclists as part of the Yarra Ranges Council's Yarra Valley Trail project.
- Review existing planning scheme controls to include additional direction to protect and strengthen the environmental and landscape values of the river edge, park and billabong.
- Ensure efforts to increase visitation and river access are balanced against conserving ecological values.



Legend

- Key views
- Yarra River
- Billabong
- Yarra River land
- Municipal parkland
- Priority tributary
- Recreational trail
- Improved access

Coranderrk Station

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation has nominated Coranderrk Station as a site of significance. The station was procured by Ngurungaeta Simon Wonga and his cousin William Barak for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people (the Traditional Owners) and other Aboriginal people who were displaced from their homelands, and established as a reservation for Aboriginal people in 1863.

Originally covering over 1960 hectares, the station extended from Watts River along the Yarra to just past Coranderrk Creek and east to the slopes of Mount Riddell. Coranderrk operated as a successful agricultural enterprise until its untimely closure by the state in 1924. From the 1890s portions were carved off the holding, and after the last Kulin resident died in 1944, the remaining reserve was divided up for soldier re settlement.

In the 1990s, 80 hectares on which stood the only surviving building – the original manager's residence – was purchased and provided to Traditional Owners. Today it is managed by members of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung community, and has benefited from significant revegetation, as well as ongoing sustainable land management initiatives. Coranderrk Station and the nearby cemetery are recognised as nationally significant heritage sites. Other small portions of the original station footprint have been returned to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung community, including the Army School of Health and Galeena Beek cultural centre.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Provide support for ongoing environmental management initiatives and site maintenance to continue the rehabilitation of the land by implementing initiatives outlined in the *Yellingbo Conservation Area 10 Year Plan* and *Healthy Waterways Strategy*.
- Provide information about the site's history and heritage to educate the community about the impact of colonial settlement upon Traditional Owners and other Aboriginal Victorians.



Legend

- Wurundjeri site of significance
- Yarra River
- Billabong
- Yarra River land
- Municipal or State Government parkland
- Priority tributary



Everard Park Streamside Reserve

Everard Park is one of the few formal Yarra River access points in the upper rural reach and therefore nominated as a significant place. It is a popular place to access the river for picnicking, fishing and swimming and there is potential for it to have wider visitation, given its location on the Maroondah Highway. The park has benefited from recent planting and installation of new facilities (picnic tables and fencing), however the river's bank is degraded in some locations. Further improvements could expand the reserve's potential as a location to enjoy and learn about the river.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Support the ongoing environmental management of the park by implementing initiatives outlined in the *Yellingbo Conservation Area 10 Year Plan*.
- Provide additional visitor facilities, including information about the site's history and heritage, toilets and enhanced access and trails.
- Improve directional signage to the park from the Maroondah Highway.
- Create a dedicated access point to the water.
- Review existing planning scheme controls to include additional direction to protect and strengthen the environmental and landscape values of the river and park.
- Ensure efforts to increase visitation are balanced against conserving ecological values.



Legend

- Yarra River
- Billabong
- Yarra River land
- Municipal parkland

Upper rural reach – New areas for protection

Billabong systems: Yarra Junction to Healesville

The Yarra River's floodplains in the upper rural reach include many billabongs with high environmental, cultural and landscape value. The billabong systems are identified as a new area for protection because they are currently at risk from restricted or reduced water flow, weed and pest invasion, land clearing and cattle movement. Most of the billabongs are located on private land that is used for farming and has no public access.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Investigate with landowners the suite of options for protecting billabongs and improving their hydraulic connection, and implementing initiatives outlined in the *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018* and the *Yellingbo Conservation Area 10 Year Plan*.
- Prepare a landscape assessment that integrates the natural and cultural values of this area. This will include mapping the billabongs and other features that have high environmental, landscape and cultural importance.
- Protect and celebrate the cultural values of areas around the confluences of Little Yarra River and Hoddles Creek.
- Strengthen planning scheme controls to reflect environmental, landscape and cultural values associated with the significant billabong systems of the upper rural reach.
- Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to investigate ways to protect cultural values associated with Coranderrk Station.





Lower rural reach

LOWER RURAL REACH 50-YEAR COMMUNITY VISION

From Healesville to Warrandyte, our Yarra River, Birrarung, and its surrounding environment is embraced and cared for through a deep understanding and sense of custodianship, the way the Wurundjeri have always done.

It is embraced by a wide, mature cloak of indigenous vegetation through the flats, filled with the sights and sounds of native animals and birds.

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, is home to happy farmers, making a living and caring for the river and its lands.

People visit the river in key locations to meet and play in, on and beside the water while learning about its rich history, its Wurundjeri carers and incredible environmental values.

From Yering Gorge, our Yarra River, Birrarung, is continuously replenished by plants and animals from Kinglake and beyond, joining the river on its journey to the city.

Land use analysis

The open and expansive landscape of the lower rural reach is framed by mountain ranges. The rich soils of the floodplains support diverse land uses such as farming, agritourism and viticulture.

Within this reach native vegetation has been cleared in many places and the floodplains drained to support agriculture. The rehabilitation of natural habitat and preservation of significant landscapes is, therefore, a priority. This includes the enclosed corridor of native vegetation between Warrandyte and Yering, and significant clusters of billabongs between Yering and Healesville, all of which have high environmental, cultural and landscape value.

Sites of particular ecological and cultural significance to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people include the Brushy Creek confluence, Bend of Islands and Yering Station.

As access to the river is limited in this reach, it is important to enhance opportunities for the community to experience the river, where appropriate. This includes locations at Warrandyte State Park, Yarra Glen and Spadoni's Nature Reserve, which all have bushwalking tracks and boat launches.

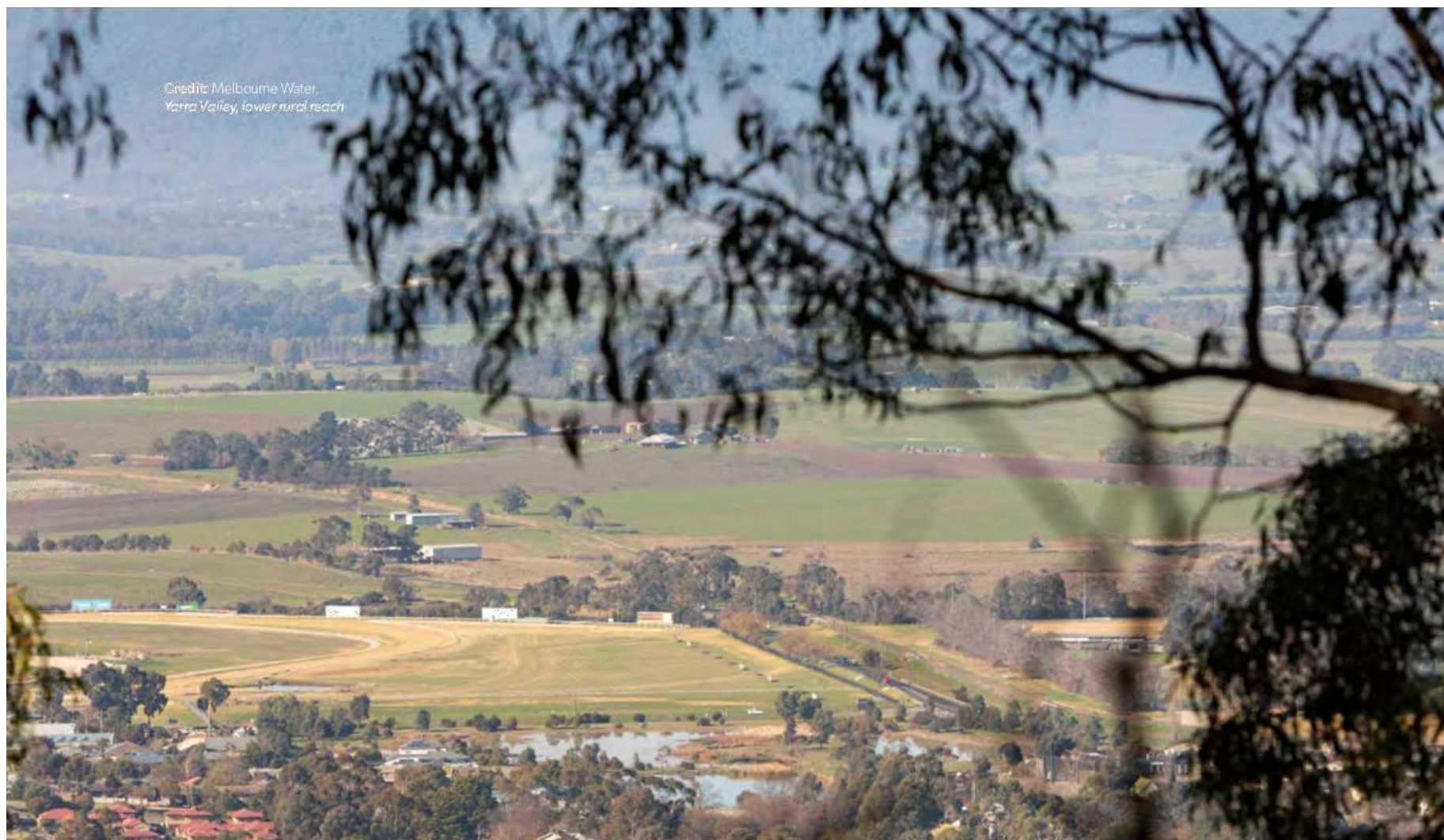
The proposed Yarra Valley Trail will provide new connections from Lilydale to Healesville via Yarra Glen along the former railway easement and connect to the Lilydale-Warburton Rail Trail.

The historic township of Yarra Glen is the only urban area in the lower rural reach and a hub of community and commercial activity.

This area provides around 142,000 ha of catchment for water harvesting. Water at Yering Gorge is diverted (through the 'offtake') into Sugarloaf Reservoir, north of the river. Around 33 per cent of this land is zoned for primary production, 20 per cent for residential and 23 per cent for conservation. To maintain excellent drinking water quality in the mid-Yarra catchment it is essential to reduce the risks of contaminants entering waterways now and into the future.

Fire and flood risks need to be carefully managed and planning scheme overlays for Bushfire Management and Land Subject to Inundation apply to large areas of this reach. The Land Subject to Inundation Overlay also applies to the river and its tributaries, requiring management of flood risk within the river's immediate environs.



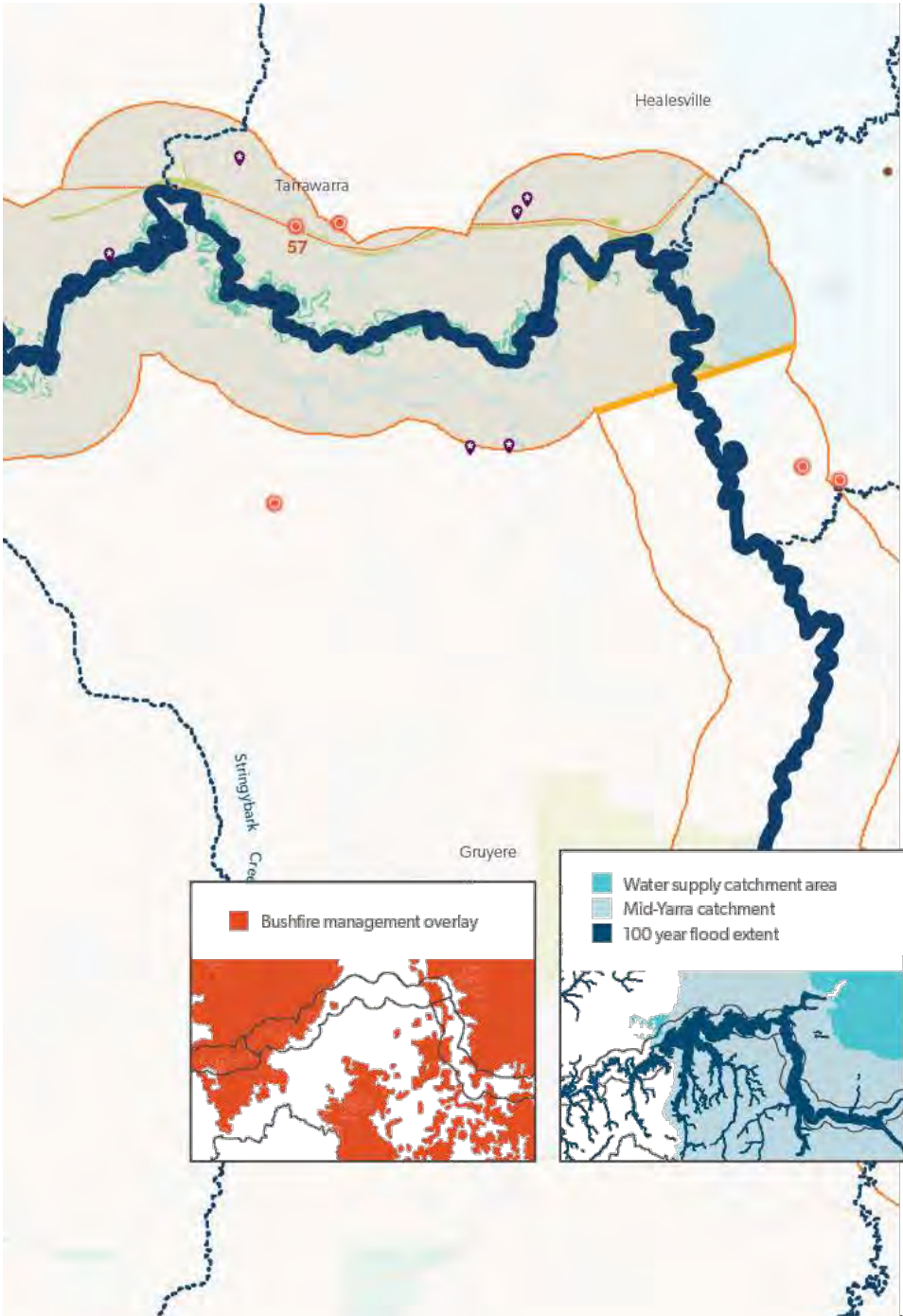


MAP 7. LOWER
RURAL REACH
CONTEXT

Legend

- Key tourist destinations
- Cultural heritage sites
- Community activities
- Key views
- Wurundjeri site of significance
- Recreational trail
- Reach boundary
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Stormwater catchments
- Billabong
- Yarra River
- Priority tributary
- Other tributary
- Urban forest
- Municipal parkland
- Yarra River land
- Transport project (indicative alignment)
- High-quality riparian vegetation





Wurundjeri sites of significance

Bend of Islands
Environmental Living Zone where landowners are required to maintain and manage the environmental and cultural values of the land.

Key views

- 64. Warrandyte Gorge, Wonga Park
- 65. Skyline Road, Wonga Park
- 66. River view, Wonga Park
- 67. Lookout, Warrandyte State Park
- 68. Lookout, Chirnside Park, off Camousie Crescent
- 69. View from the river, Christmas Hills

Heritage sites

This reach of the Yarra is treasured for a number of other **heritage sites** such as:

- 55. Neil Douglas & Helen (Abbie) Heathcote house, Bend of Islands
- 56. Burns house, Bend of Islands
- 57. The Elms Slab Cottage, Tarrawarra

Tourist destinations include:

- Yering Gorge Bushland Reserve, Christmas Hills
- Yering Station, Yarra Glen
- Lubra Bend Garden, Yarra Glen
- TarraWarra Estate, Yarra Glen
- TarraWarra Museum of Art, Yarra Glen
- Maddens Rise, Coldstream
- Dominique Portet Winery, Coldstream
- Zonzo Estate, Yarra Glen
- Yarra Valley Racing, Yarra Glen
- Tarrawarra Abbey, Tarrawarra

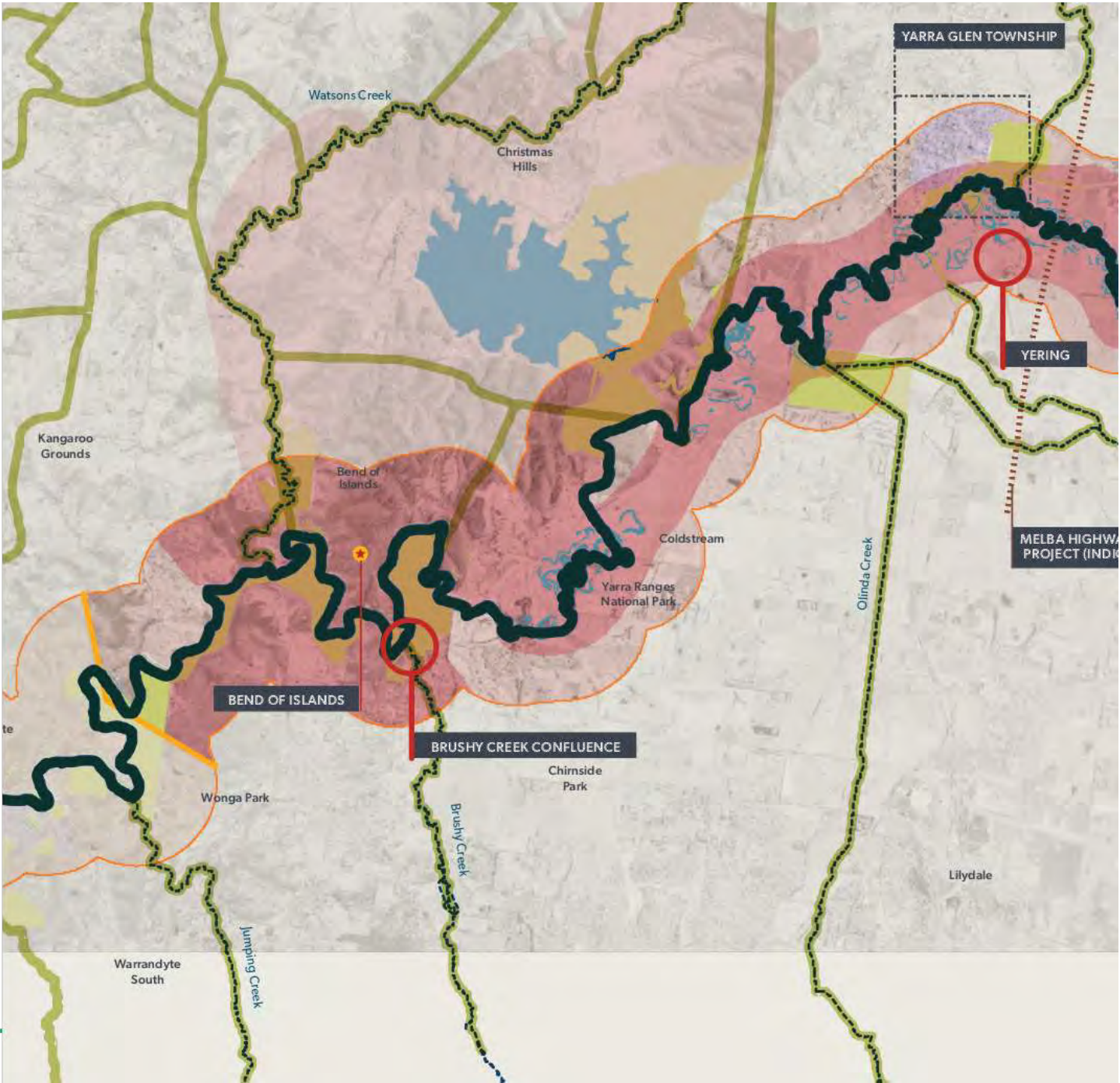
Key community activities include:

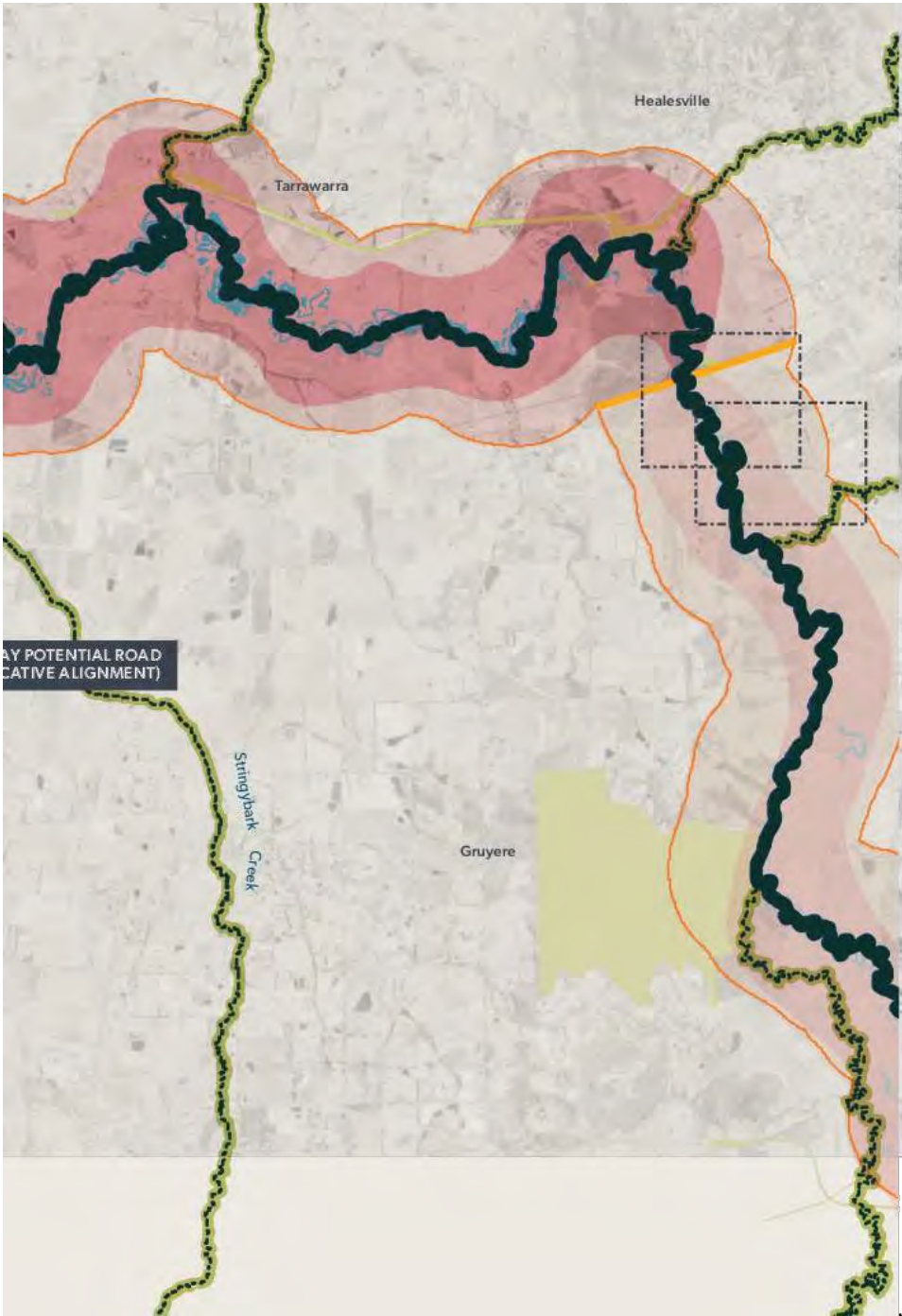
- Yarra Valley Farmers Market, Yering Station

MAP 8. LOWER RURAL REACH FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Legend

- Wurundjeri site of significance
- Recreational trail
- Reach boundary
- Significant place
- Area of protection
- Wurundjeri area for protection
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Yarra River
- Priority tributary
- Industrial & commercial zone
- Yarra River Land
- Transport project (indicative alignment)
- Biodiversity corridor
- Bush residential
- Township





Community priorities and values	Resulting land use directions for the lower rural (LR) reach:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve community access at sensitive locations to enrich local connections, while protecting the region's natural environment. 	LR 2, LR 3, LR 4, LR 12 and LR 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring improved biodiversity to our local area, enhancing indigenous vegetation, animal, insects and fish in our habitat corridor and surrounding billabongs. 	LR 2 and LR 4 to LR 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster and support sustainable agricultural practices that exist in harmony with the river and its lands. 	LR 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to protect and enhance knowledge of local cultural values and sites. 	LR 2, LR 7, LR 11 and LR 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore innovative tourism opportunities around activities such as education, cultural heritage and fishing to showcase rural river experiences. 	LR 3, LR 4, LR 12 and LR 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve the rural and bush character of the river and its landscapes through collaboration and careful management of future development 	LR 4 to LR 15

Directions for future land use and development in the next 10 years

The land use framework in the lower rural reach sets out the future directions for private and public land over the next 10 years. This will assist in achieving the Yarra Strategic Plan performance objectives and ultimately the aspirations of the 50 Year Community Vision and the *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twam Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)*.

These are the lower rural (LR) land use directions.

Yarra River land	PO (Part 1)*
LR 1 Ensure decision making for land use, development and land management is guided by the Yarra Protection Principles set out in the <i>Yarra River Protection (Wilipgin Birrarung murron) Act 2017</i> . **	PO1, PO2, PO3, PO4
LR 2 Work with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation on flora and fauna assessments to inform restoration and strengthen critical habitat, vegetation and cultural corridors	PO1, PO2
LR 3 Create unobtrusive recreational trails, where appropriate, to allow more people to access and connect to the Yarra River.	PO3
LR 4 Ensure the siting and design of new public buildings and infrastructure complements the Yarra River's natural landscape setting and respects key view points.	PO4
LR 5 Protect and enhance native vegetation to provide habitat connections between conservation areas, and along the Yarra River and its tributaries.	PO1
LR 6 Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
LR 7 Partner with recognised Traditional Owners to investigate ways to reflect and celebrate the story of the ancient Yarra River and its people in the design and landscaping of public spaces and parklands.	PO2, PO3

*Alignment with performance objectives in Part 1 ** Decision making can be supported by applying the decision-making framework outlined in Appendix D.

Bush residential		
LR 8	Encourage sustainable land management practices to protect the health of the Yarra River and its tributaries, while supporting the livelihood of farming communities.	PO1, PO4
LR 9	Protect and enhance native vegetation to provide habitat connections between conservation areas, and along the Yarra River and its tributaries.	PO1
LR 10	Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
LR 11	Protect, rehabilitate and reengage floodplains, wetlands and billabongs to sustain and enhance their natural, cultural and spiritual values and minimise water quality impacts (including Healesville to Yering billabongs and wetlands).	PO1, PO2
LR 12	Ensure the siting and design of new buildings and infrastructure complements the Yarra River's natural landscape setting and respects key viewpoints.	PO4
LR 13	Avoid development in the floodplain.	PO4
LR 14	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4
LR 15	Ensure private land around the Watsons Creek confluence and Maroondah Aqueduct supports the habitat and biodiversity of the Warrandyte-Kinglake corridor.	PO1, PO4

Yarra Glen township		
LR 16	Refer to the opportunities for future projects and alignment for Yarra Glen township on page x.	PO1, PO2, PO3, PO4
LR 17	Apply integrated water management principles to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection.	PO1
LR 18	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4



Lower rural reach – Significant places



Yarra Glen township

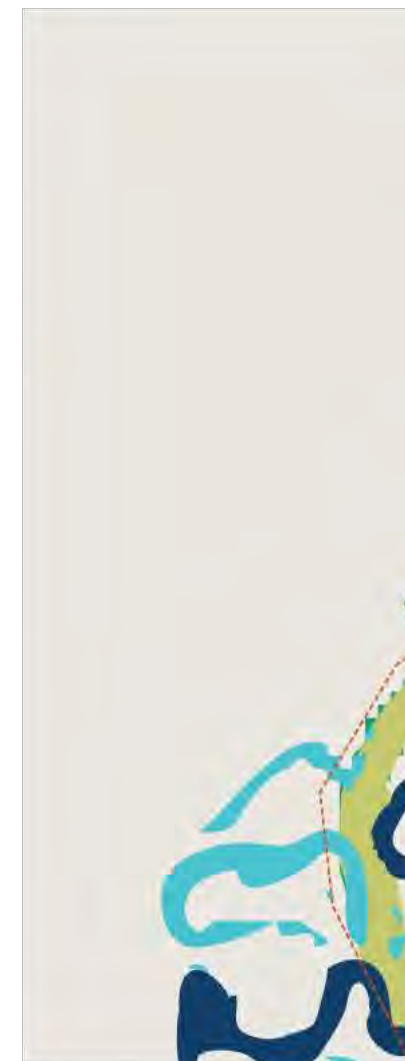
Yarra Glen is a rural town on the Melba Highway and is the only town in the lower rural reach. Several sites of notable cultural and heritage value include the historic station and tourist railway (currently under restoration), the Yarra Glen Recreation Reserve and the Murrup Brann Yarra Flats billabongs. Two rural properties that provide a link to the history of the township and agricultural development in the area are Yering Station settled in 1836, and Gulf Station established in 1854 and now run by the National Trust.

There are several open spaces along the Yarra River at the entry point to the township, with the Recreation Reserve being a popular access point to the river.

Works are underway on the first stage of the Yarra Valley Trail, connecting Lilydale to Yarra Glen, with the second stage proposed to continue through to Healesville.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Strengthen the natural riparian environment through additional planting of appropriate species along the river.
- Enhance the Yarra River crossing on the Melba Highway as a gateway to the township and an important view to the river.
- Establish and upgrade recreational trails to connect each of the riverside spaces and connection to the township.
- Upgrade river access and experiences around the priority boat launch site at Yarra Glen Recreation Reserve, giving consideration to canoe trail and precautions at times of low flow.
- Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to investigate ways to protect cultural values associated with Yering Station.
- Strengthen connections between the township and the river by integrating and interpreting Yarra Glen's heritage with the planning and design of new public spaces and buildings.
- Apply permanent planning controls to protect the Yarra River landscape corridor.
- Apply integrated water management principles to all development to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection for the township.





Lower rural reach – New areas for protection



Credit: Melbourne Water, Billabong at Spadoni's Reserve, Yering

Billabong systems: Healesville to Yering Gorge

The Yarra River's floodplain in the lower rural reach includes many billabongs with high environmental, cultural and landscape value. The billabong systems are identified as an area for protection because they are at risk from restricted or reduced water flow, weed and pest invasion, land clearing and grazing by stock. These billabongs are mostly located on private land used for farming, with no public access.

There are limited areas of public land along this reach of the river. One exception is Spadoni's Nature Reserve and the adjacent Yering Bushland Reserve, which retain some billabongs. Spadoni's Nature Reserve also contains a stand of Buxton gum (*Eucalyptus crenulata*), considered to be of national botanical significance. The reserve is where Olinda and Stringybark creeks discharge into the Yarra, both of which are significantly modified to drain the adjacent farmland and urban areas upstream. As a result, water quality in these creeks is poor, which affects water quality in the Yarra.

In addition to the important billabong systems, Yering Station has been identified by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation as an area for protection. The station is the site of a battle between Wurundjeri warriors and the Border Police in 1840. A memorial plaque within the wetlands commemorates this historical event.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Investigate with landowners the suite of options for protecting billabongs and improving their hydraulic connection (aligns with initiatives outlined in the *Healthy Waterways Strategy*).
- Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to prepare a landscape assessment that integrates the natural and cultural values of this area. This includes mapping the billabongs and other features that have high environmental, landscape and cultural importance.
- Identify opportunities to reconnect billabongs to the river and to naturalise lower reaches of creeks to improve water quality of discharges into the Yarra, similar to the proposed priority project for Yering Billabongs (listed in Part 1).
- Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to investigate ways to protect cultural values associated with the billabongs between Healesville and Yering Gorge.
- Strengthen planning scheme controls to protect and improve environmental, landscape and cultural values associated with the billabong systems of the lower rural reach.

Yering – Warrandyte landscape protection

The area between Warrandyte and Yering Gorge Bushland Reserve includes important landscapes around Kangaroo Ground, Yering Gorge and Wonga Park that have high scenic, environmental and cultural value. The area also has good quality agricultural land and highly valued scenic rural landscapes. It is designated as a new area for protection to ensure permanent protection in the planning scheme.

Sites of significance nominated by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation in this area for protection include the Bend of Islands and the confluence of Brushy Creek. Barnggeong birthing site is a gorge at the confluence of Brushy Creek. This is the Wurundjeri birthing and female initiation site and where Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung leader and internationally acclaimed artist William Barak (1824–1903) was born. Other places of importance in the area include the Neil Douglas Natural Features Reserve, which is across the river from Wittons Reserve.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Enhance opportunities to view and experience important landscapes by boat or on foot and provide additional interpretive information about the significance of these sites at visitor access points. Ensure efforts to increase visitation are balanced against conserving ecological and cultural values.
- Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to investigate ways to identify and protect cultural values associated with Bend of Islands and the Brushy Creek confluence. This may include designating days when these places are closed off to the public to allow use by Traditional Owners for cultural purposes.

- Using the approach to planning controls implemented to protect the Yarra between Richmond and Warrandyte, apply permanent planning controls in the Nillumbik and Manningham planning schemes to ensure protection of the Yarra to the Yarra Ranges municipal boundary.
- Investigate the effectiveness of planning controls and land management practices for protecting and enhancing the role of tributaries as biodiversity corridors for this section of the river (includes Brushy Creek and Jumping Creek).



Kinglake–Yarra biodiversity corridor

The Kinglake–Yarra biodiversity corridor is identified as an area for protection as it is essential for the long-term biodiversity of the Yarra's natural environs downstream of Yering Gorge, replenishing the river as it journeys on to the city.

The corridor is bound to the west by riparian vegetation along Watsons Creek and to the east along the escarpment. It encompasses Sugarloaf Reservoir and supports areas of very high biodiversity, with rare habitats, plants and animals, including brush-tailed phascogale, slender-tailed dunnart, powerful owl, galaxias and threatened orchid species. It facilitates a vital connection with the Kinglake National Park for animals, such as lyrebirds, and provides an avenue for recovery following bushfires.

Existing planning controls for the corridor include an Environmental Significance Overlay and a Special Use Zone 2 (Environmental Living). The environmental living zone, which covers the Bend of Islands locality, provides a unique example of 'residential conservation', which ensures that native flora and fauna are protected by strict regulations prohibiting the introduction of non-indigenous plants and the keeping of pets or livestock including cats, dogs, horses or cattle.

Strong community support and involvement has protected and enhanced the biodiversity of this area by protecting the biodiversity hotspots, restoring degraded land and managing pest plants and animals, including deer, which are increasingly threatening biodiversity. Councils, government agencies and private landholders work collaboratively through initiatives such as the Rivers to Ranges project and the Sugarloaf Link project. By controlling development, managing invasive species, improving the habitat quality and facilitating the movement of wildlife, it is expected that numbers of native species using the corridor will increase over time.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Define a workable boundary of the biodiversity corridor through a process of consultation with landowners and key stakeholders including Nillumbik Shire Council.
- Investigate the effectiveness of planning controls and land management practices for protecting and enhancing the Yarra–Kinglake biodiversity corridor, including assessment of current conditions and comparison with previous studies.
- Support ongoing advocacy, education, pest eradication and rehabilitation work by the community, council and state government agencies. This includes continued investment in projects such as the Sugarloaf Link project to manage weed and pest invasion.
- Resourcing the implementation of the Bend of Islands Land Management Plan and, where appropriate, promote as a model for other residential conservation initiatives.





Suburban reach

SUBURBAN REACH 50-YEAR COMMUNITY VISION

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, provides a continuous network of protected parklands, providing inclusive access to all.

A covenant of custodianship is adopted by private landowners along the reach, embedding a culture of respect and responsibility for river values.

The river corridor provides a healthy natural environment, enabling swimming, relaxation and other recreational activities. Importantly, it also supports a flourishing natural ecosystem, including networks of billabongs and wetlands, for indigenous plants and animals to thrive.

This is a valued place of connection to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung culture and community, with a network of hubs of learning, play and celebration. It benefits from a united and integrated approach to governance and land management, guided by the wisdom and practices of Traditional Owners, keeping culture not just in the past but alive into the future.

Land use analysis

The Yarra in the suburban reach flows through bushland, parkland, rural areas and residential neighbourhoods. Its landscapes include steep gorges around Warrandyte, flattening out to broad floodplains and clusters of billabongs of the Chandler Basin downstream of the Plenty River confluence.

A near-continuous network of parklands along the river defines the character of this reach. The parklands include formal recreational spaces, bushland reserves, conservation areas and golf courses. The parklands are a focal point for community activity, enabling people to walk, play, canoe, picnic, cycle, camp, sightsee and attend events. These parklands also have a vital role in protecting local communities from the impacts of flooding.

The creation of parklands has allowed a dense corridor of native vegetation to be retained, providing important habitat for native flora and fauna and connectivity for native wildlife. In many locations, this vegetation extends across private land. Investment in broad scale revegetation programs has resulted in extensive tree canopy cover and some of the highest biodiversity values along this part of the river.

In addition to providing a vital refuge from the city, the parklands are home to numerous sites of ecological and cultural significance to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, including the Bolin Bolin Billabong, Banyule Flats, Yarra Flats, Garambi Baan (Laughing Waters), Tikalara Park and confluences with Mullum Mullum, Diamond and Merri creeks and Plenty River.

The suburban reach also features important historic cultural heritage sites. The Heidelberg School of Australian Impressionism began with the painting of the unique landscapes of the Yarra Flats. The Melbourne

modernist art movement that emerged from what is now the Heide Museum of Modern Art has made a significant and lasting contribution to international modernism. The rich agricultural heritage of the area continues at Petty's Orchard and examples of colonial settlement can be found at places like Pontville Homestead at Tikalara.

The main tributaries in the suburban reach include Anderson, Mullum Mullum, Diamond, Koonung, Darebin and Merri creeks and Plenty River, all of which provide vital biodiversity links into the catchment. These waterways are also noted for their recreational trails that connect neighbouring suburbs to the Main Yarra Trail that runs along the river from Templestowe to the city. This network of trails provides opportunities for transport, exercise, recreation and sight-seeing for residents and visitors, with benefits for community connection and wellbeing.

The Heidelberg Major Activity Centre is a focal point for increased development; supporting a range of commercial, residential and community land uses. Further upstream, Warrandyte, which has historical links dating back to 1851 when gold was discovered, is a thriving residential area and tourist and arts destination.

Fire and flood risks need to be carefully managed and planning scheme overlays for Bushfire Management and Land Subject to Inundation apply to large areas of this reach.

Existing projects in this reach include:

- *Heidelberg Structure Plan* is a strategic planning project to transform Heidelberg into a more vibrant, prosperous, connected and sustainable centre, with carefully managed development and strengthened connections to riverside parklands.
- *Yarra River – Bulleen Precinct Land Use Framework Plan* works within the regional framework established by the Yarra Strategic Plan. This project will guide future land uses and connections in this area of high cultural, environmental, landscape, recreation and tourism value, which includes the Bolin Bolin Billabongs, Banyule Flats, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Banksia Park and Warringal Parklands.
- Fitzsimons Lane upgrade in Eltham and Templestowe, is a roads project to upgrade intersections and improve traffic flow and safety for commuters.

North East Link

The North East Link is a new road link to connect the Eastern Freeway and the M80 Ring Road in Melbourne's north-east, which will intersect the Yarra River and its parklands. Twin tunnels will be constructed below the riverbed along a north-south alignment, protecting the waterway and its environmentally and culturally sensitive surrounds.

As part of the North East Link's approval, which included assessment under the *Environment Effects Act 1978*, the project has undertaken to recognise and align with relevant Yarra protection principles and have regard to the Yarra Strategic Plan. The project has been planned with involvement from the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, including in development of the project's Urban Design Strategy.

While some open space and sporting facilities will be temporarily occupied or permanently required to build the North East Link, the project also presents opportunities to develop new community infrastructure, improve open space and connectivity and deliver stronger habitat links.

Works associated with the North East Link will include landscaping within the project area that will seek to maximise habitat value and connectivity for native fauna where suitable to the landscape and location. Tree planting may also be required outside the project boundary as part of the project's strategy to achieve a net gain in tree canopy by 2045; planting sites along the river will be considered in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

Pedestrian and cycling improvements will also be provided in the vicinity of a new interchange to be constructed as part of the project at Manningham Road, Bulleen. The project's Urban Design Strategy provides further guidance on revegetation and should be referred to as a guiding document.

New community soccer facilities will be delivered at Templestowe Road, sporting grounds and club facilities will be upgraded at Bulleen Park and the Freeway Golf Course will be retained as an 18-hole facility.

The existing Main Yarra Trail between Belford Road and Burke Road will also be upgraded and a new pedestrian and cycling bridge built across the river. Major works for North East Link are expected to start in 2021 with the road anticipated to open to traffic in 2027.

Suburban Rail Loop

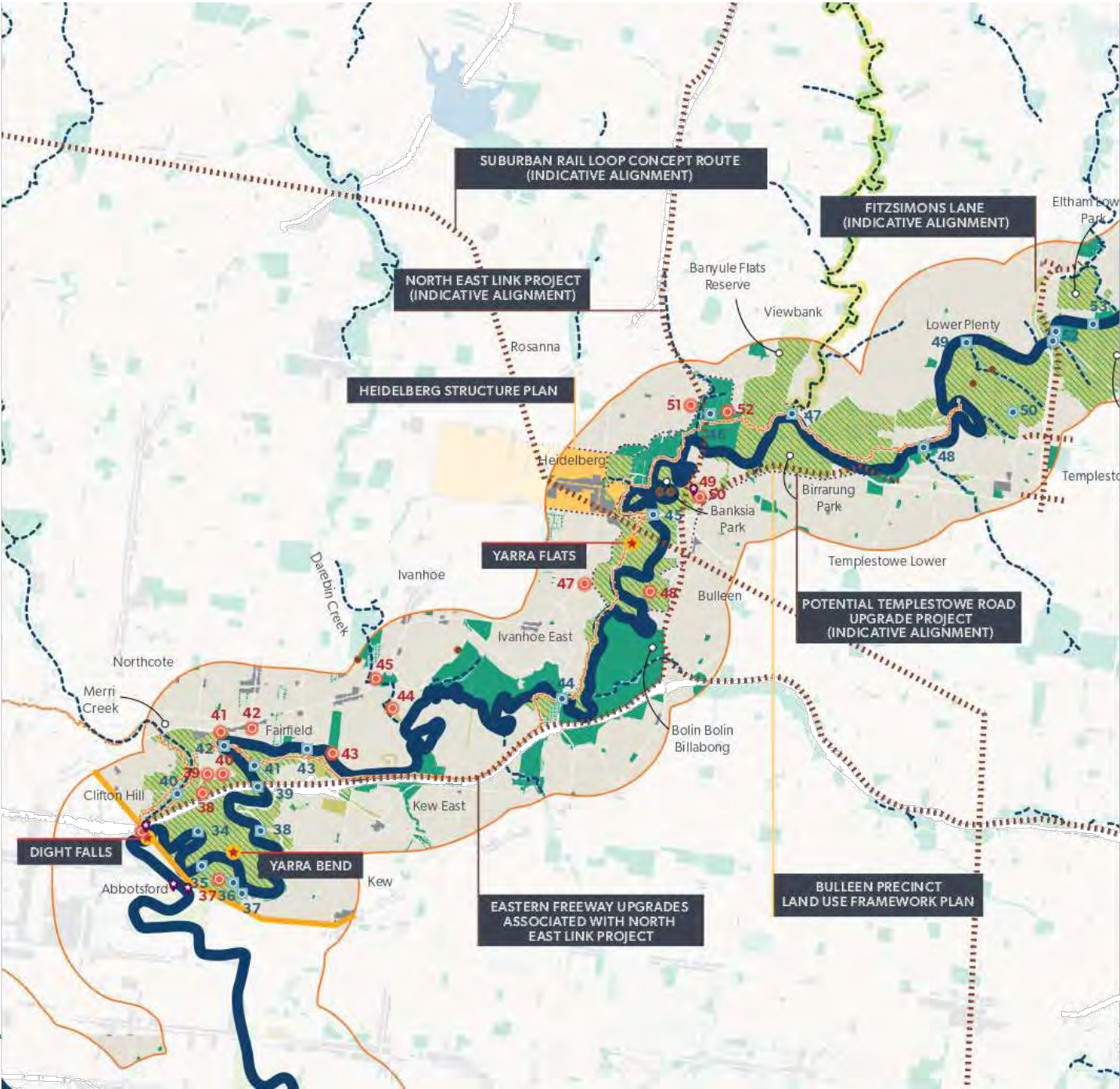
Suburban Rail Loop is a proposed 90 km orbital rail loop connecting metropolitan rail lines from the Frankston line through to the Werribee line, via Melbourne Airport, better connecting Victorians to jobs, retail, education, health services and each other. As well as delivering significant transport benefits, the loop provides an opportunity to plan the services, amenity and infrastructure Melbourne will need outside of the central city for future generations.

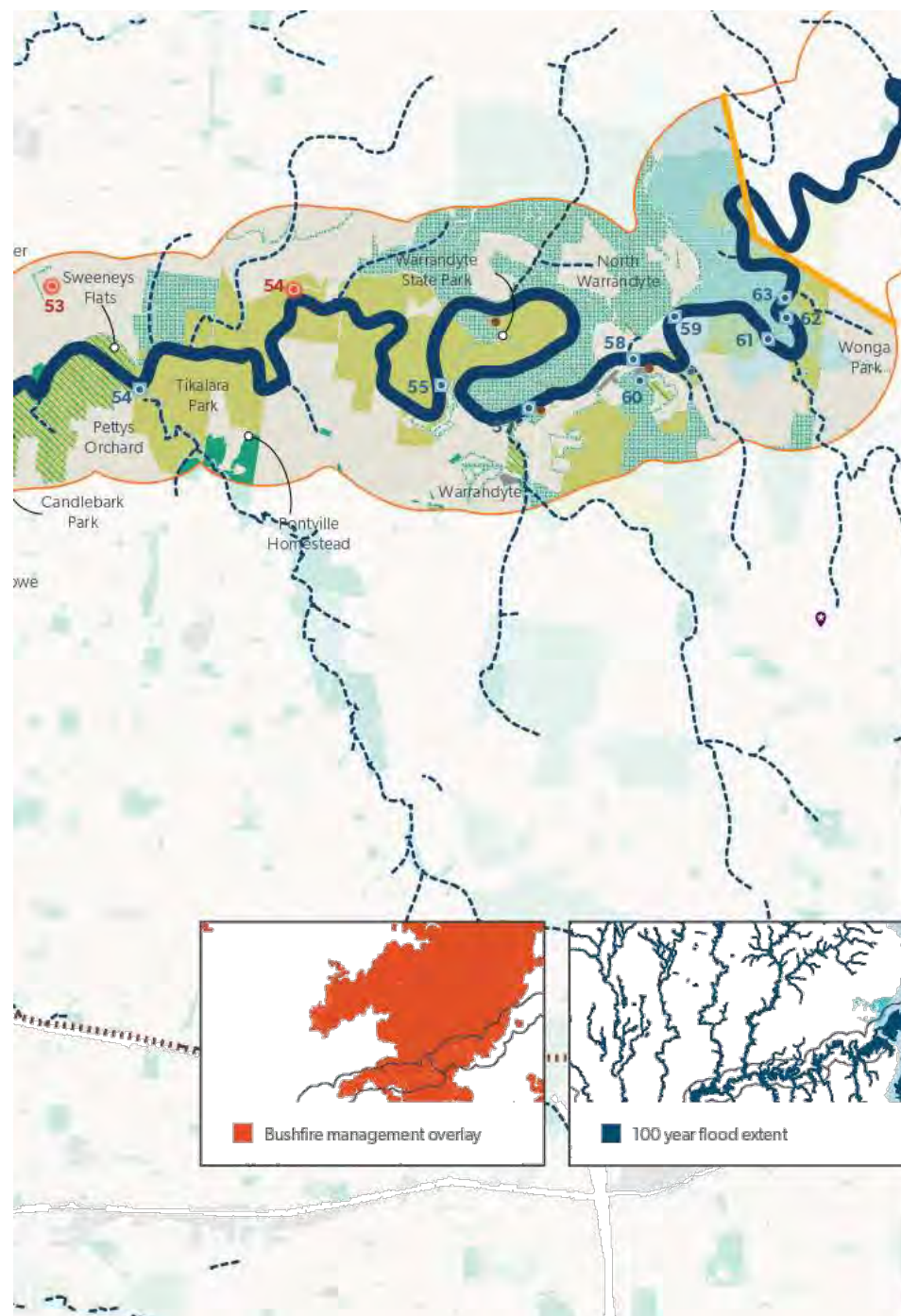
Suburban Rail Loop will be delivered in stages over several decades, with Stage One providing new stations and rail between Cheltenham and Box Hill. The broad alignment and precinct locations have been confirmed for Stage One, which will include new underground stations at Cheltenham, Clayton, Monash, Glen Waverley, Burwood and Box Hill. Detailed planning for future stages of the project has not yet commenced. The indicative alignment of the Suburban Rail Loop intersects a number of major waterways including the Yarra River.

Suburban Rail Loop Authority, was established as an Administrative Office of the Department of Transport in September 2019 to oversee the development and delivery of the project.

MAP 9. SUBURBAN
REACH CONTEXT

- Legend**
- Cultural heritage sites
 - Community activities
 - Key views
 - Wurundjeri site of significance
 - Recreational trail
 - Reach boundary
 - Yarra Strategic Plan area
 - Stormwater catchments
 - Billabong
 - Yarra River
 - Priority tributary
 - Other tributary
 - Industrial & commercial zone
 - Urban forest
 - Municipal parkland
 - Yarra River land
 - Key area experiencing development
 - Precinct planning area boundary
 - Transport project (indicative only)
 - High-quality riparian vegetation





Wurundjeri sites of significance

- **Yarra Flats**
Area of significant cultural resources: food, fibre, and medicine. It is also a meeting place with other Kulin groups.
- **Yarra Bend Park**
Important Kulin meeting place and the site of the first Aboriginal Police Station and Aboriginal school.
- **Dights Falls**
Birrarung crossing place where a canoe was not required.

Key Views

- 34. Yarra Bend Park - Loop Area Golf House Lookout
- 35. Kanes Bridge viewing platform, Yarra Bend Park
- 36. Views at Studley Park
- 37. Caratis Christi Lookout, Studley Park
- 38. Grey Headed Flying Fox Viewing Platform, Bellbird picnic area, Yarra Bend Park
- 39. Eastern Freeway Bridge, Kew
- 40. Merri Creek Lookout, Yarra Bend Park
- 41. Wurundjeri Spur Lookout, Yarra Bend Park
- 42. Fairfield Pipe Bridge, Kew
- 43. Chandler Highway Bridge, Alphington
- 44. Burke Road Bridge, Ivanhoe
- 45. Banksia Street, Heidelberg
- 46. Views at Banyule Flats Reserve
- 47. Yarra River and Plenty River confluence, Viewbank
- 48. Finns Reserve suspension bridge, Templestowe
- 49. Westerfolds western-most Rapids Observation Point, Templestowe
- 50. Manor House viewing platform, Templestowe
- 51. Fitzsimons Lane, Templestowe
- 52. Candle Bark Park River Lookout, Templestowe
- 53. Diamond Creek Trail pedestrian bridge, Eltham
- 54. Tikalara Park viewing platform, Templestowe
- 55. Pound Bend Reserve tunnel viewing lookout, Templestowe
- 57. River view, Warrandyte
- 58. Kangaroo Ground-Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte
- 59. 100 Steps Lookout Platform, North Warrandyte
- 60. Views from trails, Warrandyte
- 61. River view, Osborne Peninsula
- 62. Jumping Creek Reserve viewing platform, North Warrandyte
- 63. Sculpture on river, Warrandyte

Heritage sites

This reach of the Yarra is treasured for a number of other **heritage sites** such as:

- 38. Fairlea Women's Prison, Fairfield
- 40. Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital, Fairfield
- 41. Fairfield Boathouse, Fairfield
- 43. Alphington Swimming Pool, Alphington
- 44. Napier Waller house, Ivanhoe
- 45. Tower Hotel, Alphington
- 47. Snelleman House, Ivanhoe
- 48. Bofin Bofin billabong, Bulleen
- 49. Heide I and Heide II, Bulleen
- 50. Yingabeal tree at Heide, Bulleen
- 51. Banyule Homestead, Heidelberg
- 52. Banyule Flats Reserve, Viewbank
- 53. Monsalvat, Eltham
- 54. Garambi Baan Laughing Waters Residency Projects, Laughing Waters

Tourist destinations include:

- Heide Museum of Modern Art, Bulleen
- Warrandyte township
- Warrandyte State Park

Key community activities include:

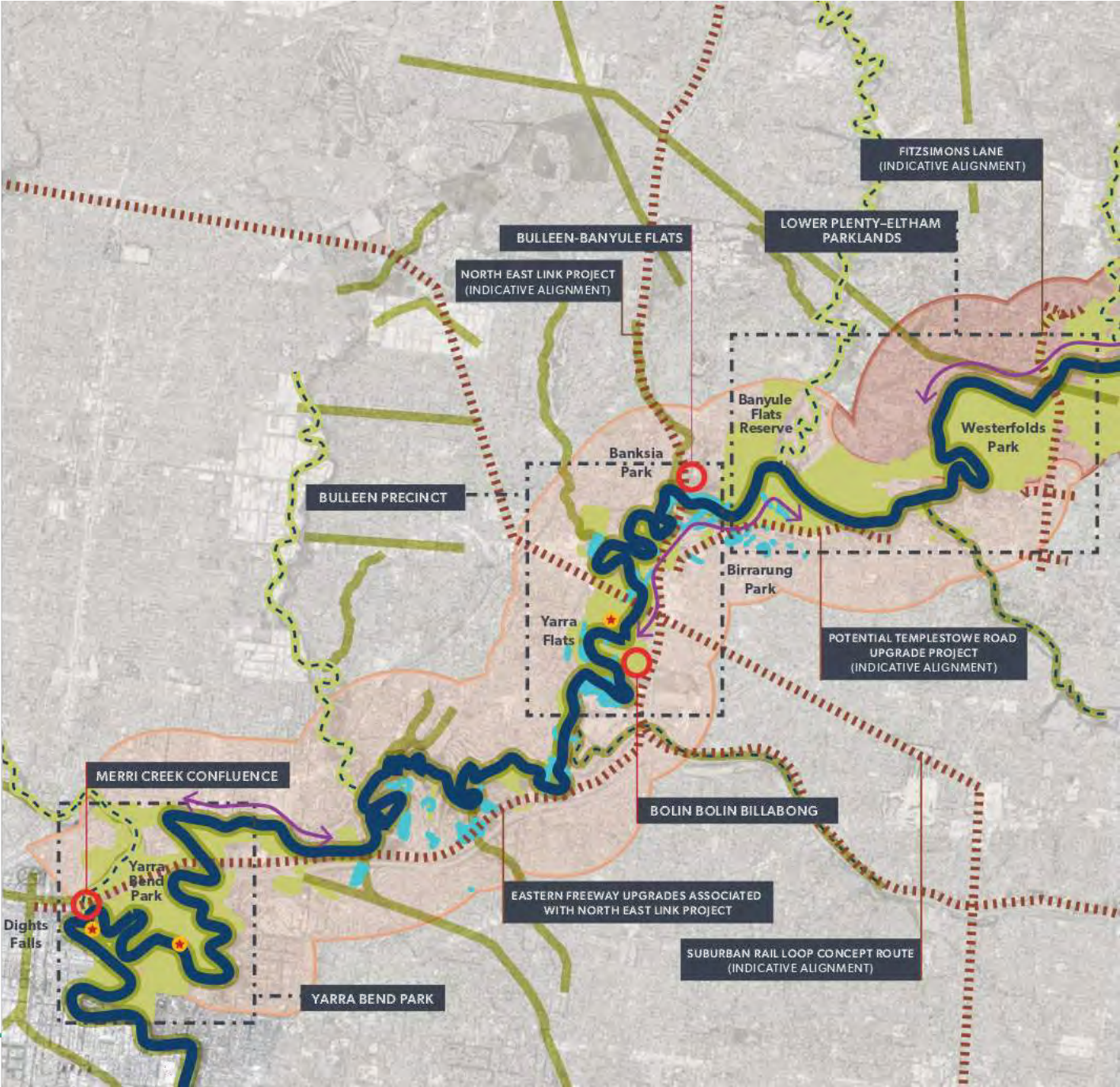
- Twilight Sounds, Heidelberg
- Kids Arty Farty Fest and Grand Parade, Heidelberg
- The Trail Running Series, Yarra Bend
- Run Warrandyte, Warrandyte
- Warrandyte Festival, Warrandyte

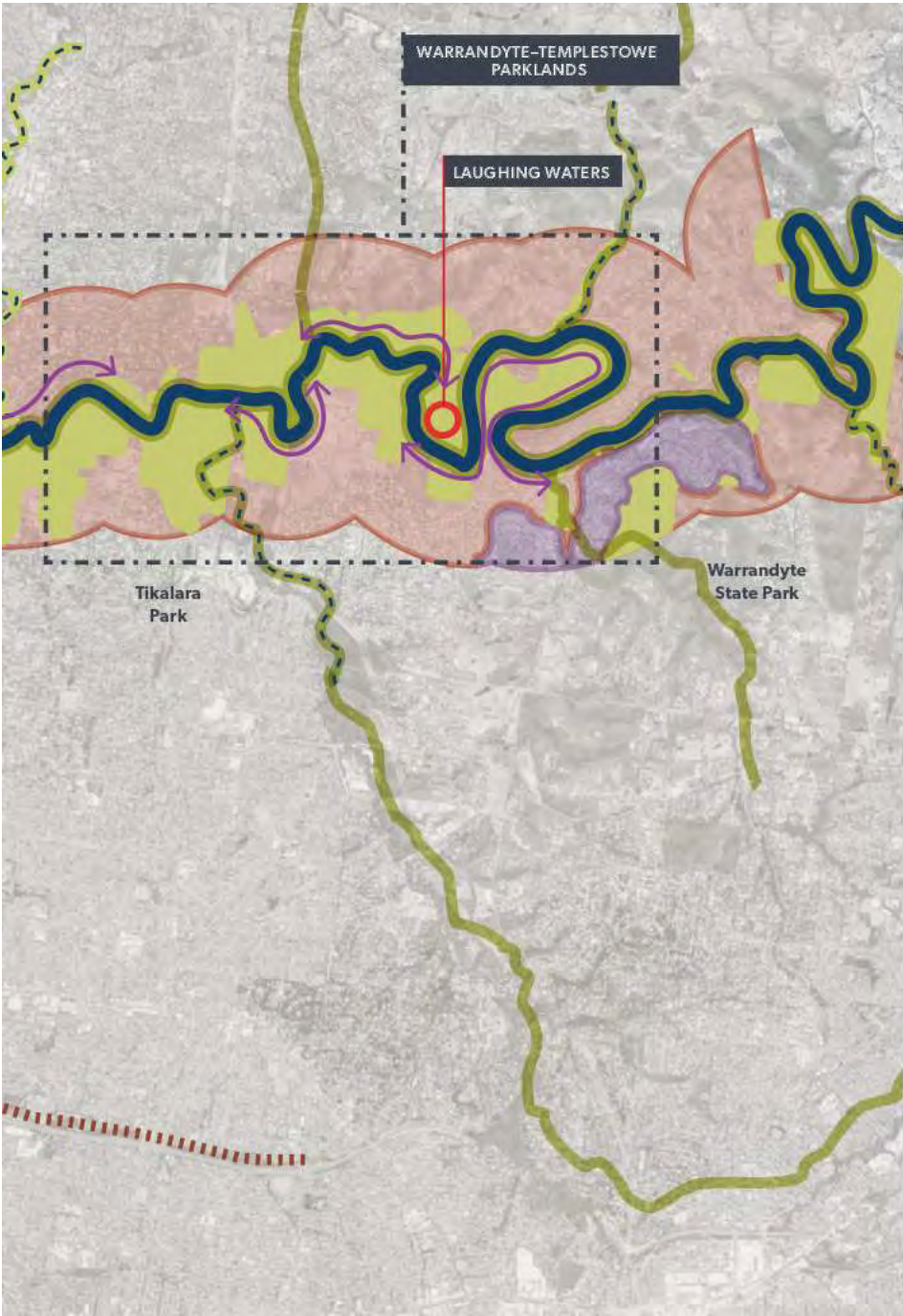
- Astronomical Society of Victoria Star Gazing Night, Westerfolds Park
- Boulevard Christmas Lights, Ivanhoe
- Warrandyte Riverside Market, Warrandyte
- Heide Makers Market, Banksia Park Bulleen
- Fairfield Farmers Market, Alphington

MAP 10. SUBURBAN
REACH FUTURE
DIRECTIONS

Legend

- Wurundjeri site of significance
- Reach boundary
- Significant place
- Wurundjeri area for protection
- Improved access
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Yarra River
- Priority tributary
- Industrial & commercial zone
- Yarra River land
- Transport project (indicative alignment)
- Biodiversity corridor
- Bush residential
- Township
- Suburban





Community priorities and values	Resulting land use directions for the suburban [S] reach:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the river's local parklands and trails to improve continuous access, increase biodiversity and enhance river health. 	S 4, S 5, S 6, S 16, S 17, S 18 and S 22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate our spiritual connection to the river and its surrounds. 	S 5 and S 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish new habitat for endangered birds, fish and wildlife. 	S 2, S 3, S 12, S 13, S 18, S 19, S 22 and S 23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employ collaborative planning processes for development to ensure changes are for the benefit of the river and the advantage of all in the community, not just the few. 	S 4, S 5, S 16, S 17 and S 22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate to provide innovative immersive experiences with nature by expanding natural river tracks and creating environmental playgrounds along the corridor. 	S 2, S 4, S 5, S 6, S 16 and S 17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities for community education and connection to Wurundjeri knowledge and cultural practice and significant sites. 	S 5 and S 7

Directions for future land use and development in the next 10 years

The land use framework in the suburban reach sets out the future directions for private and public land over the next 10 years. This will assist in achieving the Yarra Strategic Plan performance objectives and ultimately the aspirations of the 50 Year Community Vision and the *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)*.

These are the suburban (S) land use directions.

Yarra River land	PO (Part 1) *
S 1 Ensure decision making for land use, development and land management is guided by the Yarra Protection Principles set out in the <i>Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017</i> . **	PO1, PO2, PO3, PO4
S 2 Protect and enhance native vegetation to provide habitat connections between conservation areas, and along the Yarra River and its tributaries.	PO1
S 3 Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
S 4 Design visitor facilities and boat launch sites to be sensitively incorporated into their natural surrounds.	PO3, PO4
S 5 Coordinate approaches to landscaping, wayfinding and the provision of visitor facilities to encourage people to view the Yarra River as one living and integrated natural entity.	PO3, PO4
S 6 Maintain diverse park landscapes that connect people to the variety of past uses and enable a wide range of visitor experiences.	PO2, PO3
S 7 Partner with recognised Traditional Owners to investigate ways to reflect and celebrate the story of the ancient Yarra River and its people in the design and landscaping of public spaces and parklands.	PO2, PO3

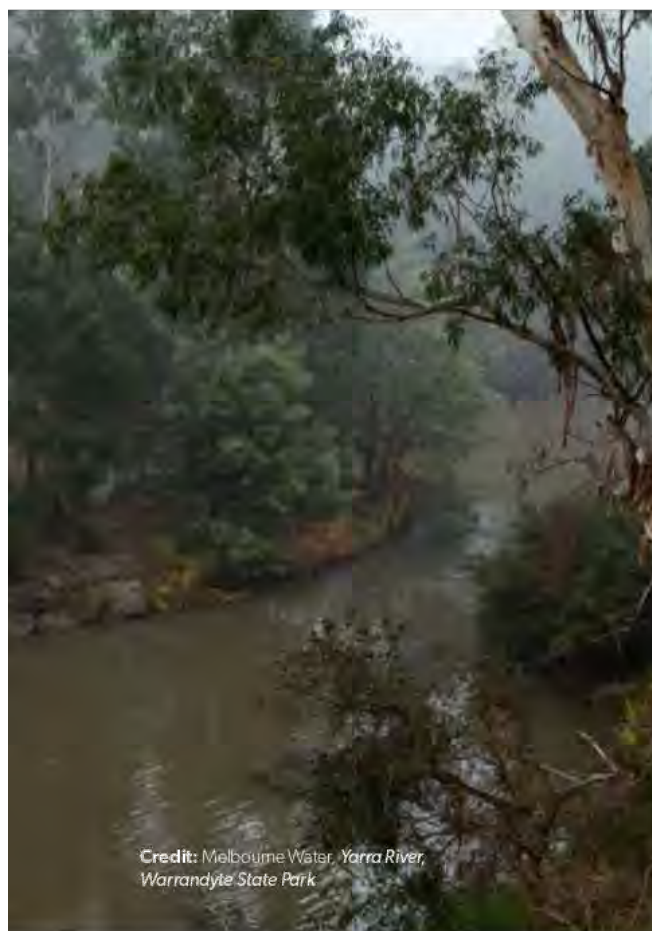
*Alignment with performance objectives in Part 1 ** Decision making can be supported by applying the decision-making framework outlined in Appendix D.

Bush residential		
S 8	Ensure development is screened from view from the Yarra River (and key viewing locations) by native tree canopy and understorey planting.	PO1, PO4
S 9	Ensure development is sited and designed to maintain and enhance the Yarra River's secluded and natural environment.	PO1, PO4
S 10	Apply permanent planning controls to prescribe mandatory building heights and setbacks, to protect landscape and environmental values, and ensure new development is set back from adjoining parklands and conservation areas.	PO1, PO3, PO4
S 11	Design buildings to respect the Yarra River's sensitive landscape setting.	PO4
S 12	Protect and enhance native vegetation to provide habitat connections between conservation areas and along the Yarra River and its tributaries.	PO1
S 13	Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
S 14	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4

Warrandyte township		
S 15	Apply permanent planning controls to prescribe mandatory building heights and setbacks to protect the Yarra River landscape corridor and ensure development maintains the heritage character of the township.	PO2, PO4
S 16	Ensure new development in the activity centre (on the Yarra River's southern side) creates a positive interface with the Yarra River landscape corridor and facilitates public access to the river where appropriate.	PO3, PO4
S 17	Improve public space and visitor facilities to enhance the Yarra River's role as a community focal point.	PO3
S 18	Plant additional native species to strengthen the riverbank environment and improve landscape character and views to the Yarra River from Yarra Street.	PO1, PO4
S 19	Encourage native planting to create links to the Yarra River's ancient ecology and cultural heritage.	PO1, PO2
S 20	Apply integrated water management principles to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection.	PO1
S 21	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4

Suburban		
S 22	Protect and enhance native vegetation – along biodiversity corridors, through parklands, private gardens and local street networks – to provide habitat connections between conservation areas and to enhance the community's sense of connection to the riverside environment.	PO1, PO3
S 23	Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
S 24	Apply permanent planning controls to prescribe mandatory building heights and setbacks, to protect landscape and environmental values, and ensure new development is set back from adjoining parklands and conservation areas.	PO1, PO3, PO4
S 25	Design buildings to respect the Yarra River's sensitive landscapes and key views and ensure they sit below the height of the tree canopy.	PO4
S 26	Protect and reinforce a strong tree canopy across surrounding ridgelines to conceal views of buildings from the river and its parklands.	PO1, PO3, PO4
S 27	Apply integrated water management principles to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection.	PO1
S 28	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4

Suburban reach – significant places



Warrandyte – Templestowe parklands

The public parklands between Warrandyte and Templestowe are of immense environmental, social, cultural and heritage value. These parklands present a range of opportunities to deliver on the community's aspirations in the suburban reach. The natural bushland character typical of these parklands supports local biodiversity and provides opportunities for the community to connect with nature. Tributaries including Andersons, Stony, Mullum Mullum and Diamond creeks, which flow through these parklands, provide important links for biodiversity and community access.

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation has nominated Garambi Baan (Laughing Waters) as an area for priority protection. This has been an important gathering place for tens of thousands of years as well as an important site for growing and harvesting food. Significantly, historic Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung iuk (eel) traps remain at the site and are actively maintained by the corporation with Parks Victoria.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Fill gaps in the network of parklands along the river and enhance activity nodes and connections between recreational trails through these parklands.
- Investigate opportunities for cross-river connections that will facilitate improved access to the river and parklands from local recreational trail networks. A key initiative includes Manningham City Council's project to extend the Main Yarra Trail from Tikalara Park to Warrandyte.
- Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to investigate ways to protect cultural values associated with Garambi Baan (Laughing Waters).
- Provide safe visitor access to the heritage-rich landscapes within Warrandyte State Park. Create new recreational trails and deliver interpretative signage to connect visitors with the mining heritage of the region.
- Protect and upgrade significant buildings and sites, such as Pontville Homestead and Pettys Orchard on the south side of the river, and Birrarung House and River Bend House in the Laughing Waters precinct on the north side. Investigate options for sensitive reuse to help fund restoration projects and protect heritage values in line with community expectations.
- Improve camping facilities at Longridge Park.





SUBURBAN REACH – SIGNIFICANT PLACES

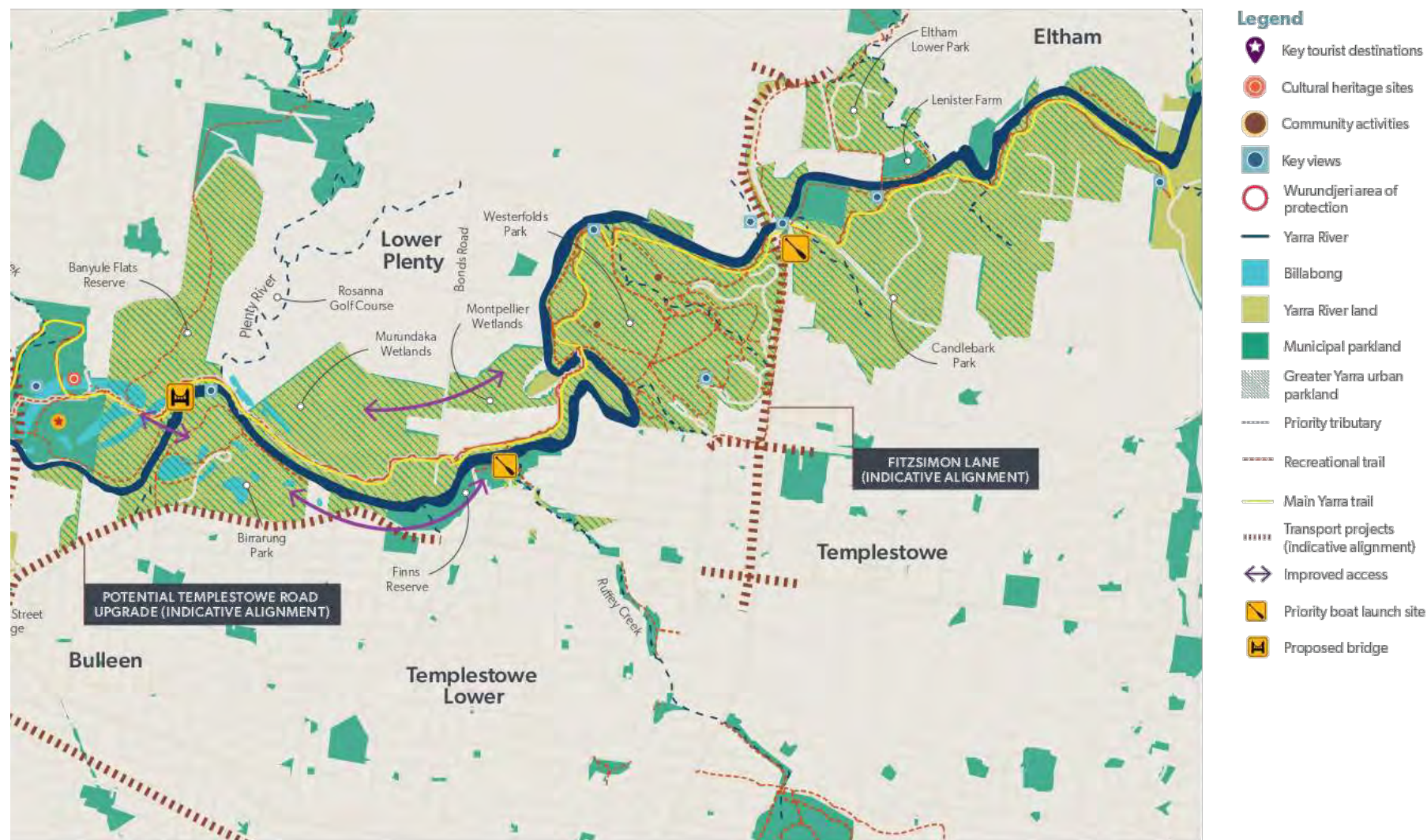
Lower Plenty – Eltham Parklands

This section of the suburban reach includes a network of parklands and conservation areas with high environmental and cultural value. Connected via the Main Yarra Trail, the parklands are an important recreational asset, offering a diverse range of Yarra River experiences. There is great potential to improve recreational trails and access, establish new habitat and broaden community enjoyment of the Yarra River through a range of experiences, including nature-based recreation. The Warringal Parklands and Banyule Flats on the northern side of the river are of state conservation significance due to the extensive stands of wetland vegetation and important waterbird populations.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Improve connections to and between parklands and improve access and connection to the Yarra River. This includes consideration for pedestrian and cyclist bridge crossings proposed in the draft Yarra River – Bulleen Precinct Land Use Framework Plan, which will support regional access to the local area.
- Coordinate work across Murundaka and Montpellier wetlands and investigate opportunities to expand wetlands and coordinate works with neighbouring land managers and areas. Continue to work with the local community to support their stewardship role. Consider visitor access to the sites whilst maintaining strong environmental protection and enhancement programs.
- Rehabilitate land at the end of Bonds Road, removing weeds, revegetating riverbanks and creating river access and viewing opportunities.
- Develop a biodiversity and conservation management and improvement plan for the floodplain and riparian areas adjacent to the Yarra River, including investigating opportunities to protect and improve platypus and powerful owl habitats.
- Protect the significant environmental, cultural and landscape values of the Plenty River and its confluence with the Yarra River, located within the Rosanna Golf Club site.
- Improve opportunities for paddle sports at Westerfolds Park.
- Implement (priority) initiatives identified in Nillumbik Shire Council's Eltham Lower Park Masterplan (2008) and additional landscape works and approved initiatives as reviewed in 2020.







Yarra River – Bulleen Precinct

The Yarra River – Bulleen Precinct comprises the stretch of river through Lower Templestowe, Heidelberg and Bulleen, which is home to parklands and special places with distinct natural and cultural values, including the Bolin Bolin Billabong and the Heide Museum of Modern Art.

DELWP is currently preparing the Yarra River – Bulleen Precinct Land Use Framework Plan to guide future land uses and connections for the precinct. Informed by the protection principles in the Act and the Yarra 50 Year Community Vision, the plan will be complementary to the broader regional framework set out in the Yarra Strategic Plan. The framework plan will identify where future active sporting facilities can be located. It will also include consideration of development on private land adjacent to the river.

Bolin Bolin, meaning 'place of many lagoons' in Woi-wurrung language, is part of a highly significant cultural and ecological landscape of wetlands and floodplains. Under natural conditions these billabongs would fill with water when the Yarra, Birrarung, periodically overflowed its banks and reconnected with the surrounding country. Eels (iuk) and other fish would come into the billabongs with the flowing water, providing plentiful supply for the Woi-wurrung people when the flood waters receded. However, water extraction, channel erosion and modifications, as well as drought and climate change, have prevented many of these billabongs from filling each year as they would have in the past.

Credit: Inge King
Rings of Saturn by Inge King,
Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
Commissioned through the Heide Foundation with significant assistance from Lindsay and Paula Fox 2005
© Estate of Inge King

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Deliver the North East Link, including an interchange at Manningham Road and a range of improvements to pedestrian and cycling paths and active sporting facilities, such as the Templestowe Road Soccer Facilities.
- Explore potential upgrade of Templestowe Road.
- Explore options to improve community facilities such as those identified in Manningham Council's Yarra River Concept Plan 2019.
- Explore a new pedestrian and cycling bridge across the Yarra River at Yarra Street, Heidelberg and further downstream improve connections and infrastructure for the Main Yarra Trail and Darebin Creek Trail.
- Expand public parklands for recreational and conservation purposes, including protecting the environmental and cultural values of Yarra Flats and creating improved visitor facilities for the Heidelberg Artists' Trail.
- Protect the environmental and cultural values of Banyule Flats.
- Protect the environmental and cultural values of the Bolin Bolin Billabong, including continued program of restoring natural water flow regimes into the billabong.
- Investigate opportunities to improve wetland watering regimes for Annulus, Banyule Flats and Bolin Bolin billabongs to meet ecological watering objectives, and to improve ecosystem services, as well as cultural and social values (as per *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018*).

To inform the final framework plan for this precinct, the Minister for Planning has appointed the Yarra River – Bulleen Precinct Advisory Committee, requesting that the committee conduct public hearings and provide recommendations on a final land use framework to be delivered in 2021.



Yarra Bend Park

As the largest area of natural bushland near the city, Yarra Bend Park is important to both the river and Melbourne’s community. It is a key location for land and water-based recreation and includes the historic Fairfield and Studley Park boathouses as well as active recreational and sports facilities. This area is also home to a colony of nationally-threatened grey-headed flying-foxes.

Yarra Bend Park is an important Kulin meeting place and has been nominated as a site of significance by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. The park includes the site of the former Aboriginal

- School and Aboriginal Police Station and the Merri Creek confluence, which is designated as a priority area for protection by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.
- Opportunities for future projects and alignment:**
- Improve visitor facilities and educational information at the grey-headed flying-fox colony.
 - Improve sporting facilities in the Fairlea precinct of the park.
 - Improve infrastructure and facilities at key visitor locations.

- Enhance and protect existing vegetation and habitat links, particularly along the banks of the Yarra River and Merri Creek.
- Develop nature play areas to encourage families to connect with the environmental and cultural heritage values of the park.
- Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to investigate ways to protect the cultural values associated with Yarra Bend Park.





Inner city reach

INNER CITY REACH 50-YEAR COMMUNITY VISION

Our Yarra River, Birrarung, is a thriving river for our thriving city.

It provides a unique place of transition, both spiritually and physically. Here, the river and its treasured banks and backdrops are Melbourne's meeting place – an inclusive and iconic place for connection, celebration, recreation and learning.

Our love for its vast and expanding green spaces and clean waters provide a healthy habitat for all.

Land use analysis

The Yarra River is an iconic part of central Melbourne. It is a place where people of all backgrounds – locals and visitors – have come together for generations. For thousands of years the Yarra, Birrarung has been home to important cultural places for Traditional Owners, including Yarra Falls, confluences with the Maribyrnong River and Merri Creek, Dights Falls, and the sites where Federation Square and Yarra Park (including the Melbourne Cricket Ground [MCG]) are now located).

While no Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) has been formally appointed downstream of Merri Creek, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong/Boon wurrung people are acknowledged as having an interest in this land.

Colonial settlers arriving in the 1800s depended on the river, particularly as a harbour. There are many visible reminders of the Yarra's rich maritime history including goods sheds, cranes, dry docks, warehouses, wharves and vaults dotted along the lower part of the river.

Today a modern and growing cityscape weaves along and around these important sites. Surrounding the river, the booming city of Melbourne has emerged, now supporting diverse communities and the livelihoods of a 5 million-strong population. Parklands line much of the river today, providing a highly valued landscape setting within the dense urban environment. With population growth expected to put high demand on housing, infrastructure and development in the inner-city reach over the next 10 years, it is vital that the Yarra's parklands continue to provide respite from the city while protecting and strengthening urban biodiversity.

The Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, which is adjacent to the river, is one of the world's leading botanic gardens and a centre of excellence for horticulture, science and education. The gardens are admired as a living work of art with picturesque vistas extending over 38 hectares – across lakes, sweeping lawns and arrays of garden beds – providing a haven for local and overseas visitors. For over 170 years the gardens have contributed to Melbourne's liveability and witnessed the city's changing history, society and character while providing a home for major events and daily experiences.

The river in this reach supports a helipad that offers tours and charter flights and other air services. The river is also the focus for on-water events including the Moomba festival, rowing regattas, dragon boat racing and the Melbourne Festival.

There is a mix of land uses in this reach, including extensive areas designated for commercial activity. *Plan Melbourne* identifies a number of activity centres near the river that support a range of commercial, residential and community land uses and are focal points for future development.

Parts of the inner city reach are experiencing significant change. New land uses and development are changing the built form and character of the Yarra River's edge. Change is intensified at the Docklands and Fishermans Bend urban renewal precincts, and is also occurring in other renewal areas in central Melbourne, Southbank, Northbank, South Yarra, Cremorne, Richmond and Abbotsford.

Existing projects in this reach include:

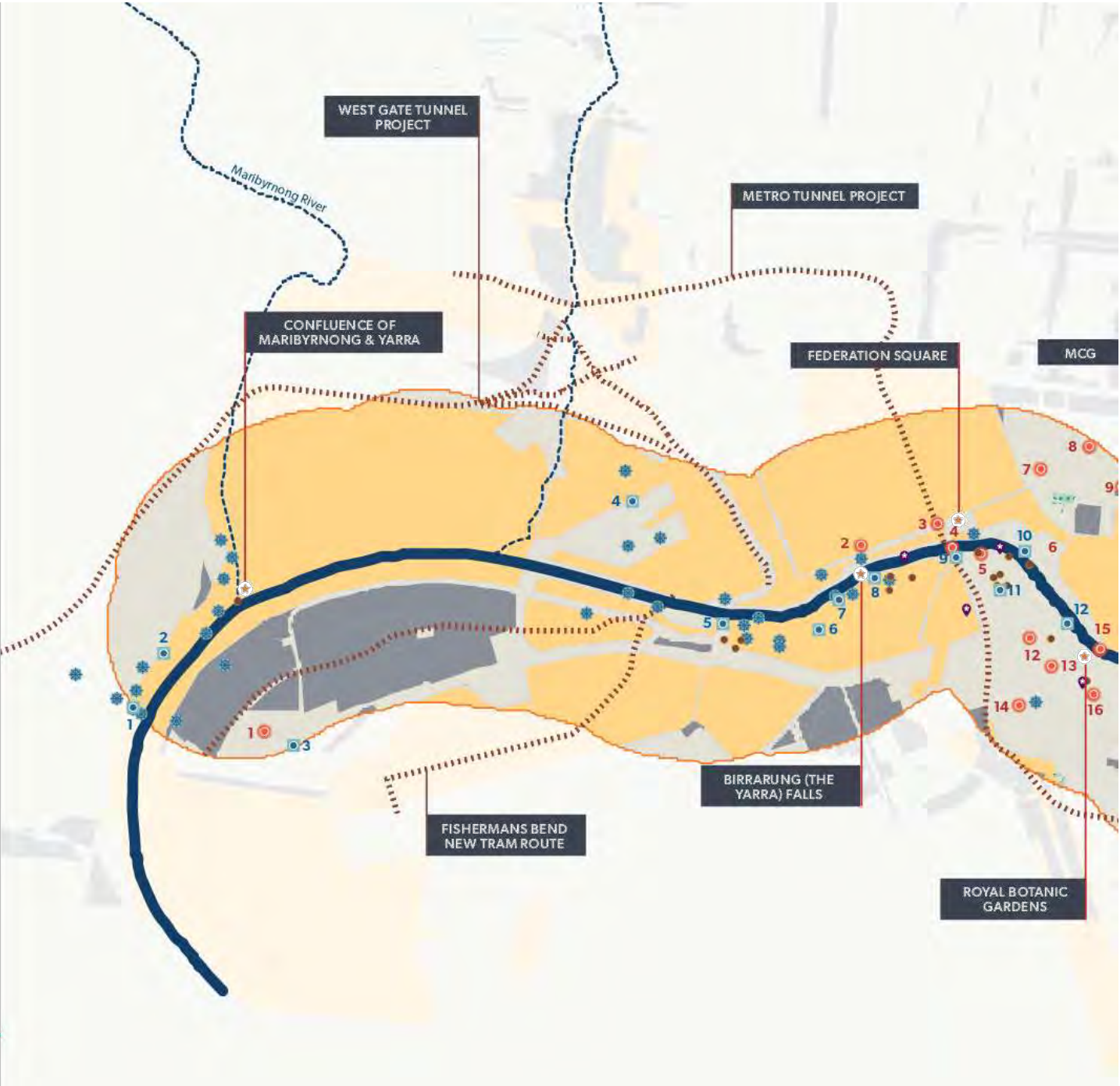
- Melbourne's Docklands is an urban renewal project reconnecting central Melbourne with its historic waterfront. Now two-thirds complete, it spans 200 hectares of land and water on the north side of the river and comprises residential, commercial, entertainment, sporting and events spaces. Designed to celebrate the waterfront, Docklands provides continual public access with 20–30 metre wide promenades for north-facing waterfronts and 6–20 metre wide promenades for south-facing waterfronts. Development plans are in place for the various precincts that front the river.
- *The Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne Gardens Master Plan 2020–2040* will guide changes at the gardens over the next 20 years. The master plan addresses the challenges of climate change, increased recognition of Aboriginal cultural values and protection of the State Botanical Collection.
- The plan *Land Use Framework Plan Inner Metropolitan Region* will include strategies for population growth, jobs, housing, infrastructure, major transport improvements, open space and urban forests. This is one of six plans that are being prepared for the Melbourne metropolitan region.
- Fishermans Bend urban renewal area is Australia's largest urban renewal project covering approximately 480 hectares on the south side of the Yarra River. By 2050, it will be home to approximately 80,000 residents and provide employment for up to 80,000 people.
- The Metro Tunnel is nine kilometres of twin rail tunnels passing under the Yarra River. Five new underground stations will be constructed, with a completion date of 2025. The top of the twin tunnels is around 12 metres below the riverbed where it crosses under the river on the east side of the Princes Bridge.
- The West Gate Tunnel Project will deliver a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge, providing a second river crossing, quicker and safer journeys, removing thousands of trucks off residential streets, improving pedestrian and cycling paths and creating new parklands.



MAP 11. INNER CITY REACH CONTEXT

Legend

- Key tourist destinations
- Cultural heritage sites
- Community activities
- Key views
- Maritime heritage site
- Site of Aboriginal cultural significance
- Recreational trail
- Reach boundary
- Yarra Strategic Plan area
- Yarra River
- Priority tributary
- Other tributary
- Industrial & commercial zone
- Urban forest
- Municipal parkland
- Yarra River land
- Key area experiencing development
- Transport project (indicative alignment)
- High-quality riparian vegetation





Sites of Aboriginal cultural significance

While no Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) has been formally appointed downstream of Merri Creek, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong/Boon wurrung people are acknowledged as having an interest in this land.

- Confluence of Merri Creek and the Yarra**
 Important camp site and meeting place for the Kulin.
- Dights Falls**
 Birrarung crossing place where a canoe was not required.
- Confluence of Gardiners Creek and Yarra River**
 These waterways provided food including plants, eels, fish, mussels and waterfowl as well as being traditional camping places.
- Corroboree Tree Burnley Park**
 This huge, ancient, River Red Gum once served as a marker of clan territories, and also a place for gatherings and celebrations (corroborees).
- Royal Botanic Gardens**
 The Tromgin lagoon, at what is now the Royal Botanic Gardens, was an important source of eels.
- MCG and Yarra Park**
 Significant ceremonial ground used until the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people were displaced from Melbourne city.

- Federation Square**
 Traditional meeting place of the Kulin.
- Birrarung (the Yarra) Falls**
 Natural rock barrier formed a waterfall separating salty tidal water from the fresh water and provided a crossing point. The falls were blasted away in the 1880s to make way for Queens Bridge.
- Confluence of the Maribyrnong and Yarra rivers**
 High-resource area in the swampy salt flats, with higher ground on the western side for meeting and trade with other Kulin groups.

Key Views

- River views, Spotswood
- River views, Port Melbourne
- Viewing Platform - section of old Westgate Bridge, Westgate Park Picnic Ground
- River views from restaurants, Docklands
- Charles Grimes Bridge, Wurundjeri Way
- Spencer Street Bridge, Melbourne
- King Street Bridge, Southbank
- Queens Bridge, Melbourne
- River view, Princes Bridge
- Birrarung Marr, Melbourne
- River view, Queen Victoria Memorial Building
- Swan Street Bridge, Alexandra Avenue
- Morell Bridge, South Yarra
- Hoddle Bridge, Punt Road
- Church Street Bridge, South Yarra
- Richmond Park, Richmond
- Yarra River Reserve, South Yarra
- Herring Island viewing platform, Herring Island
- Como Park North, South Yarra
- Loys Paddock Reserve, Burnley
- Yarra River frontage, Alexandra Avenue
- MacRobertson Bridge, St George's Road
- Gardiners Creek Bridge, Monash Freeway
- Fairview Park, Hawthorn
- Wallen Road Bridge, Burnley
- Hawthorn Bridge, Bridge Road and Burwood Road
- Victoria Bridge, Victoria Street and Bakers Road
- Dickinsons Reserve-Walmer Street wetland foot bridge, Andrews Reserve Trail
- Collins Bridge, Gipps Street
- Johnston Street Bridge, Abbotsford
- Yarra Bend Park - Upper Loop Area - Dights Falls
- 'Wominjeka wall', Abbotsford
- Dights Falls, Abbotsford

Cultural Heritage sites

1. West Gate Park, Port Melbourne
2. Customs House, Melbourne
3. Flinders Street Station, Melbourne
4. Princes Bridge, Melbourne
5. Boat sheds, Yarra Bank
6. Speakers' Corner, Yarra Bank
7. Treasury Gardens, East Melbourne
8. Fitzroy Gardens, East Melbourne
9. Mosslenoch, East Melbourne
10. Little Parndon,
11. Yarra Park, East Melbourne
12. Domain Parklands, Melbourne
13. Government House, Kings Domain, Melbourne
14. Shrine of Remembrance, Kings Domain, Melbourne
15. Alexandra Avenue, South Yarra
16. Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
17. Morrell Bridge, South Yarra
18. Robin Boyd House, South Yarra
19. Melbourne High School, South Yarra
20. Church Street Bridge, South Yarra
21. Como Park, South Yarra
22. Como House, South Yarra
23. 42 Wallace Ave, Toorak
24. Trawalla, Toorak
25. Toorak House, Toorak
26. 22 St Georges Road, Toorak
27. Ilawarra, Williamstown
28. Edzell, Toorak
29. Burnley College of Horticulture, Richmond
30. Invergowie, Malvern
31. 1 Shakespeare Grove, Hawthorn
32. Kew Tram Depot, Kew
33. McIntyre House, Kew
34. Studley Park residential estate, Kew

35. Convent of the Good Shepherd, Abbotsford
36. Dights Falls, Abbotsford
37. Studley Park, Kew
39. Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum, Fairfield
42. Yarra Bend Golf Club House, Fairfield
46. The Boulevard, Port Melbourne

Maritime heritage sites

- Fishermans Bend timber wharves, Fishermans Bend
- Melbourne Steamship Building, Melbourne
- Dudley Street Victoria Dock, Docklands
- Flagstaff Gardens, Melbourne
- Port of Melbourne, West Melbourne
- Turning basin, Yarra River
- Yarra South Wharf
- Yarra Swinging Basin
- Queens Wharf, Melbourne
- The Island Diversion Cutting, Yarra River
- Australian Wharf, Docklands
- Duke & Orrs Dry Dock, South Wharf
- Sandridge Railway Line Bridge, Melbourne
- Former Port of Melbourne Authority Building, Melbourne
- Queens Warehouse, Docklands
- Mission to Seamen, Docklands
- Cargo sheds and wharves, Docklands
- Princes Walk Vaults, Melbourne
- Victoria Dock, Docklands
- Berth No 5, North Wharf, Docklands
- Melbourne Cricket Ground, East Melbourne
- Cooke Canal, Melbourne
- Polly Woodside, South Wharf
- Central Pier, Docklands

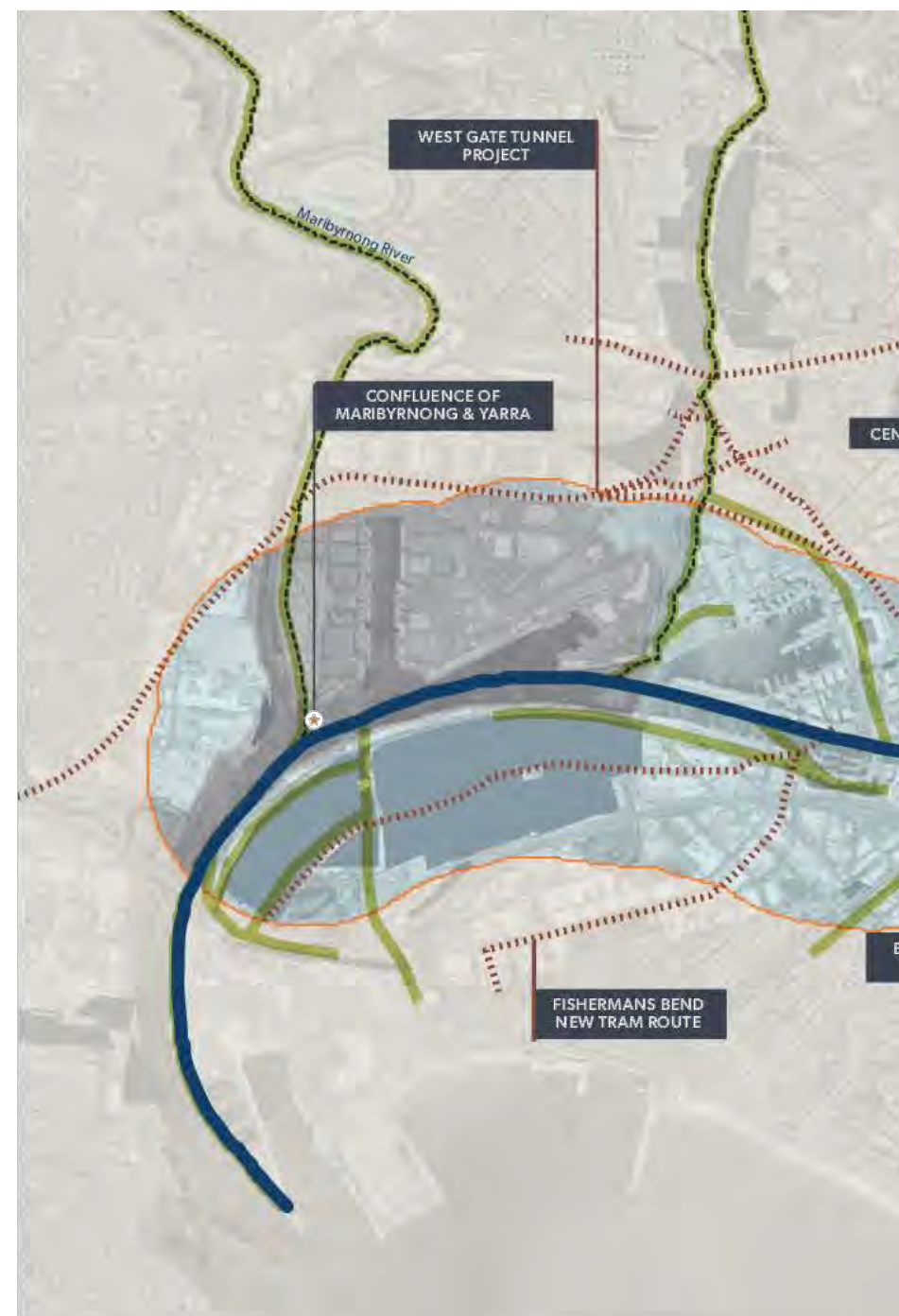
Tourist destinations include:

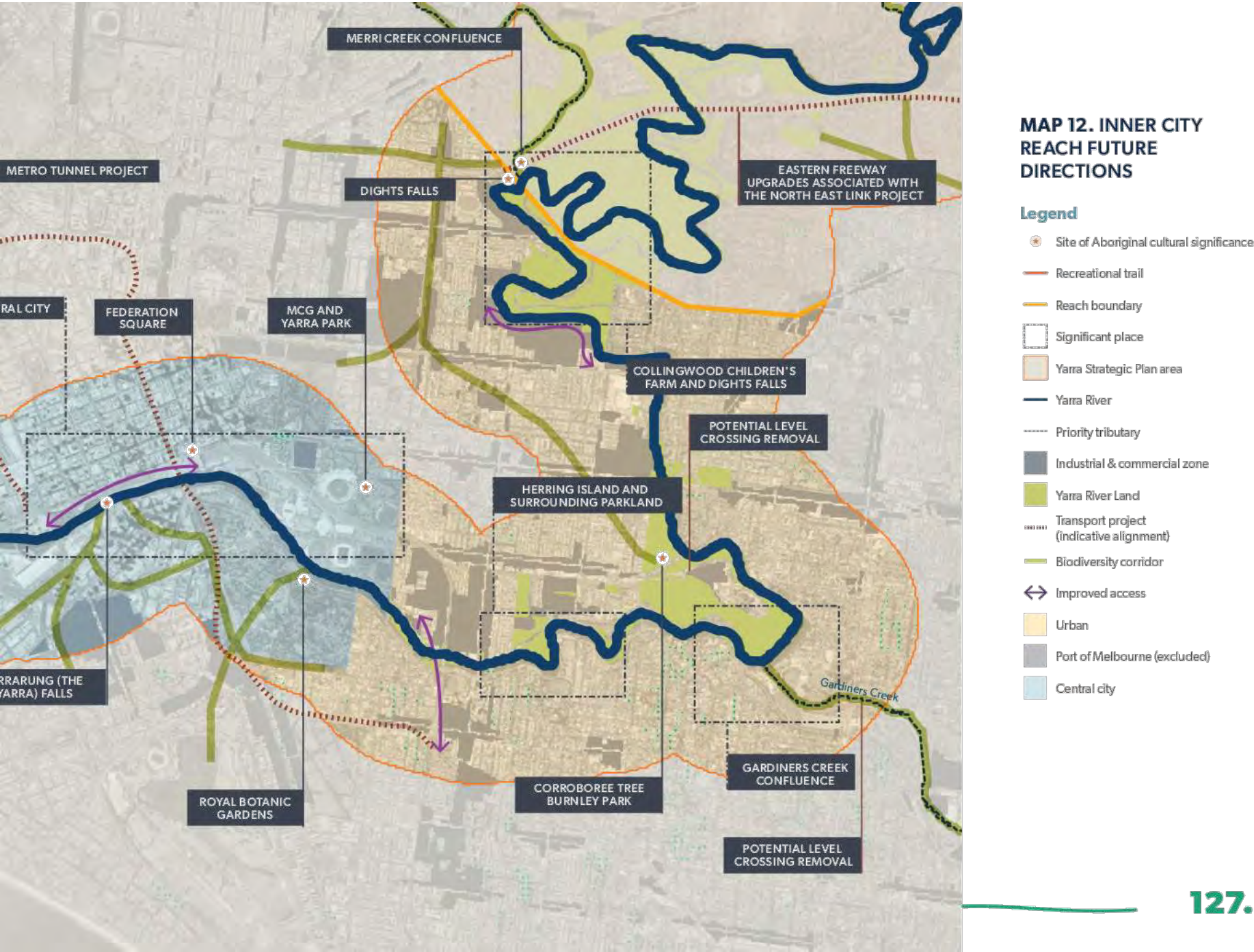
- Dights Falls, Abbotsford
- Abbotsford Convent

- Collingwood Children's Farm, Abbotsford
- Herring Island, South Yarra
- Royal Botanic Gardens
- Alexandra Gardens
- Southbank, Southbank
- Arts Precinct, Melbourne

Key community activities include:

- Midsunma Festival, South Melbourne
- Mothers Day Classic Fun Run
- Australia Day Weekend, Melbourne
- Outdoor Cinema, Melbourne
- Herring Island Art Festival
- Sustainable Living Festival, Melbourne
- White Night, Melbourne
- New Years Eve Celebrations
- Richmond Football Club Family Fun Day, Richmond
- Carols at Como Park
- Inflatable Regatta, Yarra River
- St Patrick's Day at South Wharf
- Oktoberfest Street Party, Melbourne
- Night Noodle Market, Birrarung Marr
- Suitcase Rummage, South Melbourne
- River Graze Melbourne Food and Wine Festival
- Moomba Festival, Melbourne
- We Can Walk It Out annual walk/run for Women, the Tan Track
- Run for the Kids, Melbourne
- Yarra River Community Welcome Dinner, Melbourne
- Ice Slide on Southbank
- Burnley Half Marathon, Burnley
- Chinese New Year Regatta
- Australian Henley Regatta
- Head of the Yarra Regatta
- Vegan Mini Market, Abbotsford Convent
- Collingwood Children's Farm Farmers Market





Community priorities and values	Resulting land use directions for the inner city (IC) reach:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate the river as the centrepiece of Melbourne, acknowledging its role in our history and how it drives the city's continued success. 	IC 5, IC 6, IC 7, IC 13 and IC 20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position the river as a symbol of learning and respect for Aboriginal culture, deepening community understanding of the sacred role it plays for Traditional Owners. 	IC 6 and IC 21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster innovative urban waterway and open space planning to ensure the needs of our growing city are balanced with the future environmental health of the river. 	IC 3 to IC 11, IC 17, IC 19 and IC 20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand our connected network of treasured Yarra parklands, creating better access and more spaces for relaxation and recreation. 	IC 2, IC 3, IC 9, IC 11 and IC 20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Showcase the river as a place for sustainable and creative events, with a focus on culture, sport, ecology and education. 	IC 2, IC 5, IC 6 and IC 20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position the river as an environmental educator, helping communities better understand its role in keeping Victoria healthy in the past, present and into the future. 	IC 5, IC 6 and IC 20

Directions for future land use and development in the next 10 years

The land use framework in the inner city reach sets out the future directions for private and public land over the next 10 years. This will assist in achieving the Yarra Strategic Plan performance objectives and ultimately the aspirations of the 50 Year Community Vision and the Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra).

These are the inner city (IC) land use directions.

Yarra River land	PO (Part 1)*
IC 1 Ensure decision making for land use, development and land management is guided by the Yarra Protection Principles set out in the Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017. **	PO1, PO2, PO3, PO4
IC 2 Manage Yarra River land to support a range of recreational opportunities that meet the needs of the community, improve access to the river and foster a sense of refuge from urban surrounds.	PO3, PO4
IC 3 Protect and enhance native vegetation to provide habitat connections between conservation areas, and along the Yarra River and its tributaries.	PO1
IC 4 Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
IC 5 Coordinate approaches to landscaping, wayfinding and the provision of visitor facilities to encourage people to view the Yarra River as one living and integrated natural entity.	PO3
IC 6 Partner with recognised Traditional Owners to investigate ways to reflect and celebrate the story of the ancient Yarra River and its people in the design and landscaping of public spaces and parklands.	PO2, PO3

*Alignment with performance objectives in Part 1 ** Decision making can be supported by applying the decision-making framework outlined in Appendix D.

Urban		
IC 7	Protect and enhance native vegetation – along biodiversity corridors, through parklands, private gardens and local street networks – to provide habitat connections between conservation areas, and to enhance the community's sense of connection to the riverside environment.	PO1, PO3
IC 8	Select appropriate plant species to help restore ecological values, improve biodiversity and habitat, and contribute to urban cooling and greening.	PO1, PO4
IC 9	Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
IC 10	Apply integrated water management principles to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection.	PO1
IC 11	Provide additional open space and expand pedestrian and cycling trails to improve recreational opportunities and strengthen community connection to the river.	PO3
IC 12	Ensure development is set back from the river's edge and strengthen the vegetation buffer along the waterway to ensure tree canopies retain their dominance within the landscape. Ensure development is also set back from adjoining parklands and conservation areas to maintain views.	PO1, PO3, PO4
IC 13	Protect heritage buildings as important features of the Yarra River landscape.	PO2, PO4
IC 14	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4

Central City		
IC 15	Protect and enhance native vegetation – along biodiversity corridors, through parklands, private gardens and local street networks – to provide habitat connections between conservation areas, and to enhance the community's sense of connection to the riverside environment.	PO1, PO4
IC 16	Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high-priority tributaries.	PO1
IC 17	Ensure new buildings are designed to complement the Yarra River's landscape and maintain views along the Yarra River.	PO4
IC 18	Minimise additional overshadowing of the Yarra River, its banks and adjacent public open space to maintain amenity year-round.	PO3, PO4
IC 19	Apply integrated water management principles to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection.	PO1
IC 20	Deliver parkland and promenade connections along riverbanks in the city centre, activating the Yarra while providing opportunities for relaxation and recreation.	PO3
IC 21	Partner with recognised Traditional Owners to investigate ways to reflect and celebrate the story of the ancient Yarra River and its people in the design and landscaping of public spaces and parklands.	PO2, PO3
IC 22	Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the <i>Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas</i> .	PO4

Inner city reach – Significant places



Abbotsford Convent, Collingwood Children's Farm and Dights Falls

Abbotsford Convent (a nationally significant heritage site), Collingwood Children's Farm and Dights Falls are key sites of cultural, environmental and historical significance within the inner city reach. Together they form a major community and cultural hub, with significant opportunity for improvement.

Dights Falls was constructed in the 1840s to provide water to the adjacent flour mill, one of the first in Victoria. The falls and the adjacent area around the confluence of Merri Creek is a site of significance and an area identified for protection by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

Dights Falls is highly significant to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people for its association with past ways of life and for its spiritual significance. For centuries the area has been used for meetings and ceremonies and continues to be the site of cultural gatherings today. Significantly, Dights Falls was also the first meeting point between colonists and the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung in 1803.

Dights Falls is also a site of state biological significance. This part of the river has high native fish richness and diversity, with 12 species of freshwater fish being recorded, including rare species such as spotted galaxias and pouched lamprey. Effective operation of the fishway, which is installed at the weir, is critical to the lifecycles of fish such as the Australian grayling and short-finned eel.

The former Convent of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in Abbotsford was founded in 1863. The site, now known as the Abbotsford Convent, is a thriving arts, cultural and educational precinct. Together with the adjacent Collingwood Children's Farm (originally farmed by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd but now separately

managed), the convent is protected by a Heritage Overlay in the Yarra Planning Scheme.

The Collingwood Children's Farm was established in 1979 on eight hectares of land between the convent and the Yarra River. The farm's mission is to provide positive opportunities and experiences through gardening and farming for people experiencing adversity. The farm is popular with families and young children who particularly enjoy the opportunity to encounter farm animals. There is also a well-established community garden and monthly farmers' market. Recent proposals to improve the farm include a focus on regenerative agriculture and establishment of native food gardens that will support programs to raise community awareness of traditional agricultural knowledge systems and Aboriginal history.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Prepare an Abbotsford River Precinct Structure Plan for the river between Dights Falls and Victoria Street (Action 20 of the *Yarra River Action Plan*) to improve the Main Yarra Trail and provide safer access to the river for a wider range of users (and include all-abilities access). Partner with recognised Traditional Owners to identify and promote cultural and heritage values in the precinct.
- Expand and update visitor and education facilities for the Abbotsford Convent, Collingwood Children's Farm and Dights Falls and provide improved site interpretative information about the significance of these sites and their relationship to the Yarra River.
- Improve interpretation opportunities at Collingwood Children's Farm and support the ongoing partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to deliver this important caring for Country project.

- Enable Collingwood Children's Farm and the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to continue caring for the wellbeing of Country through the delivery of programs and projects to revegetate the Yarra River riparian zones and improve habitat connectivity.
- Explore opportunities to minimise impacts to the threatened grey-headed flying-foxes and birds that come into contact with the hanging slalom markers for white water kayaking.
- Improve connections between key sites, the river and the Main Yarra Trail, including providing all-abilities access at the Gipps Street and Walmer Street bridges and connecting the recreational trail between Gipps Street and Flockhart Street.
- Implement programs and projects to revegetate and maintain riparian zones and improve habitat connectivity. (See those outlined in the Yarra City Council's *Native Vegetation Action Plan 2020–2024* and the Collingwood Children's Farm landscape and vegetation management plan.)



Legend

- Key tourist destinations
- Cultural heritage sites
- Community activities
- Key views
- Wurundjeri site of significance
- Wurundjeri area of protection
- Yarra River
- Yarra River land
- Municipal parkland
- Greater Yarra urban parkland
- Priority tributary
- Recreational trail
- Transport projects (indicative alignment)
- Improved access

Gardiners Creek confluence

The confluence of Gardiners Creek with the Yarra River has been identified as a significant place in the inner city reach. The creek has been substantially modified by drainage works and construction of support structures for the Monash Freeway, with the resulting concrete channel and shading impacting significantly on the ecological values of the creek. While this impact will be long-lasting, it is possible that elements of the area's environmental and cultural heritage could be reintroduced as a way of reinterpreting this important area.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Investigate options for improved environmental outcomes around the Gardiners Creek confluence. This includes implementing initiatives outlined in:
 - Stonnington City Council's *Gardiners Creek Masterplan 2020*, which includes a revegetation strategy for the creek
 - Boroondara City Council's *Urban Biodiversity Strategy 2013–2023*, which nominates this area as a potential biodiversity hotspot.
- Work with recognised Traditional Owners to provide interpretive information and artwork communicating the cultural heritage and historic significance of this area, both contemporary and pre-colonisation.
- Maintain and strengthen indigenous planting along the Yarra Boulevard and around the edge of Kevin Bartlett Reserve to improve habitat links.



Legend

- Cultural heritage sites
- Key views
- Yarra River
- Yarra River land
- Municipal parkland
- Greater Yarra urban parkland
- Recreational trail
- Improved access



Credit: Melbourne Water.
Cyclist bridge across the Yarra River at the confluence with Gardiners Creek.

Herring Island and surrounding parkland

Herring Island was created in 1928 by cutting a new river channel through the former Burnley quarry to help control flooding. With revegetation and other rehabilitation works, the island has become significant as a wildlife haven. Together with Burnley Harbour and its wetlands, McConchie Reserve and Loys Paddock further upstream, these parks and reserves provide important habitat in this stretch of the river. Herring Island, which also includes picnic grounds, a sculpture trail and art gallery, has the potential to be improved as a tourist attraction and to provide an opportunity for people to experience the Yarra in a relatively natural state, close to the city.

The Stonnington City Council's Yarra River Biodiversity Linkages project has seen extensive replanting along this section of the river, as well as stormwater management, viewing platforms and interpretive information.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Investigate options to improve access to Herring Island and upgrade visitor facilities, including the sculpture park, and promote Herring Island as a place where visitors can connect with nature, heritage and culture for gatherings or events.
- Provide a greater sense of connection from Herring Island to Como House and north to Burnley Harbour, including interpretive information about the history of these sites and their connection to the Yarra River.
- Improve access to Burnley Harbour and wetlands, and Loys Paddock, and improve biodiversity values in these areas.



Credit: Melbourne Water,
Herring Island

INNER-CITY REACH - SIGNIFICANT PLACES

Central city

In the central city, between Punt Road and Docklands, the river passes numerous places of significance to Melbourne and the State of Victoria. This includes sports stadiums, the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain, Birrarung Marr and the arts precinct of Southbank.

Key sites of Aboriginal Cultural significance within the central city include: Federation Square, a traditional meeting place of the Kulin; the MCG in Yarra Park, a significant ceremonial ground that was used up until displacement of Aboriginal people from the city; and the Birrarung (Yarra) Falls near Queen Street, where a waterfall and natural rock barrier separated the river's fresh water from salt water, also providing a crossing place until it was blasted away in the 1880s. Significant sites on the southern side of the river include the Trompsin lagoon, at what is now the Royal Botanic Gardens, and the former Yarra Aboriginal Village Mission that was just east of the lagoon.¹⁸

The river plays a central role in Melbourne's daily life and provides an iconic backdrop for Melbourne's international profile. A significant number of projects, which are currently in the planning or implementation phases, will transform the river's landscape within central Melbourne.



Credit: Melbourne Water, *Dolphins in the Yarra River, central city.*

These are some of the projects that will transform the river.

- Melbourne City Council's *Yarra River – Birrarung Strategy* (2019) is an overarching planning framework for the river between Punt Road Bridge and the Bolte Bridge. Organised around four themes of ecology, culture, place and movement, the strategy will guide collaborative actions and development. Strategic directions include: transforming the hard edges of the river banks with vegetation; collaborating with Traditional Owners to help tell the living culture story of their connection to the Birrarung; prioritising Northbank renewal to create an inviting destination adjacent to the city; and sustaining the civic focus by encouraging activation that supports an inclusive public waterfront.
- *Domain Parklands Master Plan 2019–2039* will guide sustainable management of the parklands located between the south bank of the river and one of the city's major thoroughfares, St Kilda Road.
- *Birrarung Marr Master Plan* (in preparation) will guide development, management and use of this important open space on the northern banks of the river.
- Southbank Promenade upgrades are improving this area as a key cultural and arts destination with new and expanded public spaces, extension of urban forest planting, management of commuter cycle traffic, new public art and protection of heritage elements.
- A review of Federation Square is considering ways to deliver a vibrant and attractive precinct with more public and commercial space, encouraging gatherings and providing better access to the river, transport links and sporting and cultural precincts.
- Victorian Planning Authority has prepared a planning framework for the Richmond to Docklands urban renewal precinct, covering the Southbank Arts Precinct and public spaces along the river.

- Melbourne Park, one of the premier sports venues in Melbourne and home of the Australian Open tennis tournament, is in the final stage of a \$972 million redevelopment funded by the Victorian Government. The project includes better connections to public transport and the city, and easier movement into and within the precinct.
- The Royal Botanic Gardens *Melbourne Gardens Master Plan 2020–2040* will guide development of the gardens over the next 20 years. The master plan responds to a warming climate, increased recognition of Aboriginal cultural values, continued care for the State Botanical Collection, new public transport options (Anzac train station), and the evolving role the gardens play in the broader life and health of the city. New projects include enhancements at the gardens' entrances, with a new Birrarung Gate celebrating the Aboriginal landscape and increased recognition of the former connection to the Yarra River.

Opportunities for future projects and alignment:

- Improve the connections between precincts for pedestrians and cyclists to ensure a continuous link from Richmond and South Yarra to the city, and similarly from the Docklands and Fishermans Bend precincts.
- Establish a series of well-connected public spaces along the river's edge between Birrarung Marr and Docklands, which are designed to celebrate its heritage and natural environment and foster a sense of reconnection of the river to the city.
- Set out a coordinated approach to design of the public realm across all precincts to create a sense of continuity along the river's frontage and to reduce visual clutter and support key views.
- Strengthen planting along the river's edge, along key catchment links and the surrounding street network, to enhance greening and biodiversity.

- Reintroduce a natural, riverside landscape character, where possible.
- Express the river's rich history and many stories through interpretive information, public realm design, art and planting.
- Work with Traditional Owners to protect significant places and increase the visual presence of their cultural heritage.
- Express elements of the river's ancient landscape that are no longer visible in the city, such as Williams Creek (which flows under Elizabeth Street), the wetlands that existed within the Docklands area and the Birrarung (Yarra River) Falls.
- Improve the use and navigation of the Yarra River as a transport corridor and place for water-based recreation:
 - » Establish appropriate landings and facilities for commercial and recreational vessels.
 - » Investigate the feasibility of a seasonal or peak period commuter service between Victoria Harbour and the Hoddle Street Bridge.
 - » Improve rowing infrastructure through new landing stages.
 - » Support a civic focus by encouraging activation that offers broader inclusion and supports a public waterfront.
- Investigate ways to activate and reinvigorate public areas where roadways, trainlines and existing buildings severely impact amenity and access along the river corridor.



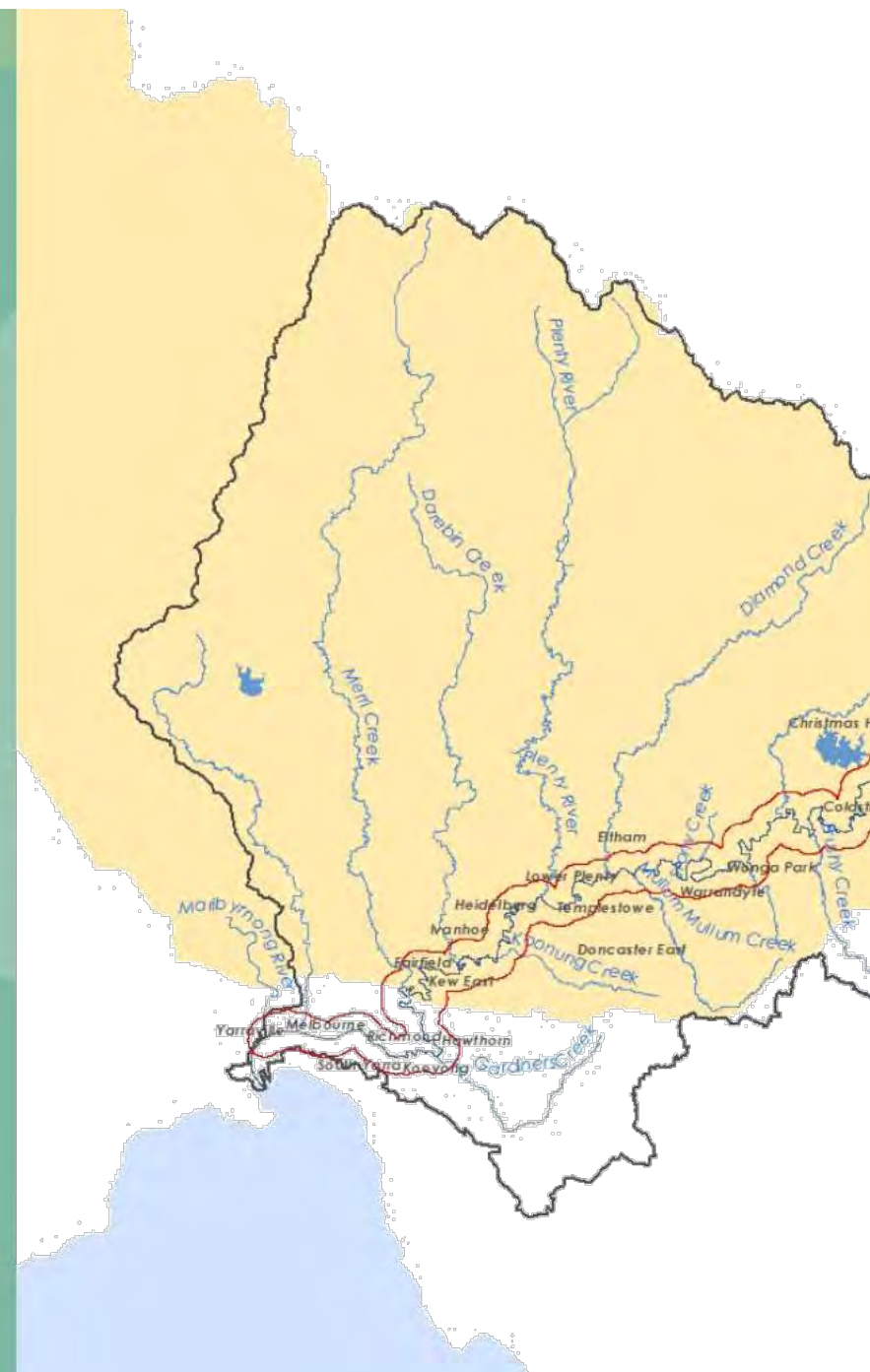
Legend

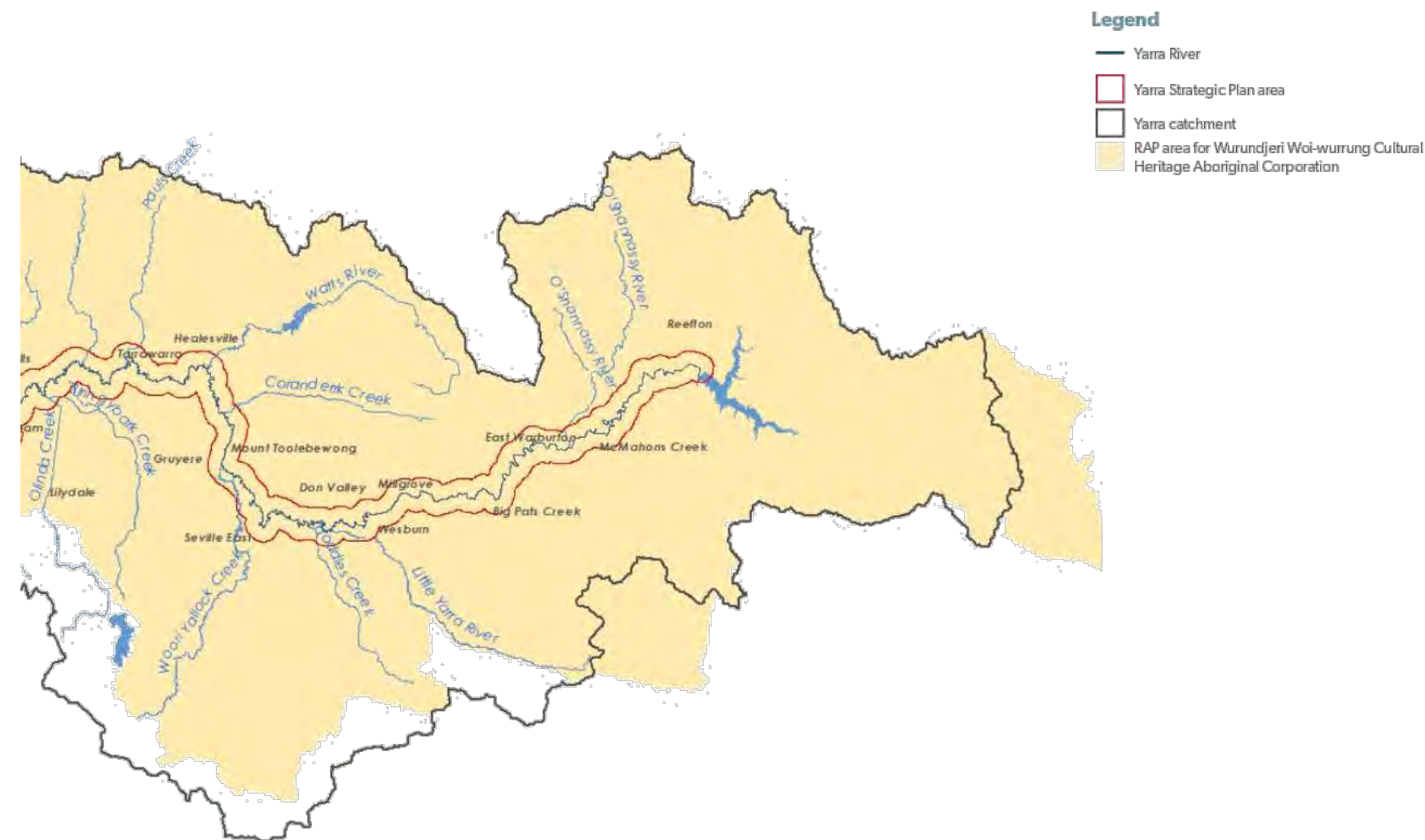
- Key tourist destinations
- Cultural heritage sites
- Community activities
- Key views
- Site of Aboriginal cultural significance
- Yarra River
- Municipal parkland
- Priority tributary
- Main Yarra trail
- Improved access

INNER-CITY REACH - SIGNIFICANT PLACES

APPENDIX A —

Map showing Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) boundary for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation



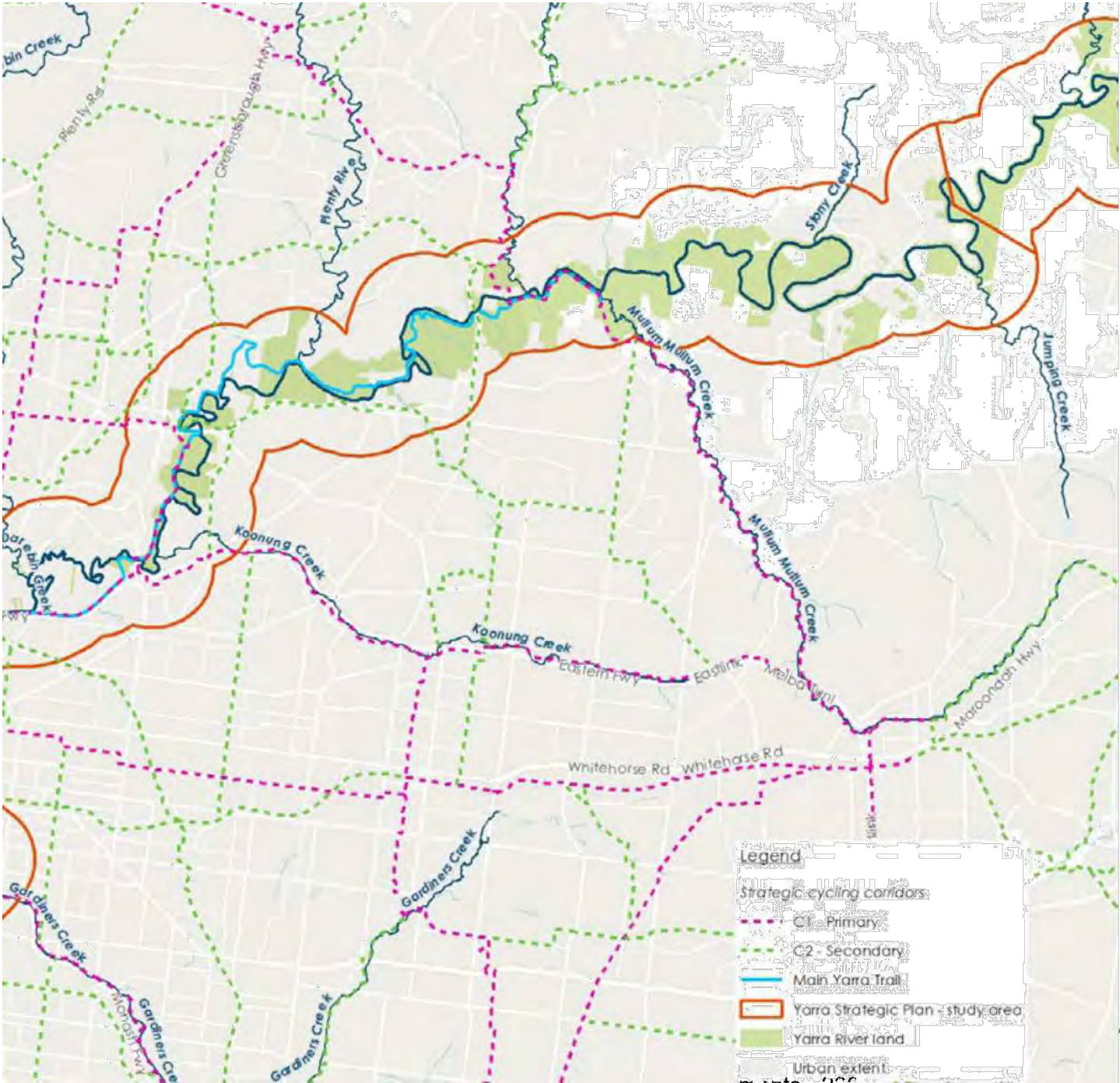


APPENDIX B — Strategic Cycling Corridors

Strategic Cycling Corridors are a key element of the Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-28. They are important routes for transport, linking destinations including the central city, employment clusters, activity centres and other destinations of significance for cyclists. The corridors can be on and off road, on municipal and state roads and are designed to provide a safe, lower-stress cycling for transport experience. Many of the corridors connect to or pass through the Yarra Strategic Plan area.

Investment will prioritise those corridors with the highest levels of demand, and will aim to make cycling on them an attractive mode of transport for people of all ages. An important element of the strategy is to work with local councils to join up strategic cycling corridors on local streets, arterial roads, highways, rail corridors and green spaces, and to support the 20-minute neighbourhood concept, especially for cycling to schools, train stations and activity areas.





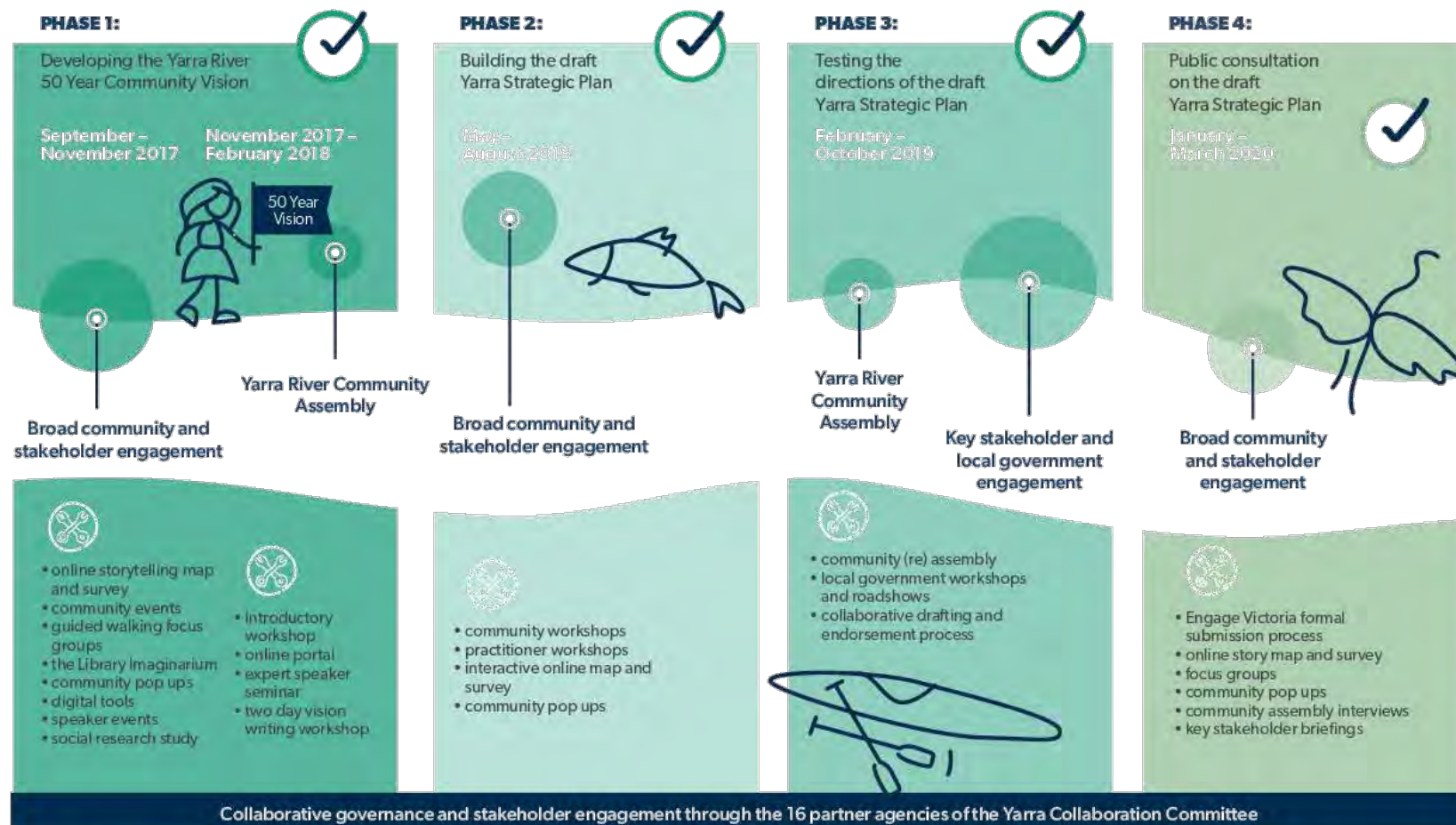


FIGURE 5. Yarra Strategic Plan four-phase engagement strategy

APPENDIX D — Implementation and monitoring of the plan

Implementation of the plan

The Yarra Strategic Plan will come into operation after its approval by the Minister for Water. The 15 state and local government authorities involved in co-designing the plan, in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, will continue to collaborate and work together, with the community, to implement the plan.

An initial 12-month implementation plan has been developed to accompany the Yarra Strategic Plan. The implementation plan:

- incorporates planned and funded projects nominated by responsible public entities that align with the four performance objectives. These projects include capital works, investigations, management plans and strategies, as well as on-ground works and maintenance
- includes funded **priority projects** to quickly begin implementing changes for the river
- draws upon the **decision-making framework** to guide the development and investment in priority and transformative projects
- takes into account existing and relevant strategies and policies (see list available in the documents library on the Imagine the Yarra website).

This 12-month implementation plan will be followed by a rolling three-year implementation plan. The three-year implementation plan will align with the *Healthy Waterways Strategy*, the *Melbourne Open Space Strategy* and the State of the Yarra Parklands Report framework and preparation of local government Council Plans (see **Figure 6**).

The Act specifies that the responsible public entities, which includes organisations represented on the Yarra Collaboration Committee, must report to the lead agency on the implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan (section

43.1). Based on the information provided, the lead agency will prepare an annual report for the Birrarung Council, after which it will be provided to the Minister for Water and tabled before each house of parliament.

Responsible public entities will report to the lead agency on activities outlined in the implementation plan. The annual report will represent the individual and collective contributions to the outcomes of the Yarra Strategic Plan. This reporting framework will ensure that projects affecting Yarra River land are examined by the Birrarung Council, and decision-making is balanced with an appropriate accountability mechanism through annual reporting to the Victorian Parliament.

Lead implementing agency

The Minister for Water will nominate one responsible public entity as the lead agency for implementing the plan. The lead agency will:

- enable the Yarra Collaboration Committee to implement the decision-making framework and deliver actions to achieve the 10-year performance objectives
- prepare the three-year rolling implementation plan in partnership with the Yarra Collaboration Committee
- coordinate the preparation of a consolidated annual report, which will outline progress towards delivering the community vision. The report will be developed using information provided by each responsible public entity. They will then submit the report to the Birrarung Council.

The Birrarung Council – the independent voice of the river

In 2018, the Victorian Government established the Birrarung Council as the independent voice of the river. The council is made up of experts in environmental, legal,

planning, landscape and public administration, and includes Elders of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. Together the council ensure the ongoing protection of the river and deliver on key priorities under the *Water for Victoria plan* and the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrumbidgee) Act 2017*.

The Birrarung Council will review and respond to the annual report, which will outline progress in implementing the plan and the community vision. To ensure appropriate accountability, the Birrarung Council's report will be delivered to the Minister for Water, to be tabled in parliament.

Partnering with recognised Traditional Owners

Traditional Owners have their own governance structures and ways of making decisions. They must be respected, and timelines must incorporate these governance structures and ways of making decisions. Any recognised Traditional Owners with an interest in a Yarra River land related project, program and/or initiative on their Country must be included and engaged with, and only that recognised Traditional Owner group has the right to speak for their Country that has been formally recognised (*Right people for Country*). On land without a recognised Traditional Owner, any Traditional Owner groups with an interest must be engaged with.

It is also important that responsible public entities have in place a Reconciliation Action Plan or mutually agreed alternative agreement that builds a collaborative relationship with the recognised Traditional Owners in planning, decision-making, programs and services across all areas of their organisation, this includes in respect to management of Yarra River lands and projects that may impact Yarra River lands.

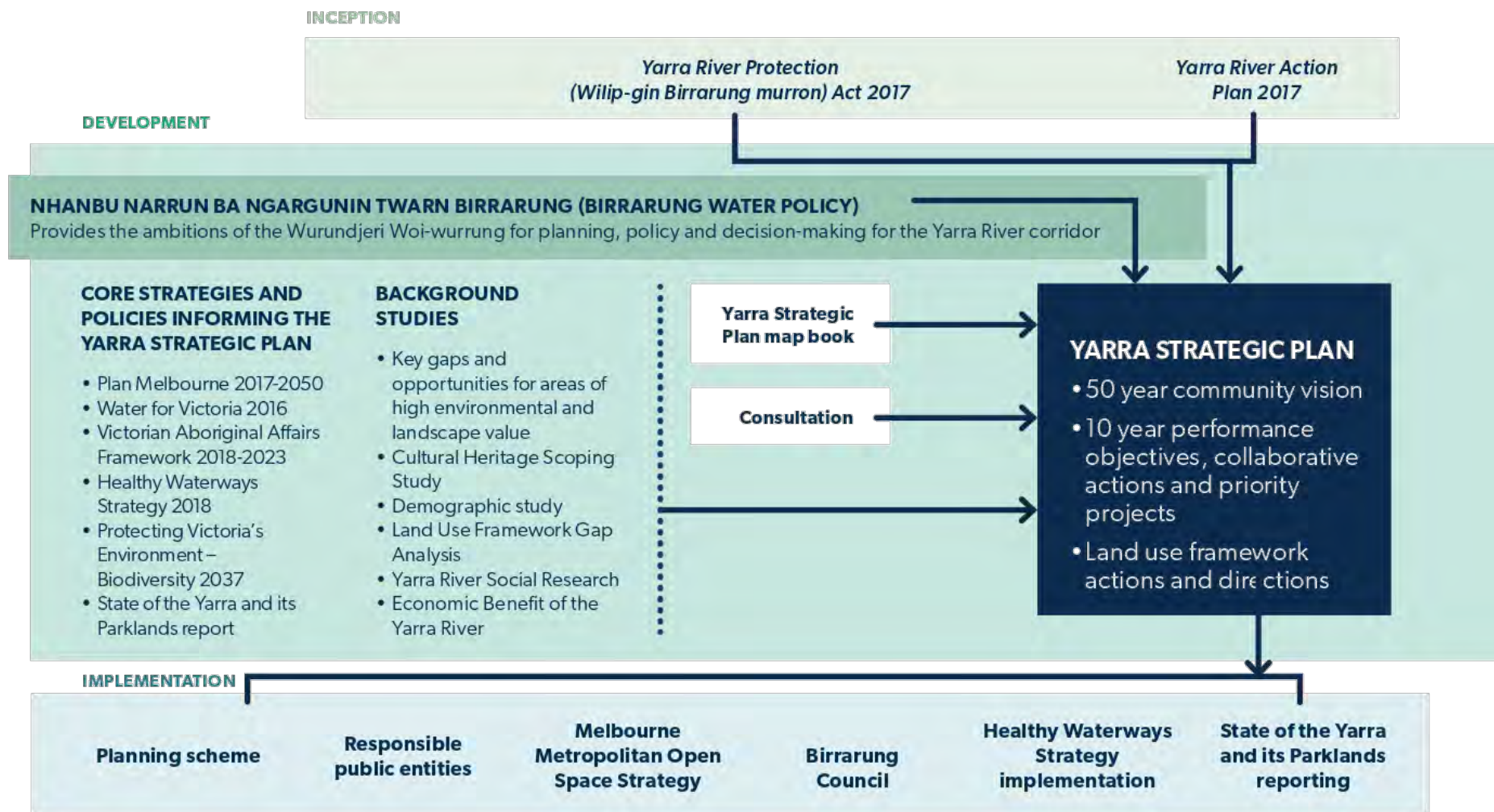


FIGURE 6. Policies and plans that inform development and implementation of the Yarra Strategic Plan

Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) plan

To be consistent with the approach and principles of the international standard ISO 14001 for environmental management systems, regular evaluation of the Yarra Strategic Plan will be required to refine and improve its implementation. This will be achieved through preparation of a monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) plan to assess the impact, appropriateness, effectiveness, efficiency and legacy of the Yarra Strategic Plan.

The MERI will build on the success measures outlined for the performance objectives in Part 1 of the plan. It will detail key performance indicators (KPIs) and key evaluation questions (KEQs) to monitor progress towards meeting the intentions of the 50 Year Community Vision, the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrumbidgee) Act 2017* and the four performance objectives in the plan. The MERI also allows for reporting progress against actions set out in the implementation plan.

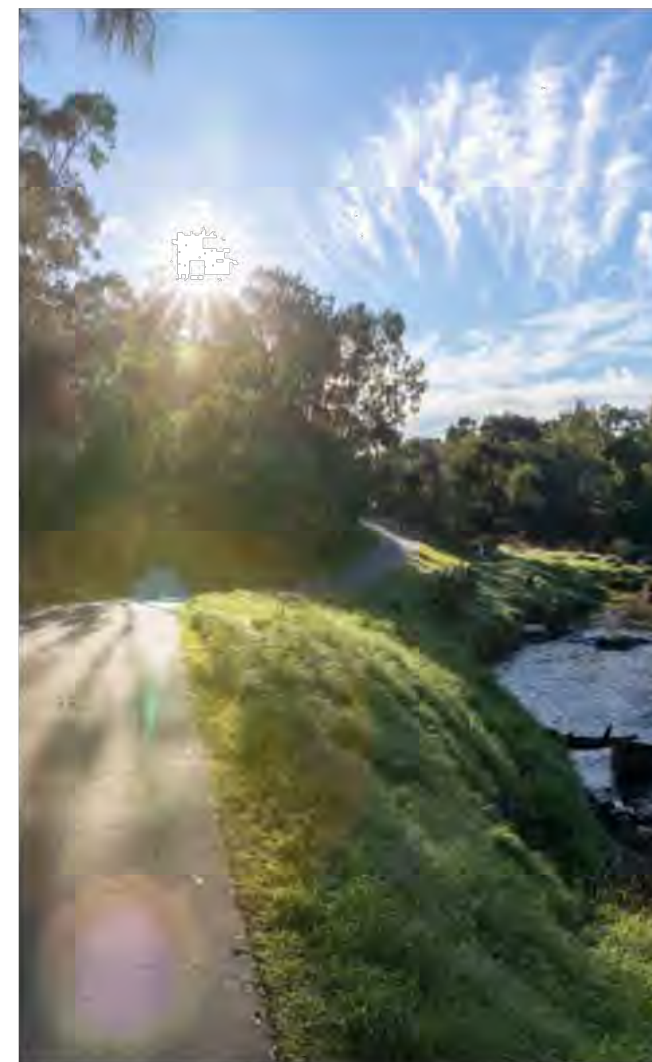
The lead agency will address KPIs and KEQs by collecting and analysing project-level data (reported by funding recipients) as well as collecting information through fit-for-purpose monitoring and evaluation activities.

The MERI will provide:

- a simple program logic that provides a succinct description of the program and elements that will be monitored, evaluated and reported on
- long and short-term targets that are specific, time-bound and measurable to improve knowledge and measure progress
- detailed KPIs and KEQs for each performance objective within the plan
- a set of standard output measures, which reflect the activities to be delivered and reported on
- alignment with the State of the Yarra and Parklands reporting framework and the MERI plans for the Healthy Waterways Strategy and the Port Phillip Bay Environmental Management Plan.

The targets contained in the MERI will provide an accurate ongoing measure and record of efforts to coordinate investment in the Yarra River corridor and will provide clear information to the Birrarung Council and the community about how well the Yarra is being managed.

The MERI, which is to be developed in the first year of implementing the plan will be updated on a rolling three-year basis to align with the rolling three-year implementation plans.





Credit: Melbourne Water,
Abbotsford

APPENDIX E — Decision-making framework

The Yarra Strategic Plan includes a decision-making framework that may be used by responsible public entities to facilitate transparent and coordinated decision-making, including with Traditional Owners, for activities that affect Yarra River land or when performing a function or duty or exercising power that may affect Yarra River land.

The decision-making framework ensures activities and decision-making are consistent with the Act and aligned with delivery of the plan. It embeds the role of Traditional Owners as custodians of the Yarra River through partnership, representation and involvement in planning and decision-making. The framework also enables the development and prioritisation of projects that lead to positive and transformational change and the delivery of the Yarra River 50 year Community Vision, emphasising environmental net gain and aligning with *Nhanbu narun ba ngargunin twam Birrarung* (Ancient Spirit and Lore of the Yarra).

As shown in **Figure 7**, there are three levels of activities and projects for decision-making – routine business activities, local projects and transformative projects.

Note: On Yarra River land on which Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation is the recognised Traditional Owner, no projects or activities may take place without their involvement in the decision-making process. All agreements and proposals will be discussed with the Wurundjeri Water Unit in the first instance. This includes agreements and proposals relating to funding, intellectual property and research, planning scheme amendments, cultural heritage management plans (CHMPs) and on-ground works.

Transformative projects are those larger integrated projects with higher aspirations of delivering transformational change in the river corridor. It was recognised through the consultation process that continuing to deliver routine business activities and local projects is unlikely to be sufficient for protection of the Yarra, given the pressures of population growth, urban development and climate change.

By their nature these transformative projects will require higher levels of collaboration and resourcing to achieve the desired outcomes. Transformative projects will involve multiple partners working across the corridor collectively aiming to address gaps identified by the Yarra Collaboration Committee, Birrarung Council, Traditional Owners, key stakeholders and the community.

Local projects are projects identified in various strategies and plans that align with the Yarra Strategic Plan. Some will be contingent upon additional funding through government programs or collaborative arrangements with other authorities and groups. Local projects will aim for innovation or incremental improvement in delivering (extent, quality or quantity) outcomes and will have local importance, as opposed to providing whole of corridor benefit. It is envisaged that these projects will be more effective with a collaborative approach, for example, involving both public and private landholders in planning and implementing a pest control program.

Routine business activities are those activities authorities undertake as part of their normal business that impact Yarra River land, for example, maintenance works for parklands and reserves. Authorities will adopt a continuous improvement cycle in planning and delivering these routine business activities to allow incremental improvement and alignment with the Yarra Strategic Plan.

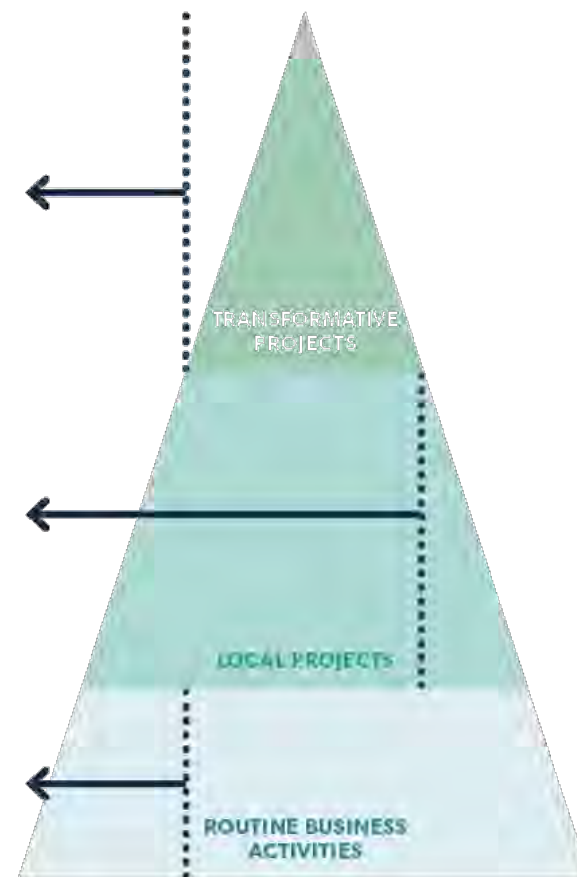


FIGURE 7. Multi-levelled approach to decision making for activities and projects on Yarra River land

There will be occasions when projects with the potential to affect Yarra River lands are put forward by organisations that are not part of the Yarra Collaboration Committee. Assessment of these '**external projects**' against the protection principles will provide a basis for discussion and negotiation with proponents and a process for ensuring alignment with the Yarra Strategic Plan.

Decision-making will be guided through an assessment process that evaluates projects, programs and activities against criteria based on the protection principles of the Act, aspirations of Traditional Owners, the Yarra River 50 year Community Vision and the performance objectives driving the plan. The rigour and effort involved in decision-making will be proportionate to the nature of the activities, scope of potential outcomes and environmental risks involved. The assessment process and decisions arising from it will be auditable to ensure transparency and consistency in the process.

Local projects will be nominated by responsible public entities to be included in the implementation plan. Having been checked against the protection principles of the Act, the entity will provide details of the project to the Yarra Collaboration Committee to identify opportunities to work together, increase net gain and confirm Traditional Owner partnerships.

Transformative projects will also be prioritised through the implementation planning process, which will be done in collaboration with committee members. Again, the committee will identify opportunities to increase net gain and confirm Traditional Owner partnerships, as well as required funding and potential leads for these projects.

A flowchart summarising the process for decision-making is set out in **Figure 8**.

Note that the decision-making framework will not be used for declared projects within the meaning of the *Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act 2009*. However, these major transport projects will follow statutory planning procedures and undertake appropriate assessments as determined by the Planning Minister.

Given the Act and the strategic plan are relatively new pieces of legislation the decision-making framework will be trialled over the first year of implementation to test and adapt the assessment process. After this, it will be evaluated and adjusted to match the needs of the responsible public entities and recognised Traditional Owners. This period of testing will ensure that alignment in decision-making can be managed with available resources, and that the benefits outweigh the costs.

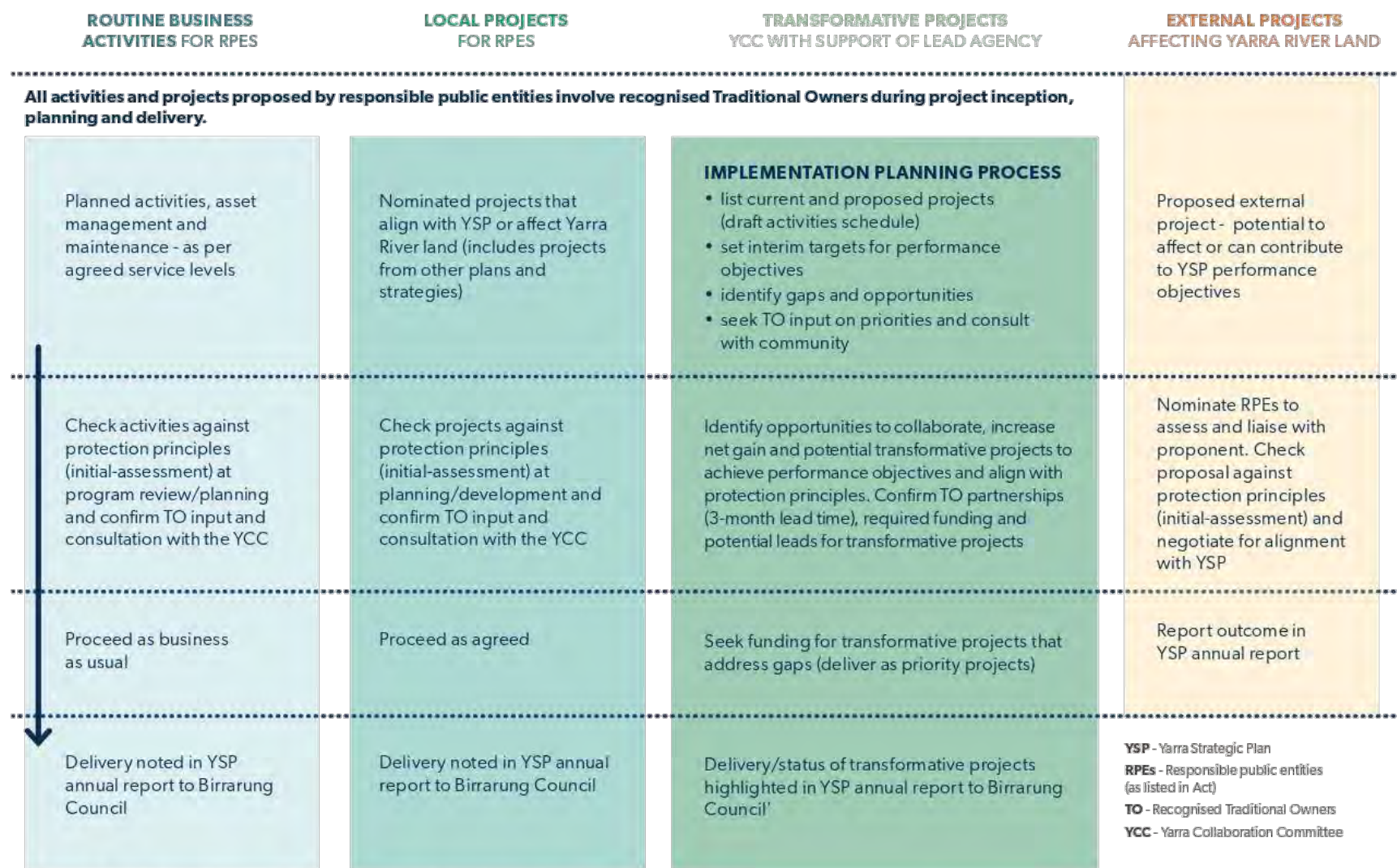


FIGURE 8. Work flow for implementing decision-making for activities and projects on Yarra River land

APPENDIX F — Environmental net gain

The Act's protection principles state that there should be a net gain for the environment in the area of Yarra River land arising out of any individual action or policy that has an environmental impact on Yarra River land.

Under the state's *Biodiversity 2037* policy, the government is committed to achieving an overall 'net gain', expressed as an improvement in the overall extent and condition of native habitats across terrestrial, waterway and marine environments.

Not all habitats or vegetation types will need to be improved or increased to achieve this goal, but overall gains will need to outweigh losses. The most important places to achieve gains and to avoid losses are locations with higher relative contribution to biodiversity benefit.

As part of this plan's decision-making framework, changes in native vegetation will be used as an indicator to assess environmental net gain. Native vegetation as an indicator of environmental condition is relatively easy to conceptualise and standard methods for its assessment and use in net gain accounting have been well tested. However, more comprehensive assessment methods tailored to specific landscapes and activities are being developed as part of the implementation of *Biodiversity 2037*. Ideally, these will resolve some of the complexities of applying environmental net gain in aquatic environments and in urban settings, and can be adopted during the implementation of this Plan.

The Birrarung Council is supporting research for an approach to assess environmental net gain for the Yarra that goes beyond native vegetation indicators. It is expected that outcomes from this research will inform future policy and management decision-making.

This new approach to net gain will look at using restoration ecology principles to generate future ecosystem health that is feasible and realistic. However, this will apply to the cultural landscape, as understood by the Traditional Owners as well as to the physical landscape. This broader understanding of net gain will focus on the health of Country plus the health of connection to Country. The work will investigate measuring net gain through ecological, cultural and social indicators.

Environmental net gain under current state policy is estimated by predicting the difference in native vegetation extent and quality due to actions (improvement and maintenance) against a 'do nothing' scenario (<https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation>). Trained assessors predict gain scores for habitat using models that link management actions to either an improvement or maintenance gain score. The value of each improvement and maintenance gain score is conditional on the current condition of a site and rate of degradation.

Figure 9 illustrates concepts of maintenance and improvement gains for habitat condition over time. Without maintenance, habitat condition deteriorates over time.

The *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP 2017) included in all local planning

schemes in Victoria are collectively referred to as the native vegetation removal regulations. These guidelines set out how native vegetation removal is assessed and describes how offsets are secured. When native vegetation removal is approved, an offset must be secured in accordance with the guidelines. The conditions of approval will specify the offset requirements and that the offset must be secured before native vegetation is removed.

The objective for the regulation of native vegetation clearing is to ensure that there is no 'net loss' to biodiversity as a result of the permitted clearing. This is achieved by applying the three-step approach: avoid, minimise and offset.

The process for assessing environmental net gain will be adjusted and outlined in the implementation plan as state policy evolves.

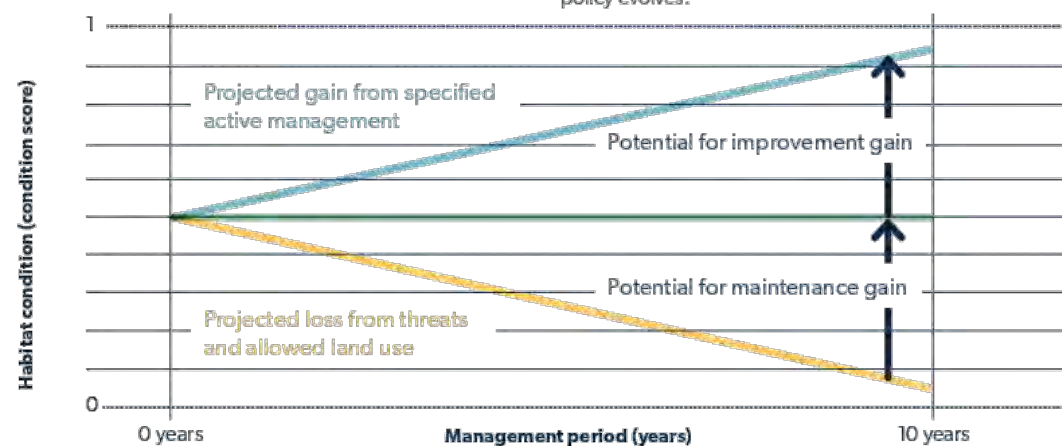


FIGURE 9. Conceptual model of habitat condition with maintenance and improvement gains over time

APPENDIX G — List of actions

Action		Responsibilities and timeframes
Performance Objective 1 - A healthy river and lands		
Stormwater and litter		
1.	Develop a place-based pilot project (in an area where stormwater is threatening Yarra health and amenity) to explore innovative re-use of stormwater <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use stormwater for urban greening, protecting and enhancing the environment • identify opportunities where potable water is being used for watering purposes, and can be substituted with suitably treated stormwater. 	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water and local government medium term (4-7 years)
2.	Implement a Yarra-specific stormwater awareness and behaviour change campaign targeted at reducing litter and contamination entering the Yarra River.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water and local government short term (1-3 years)
3.	Increase education, awareness and regulatory compliance to reduce pesticides and chemicals entering the river (including the impacts of agricultural runoff on water quality in the upper and lower reach).	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, EPA and industry short term (1-3 years)
4.	Develop the integrated water management plan (including bicultural approaches) for the Yarra Catchment to optimise water cycle planning and reduce stormwater pollution into the river.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, local government, Parks Victoria, Transport Victoria and Yarra Valley Water short term (1-3 years)

Detailed decisions about the implementation and timing of actions and projects will be made in line with the normal government policy and budget processes. The government will continue its commitment to rigorous decision-making about initiatives that require funding, statutory amendments or new regulations in line with its economic and fiscal strategy, including the government's long-term financial management objectives. In particular, projects requiring budget funding will be assessed against budget capacity, with business cases and cost-benefit analyses being applied in accordance with government policy.

Funding proposals for actions to be implemented on areas with a recognised Traditional Owner group will include resourcing for that Traditional Owner group to participate.

DELWP is working with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to develop a business case outlining options for partnerships and resourcing the Water Unit to enable implementation of the actions in the plan.

	Action	Responsibilities and timeframes
Septic tanks		
5.	<p>Develop an integrated program to improve management of domestic wastewater in non-sewered areas (includes places serviced by septic tanks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigate the extent and location of wastewater pollution in the Yarra River and its tributaries to guide future projects and actions develop and implement programs (education, compliance and infrastructure improvements) to target areas where domestic wastewater has the greatest impact on water quality. 	<p>Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, Yarra Ranges Council, Nillumbik Shire Council, Manningham City Council, EPA and Yarra Valley Water</p> <p>medium term (4-7 years)</p>
Billabongs and wetlands		
6.	Investigate options to restore billabongs and wetlands on private and public land by using water for the environment to mimic natural water cycles and undertaking complementary land and water management works.	<p>Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government, DELWP and Melbourne Water</p> <p>medium term (4-7 years)</p>
7.	Work with partners, primarily Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, the Victorian Environmental Water Holder and Parks Victoria, to implement a landscape scale approach to improving the condition of wetlands and billabongs for the Lower Yarra billabongs. This must include the prioritisation of wetlands for water regime management and delivery of environmental water and cultural flows.	<p>Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government, Parks Victoria, DELWP and Melbourne Water</p> <p>short term (1-3 years)</p>
8.	<p>Support the aspirations of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to pursue water justice for their people and Country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> deliver water justice through water rights, participation in water management, and broader water and policy reform (as per the definition of water justice identified in the National Cultural Flows Research Project 2020) deliver options to support water rights for the Birrarung such as the possibility of the reallocation of the former Amcor entitlement. 	<p>Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government, DELWP and Melbourne Water</p> <p>short term (1-3 years)</p>
9.	<p>Work with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung to enhance knowledge, monitor and understand ecological change in prioritised Lower Yarra billabongs which have received environmental water.</p> <p>Includes working with partners, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, North East Link and Transport for Victoria to protect the water levels in the Bolin Bolin billabongs from the impacts of potential groundwater drawdown. The North East Link Project, in accordance with its environmental performance requirements, is required to design the project to mitigate the changes to groundwater levels in the billabongs including undertaking pre-construction, construction and post construction groundwater monitoring.</p>	<p>Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government, DELWP and Melbourne Water</p> <p>short term (1-3 years)</p>

	Action	Responsibilities and timeframes
Habitat connectivity		
10.	Undertake vegetation works to strengthen terrestrial and aquatic habitat corridors to improve biodiversity. Revegetation should include species identified as culturally important to the Traditional Owners and where feasible works should be delivered by Traditional Owners groups. Priority areas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yarra Junction to Healesville billabongs and wetlands • Healesville to Yering billabongs and wetlands • Yering to Warrandyte landscape protection • Kinglake to Yarra biodiversity corridor 	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and local government. medium term (4-7 years)
11.	Increase and enhance the extent and quality of urban greening in the inner city reach on public and private land downstream of Gardiners Creek to combat air and noise pollution, create habitat for local wildlife and reinvigorate local communities appreciation of nature and the environment.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government, DELWP and Melbourne Water short term (1-3 years)
12.	Follow the goals and principles as set out in <i>Protecting Victoria's Environmental Biodiversity 2037</i> for habitat and species conservation planning. This includes using associated decision support tools, <i>Nature Print</i> and <i>Strategic Management Prospects</i> as an addendum to the plan's decision-making framework, and incorporating environmental net gain when planning for whole of river biodiversity outcomes. DELWP and Wurundjeri Water Unit will work together to develop a bicultural approach to assessing net gain, considering cultural values and practices. They will explore ways to integrate this approach to support the Birrarung as a single living entity. Resourcing to be provided for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung participation.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and local government (ongoing)
13.	Explore and support the use of incentive mechanisms to build skills, knowledge and capacity in restoring landscape function, protecting biodiversity, increasing nutrient and water cycling and building soil carbon for resilient enterprises that can mitigate climate-related pressures.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and local government medium term (4-7 years)
14.	Promote the use of conservation covenants to protect priority conservation values on private land as well as enhancing habitat connectivity and, where possible, incorporating Traditional Owner aspirations and involvement.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP and Trust for Nature medium term (4-7 years)
15.	Plan and undertake terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna assessments to ascertain where opportunities exist to reintroduce and restore native plants and animals, including species that are important to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung as totems, seasonal indicators and resources required for ceremony and other uses. Selection of plants and planting methods will also consider impacts of climate change and opportunity to increase resilience.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation medium term (4-7 years)
16.	Provide resourcing to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to develop and pilot flora and fauna assessments as critical planning tools for future management of the catchment. This will require external agencies providing access to relevant data.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation short term, (1-3 years)

	Action	Responsibilities and timeframes
Native fish		
17.	Invest in habitat restoration and environmental watering to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase native fish in the Yarra River, its tributaries and billabongs support a healthy ecosystem improve opportunities for recreational fishing and cultural practices. 	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government, DELWP and Melbourne Water short term (1-3 years)
18.	Work in partnership with angling groups to develop and implement a community education program on protection of native fish (especially for Macquarie perch and other threatened species). This will include promoting bag limits and areas where the taking of native fish is prohibited and increasing participation in monitoring and assessment programs.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, long term (8-10 years)
19.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to lead and explore the feasibility of research projects identifying current extents, habitat needs, and best practice recovery programs for culturally valued freshwater aquatic species, which are in decline in the greater Melbourne region. This includes species such as river blackfish, freshwater crayfish, and short-finned eel.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Arthur Rylah Institute, DELWP, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and local government long term (8-10 years)
Pest plants and animals		
20.	Adopt a multi-agency collaboration and investment approach to management of invasive animals and plants in the Yarra corridor including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> quantify and measure numbers and impact of invasive animals and plants evaluate the effectiveness of existing control programs coordinate the delivery of new programs and projects to control and eradicate where possible invasive animals and plants in the Yarra corridor set targets for control programs over the next 10 years and monitor progress towards their achievement. 	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and local government medium term (4-7 years)
21.	Build capacity of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Narrap ('Country') team to manage and eradicate deer in the Yarra catchment.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Melbourne Water, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)

	Action	Responsibilities and timeframes
Climate change		
22.	Deliver an interactive education program along the river corridor to enhance awareness and understanding around climate change and adaptive capacity of the river.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
23.	Map key risks to the Yarra for climate change and develop a climate change adaptation and resilience action plan. The plan will inform responses to extreme weather events including, heat waves, drought, flood and fire, and promote land management approaches such as cultural burning to mitigate risks and assist recovery.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
Performance Objective 2 - A culturally diverse corridor		
Aboriginal cultural heritage		
24.	Develop, or where existing, enhance interpretive and educational programs for sites that have Aboriginal cultural heritage values and historic heritage values. Potential sites are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collingwood Children's Farm • Dights Falls and Merri Creek confluence • Bolin Bolin Billabong • Brushy Creek confluence 	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Collingwood Children's Farm, local government and Parks Victoria medium term (4-7 years)
25.	Deliver interactive educational programs (e.g. signage, and smart device application) that include storytelling about the rich culture and heritage of the Yarra River. Indigenous cultural intellectual property agreements must be in place for use of Traditional Owner intellectual property and programs.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria medium term (4-7 years)
26.	Support a program of cultural value studies by the Traditional Owners for the Yarra – Birrarung and its lands.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
27.	Explore with the Traditional Owners, the possibility of registering the Yarra as a cultural landscape.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria medium term (4-7 years)
Historic cultural heritage		
28.	Develop a holistic heritage assessment to understand historic heritage values using the Yarra River (Birrarung) Cultural Heritage Scoping Study thematic framework.	Heritage Victoria, local government, Museum Victoria, National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and Parks Victoria medium term (4-7 years)

	Action	Responsibilities and timeframes
Performance objective 3: Quality parklands for a growing population		
Caring for Country and co-governance of the Parklands with Traditional Owners		
29.	Plan, design, and manage the river parklands as one living and integrated natural entity, ensuring that all parklands are managed to a consistently high standard and celebrate the relationship between the river and its parklands.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, local government, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and relevant Committees of Management short term (1-3 years)
30.	Develop, with Traditional Owners, a consistent conservation, cultural and visitation brand identity for the Yarra and its parklands to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • embed in the community, recognition of the parklands and river as one living and integrated natural entity • celebrate the nurturing relationship between the Yarra's parklands and the community • encourage proactive behaviour to protect and nourish the Yarra and its parklands • support national and international recognition of, and investment in, the Yarra's parklands. 	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
31.	Establish formalised partnership agreements (including resourcing) with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Traditional Owners to manage the parklands.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Department of Transport, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
Balancing access and conservation		
32.	Investigate locations and options for improved access to the Yarra and its parklands that enable outstanding nature and culture based experiences while conserving the high biodiversity and landscape values that the community wish to protect. This includes identifying and mapping locations and options for improved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on-water experience for kayak/canoe and boating access points at key locations (giving consideration to health and safety and being fit-for-purpose) • signage and information for on-water journeys • bicycle and pedestrian trail experiences • experience and connection to nature for recreational and leisure pursuits. <p>Assist Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to identify crown land river frontages with grazing licences that are unsuitable for camping due to cultural values, tangible and intangible, natural values, protecting or allowing revegetation, managing or preventing a biosecurity risk or public safety.</p>	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria medium term (4-8 years)
Expanding the parkland network		
33.	Over the next 10 years, the state government to investigate opportunities to improve and extend the area of parklands and deliver on priorities for acquisition.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and DELWP long term (8-10 years)

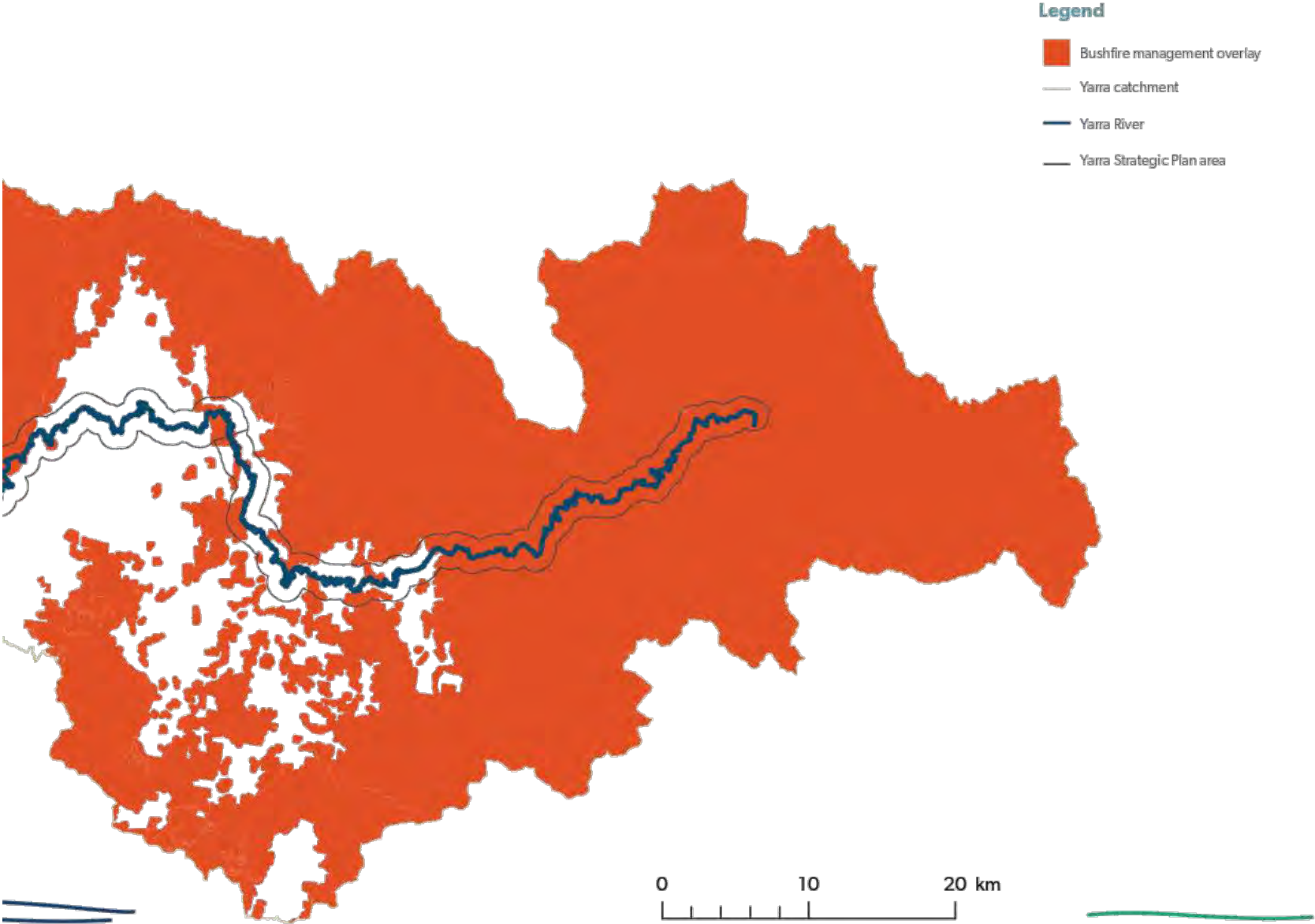
	Action	Responsibilities and timeframes
Infrastructure and services		
34.	Conduct a strategic assessment of infrastructure and services in the Yarra's parklands to ensure they are contemporary, inclusive and provide multiple benefits, while respecting and protecting the conservation and cultural values of the parklands and the river.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
35.	Consider green infrastructure investment and solutions at the local and landscape scale within parklands. Examples include constructed wetlands for stormwater treatment and creating habitat, placement of trees to improve visual aesthetics and amenity, permeable surfaces to increase groundwater recharge, and rain gardens to manage run-off from hard surfaces.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
36.	Develop a 10-year berthing strategy for the lower Yarra River.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, local government and Parks Victoria short term (1-3 years)
37.	Ensure access and egress for vessels to priority berthing sites along the inner city reach of the Yarra River through investment in a comprehensive dredging operation and ongoing maintenance dredging of the river to ensure boats and vessels can move safely along the river to maintain its status as a tourism precinct.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Parks Victoria medium term (4 – 7 years)
38.	Establish a Lower Yarra River management committee to guide commercial berthing, events and activation, and river infrastructure development and improvement. The committee's main objectives would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • driving the development of a 10-year berthing strategy for the lower Yarra River (from Dights Falls to the Port of Melbourne) including options for commercial berthing, events and activation, and infrastructure investment • ensure activities and safe waterway usage is reflected in Yarra River waterway rules • driving the alignment of Parks Victoria and Melbourne City Council annual works programs • overseeing the implementation of the outcomes of the Yarra Strategic Plan for the lower Yarra River. 	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Parks Victoria and local government short term (1-3 years)

	Action	Responsibilities and timeframes
Performance objective 4 - Protecting the natural beauty of the Yarra River corridor		
Protect landscapes and views		
39.	Protect the river's landscapes and views through improved planning and management of the river corridor and incorporation of the Yarra Strategic Plan land use framework into local and state planning policy.	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP and local government short term (1– 3 years)
Monitor changes in land use		
40.	Set land use planning goals and monitor changes in land use using satellite imagery, geospatial and remote sensing techniques and cultural practices and knowledge.	DELWP, Victorian Planning Authority and local government long term (8-10 years)

APPENDIX H — Map of Yarra Catchment showing Bushfire Management Overlay

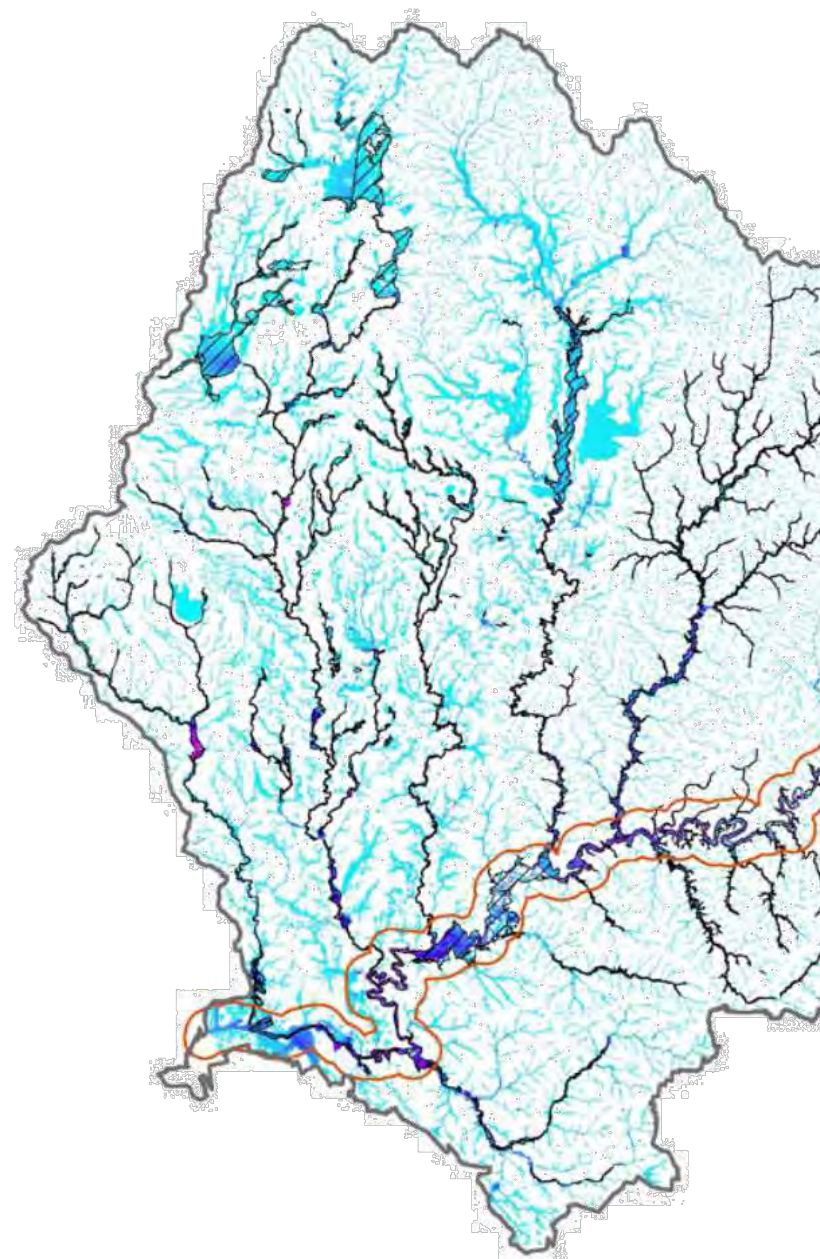
Bushfire Management Overlay: Planning scheme overlay applied to areas where there is potential for extreme bushfire behaviour including crown fire, extreme ember attack and radiant heat. Sourced from the Victorian Government, in partnership with the CFA and CSIRO



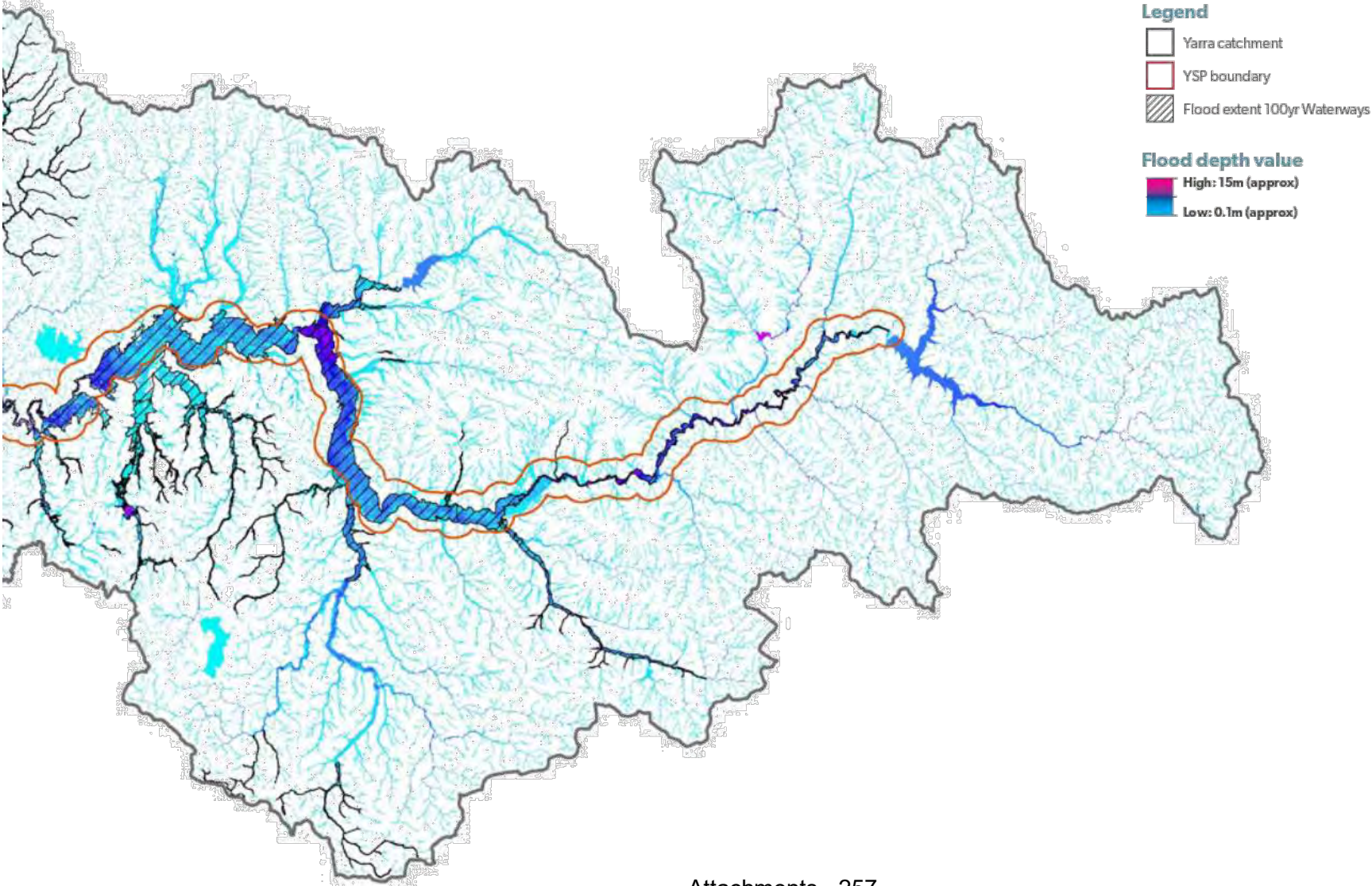


APPENDIX I — Map of Yarra Catchment showing land prone to flooding

Flood Risk Overlay: Areas prone to flooding under a climate change scenario with a projected increase in rainfall intensity of 18.5% by 2100. This is one form of flood risk modelling and should not be used for detailed mapping and planning purposes.



Note: This map is based on outputs from catchment modelling of potential flooding under climate change scenarios, undertaken for Melbourne Water.



GLOSSARY

Aboriginal cultural heritage	Knowledge and lore, practices and people, objects and places that are valued, culturally meaningful and connected to identity and Country.
Amenity	Aspects of rivers or landscapes that enhance community wellbeing. Depends on factors such as the cleanliness of the waterway and surrounds, the ability to access the waterway, and the quality and extent of open space.
Best practice	Combination of techniques, processes or technologies used in an industry or activity that have been shown by research and experience to produce optimal results and that is established or proposed as a standard suitable for widespread adoption.
Billabong	A 'billabong' is a waterbody left behind following a change in river course; it is a type of wetland usually still connected to the river and periodically flooded. They can be wet for 3-4 months of the year, followed by a drying period, which is just as important for their ecological health.
Birrarung	Woi-wurrung language word for the Yarra River, meaning 'river of mists and shadows'.

Bushfire Management Overlay	Applies to land that may be significantly affected by a bushfire. Triggers the need for a planning permit for certain developments and requires new developments to include appropriate bushfire protection measures.
Confluence	The point where a tributary joins a larger river (called the main stem) or where two streams meet to become the source of a river of a new name.
Coordinated decision-making	Refers to decisions being made through a committee process, such as that used for the Yarra Collaboration Committee. This reduces duplication, allows consensus between organisations, supports setting of priorities, and facilitates decision-making for the whole of the river, rather than for a single entity or location.
Country	Aboriginal culture revolves around relationships to the land and water. Country is both a place of belonging and a way of believing.
Covenant	Statutory agreement that is included on a land title to stipulate a behaviour which the landowner must perform, such as protecting native vegetation.

Cultural flows	Water entitlements owned by Traditional Owner groups that can be released to improve the spiritual, cultural, environmental, social and economic conditions of those groups.
Cultural heritage	Legacy of physical artefacts and intangible attributes of a group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained in the present and bestowed for the benefit of future generations (refers to both Indigenous and postcolonial heritage).
Elder	Someone who has gained recognition as a custodian of knowledge and lore, and who has permission to disclose knowledge and beliefs on behalf of Aboriginal people.
Environmental flows / environmental water / water for the environment	Water managed and allocated to improve or maintain the health of rivers and wetlands – including the plants and animals that depend on them.

Environmental net gain	Environmental net gain is an outcome where overall gains for the environment are greater than overall losses and where individual losses are avoided. Environmental net gain aims to improve extent and quality of native vegetation and create habitat for increased biodiversity.
Environmental Significance Overlay	A planning control ensures that the development of land does not affect identified environmental values and qualities of an area.
Interpretive signage	Helps to create a narrative for a place. Aims to generate a positive user experience by educating its audience on aspects of historical, heritage or environmental importance.
Invasive species	Species occurring as a result of human activities, beyond its normal distribution, which threatens environmental, agricultural or other social resources by the damage it causes. Includes diseases, fungi, parasites, feral animals, insects and weeds.
Key views	Views and viewsheds that provide a sense of place and connection with Yarra River land from and to surrounding areas.
Kulin	The Kulin Nation is made up of five language groups: Boonwurrung (Boon-wur-rung), Dja Dja Wurrung (Jar-Jar-Wur-rung), Taungurung (Tung-ger-rung), Wathaurung (Wath-er-rung), Woi-wurrung (Woy-wur-rung), commonly known as Wurundjeri.

Liveability	Reflects the wellbeing of a community, and the many characteristics that make a place somewhere people want to live. A liveable city or region meets the basic social, environmental and economic needs of its people. It also addresses community values and preferences for amenity, wellbeing and a sense of place.
New area for protection	Area not covered by existing statutory protections. Identified to realise Traditional Owners' aspirations, the community's vision and deliver on the requirements of the Act. Safeguards against future pressures and to ensure the Yarra River is respected as a sacred natural entity.
Open space	Publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for recreation, nature conservation, passive outdoor enjoyment and public gatherings. This includes public parks, gardens, reserves, waterways, publicly owned forecourts and squares.
Planning controls	Standards and restrictions for new development. They may apply to a location (suburb, street or single lot), particular types of development (dwellings, villas) or a component of the development (provision of car parking, control of stormwater).
Planning Policy Framework	The State Planning Policy Framework is a key part of the planning system and the Victoria Planning Provisions. It sets the key policy direction for state planning issues.

Planning scheme	Sets out policies and provisions for the use and development of land. Covers each local council area in Victoria and some special planning areas.
Recognised Traditional Owner group	Refers to groups that have been recognised through a legal process as the right group to speak with about land and waters within a specific area. Traditional Owners can be formally recognised under various Acts (<i>Native Title Act 1993</i> , the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i> and/or the <i>Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010</i>) which is typically accompanied by the appointment of a corporate entity to perform the functions under the relevant Act.
Responsible public entities	An organisation or body providing services to the public on behalf of the government or another public entity. As defined in section 3 of the Act, this includes Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority, Victorian Planning Authority, Head, Transport for Victoria and VicTrack, any committees of management for declared Yarra River land, any Traditional Owner Management Boards and the following local councils: Banyule, Boroondara, Manningham, Melbourne, Nillumbik, Stonnington, Yarra and Yarra Ranges.
Riparian	Land or vegetation that adjoins a river, creek, estuary, wetland or lake.

Septic tank	Underground chamber through which domestic wastewater flows for basic treatment. Homes that are not connected to a reticulated sewage system rely on a septic system to treat sewage on-site.
Setback	Minimum distance that a building or structure must be set back from a street, river or other stream, shore or floodplain, or any other place which is deemed to need protection.
Significant place	Identified to celebrate its regional significance. Contributes to biodiversity, improves the parklands network and access to the Yarra River, protects cultural heritage and expands activation options that embrace and respect the Yarra.
Stormwater	Rainwater that runs off land and moves away from the area where it originally falls.
Transport infrastructure	The plan includes 'agreed strategic transport infrastructure'. This refers to (current, future, planned or potential) transport related (rail, road, boat, bike and pedestrian) projects nominated by the Department of Transport, and referenced in the text and shown on maps in the plan. This infrastructure is to be considered in planning any future activities on Yarra River land. The department may also nominate additional projects through the implementation planning process.

Tributary	A stream or river that flows into a larger waterway.
Urban forest	Comprises all of the trees and other vegetation within urban areas – including vegetation in parks, waterways, streets, private gardens, green walls, balconies and roofs. In addition to providing critical ecosystem services such as air and water filtration, cooling and habitat, urban forests provide a connection to nature often perceived to be missing in urban areas.
Urban growth boundary (UGB)	Applies around the urban areas of Metropolitan Melbourne. Directs urban growth to areas best able to be supplied with appropriate infrastructure and services and protect other valuable peri-urban land (and environmental features) from urban development pressures.
Wastewater	Water that has had its quality affected by human influence, deriving from industrial, domestic, agricultural or commercial activities.
Waterway condition / waterway health	Overall state of key features and processes that underpin functioning waterway ecosystems; such as, species and communities, habitat, connectivity, water quality, riparian vegetation, physical form, nutrient cycling and carbon storage.

Waterways	Rivers, creeks and streams, their associated estuaries and floodplains (including floodplain wetlands) and non-riverine wetlands.
Wetlands	Inland, standing, shallow bodies of water, which may be permanent or temporary, fresh or saline. Wetlands' are areas of permanent or temporary inundation supporting plants and animals that require wet conditions to complete their life cycle: they do not need to be inundated by river flooding but can receive water from drains, tributaries, local rainfall runoff and groundwater.
Yarra protection principles	Outlined in the <i>Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrum) Act 2017</i> .
Yarra River land	As defined in section 3 of the Act, this includes the Yarra River's bed, soil and banks as well as publicly managed land within 500 metres of a bank of the river.
Yarra Strategic Plan area	Yarra River land and land of any kind that is located within one kilometre of a bank of the Yarra River.

ENDNOTES

1. Bowler, JM 1966, *Port Philip Survey, 1957–1963: The Geology and Geomorphology*, Memoirs of the National Museum of Victoria, NO 27 – 1966, Melbourne.
2. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation is the registered Aboriginal party for the Yarra River upstream of Merri Creek.
3. Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability 2018, *State of the Yarra and its Parklands*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, accessed 15 July 2020: <https://www.ces.vic.gov.au/reports/state-yarra-and-its-parklands-2018>
4. The area covered by the plan includes Crown land along the Yarra River that is mostly reserved under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*, including several metropolitan parks, as well as parts of the Yarra Ranges National Park and Warrandyte State Park under the *National Parks Act 1975*. The area also includes land owned and managed by various municipalities. The river between Warburton and Warrandyte is recognised as a heritage river under the *Heritage Rivers Act 1992*. Various entities are responsible for managing the land, including DELWP, Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water, Yarra Ranges Council, Nillumbik Shire Council, Manningham City Council, Boroondara City Council, Banyule City Council, Stonnington City Council, Yarra City Council and Melbourne City Council.
5. The Yarra Strategic Plan complies with the requirements outlined in Section 45 of the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrum) Act 2017*, which dictate that the plan must not be inconsistent with the other Acts, purposes of reservation, management plans and accepted recommendations that apply to the land covered by the plan.
6. Excluded land includes the Port of Melbourne (as defined in the *Port Management Act 1995*), and any land within a special water supply catchment area listed in Schedule 5 of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.
7. Where Crown land parcels abutting the river extend beyond the 500 metres covered by the declaration, the entire parcel has been declared as Yarra River land.
8. Land excluded from the Yarra River land declaration is defined as i) the Port of Melbourne (as defined in the *Port Management Act 1995*), ii) any land within a special water supply catchment area listed in Schedule 5 of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*, iii) land that is owned by a municipal council.
9. The 15 state and local government authorities with management responsibilities along the river corridor are referred to in the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrum) Act 2017* as responsible public entities.
10. Melbourne Water 2018, *Co-Designed Catchment Program for the Yarra Catchment*, for implementing the Healthy Waterways Strategy, Victorian State Government, Melbourne.
11. Otto K 2009, *Yarra, A Diverting History of Melbourne's Murky River*, Text Publishing, Melbourne.
12. Clarke JM, Grose M, Thatcher M, Round V & Heady C. 2019. Greater Melbourne Climate Projections 2019. CSIRO, Melbourne Australia.
13. Hull W 1859, *Report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the Aborigines, 1858-9 (Victoria)*, Committee of the Legislative Council on the Aborigines, Government of Australia, Melbourne.
14. Ganesharajah, Cynthia 2009, *Indigenous Health and Wellbeing: The Importance of Country*, Native Title Research Unit, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra, accessed 25 March 2020: https://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/products/report_research_outputs/ganesharajah-2009-indigenous-health-wellbeing-importance-country.pdf
15. Melbourne Water 2018, 'Yarra Strategic Plan Map Book (September 2018), which informed drafting of the Yarra Strategic Plan.
16. Clark ID and Kostanski LM 2006, *An Indigenous History of Stonnington*, A Report to the City of Stonnington, School of Business, University of Ballarat.



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YARRA STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2031

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Yarra Strategic Plan – Additional Edits since release of plan for endorsement.

The final Yarra Strategic Plan (version 12) was distributed for endorsement on 30 March 2021. Through the process of endorsement a number of edits and corrections have been identified that need to be included in the version of the plan to be submitted to the Minister for approval. These edits, the majority being relatively minor, do not change the intent of the plan and as such it is not necessary to repeat the endorsement process with responsible public entities. The following list details the edit/correction and rationale for inclusion. This list will be shared with Yarra Collaboration Committee representatives.

Page reference	Edit/correction	Rationale
ii	Remove page number from inside front cover.	Page numbering will start at page 1 on the 1 st page (right side) after the cover. Renumbering of pages will flow through to all cross references to page numbers in the document.
ii	Included the following warning on inside front cover: WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are warned that this publication contains images of deceased persons	Culturally appropriate. Historical photo is used on page 44.
2	Ministerial foreword to be rewritten after endorsement	Foreword in current plan was from the draft written in 2019 and will be updated for the endorsed final plan.
15	2 nd column, 1 st bullet point – delete 'other'	Inclusion of 'other' infers that the WWwCHAC are a responsible public entity as listed in the Act, which they are not.
16	Added labels to map for 'Banyule Flats' and 'Eltham Lower Park'	Provides balance for key features on both sides of the river in the suburban reach.
19	Added caption for photo. Credit: Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Possum skin cloak created as part of the Birrarung Stories Project	Consistency for captioning
28	Design of Water justice timeline 4-page foldout to be confirmed with printer and designer. But will be consistent with Yarra Parklands foldout on page 54.	Design/printing requirement

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35	Action 3 – missing word ‘rural’ in ‘lower rural reach’	Typo
39	In the highlight box, added the following sentence ‘This includes revegetation of a continuous riparian buffer at least 20 metres wide on each side of the river and its tributaries.’	The community vision for the lower rural reach is for a wide mature cloak of indigenous vegetation through the flats. As such we need to emphasise the objective of riparian revegetation that is supported by the Healthy Waterways Strategy and which will contribute to the vision.
46	Changing the layout to remove the half page white space on page 47	Design change
52	Use upper case ‘C’ for Crown land	Typo
52	Page 52, 1 st column, last paragraph change to ‘The parklands ...’	Typo
55	<p>In parkland spread change item 23 to: ‘Eltham Lower Park features the Diamond Valley miniature railway and Lenister Farm, and is the starting point for the Diamond Creek Trail.’</p> <p>Item 24, add ‘The Laughing Waters area is also home to an artist-in-residence program.’</p> <p>And move the symbol 23 closer to the parkland</p>	Requested by Nillumbik Councillor
62	<p>With the Minister having made the interim planning controls (GC48) permanent, Whole-of-river action #1 has been completed. There was also some duplication with information on page 64 in respect to implementing the land use framework, so adding new section on page 62 as follows:</p> <p>Implementation of the framework The land use framework will be given effect in planning schemes through a state-led planning scheme amendment process in consultation with councils and the broader Yarra Collaboration Committee. This will occur through a staged delivery process.</p> <p>Stage 1 – Giving initial effect to the Yarra Strategic Plan Clause 12.03-1R ‘Yarra River Protection’ of the Victoria Planning Provisions will be updated, relevant land use directions translated into planning schemes, and</p>	Updating in response to completed action, and improving readability

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	<p>the Yarra Strategic Plan referenced as a background document. This will occur following approval of the plan.</p> <p>Stage 2 – Whole-of-river actions and reach-based directions Future stages of implementation will deliver the whole-of-river actions and reach-based directions for land use and development, giving place-based effect to the land use framework, ensuring the values of the river are protected and the 50 Year Community Vision can be realised. Delivery will be multi-staged and occur iteratively across the life of the plan through state–local government joint projects.</p> <p>Where implementation of the framework requires additional strategic work to be undertaken, it will be completed prior to further planning scheme amendments being progressed.</p>	
64	Deleted implementation table, as GC48 has been made permanent by VC197	Updating in response to completed action, and improving readability
66	Map 1 - Add new township labels for 'Yarra Glen' and 'Warburton', remove the 's' in Kangaroo Ground, and delete 'Coldstream' as in wrong location	Map fixes
68	Map 2 - same edits as for Map 1	Map fixes
70	<p>The 1st of whole-of-river action has been implemented (making permanent GC48). As such, we need to rewrite it as context (see below), and renumber actions 2-5 as 1-4.</p> <p>Permanent planning controls In 2017 the Minister for Planning introduced interim planning controls between Richmond and Warrandyte to address the critical need to protect the urban reaches of the Yarra River from inappropriate development. Consistent planning overlays to manage development and protect the Yarra's landscape were made permanent by Amendment VC197 in April 2021 across the Banyule, Boroondara, Manningham, Nillumbik, Stonnington and Yarra planning schemes.</p>	Updating in response to completed action, and improving readability

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	<p>The permanent planning controls prescribe maximum building heights and minimum development setbacks and deliver tougher vegetation removal controls to support protection of the Yarra's natural landscape character. They ensure that new development avoids encroachment and overshadowing, delivering lasting protection for the Yarra's landscape and environmental values.</p> <p>In recognising the significant landscape of the Yarra River and its parklands, the controls are a key mechanism in achieving the intent of the Yarra Strategic Plan in suburban areas. In addition, a suite of further whole-of-river planning actions will be delivered through a coordinated program as part of the Yarra Strategic Plan. The following projects will be undertaken through state-led projects in partnership with the Yarra Collaboration Committee.</p>	
70	<p>Whole of river action 1 (previously 2) has been rewritten as follows:</p> <p>1. New controls from Warrandyte to Warburton</p> <p>New controls will be developed to streamline planning protections for the lower and upper rural reaches between Warrandyte and Warburton. Drafting of these controls will employ a similar landscape assessment approach that informed development of the permanent planning controls in the suburban reaches.</p>	Improve readability
65	<p>Move page 70 (whole-of-river actions), 72 and 73 (land use analysis) to follow on from page 64, and to come before the whole-of-river maps.</p>	Improve readability – puts the 'why' and 'how' together, and before the 'what' in respect to the land use framework.
71	Map 3 - same edits as for Map 1	Map fixes
74	Map 4 - same edits as for Map 1	Map fixes
78	Map 5 – moved label for Yarra Bridge Streamside Reserve, added label for Haining Farm and Warburton	Map fixes

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80	Map 6 – added missing background aerial imagery at bottom of map	Map fixes
87	Removed view point on Yarra Bridge Streamside Reserve map, which was shown at the river crossing on the Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road.	This point was not shown in the source information and was a mapping error.
92	Updated text for Yarra Valley Trail (last paragraph, middle column) as follows: The Yarra Valley Trail project is building a shared trail from Lilydale to Healesville via Yarra Glen using the existing railway corridor. Stage 1A from Lilydale to Yering Station opened in 2020. Stage 1B, connecting Yering to Yarra Glen, will feature new and repaired bridges, along with a new bridge over the Yarra River. The second stage of the trail will connect Yarra Glen to Healesville, while the third stage will connect Healesville to the Warburton Rail Trail, joining the two major trails in a loop creating a unique recreational and cultural experience in the Yarra Valley.	Updated text to reflect partial completion of trail, and to remove reference to former railway easement, as the trail is using existing railway land owned by VicTrack.
94	Map 7 – added label for Yarra Glen, Sugarloaf Reservoir, removed 's' in Kangaroo Ground, deleted label for Coldstream	Map fixes
96	Map 8 – added label for Yarra Glen, Sugarloaf Reservoir, removed 's' in Kangaroo Ground, deleted label for Coldstream, and added missing background aerial imagery at bottom of map	Map fixes
99	LR 16 – added correct page reference for Yarra Glen township opportunities list	Typo
102	Billabong systems: Healesville to Yering Gorge – updated 3 rd opportunity in list, as follows. Identify opportunities to reconnect billabongs to the river, naturalise lower reaches of creeks and re-establish riparian habitats to improve water quality of discharges into the Yarra.	Included 're-establish riparian habitats', to better align with community vision for the lower rural reach for a wide mature cloak of indigenous vegetation through the flats.
109	Map 9 – added cultural heritage site 37. Studley Park Boathouse and 39. Yarra Bend Golf Club House to the list of sites,	Map fixes

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	and deleted site 42 (from map) as not relevant to Yarra River land. Also added Darebin Creek recreational trail, which connects to the Main Yarra Trail.	
113	Updated Suburban land use directions, S10, S15 and S24 by replacing 'Apply permanent planning controls' with 'Implement planning controls'.	Making controls 'permanent' has been achieved with VC197.
117	Map for Lower Plenty – Eltham Parklands. Added label for Diamond Creek	Map fix
131	Map for Abbotsford – extended 'Improved access' arrow and label to show crossing of river at Walmer Street bridge.	Map fix – aligns with text in opportunities list
143	Appendix D, Figure 6 – fixed arrows on diagram	Improve readability
150	Appendix G, action 3 – match correction on page 35	Typo
155	Appendix G, action 32 – match wording of action 32 on page 52	Typo
167	Remove page number and footer because this page (with logos) is the back cover. This may necessitate deleting page 166, which has photo of river at Abbotsford	Design/printing requirement

SCHEDULE A

Farm Land Objective

To encourage the use (and continued use) of land for agricultural purposes, and ensure that such rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council. These include the:

- 1 implementation of good governance and sound financial stewardship;
- 2 construction, renewal, upgrade, expansion and maintenance of infrastructure assets;
- 3 development and provision of health, environmental, conservation, leisure, recreation, youth and family and community services;
- 4 provision of strategic and, economic management, town planning and general support services; and
- 5 promotion of cultural, heritage and tourism aspects of Council's municipal district.

Types and Classes

Any rateable land which is 'farm land' within the meaning of section 2(1) of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*.

Use and Level of Differential Rate

This particular differential rate will be used to support farming in the Green Wedge by providing a discount for Farm Rate properties.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021-2022 Financial Year.

Commercial/Industrial Land Objective

To ensure that such rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council having regard to the capacity of such land to yield income and the demands such land makes on Council's infrastructure. Those functions include the –

- 1 implementation of good governance and sound financial stewardship;
- 2 construction, renewal, upgrade, expansion and maintenance of infrastructure assets;
- 3 development and provision of health, environmental, conservation, leisure, recreation, youth and family and community services;
- 4 provision of strategic and, economic management, town planning and general support services; and
- 5 promotion of cultural, heritage and tourism aspects of Council's municipal district.

Types and Classes

Any rateable land which is used primarily for commercial or industrial purposes.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

This particular differential rate will be used to provide greater equity among ratepayers by recognizing the tax deductible status of rates for commercial and industrial ratepayers which is not applicable to residents.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land

Any relevant use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021-2022 Financial Year.

Vacant Land – Residential and Specified Low Density Residential Zones Objective

To encourage the development of existing vacant land within General Residential / Residential Growth / Neighbourhood Residential zones and Specified LDRZ, and to reduce development pressure elsewhere within the Green Wedge; and

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the

- 1 implementation of good governance and sound financial stewardship;
- 2 construction, renewal, upgrade, expansion and maintenance of infrastructure assets;
- 3 development and provision of health, environmental, conservation, leisure, recreation, youth and family and community services;
- 4 provision of strategic and, economic management, town planning and general support services; and
- 5 promotion of cultural, heritage and tourism aspects of Council's municipal district.

Types and Classes

Any land in a General Residential / Residential Growth / Neighbourhood Residential zone, and LDRZ to which DP04 applies, on which no habitable dwelling exists. Lots greater than 8,000 square metres in the Plenty LDRZ are excluded.

Use and Level of Differential Rate

This particular differential rate will be used to promote the development of housing on vacant sites in General Residential / Residential Growth / Neighbourhood Residential zones and LDRZ by providing an incentive for development by charging 150 percent of the general rate on vacant sites.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings

N/A

Other Land Objective

To ensure that such rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, having regard to the relative benefits derived from the cost of carrying out of such functions. These functions include the:

- 1 implementation of good governance and sound financial stewardship;
- 2 construction, renewal, upgrade, expansion and maintenance of infrastructure assets;
- 3 development and provision of health, environmental, conservation, leisure, recreation, youth and family and community services;
- 4 provision of strategic and, economic management, town planning and general support services; and
- 5 promotion of cultural, heritage and tourism aspects of Council's municipal district.

Types and Classes

Any rateable land which is not Farm Land, Commercial/Industrial Land, or Vacant Land – Residential and Specified LDRZ Zones.

Use and Level of Differential Rate

This particular rate will be used as the default rate that is applicable to the majority of the properties within this municipality.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings

N/A

Budget 2021-2022



Budget influences

Financial sustainability is a key challenge for all governments, both in the short and long term. This involves the management of short-term budget influences within the context of longer-term challenges.

Council manages its finances through an annual budget, which identifies the expected revenue and expenditure for each year. The budget is the means by which Council makes a formal commitment of resources to provide funding for services and projects.

A long-term perspective is provided by the budget projections and forecast, which forms part of the Council Plan. This provides a 10 year forecast of revenues and expenditures based on a series of assumptions. It identifies the resources necessary to implement the Council Plan over coming years.

Nillumbik Shire in context

Nillumbik is an outer-metropolitan municipality located on the urban fringe of Melbourne. While small by metropolitan standards, Nillumbik is a medium-sized municipality in comparison to all Victorian councils.

Nillumbik comprises 432 square kilometres. It contains a relatively small urban area, where land use is predominantly residential. Ninety percent of the shire is rural land located outside the Urban Growth Boundary, where land is used mainly for farming, conservation or rural residential purposes. Commercial and industrial land activity in the shire is very limited. Major activity centres at Eltham and Diamond Creek provide mainly retail services to local markets. Housing is mainly detached dwellings with relatively high numbers of residents per household. Providing a consistent level of service to communities in the rural parts of Nillumbik involves additional costs to Council.

Council owns infrastructure assets with a valuation of more than \$942 million. Apart from land, these assets comprise more than \$43 million in buildings and around \$458 million in other infrastructure such as roads, bridges, drains and footpaths. Council's assets depreciate at over \$12 million per annum. Funding the annual cost for renewal of these existing assets is an important responsibility for Council, in addition to meeting community demand for new or improved assets.

Introduction

The 2021-2022 Budget has been prepared in conjunction with the Council Plan. There is a 1.50 percent increase applied to rates for 2021-2022.

The only exception to this will be a small number of properties which have been modified over the past year (through subdivision, etc.) resulting in a supplementary valuation.

Council proposes an increase of 13.86 percent to the domestic waste service standard charge for the 2021-2022 financial year. This is being driven by a significant increase in disposal costs in recycling and general waste and the responsibility Council has to rehabilitate former landfill sites at Plenty and Kangaroo Ground.

The Budget forecasts an operating surplus of \$1.830 million on an accrual accounting basis. The decrease when compared to the 2020-2021 forecast is largely attributable to the reduction on one-off capital grant income.

An extensive capital works program of \$22.101 million is proposed for 2021-22 including \$2.809 million in grant-funded works.

Key projects include:

- Kangaroo Ground landfill rehabilitation \$6.310 million
- Redevelopment of the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre \$3.5 million
- Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program upgrades \$2.204 million
- Buildings renewal (including public toilets) \$1.75 million
- Road and carpark renewal \$1.642 million
- Eltham North Soccer Pitch replacement \$635,000
- Diamond Valley Library redevelopment \$270,000

This program could be further expanded as a result of successful grant applications during this financial year.

Financial Snapshot

Key Statistics	2020-21 Forecast \$'000	2021-22 Budget \$'000
Total operating income	124,335	97,569
Total operating expenditure	97,238	95,739
Comprehensive operating surplus	27,097	1,830
Capital works program	67,421	22,101
Funding the capital works program		
Council cash	31,083	12,292
Borrowings	3,303	7,000
Grants	31,470	2,809
Reimbursements	-	-
Contributions	1,565	-
Budgeted expenditure by strategic objective	Budget \$'000	% of Budget
Engaged connected communities	11,585	13.28
Active and creative people	15,539	17.81
Safe and healthy environments	40,441	46.36
A prosperous economy	1,078	1.24
Responsible leadership	18,591	21.31

Strategic Resource Plan

Budget preparation has been informed by the budget projections, which identifies the resources required to implement the Council Plan.

A copy of Council's projected performance against the Victorian Auditor-General's measures of financial sustainability is included in the budget document.

The budget projections have been prepared on the basis of a 1.50 percent rate increase in 2021-2022 and 2022-23, 1.80 percent in 2023-24, 2.00 percent in 2024-2025 and 2025-2026, 2.25 percent in 2026-2027 and 2027-2028, followed by increases of 2.50 percent in each of the following years.

The budget projections forecast that Council will achieve an operating surplus each year on an accrual accounting basis.

The budget also forecasts a substantial capital works program of \$88 million over the next five years. This is proposed to be funded from a combination of grants, contributions and operating revenue.

The Budget is based on a series of assumptions which include:

- No real-terms growth in service capacity.
- No further cost shifting by State and Commonwealth Governments.

The Budget will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis to address any issues arising from changes to the underlying assumptions.

Process

The draft Budget is exhibited for public consultation from 25 March 2021 to 25 April 2021. Members of the community are able to view the draft Budget on Council's website and at Council's offices. Written submissions can be made until 25 April 2021 and will be considered by Council in May, prior to finalisation and adoption of the Budget. Submissions can be made via Council's website or lodged in person at Council offices.

Budget processes

Under the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*, Council is required to prepare and adopt an annual budget for each financial year. The Budget is required to include certain information about the rates and charges that Council intends to levy as well as a range of other information required by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 (the Regulations) which support the Act.

The 2021-22 Budget is for the year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 and is prepared in accordance with the Act and Regulations. The Budget includes financial statements being a:

- Comprehensive Income Statement;
- Balance Sheet;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Statement of Cash Flows; and;
- Statement of Capital Works.

These statements have been prepared for the year ending 30 June 2022 and are consistent with the annual financial statements which are prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government Model Accounts. The Budget includes detailed information about the rates and charges to be levied, the capital works program to be undertaken and other financial information which Council requires in order to make an informed decision about the adoption of the Budget.

A proposed budget is prepared in accordance with the Act and submitted to Council in March for approval in principle. Council is then required to give public notice that it intends to adopt the Budget.

Twenty eight days notice is given for the intention to adopt the proposed budget and to make the Budget available for inspection at its offices and on its website. A person has a right to make a submission on any proposal contained in the Budget and any submission must be considered before adoption of the Budget by Council.

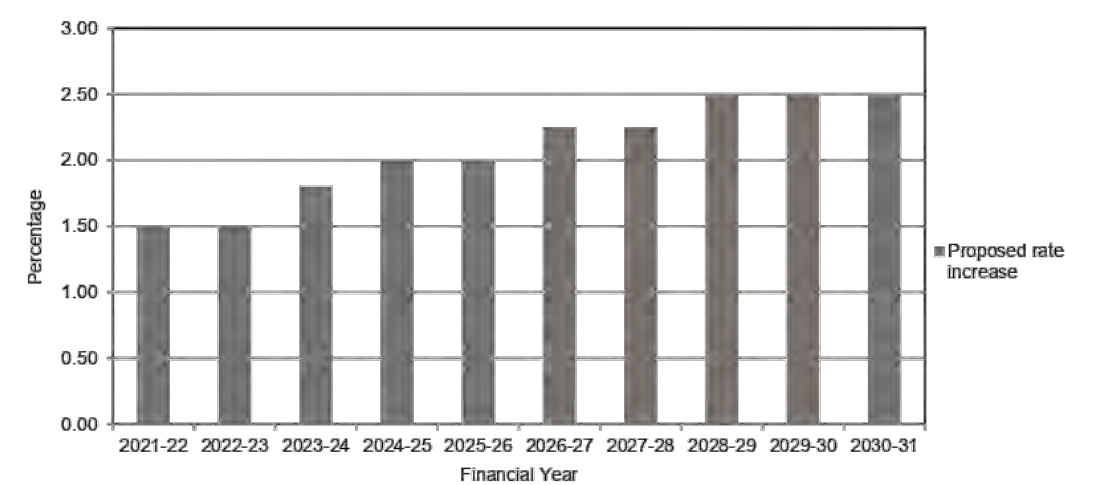
The final step is for Council to adopt the Budget after receiving and considering any submissions from interested parties. The Budget is required to be adopted by 30 June and a copy submitted to the Minister within 28 days after adoption. The key dates for the Budget process are summarised below:

Budget process	Timing
1. Officers update Council's long term financial projections	December 2020 - February 2021
2. Officers prepare draft operating and capital budgets	December 2020 - February 2021
3. Council considers draft budgets at briefings of Councillors	February 2021 - March 2021
4. Proposed budget submitted to Council for approval	23 March 2021
5. Public notice advising intention to adopt Budget	25 March 2021
6. Community engagement process undertaken	25 March 2021 - 25 April 2021
7. Submissions period closes (28 days)	25 April 2021
8. Submissions considered by Planning and Consultation Committee	11 May 2021
9. Budget submissions presented to Council	25 May 2021
10. Budget presented to Council for adoption	25 May 2021
11. Copy of adopted Budget submitted to the Minister	9 July 2021

Budget Trends and Summary

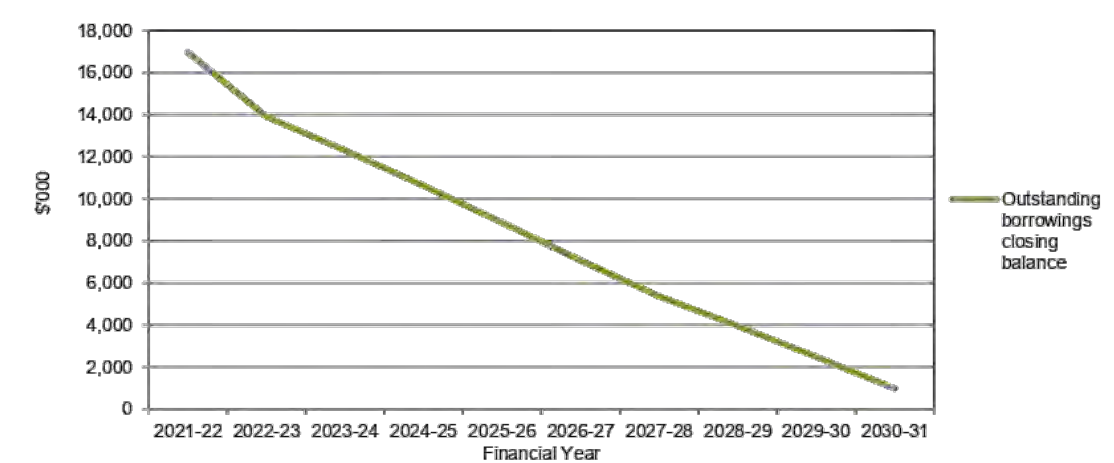
Council has prepared the Budget for the 2021-22 financial year which seeks to balance the demand for services and infrastructure. Key budget trends and outcomes information is provided below.

Rate trends



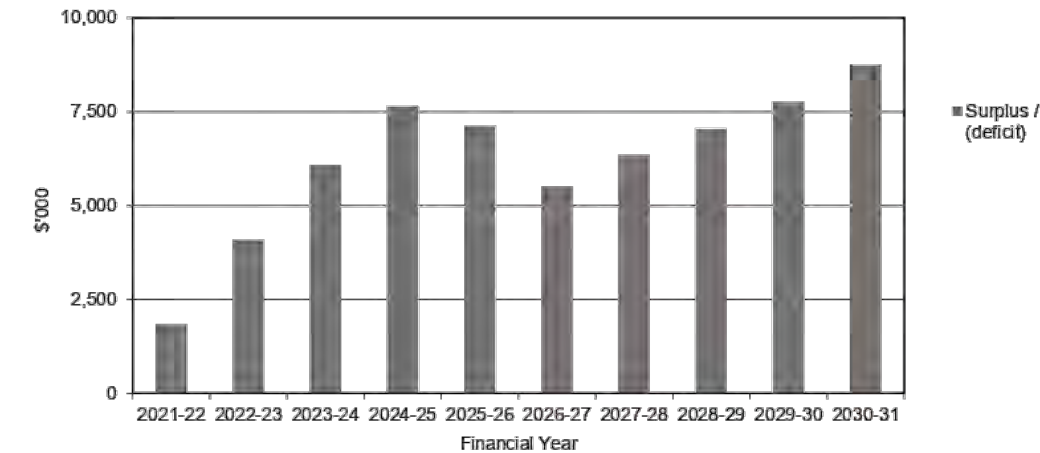
The graph above outlines Council's budgeted rate increase for 2021-22 which is in compliance with the rate cap. It has been assumed that the rate cap will be 1.50 percent in 2022-23, 1.80 percent in 2023-24, 2.00 percent in 2024-2025 and 2025-2026, 2.25 percent in 2026-2027 and 2027-2028, followed by increases of 2.50 percent in each of the following years.

Borrowing trends and outcomes



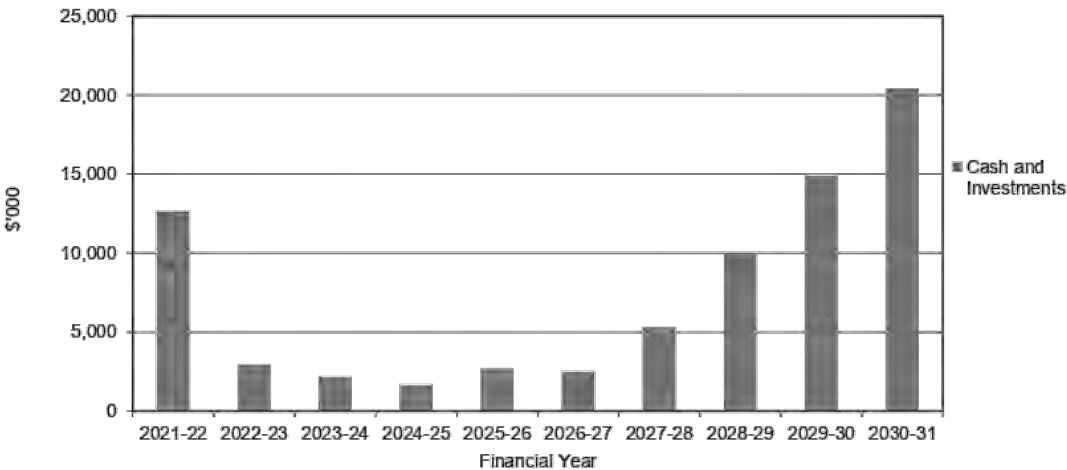
Council is anticipating to take out \$7 million in new borrowings in 2021-2022 mainly for the rehabilitation of the closed landfill sites (\$5 million) which is in response to and in compliance with the requirements set out by the Environment Protection Authority. \$2 million will be set aside to enable Council to respond to potential Government grant funding opportunities. The graph above outlines Council's existing loan borrowings with the declining trend reflective of current repayment schedules. Borrowings remain within the Auditor-General's low risk range.

Operating result



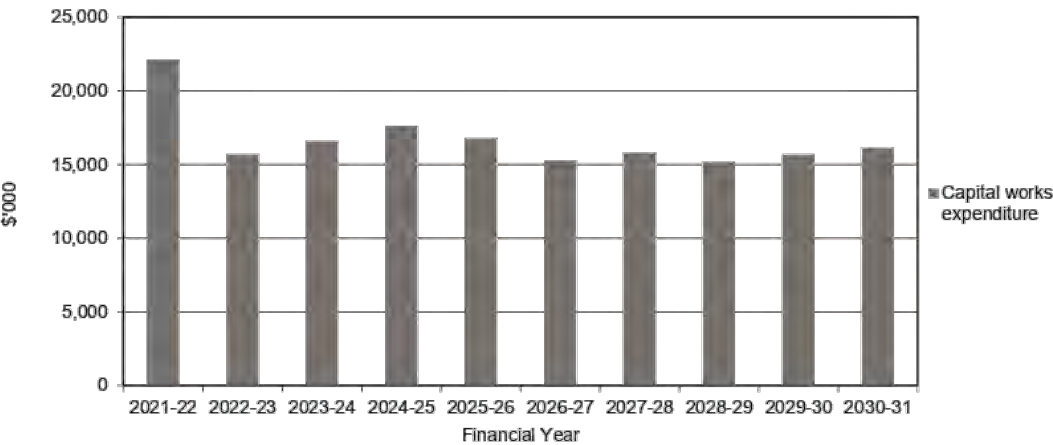
The expected operating result for the 2021-22 year is a surplus of \$1.830 million. The above graph projects surpluses to be achieved over the projected 10 years providing capacity for capital investment and debt reduction. The fluctuations are driven by the anticipated receipt of one-off capital grant funding.

Cash and investments



Cash and investments shown in the above graph are illustrating a positive cash position for Council as at 30 June each year through which Council is able to meet operating obligations. The balances of cash held are represented by amounts held for specific purposes including developer contributions and statutory obligations such as landfill rehabilitation.

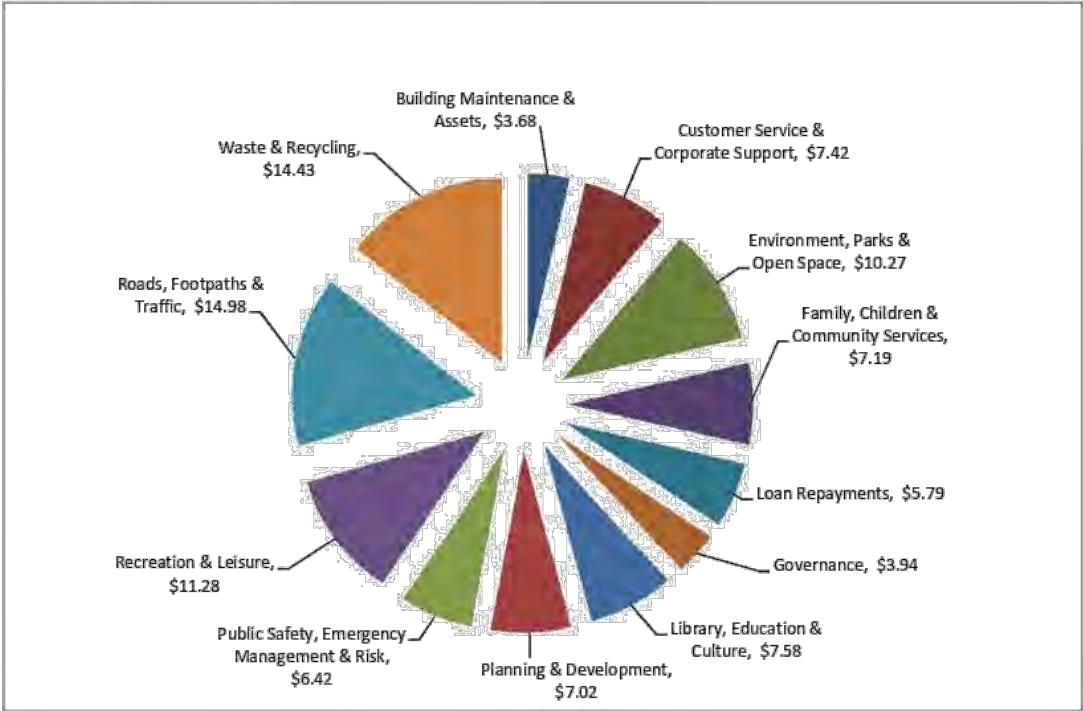
Capital works



The capital works program for 2021-22 will be \$22.101 million, of which \$12.292 million will be funded by Council cash, \$2.809 million from grants and \$7 million by borrowings. The capital expenditure program has been set and prioritised based on Council's assessment of the need for key projects. The 2021-22 program includes a number of projects as detailed in Section 4.5 of this document.

Council expenditure allocation

The chart below provides an indication of how Council allocates its expenditure across the main services to be delivered. It shows how much is allocated to each service area for every \$100.00 of rates that Council collects.



1. Link to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community Vision and Council Plan within an overall integrated planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision and Financial Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

1.1 Legislative planning and accountability framework

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



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

The timing of each component of the integrated planning and reporting framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes.

1.1.2 Key planning considerations

Service level planning

Councils have a legal obligation to provide some services, such as animal management, local roads, food safety and statutory planning. Some council services are not mandated, such as libraries, building permits and sporting facilities. Over time, the needs and expectations of communities can change. The Budget considers the services and initiatives which contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan.

The Council Plan includes strategic objectives, strategies, indicators and a budget which can be defined as follows:

- Strategic objectives – the outcomes Council wants to achieve within its four-year term
- Strategies – how Council will achieve each objective
- Indicators – how progress towards the objectives will be evaluated
- Budget – a four year budget outlining how the strategies will be financed and resourced

Each year, Council will produce an Annual Action Plan identifying how Council will work towards achieving the objectives in the Council Plan. Council prioritise major projects, capital works, service improvements as well as actions in response to Council strategies to be set out in the Annual Action Plan.

Progress against the Annual Action Plan will be detailed in Council's Annual Report, with major projects and service highlights reported to Council in a quarterly progress report.

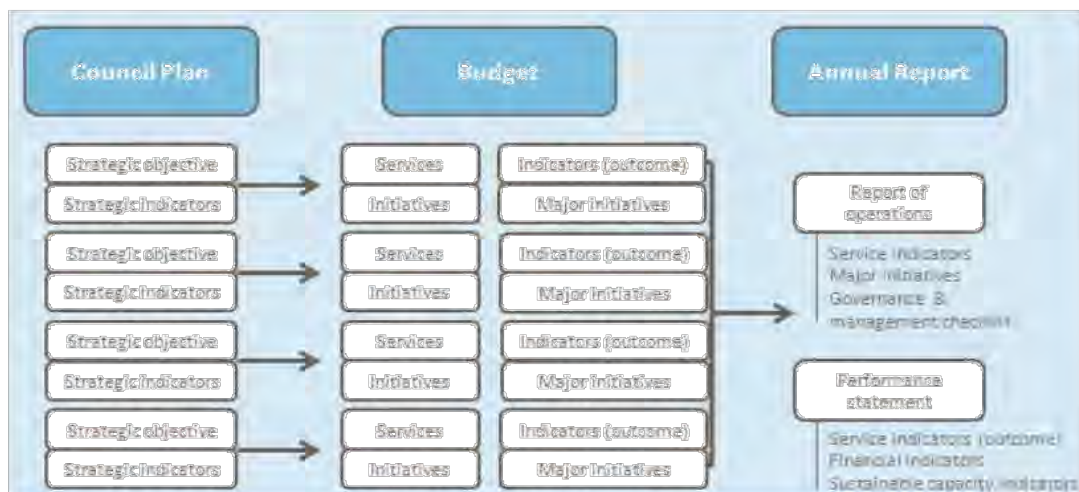
1.2 Strategic objectives

The Council delivers activities and initiatives under 30 major service categories as listed in the following pages. Each contributes to the achievement of one of the five strategic objectives as set out in the Council Plan for 2017-21. The following table lists the five strategic objectives as described in the Council Plan.

Strategic Objective	Description
1. Engaged, connected communities	A place where communities and ideas thrive, underpinned by trust, confidence and continuous learning.
2. Active and creative people	Active lifestyles and artistic expression are fostered through participation and innovation.
3. Safe and healthy environments	Healthy and safe communities enjoy living in our iconic environment.
4. A prosperous economy	A strong local economy supports business growth, jobs and community wealth.
5. Responsible leadership	Collaborative and consultative leadership builds trust and makes the best use of available resources to the benefit of all in the pursuit of excellence.

2. Services, initiatives and service performance indicators

This section provides a description of the services and major initiatives to be funded in the Budget (excluding capital works) for the 2021-22 year and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan as set out in Section 1. It also describes a number of service performance indicators for key areas of Council's operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these components of the Budget and the Council Plan, along with the link to reporting in the Annual Report, is shown below.



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

2.1 Strategic Objective 1: Engaged connected communities

A place where communities and ideas thrive, underpinned by trust, confidence and continuous learning.

Services

Service Area	Description of services provided	Expenditure
		Revenue Net Cost \$'000
Aged and Disability Services	Disability services	819
	Aged services assessment	<u>218</u>
	Home care	601
	Home maintenance	
	Senior citizens centres	
	Delivered meals	
Children, Family and Youth Services	Pre-school centres and registration	1,101
	Child-care centres	<u>370</u>
	Occasional child-care	731
	Playgroups	
	Youth services	

Service Area	Description of services provided	Expenditure
		Revenue Net Cost \$'000
Community Development and Inclusion	Community centres and halls	2,328
	Volunteer programs	162
	Community transport	2,166
	Community development	
	Community grants	
	Community health planning	
	Community festivals and events	
	Inclusion of people with a disability	
Libraries and Community Education	Libraries	5,943
	Living and learning centres	1,608
	Edendale community environment farm	4,335
Maternal and Child Health	Maternal and child health	1,394
		381
		1,013

Major Initiatives

- 1) Implementation of Disability Action Plan
- 2) Implementation of Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan
- 3) Implementation of Early Years Infrastructure Plan
- 4) Implementation of Positive Ageing Strategy
- 5) Development of Youth Strategy

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation	2019-20 Actual
Maternal and Child Health (MCH)	Participation	Participation in the MCH service (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x 100	81.95%
		Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children (Percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children who are enrolled in the MCH service] x 100	76.32%
Libraries	Participation	Active library members (Percentage of the municipal population that are active library members)	[Number of active library members / municipal population] x100	28.19%

2.2 Strategic Objective 2: Active and creative people

Active lifestyles and artistic expression are fostered through participation and innovation.

Services

Service Area	Description of services provided	Expenditure
		Revenue Net Cost \$'000
Arts and Cultural Services	Art in public places and civic collection; Arts and cultural programs	1,004 10 994
Leisure Facilities and Services	Leisure and recreation facilities and services including: Swimming pools Indoor sports stadiums Outdoor sporting facilities Sporting clubs tenancy and support Recreation trails Golf course Playgrounds Recreation and open space planning	14,535 13,220 1,315

Major Initiatives

- 1) Indigenous Liaison Officer, program costs, cultural consultation, associated events and development of Reconciliation Action Plan
- 2) Implementation of Arts & Culture Plan
- 3) Regional / Municipal Gallery masterplan

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation	2019-20 Actual
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of municipal population)	Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population	8.9

2.3 Strategic Objective 3: Safe and healthy environments

Healthy and safe communities enjoy living in our iconic environment.

Services

Service Area	Description of services provided	Expenditure
		Revenue Net Cost \$'000
Animal Management	Animal regulation and pound	808 1,006 (198)
Building Regulation	Building permits, safety and regulation	1,043 583 460

Emergency Management	Bushfire mitigation planning regulation and works	1,186
	Emergency management planning	<u>-</u>
	Relief and recovery preparedness	1,186
	Disaster resilience programs	
Environment and Conservation	Environmental planning and policy	878
	Water quality and conservation	<u>5</u>
	Biodiversity protection	873
	Land management advice	
	Landcare support	
	Weed and pest control	
	Environmental education and events	
	Sustainable design advice and energy efficiency programs	
Food Safety, Public Health and Immunisation	Food safety and health premises regulation	872
	Public health protection and education	<u>273</u>
	Immunisation services	599
	Noise regulation	
Infrastructure Design, Construction and Transport	Design for capital works projects including:	3,670
	roads	<u>1,430</u>
	bridges	2,240
	drainage	
	landscapes	
	traffic treatments	
	Co-ordination of capital works procurement and construction	
	Engineering assessment of planning applications and approval of subdivision works	
	Traffic control and road safety	
	Advocacy on public transport and main roads	
	Street lighting	
Parking and Local Laws	Car parking regulation	840
	Amenity protection	<u>564</u>
	Local Law permits	276
Parks and Reserves Maintenance	Maintenance of:	6,215
	parks	<u>35</u>
	sportsgrounds	6,180
	conservation reserves	
	street trees	
	public spaces	
	Roadside vegetation management	
Planning Enforcement	Enforcement of planning scheme and permit conditions	380
		<u>12</u>
		368
Property, Fleet and Asset Management	Infrastructure asset management and planning	2,901
	Building maintenance and fencing	<u>1,011</u>
	Property management	1,890
	Fleet management	

Recycling and Waste Services	Collection of household waste	10,892
	Hard waste collection	<u>651</u>
	Recycling	10,241
	Green waste	
	Transfer station	
	Waste education	
	Landfill rehabilitation	
Road and Drainage Maintenance	Maintenance of:	5,307
	local roads	<u>1</u>
	road bridges	5,306
	pedestrian bridges	
	footpaths	
	trails	
	drains	
	bus shelters	
School Crossings	School crossings	783
		<u>272</u>
		511
Statutory Planning	Planning applications	2,949
	Subdivision applications	<u>775</u>
		2,174
Strategic Planning	Land use planning and policy	1,717
	Planning scheme management	<u>103</u>
	Activity centre planning	1,614
	Heritage protection	

Major Initiatives

- 1) Amenity and Asset Protection Local Law(s)
- 2) Heritage Review Stage B and Planning Scheme Amendment to apply the Heritage Overlay
- 3) Planning Scheme Amendments
- 4) Municipal planning statement review
- 5) Neighbourhood Character Study
- 6) Green Wedge Management Plan Implementation 'Conversations'

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation	2019-20 Actual
Animal management	Health and safety	Animal management prosecutions (Percentage of successful animal management prosecutions)	Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Total number of animal management prosecutions] x 100	1.00

Food safety	Health and safety	Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council)	[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about food premises] x100	98.68%
Waste collection	Waste diversion	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill (Percentage of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill)	[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100	59.60%
Statutory planning	Decision making	Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT (Percentage of planning application decisions subject to review by VCAT that were not set aside)	[Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside Council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100	65.00%
Roads	Satisfaction	Satisfaction with sealed local roads (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads.	69.90

2.4 Strategic Objective 4: A prosperous economy

A strong local economy that supports business growth, jobs and community wealth.

Services

Service Area	Description of services provided	Expenditure
		Revenue
		Net Cost
		\$'000
Tourism and Business Support	Tourism funding and support	1,078
	Local community and farmers' markets	297
	Local business networks, training and seminars	781

Major Initiatives

1) Local business and industry Program

2.5 Strategic Objective 5: Responsible leadership

Collaborative and consultative leadership that builds trust and makes the best use of available resources to the benefit of all in the pursuit of excellence.

Services

Service Area	Description of services provided	Expenditure
		Revenue Net Cost \$'000
Communications	Website	1,154
	Electronic and print communication	-
	Community consultation and engagement	1,154
	Media liaison	
Customer Service	Reception	824
	Call centre	-
		824
Finance	Finance and procurement	6,493
	Rates and property valuations	4,978
	Audit	1,515
Governance	Council and Committee meetings	2,968
	Civic functions and citizenship ceremonies	80
	Australia Day awards	2,888
	Councillor elections (VEC regulations)	
	Statutory governance requirements	
	Mayor and Councillor resources and support services	
	Local government sector and regional advocacy	
	Records management	
Information and Technology	Information technology	3,617
	On-line services	-
	Telecommunications	3,617
Human Resources	Recruitment and selection	1,533
	Staff learning and development	198
	Employee and industrial relations	1,335
	Health and well-being	
Transformation and Performance	Organisational performance and improvement; 'Occupational	2,003
	Health and Safety; Risk management and insurance	5
		1,998

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation	2019-20 Actual
Governance	Satisfaction	Satisfaction with Council decisions (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed in making decisions in the interests of the community)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the performance of Council in making decisions in the interests of the community	66.70

2.6 Performance statement

The service performance indicators detailed in the preceding pages will be reported on within the Performance Statement which is prepared at the end of the year as required by the *Local Government Act 2020* and included in the 2021-22 Annual Report. The prescribed performance indicators contained in the Performance Statement are audited each year by the Victorian Auditor General Office (VAGO) who issues an audit opinion on the Performance Statement. The initiatives detailed in the preceding pages will be reported in the Annual Report in the form of a statement of progress in the Report of Operations.

2.7 Reconciliation with budgeted operating result

	Net Cost \$'000	Expenditure \$'000	Revenue \$'000
Engaged connected communities	8,847	11,585	2,738
Active and creative people	2,310	15,539	13,229
Safe and healthy environments	33,721	40,441	6,720
A prosperous economy	781	1,078	297
Responsible leadership	13,330	18,591	5,261
Total services and initiatives	58,989	87,234	28,245
<u>Add</u>			
Depreciation	12,498		
Amortisation - right of use assets	420		
Written down value of assets sold	750		
<u>Subtract</u>			
Debt redemption	3,426		
Transfer to and from reserves	(1,335)		
Deficit before funding sources	70,566		
<u>Funding sources added back:</u>			
Net rates and charges	69,337		
Capital funding sources	3,059		
Operating (surplus)/deficit for the year	(1,830)		

3. Financial Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2021/22 has been supplemented with projections to 2030/31.

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

The appendix includes the following budgeted information:

- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Changes in Equity
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Capital Works
- Statement of Human Resources

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the five years ending 30 June 2026

	Notes	Forecast Budget	Budget 2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
		2020-21 \$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income							
Rates and charges	4.1.1	67,422	69,953	72,382	74,374	76,434	78,563
Statutory fees and fines	4.1.2	1,310	1,916	1,945	1,980	2,020	2,060
User fees	4.1.3	14,154	16,504	16,784	17,067	17,501	17,927
Grants - operating	4.1.4	6,357	5,131	5,104	5,196	5,299	5,405
Grants - capital	4.1.4	31,470	2,809	3,905	4,505	3,705	3,705
Contributions - monetary	4.1.5	2,442	119	120	123	1,480	128
Contributions - non-monetary	4.1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		-	-	-	-	-	-
Fair value adjustments for investment property		-	-	-	-	-	-
Share of net profits/(losses) of associated and joint ventures		-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	4.1.6	1,180	1,137	1,154	1,174	1,196	1,218
Total income		124,335	97,569	101,394	104,419	107,635	109,006
Expenses							
Employee costs	4.1.7	36,650	37,035	37,708	38,460	39,228	40,179
Materials and services	4.1.8	39,536	39,294	40,313	40,477	41,272	42,084
Depreciation and amortisation	4.1.9	12,391	12,498	12,572	12,647	12,743	12,827
Bad and doubtful debts		-	-	-	-	-	-
Amortisation - right of use assets	4.1.10	513	420	110	110	55	55
Borrowing costs		608	583	621	550	477	400
Finance costs - leases		23	12	9	6	4	3
Other expenses	4.1.11	7,517	5,897	5,985	6,093	6,215	6,339
Total expenses		97,238	95,739	97,318	98,343	99,994	101,887
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		27,097	1,830	4,076	6,076	7,641	7,119
Other comprehensive income							
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods							
Net asset revaluation increment /(decrement)		-	-	-	-	-	-
Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures		-	-	-	-	-	-
Items that may be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive result		27,097	1,830	4,076	6,076	7,641	7,119

Comprehensive Income Statement Forward Estimates

For the five years ending 30 June 2031

	Forward Estimates				
	2026-27 \$'000	2027-28 \$'000	2028-29 \$'000	2029-30 \$'000	2030-31 \$'000
Income					
Rates and charges	80,772	83,055	85,424	87,872	90,380
Statutory fees and fines	2,106	2,154	2,208	2,263	2,319
User fees	18,242	18,645	19,101	19,578	20,067
Grants - operating	5,527	5,651	5,793	5,938	6,086
Grants - capital	1,455	1,455	1,455	1,455	1,455
Contributions - monetary	131	134	137	141	144
Contributions - non-monetary	-	-	-	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Fair value adjustments for investment property	-	-	-	-	-
Share of net profits/(losses) of associated and joint ventures	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	1,244	1,269	1,298	1,328	1,358
Total income	109,477	112,363	115,416	118,575	121,809
Expenses					
Employee costs	41,154	42,151	43,171	44,216	45,098
Materials and services	43,015	43,967	45,049	46,158	47,294
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation and amortisation	12,957	13,040	13,202	13,366	13,481
Amortisation - right of use assets	37	-	-	-	-
Borrowing costs	318	237	170	119	66
Finance costs - leases	1	-	-	-	-
Other expenses	6,482	6,628	6,793	6,963	7,137
Total expenses	103,964	106,023	108,385	110,822	113,076
Surplus (deficit) for the year	5,513	6,340	7,031	7,753	8,733
Other comprehensive income					
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods					
Net asset revaluation increment /(decrement)	-	-	-	-	-
Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures	-	-	-	-	-
Items that may be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive result	5,513	6,340	7,031	7,753	8,733

Balance Sheet

For the five years ending 30 June 2026

	Notes	Forecast Budget	Budget	Projections			
		2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000
Current assets							
Cash and cash equivalents		28,291	12,635	2,925	2,135	1,634	2,687
Trade and other receivables		7,460	5,854	6,084	6,265	6,458	6,540
Other financial assets		250	250	250	250	250	250
Non-current assets classified as held for sale		-	-	-	-	-	-
Other assets		18	18	19	19	19	19
Total current assets	4.2.1	36,019	18,757	9,278	8,669	8,361	9,496
Non-current assets							
Trade and other receivables		568	455	364	291	233	187
Other financial assets		5	5	5	5	5	5
Investments in associates and joint arrangement and subsidiaries		1,471	1,471	1,471	1,471	1,471	1,471
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment		990,939	999,463	1,002,330	1,005,995	1,010,614	1,014,289
Right-of-use assets	4.2.4	787	366	257	147	92	37
Investment property		-	-	-	-	-	-
Intangible assets		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total non-current assets	4.2.1	993,770	1,001,760	1,004,427	1,007,909	1,012,415	1,015,989
Total assets		1,029,789	1,020,517	1,013,705	1,016,578	1,020,776	1,025,485
Current liabilities							
Trade and other payables		5,273	5,135	5,252	5,303	5,407	5,522
Trust funds and deposits		1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925
Provisions		10,732	13,578	9,532	9,603	8,850	9,946
Unearned grants and contract liabilities		7,868	702	976	1,126	926	926
Interest-bearing liabilities	4.2.3	4,906	3,063	1,601	1,673	1,751	1,808
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	428	112	112	55	55	36
Total current liabilities	4.2.2	31,132	24,515	19,398	19,685	18,914	20,163
Non-current liabilities							
Provisions		18,799	12,499	10,386	8,340	7,192	5,094
Interest-bearing liabilities	4.2.3	8,485	13,903	12,302	10,629	8,878	7,070
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	370	258	145	91	36	-
Total non-current liabilities	4.2.2	27,654	26,660	22,833	19,060	16,106	12,164
Total liabilities		58,786	51,174	42,231	38,745	35,020	32,327
Net assets		971,003	969,343	971,474	977,833	985,756	993,158
Equity							
Accumulated surplus		412,768	414,600	418,676	424,753	432,394	439,513
Reserves		558,235	554,743	552,798	553,080	553,363	553,645
Total equity		971,003	969,343	971,474	977,833	985,757	993,158

Balance Sheet Forward Estimates

For the five years ending 30 June 2031

	Forward Estimates				
	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	2,480	5,290	9,927	14,900	20,401
Trade and other receivables	6,569	6,742	6,925	7,115	7,308
Other financial assets	250	250	250	250	250
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	-	-	-	-	-
Other assets	19	19	20	20	20
Total current assets	9,318	12,301	17,122	22,284	27,979
Non-current assets					
Trade and other receivables	149	119	96	76	61
Other financial assets	5	5	5	5	5
Investments in associates and joint arrangement and subsidiaries	1,471	1,471	1,471	1,471	1,471
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	1,016,107	1,018,367	1,019,781	1,021,524	1,023,660
Right-of-use assets	-	-	-	-	-
Investment property	-	-	-	-	-
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Total non-current assets	1,017,732	1,019,962	1,021,353	1,023,076	1,025,197
Total assets	1,027,050	1,032,263	1,038,475	1,045,360	1,053,176
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	5,647	5,775	5,917	6,062	6,203
Trust funds and deposits	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925
Provisions	7,985	8,136	8,291	8,448	8,609
Unearned grants and contract liabilities	364	364	364	364	364
Interest-bearing liabilities	1,701	1,412	1,464	1,517	977
Lease liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Total current liabilities	17,622	17,612	17,961	18,316	18,078
Non-current liabilities					
Provisions	5,106	5,118	5,131	5,143	5,157
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	5,369	3,957	2,494	977	-
Lease liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Total non-current liabilities	10,475	9,075	7,625	6,120	5,157
Total liabilities	28,097	26,687	25,586	24,436	23,235
Net assets	998,953	1,005,576	1,012,889	1,020,924	1,029,941
Equity					
Accumulated surplus	445,025	451,367	458,396	466,151	474,882
Reserves	553,928	554,209	554,493	554,773	555,059
Total equity	998,953	1,005,576	1,012,889	1,020,924	1,029,941

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the five years ending 30 June 2026

* Balances at the end of the financial year may be subject to rounding differences.

Notes	Total \$'000	Accum Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2021 Forecast Actual				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	943,908	385,673	523,226	35,009
Impact of adoption of new accounting standards	-	-	-	-
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	27,097	27,097	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	17,511	-	17,511	-
Transfer to other reserves	7,549	-	-	7,549
Transfer from other reserves	(25,060)	-	-	(25,060)
Balance at end of the financial year	971,005	412,770	540,737	17,498
2022				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	971,005	412,770	540,737	17,498
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	1,830	1,830	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves 4.3.1	2,261	-	-	2,261
Transfer from other reserves 4.3.1	(5,753)	-	-	(5,753)
Balance at end of the financial year 4.3.2	969,343	414,600	540,737	14,006
2023				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	969,343	414,600	540,737	14,006
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	4,076	4,076	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	2,267	-	-	2,267
Transfer from other reserves	(4,212)	-	-	(4,212)
Balance at end of the financial year	971,474	418,676	540,737	12,061
2024				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	971,474	418,676	540,737	12,061
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	6,076	6,076	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	2,249	-	-	2,249
Transfer from other reserves	(1,967)	-	-	(1,967)
Balance at end of the financial year	977,832	424,752	540,737	12,343
2025				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	977,832	424,752	540,737	12,343
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	7,641	7,641	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	2,249	-	-	2,249
Transfer from other reserves	(1,966)	-	-	(1,966)
Balance at end of the financial year	985,756	432,393	540,737	12,626
2026				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	985,756	432,393	540,737	12,626
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	7,119	7,119	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	2,249	-	-	2,249
Transfer from other reserves	(1,967)	-	-	(1,967)
Balance at end of the financial year	993,157	439,512	540,737	12,908

Statement of Changes in Equity Forward Estimates

For the five years ending 30 June 2031

* Balances at the end of the financial year may be subject to rounding differences.

	Total \$'000	Accum Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2027				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	993,157	439,512	540,737	12,908
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	5,513	5,513	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	2,249	-	-	2,249
Transfer from other reserves	(1,966)	-	-	(1,966)
Balance at end of the financial year	998,953	445,025	540,737	13,191
2028				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	998,953	445,025	540,737	13,191
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	6,340	6,340	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	2,289	-	-	2,289
Transfer from other reserves	(2,007)	-	-	(2,007)
Balance at end of the financial year	1,005,575	451,365	540,737	13,473
2029				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,005,575	451,365	540,737	13,473
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	7,031	7,031	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	1,089	-	-	1,089
Transfer from other reserves	(806)	-	-	(806)
Balance at end of the financial year	1,012,889	458,396	540,737	13,756
2030				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,012,889	458,396	540,737	13,756
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	7,753	7,753	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	1,089	-	-	1,089
Transfer from other reserves	(808)	-	-	(808)
Balance at end of the financial year	1,020,923	466,149	540,737	14,037
2031				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,020,923	466,149	540,737	14,037
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	8,733	8,733	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to other reserves	1,089	-	-	1,089
Transfer from other reserves	(804)	-	-	(804)
Balance at end of the financial year	1,029,941	474,882	540,737	14,322

Statement Cash Flows

For the five years ending 30 June 2026

* Balances at the end of the financial year may be subject to rounding differences.

	Notes	Forecast Budget	Budget	Projections			
		2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000
		Inflows / (Outflows)	Inflows / (Outflows)	Inflows / (Outflows)	Inflows / (Outflows)	Inflows / (Outflows)	Inflows / (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities							
Rates and charges		72,286	71,351	72,289	74,301	76,338	78,544
Statutory fees and fines		1,508	1,996	1,934	1,971	2,010	2,056
User fees		14,352	16,584	16,773	17,058	17,491	17,923
Grants - operating		6,555	5,211	5,093	5,187	5,289	5,401
Grants - capital		27,079	(4,276)	4,168	4,646	3,495	3,701
Contributions - monetary		2,442	119	120	123	1,480	128
Interest received		265	271	275	279	283	288
Dividends received		-	-	-	-	-	-
Trust funds and deposits taken		-	-	-	-	-	-
Other receipts		915	867	878	896	912	930
Net GST refund / payment		-	-	-	-	-	-
Employee costs		(37,770)	(36,888)	(37,559)	(38,308)	(39,073)	(40,021)
Materials and services		(47,440)	(45,242)	(48,178)	(42,545)	(43,218)	(43,124)
Trust funds and deposits repaid		-	-	-	-	-	-
Other payments		(7,517)	(5,897)	(5,985)	(6,093)	(6,213)	(6,339)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	4.4.1	32,675	4,096	9,808	17,515	18,794	19,487
Cash flows from investing activities							
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(63,905)	(23,054)	(15,713)	(16,035)	(17,086)	(16,226)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		5,716	750	-	-	-	-
Payments for investments		-	-	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from sale of investments		-	-	-	-	-	-
Loan and advances made		-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments of loans and advances		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	4.4.2	(58,189)	(22,304)	(15,713)	(16,035)	(17,086)	(16,226)
Cash flows from financing activities							
Finance costs		(608)	(583)	(621)	(550)	(477)	(400)
Proceeds from borrowings		3,303	7,000	-	-	-	-
Repayment of borrowings		(691)	(3,426)	(3,063)	(1,601)	(1,673)	(1,750)
Interest paid - lease liability		(23)	(12)	(9)	(6)	(4)	(3)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(521)	(428)	(112)	(112)	(55)	(55)
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities	4.4.3	1,460	2,551	(3,805)	(2,269)	(2,209)	(2,208)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash & cash equivalents		(24,054)	(15,657)	(9,710)	(790)	(501)	1,053
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		52,345	28,291	12,635	2,925	2,135	1,634
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		28,291	12,635	2,925	2,135	1,634	2,687

12,632

Statement of Cash Flows Forward Estimates

For the five years ending 30 June 2031

* Balances at the end of the financial year may be subject to rounding differences.

	Forward Estimates				
	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	Inflows /	Inflows /	Inflows /	Inflows /	Inflows /
	(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities					
Rates and charges	80,786	82,946	85,301	87,739	90,240
Statutory fees and fines	2,105	2,145	2,199	2,254	2,309
User fees	18,241	18,636	19,092	19,569	20,057
Grants - operating	5,526	5,642	5,784	5,929	6,076
Grants - capital	891	1,446	1,446	1,446	1,445
Contributions - monetary	131	134	137	141	144
Interest received	292	296	301	305	310
Dividends received	-	-	-	-	-
Trust funds and deposits taken	-	-	-	-	-
Other receipts	951	974	997	1,021	1,048
Net GST refund / payment	-	-	-	-	-
Employee costs	(40,993)	(41,987)	(43,004)	(44,046)	(44,924)
Materials and services	(44,993)	(43,833)	(44,900)	(46,008)	(47,143)
Trust funds and deposits repaid	-	-	-	-	-
Other payments	(6,482)	(6,628)	(6,793)	(6,963)	(7,137)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	16,455	19,771	20,560	21,387	22,425
Cash flows from investing activities					
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(14,736)	(15,253)	(14,646)	(15,143)	(15,594)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	237	229	306	311	253
Payments for investments	-	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from sale of investments	-	-	-	-	-
Loan and advances made	-	-	-	-	-
Payments of loans and advances	-	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	(14,499)	(15,024)	(14,340)	(14,832)	(15,341)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Finance costs	(318)	(237)	(170)	(119)	(66)
Proceeds from borrowings	-	-	-	-	-
Repayment of borrowings	(1,808)	(1,701)	(1,412)	(1,463)	(1,517)
Interest paid - lease liability	(1)	-	-	-	-
Repayment of lease liabilities	(36)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities	(2,163)	(1,938)	(1,582)	(1,582)	(1,583)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash & cash equivalents	(207)	2,810	4,637	4,973	5,501
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	2,687	2,480	5,290	9,927	14,900
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	2,480	5,290	9,927	14,900	20,401

Statement of Capital Works

For the five years ending 30 June 2026

	Notes	Forecast Budget 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Projections 2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000
Property							
Land		-	-	-	-	-	-
Land improvements		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total land		-	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings		4,035	2,320	1,154	1,630	1,130	649
Heritage buildings		-	-	-	-	-	-
Building improvements		-	-	-	-	-	-
Leasehold improvements		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total buildings		4,035	2,320	1,154	1,630	1,130	649
Total property		4,035	2,320	1,154	1,630	1,130	649
Plant and equipment							
Heritage plant and equipment		-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant, machinery and equipment		1,272	1,005	500	520	540	560
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		897	100	252	255	300	312
Computers and telecommunications		-	-	-	-	-	-
Library books		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total plant and equipment		2,169	1,105	752	775	840	872
Infrastructure							
Roads		9,894	2,652	2,222	3,321	4,352	3,496
Bridges		1,272	150	150	150	175	178
Footpaths and cycleways		763	724	865	895	920	957
Drainage		650	575	650	650	700	728
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		38,620	7,409	3,885	3,231	4,201	3,802
Waste management		3,600	6,310	2,126	2,057	1,160	2,110
Parks, open space and streetscapes		1,983	380	290	315	635	446
Aerodromes		-	-	-	-	-	-
Off street car parks		-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infrastructure		4,435	476	3,574	3,528	3,494	3,513
Total infrastructure		61,217	18,676	13,762	14,147	15,637	15,230
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	67,421	22,101	15,668	16,552	17,607	16,751
Represented by:							
New asset expenditure		13,654	190	480	480	1,330	80
Asset renewal expenditure		7,063	12,996	9,870	9,450	8,726	8,963
Asset expansion expenditure		7,346	859	794	2,775	3,156	2,959
Asset upgrade expenditure		39,358	8,056	4,524	3,847	4,395	4,749
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	67,421	22,101	15,668	16,552	17,607	16,751
Funding sources represented by:							
Grants		31,470	2,809	3,905	4,505	3,705	3,705
Contributions		1,565	-	-	-	1,355	-
Council cash		31,083	12,292	11,763	12,047	12,547	13,046
Borrowings		3,303	7,000	-	-	-	-
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	67,421	22,101	15,668	16,552	17,607	16,751

Statement of Capital Works Forward Estimates
For the five years ending 30 June 2031

	Forward Estimates				
	2026-27 \$'000	2027-28 \$'000	2028-29 \$'000	2029-30 \$'000	2030-31 \$'000
Property					
Land	-	-	-	-	-
Land improvements	-	-	-	-	-
Total land	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings	1,020	540	560	585	606
Heritage buildings	-	-	-	-	-
Building improvements	-	-	-	-	-
Leasehold improvements	-	-	-	-	-
Total buildings	1,020	540	560	585	606
Total property	1,020	540	560	585	606
Plant and equipment					
Heritage plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Plant, machinery and equipment	896	486	1,093	1,093	591
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	325	337	360	380	394
Computers and telecommunications	-	-	-	-	-
Library books	-	-	-	-	-
Total plant and equipment	1,221	823	1,453	1,473	985
Infrastructure					
Roads	2,565	2,655	3,230	3,320	3,901
Bridges	201	365	190	195	198
Footpaths and cycleways	985	1,020	1,255	1,295	1,534
Drainage	758	790	815	850	881
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	3,770	3,925	4,070	4,250	6,900
Waste management	1,160	1,200	-	-	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	460	325	540	555	568
Aerodromes	-	-	-	-	-
Off street car parks	-	-	-	-	-
Other infrastructure	3,099	4,118	3,035	3,130	523
Total infrastructure	12,998	14,398	13,135	13,595	14,505
Total capital works expenditure	15,239	15,761	15,148	15,653	16,096
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	100	260	80	80	1,080
Asset renewal expenditure	9,524	10,108	9,394	9,700	7,952
Asset expansion expenditure	1,375	905	936	978	1,012
Asset upgrade expenditure	4,240	4,488	4,738	4,895	6,052
Total capital works expenditure	15,239	15,761	15,148	15,653	16,096
Funding sources represented by:					
Grants	1,455	1,455	1,455	1,455	1,455
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Council cash	13,784	14,306	13,693	14,198	14,641
Borrowings	-	-	-	-	-
Total capital works expenditure	15,239	15,761	15,148	15,653	16,096

Statement of Human Resources

For the five years ending 30 June 2026

	Forecast Budget	Budget	Projections			
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000
Staff expenditure						
Employee costs - operating	33,212	35,940	36,659	37,392	38,140	38,903
Total staff expenditure	33,212	35,940	36,659	37,392	38,140	38,903
Staff numbers						
Permanent EFT numbers	317.75	314.43	314.43	314.43	314.43	314.43
Limited tenures	7.60	7.16	8.00	6.00	4.00	4.00
Total staff numbers	325.35	321.59	322.43	320.43	318.43	318.43

Statement of Human Resources Forward Estimates

For the five years ending 30 June 2031

	Forward Estimates				
	2026-27 \$'000	2027-28 \$'000	2028-29 \$'000	2029-30 \$'000	2030-31 \$'000
Staff expenditure					
Employee costs - operating	39,681	40,474	41,284	42,109	42,952
Total staff expenditure	39,681	40,474	41,284	42,109	42,952
Staff numbers					
Permanent EFT numbers	314.43	314.43	314.43	314.43	314.43
Limited tenures	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Total staff numbers	318.43	318.43	318.43	318.43	318.43

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

Directorate	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Composition		Casual \$'000	Temp \$'000
		Permanent Full time \$'000	Part time \$'000		
Operations and Infrastructure	13,542	11,650	1,452	-	440
Planning and Community Safety	7,787	6,252	1,535	-	-
Community Services	6,043	2,925	2,827	-	291
Corporate Services	6,022	5,552	470	-	-
Governance, Communications and Engagement	2,546	2,383	163	-	-
Total expenditure	35,940	28,762	6,447	-	731

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

Directorate	Budget 2021-22	Composition		Temp
		Permanent Full time	Part time	
Operations and Infrastructure	129.32	109.85	15.07	4.40
Planning and Community Safety	71.19	53.00	18.19	-
Community Services	53.60	24.00	26.84	2.76
Corporate Services	46.48	41.60	4.88	-
Governance, Communications and Engagement	21.00	19.00	2.00	-
Total staff	321.59	247.45	66.98	7.16

Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
For the five years ending 30 June 2026

	Budget	Projections			
	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000
Operations and Infrastructure					
Permanent - Full time	11,650	11,871	12,108	12,350	12,597
Female	2,992	3,048	3,109	3,171	3,234
Male	8,658	8,823	8,999	9,179	9,363
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,452	1,480	1,509	1,539	1,570
Female	611	623	635	648	661
Male	841	857	874	891	909
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Operations and Infrastructure	13,102	13,351	13,617	13,889	14,167
Planning and Community Safety					
Permanent - Full time	6,252	6,371	6,498	6,628	6,761
Female	3,287	3,350	3,417	3,485	3,555
Male	2,965	3,021	3,081	3,143	3,206
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,535	1,564	1,595	1,627	1,659
Female	999	1,018	1,038	1,059	1,080
Male	536	546	557	568	579
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Planning and Community Safety	7,787	7,935	8,093	8,255	8,420
Community Services					
Permanent - Full time	2,925	2,981	3,041	3,102	3,164
Female	2,688	2,739	2,794	2,850	2,907
Male	237	242	247	252	257
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	2,827	2,881	2,938	2,996	3,056
Female	2,762	2,815	2,871	2,928	2,987
Male	65	66	67	68	69
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Community Services	5,752	5,862	5,979	6,098	6,220
Corporate Services					
Permanent - Full time	5,551	5,657	5,771	5,886	6,003
Female	2,234	2,277	2,323	2,369	2,416
Male	3,317	3,380	3,448	3,517	3,587
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	470	479	489	499	509
Female	470	479	489	499	509
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services	6,021	6,136	6,260	6,385	6,512
Governance, Communications and Engagement					
Permanent - Full time	2,383	2,429	2,478	2,528	2,579
Female	2,008	2,047	2,088	2,130	2,173
Male	375	382	390	398	406
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	163	166	169	172	175
Female	163	166	169	172	175
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Governance, Communications and Engagement	2,546	2,595	2,647	2,700	2,754

Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
For the five years ending 30 June 2031

	Forward Estimates				
	2026-27 \$'000	2027-28 \$'000	2028-29 \$'000	2029-30 \$'000	2030-31 \$'000
Operations and Infrastructure					
Permanent - Full time	12,849	13,106	13,368	13,636	13,909
Female	3,299	3,365	3,432	3,501	3,571
Male	9,550	9,741	9,936	10,135	10,338
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,601	1,633	1,666	1,699	1,733
Female	674	687	701	715	729
Male	927	946	965	984	1,004
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Operations and Infrastructure	14,450	14,739	15,034	15,335	15,642
Planning and Community Safety					
Permanent - Full time	6,896	7,034	7,175	7,318	7,464
Female	3,626	3,699	3,773	3,848	3,925
Male	3,270	3,335	3,402	3,470	3,539
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,693	1,727	1,761	1,796	1,832
Female	1,102	1,124	1,146	1,169	1,192
Male	591	603	615	627	640
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Planning and Community Safety	8,589	8,761	8,936	9,114	9,296
Community Services					
Permanent - Full time	3,227	3,291	3,356	3,423	3,492
Female	2,965	3,024	3,084	3,146	3,209
Male	262	267	272	277	283
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	3,117	3,179	3,242	3,306	3,372
Female	3,047	3,108	3,170	3,233	3,298
Male	70	71	72	73	74
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Community Services	6,344	6,470	6,598	6,729	6,864
Corporate Services					
Permanent - Full time	6,123	6,245	6,370	6,497	6,627
Female	2,464	2,513	2,563	2,614	2,666
Male	3,659	3,732	3,807	3,883	3,961
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	519	529	540	551	562
Female	519	529	540	551	562
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services	6,642	6,774	6,910	7,048	7,189
Governance, Communications and Engagement					
Permanent - Full time	2,630	2,682	2,735	2,790	2,846
Female	2,216	2,260	2,305	2,351	2,398
Male	414	422	430	439	448
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	179	183	187	191	195
Female	179	183	187	191	195
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Governance, Communications and Engagement	2,809	2,865	2,922	2,981	3,041

Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
For the five years ending 30 June 2026

	Budget	Projections			
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Operations and Infrastructure					
Permanent - Full time	109.85	109.85	109.85	109.85	109.85
Female	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85
Male	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07
Female	6.42	6.42	6.42	6.42	6.42
Male	8.65	8.65	8.65	8.65	8.65
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Operations and Infrastructure	124.92	124.92	124.92	124.92	124.92
Planning and Community Safety					
Permanent - Full time	53.00	53.00	53.00	53.00	53.00
Female	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00
Male	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	18.19	18.19	18.19	18.19	18.19
Female	11.66	11.66	11.66	11.66	11.66
Male	6.53	6.53	6.53	6.53	6.53
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Planning and Community Safety	71.19	71.19	71.19	71.19	71.19
Community Services					
Permanent - Full time	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00
Female	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
Male	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	26.84	26.84	26.84	26.84	26.84
Female	26.24	26.24	26.24	26.24	26.24
Male	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Community Services	50.84	50.84	50.84	50.84	50.84
Corporate Services					
Permanent - Full time	41.60	41.60	41.60	41.60	41.60
Female	19.60	19.60	19.60	19.60	19.60
Male	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88
Female	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services	46.48	46.48	46.48	46.48	46.48
Governance, Communications and Engagement					
Permanent - Full time	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00
Female	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
Male	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Female	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Governance, Communications and Engagement	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00

Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
For the five years ending 30 June 2031

	Forward Estimates				
	2026-27 FTE	2027-28 FTE	2028-29 FTE	2029-30 FTE	2030-31 FTE
Operations and Infrastructure					
Permanent - Full time	109.85	109.85	109.85	109.85	109.85
Female	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85
Male	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07
Female	6.42	6.42	6.42	6.42	6.42
Male	8.65	8.65	8.65	8.65	8.65
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Operations and Infrastructure	124.92	124.92	124.92	124.92	124.92
Planning and Community Safety					
Permanent - Full time	53.00	53.00	53.00	53.00	53.00
Female	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00
Male	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	18.19	18.19	18.19	18.19	18.19
Female	11.66	11.66	11.66	11.66	11.66
Male	6.53	6.53	6.53	6.53	6.53
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Planning and Community Safety	71.19	71.19	71.19	71.19	71.19
Community Services					
Permanent - Full time	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00
Female	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
Male	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	26.84	26.84	26.84	26.84	26.84
Female	26.24	26.24	26.24	26.24	26.24
Male	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Community Services	50.84	50.84	50.84	50.84	50.84
Corporate Services					
Permanent - Full time	41.60	41.60	41.60	41.60	41.60
Female	19.60	19.60	19.60	19.60	19.60
Male	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88
Female	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services	46.48	46.48	46.48	46.48	46.48
Governance, Communications and Engagement					
Permanent - Full time	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00
Female	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
Male	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Female	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Male	-	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-
Total Governance, Communications and Engagement	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00

4. Notes to the financial statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

4.1.1 Rates and charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's Annual Budget.

As per the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2021-22 the FGRS cap has been set at 1.50 percent. The cap applies to general rates and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, there will be a 1.50 percent rate cap applied to the average general rate.

Rates and charges are due on a quarterly instalment basis. The due dates for the 2021-22 financial year will be:

- 30 September 2021,
- 30 November 2021,
- 28 February 2022 and
- 31 May 2022

(if any of these dates fall on a weekend, the due date will be the following Monday).

This will raise total rates and charges for 2020-21 to \$69.953 million.

4.1.1 (a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
General rates	57,645	58,703	1,058	1.84
Waste management charge	9,383	10,719	1,336	14.24
Special rates and charges	278	297	19	6.83
Interest on rates and charges	116	234	118	101.72
Total rates and charges	67,422	69,953	2,531	3.75

4.1.1 (b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year:

Type or class of land	2020-21 Rate in Dollar	2021-22 Rate in Dollar	Change %
General	0.002670	0.002718	1.80
Farm Land	0.002270	0.002310	1.76
Commercial/Industrial	0.003091	0.003153	2.01
Vacant Land - Residential and Specified Low Density Residential Zones	0.005339	0.004031	(24.50)
Cultural and Recreational Land	0.001030	0.001060	2.91

4.1.1 (c) The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, compared with the previous financial year:

Type or class of land	2020-21	2021-22	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
General	52,761	54,319	1,558	2.95
Farm Land	605	2,755	2,150	355.37
Commercial/Industrial	2,751	623	(2,128)	(77.35)
Vacant Land - Residential and Specified Low Density Residential Zones	1,527	1,079	(448)	(29.34)
Cultural and Recreational Land	4	4	-	-
Total amount to be raised by general rates	57,648	58,780	1,132	1.96

4.1.1 (d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, compared with the previous financial year:

Type or class of land	2020-21	2021-22	Change	
	Number	Number	Number	%
Residential	22,181	22,314	133	0.60
Farm Land	166	169	3	1.81
Commercial / Industrial	1,004	1,003	(1)	(0.10)
Vacant Land - Residential and Specified Low Density Residential Zones	516	484	(32)	(6.20)
Cultural and Recreational Land	2	2	-	-
Total number of assessments	23,869	23,972	103	0.43

The movement in the number of assessments has been primarily driven by the growth in rateable properties occurring across the Shire.

4.1.1 (e) The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value (CIV), this is in compliance with the Fair Go Rates System and the Local Government Act.

4.1.1 (f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year:

Type or class of land	2020-21	2021-22	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Residential	19,760,347	19,984,620	224,273	1.13
Farm Land	266,800	269,810	3,010	1.13
Commercial / Industrial	889,905	873,767	(16,138)	(1.81)
Vacant Land - Residential and Specified Low Density Residential Zones	286,091	267,775	(18,316)	(6.40)
Cultural and Recreational Land	4,090	4,075	(15)	(0.37)
Total value of land	21,207,233	21,400,047	192,814	0.91

4.1.1 (g) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year per rateable property:

Type of Charge	2020-21	2021-22	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Waste Management - Standard service	419.56	477.73	58.17	13.86
Waste Management - 80 litre landfill bin	335.65	382.18	46.53	13.86
Waste Management - 2 x 120 litre landfill bin	587.38	668.82	81.44	13.86
Waste Management - 140 litre landfill bin	461.52	525.50	63.98	13.86
Waste Management - 120 litre landfill bin – weekly collection	755.21	859.91	104.70	13.86
Waste Management - Elderly persons units - bin	104.89	119.43	14.54	13.86

Council has proposed to increase the domestic waste service standard charge by 13.86%.

4.1.1 (h) The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, compared with the previous financial year:

Type of Charge	2020-21	2021-22	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Waste Management - Residential - Standard Service	8,363,089	8,992,790	629,701	7.53
Waste Management - Residential - 80 Litre Red Bins	20,475	203,702	183,227	894.88
Waste Management - Residential - 2 Red Bins	926,305	1,195,850	269,545	29.10
Waste Management - Residential - 140 L (Fortnightly Garbage)	-	263,276	263,276	100.00
Waste Management - Residential - 120L (Weekly Garbage)	-	52,455	52,455	100.00
Waste Management - Elderly Persons Units - Bin	9,650	10,988	1,338	13.87

The movement in the projected income is reflective of the movement in assessments.

4.1.1 (i) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year:

	2020-21	2021-22	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
General rates	57,648,111	58,780,166	1,132,056	1.96
Service charges	9,319,519	10,719,059	1,399,540	15.02
Total Rates and charges	66,967,630	69,499,226	2,531,595	3.78

The above table only includes rates and charges generated and excludes any applicable rebates and special rates.

4.1.1 (j) Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) Compliance

Nillumbik Shire Council is fully compliant with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System

	2020-21	2021-22
Number of rateable properties	23,867	23,970
Base Average Rates	\$2,415.40	\$2,415.71
Maximum Rate Increase (set by the State Government)	2.00%	1.50%
Council Rate Cap Applied	0.00%	1.50%
Percentage below rate cap	2.00%	0.00%
Capped Average Rate based on Council rate cap	\$2,415.21	\$2,452.06
Budgeted General Rates Revenue subject to FGRS	\$ 57,643,898	\$ 58,775,847

4.1.1 (k) Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges:

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- The making of supplementary valuations;
- The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals);
- Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa; and
- Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land.

4.1.1 (l) Differential rates

Rates to be levied

The rate and amount of rates payable in relation to land in each category of differential are:

- A general rate of 0.2718 percent (0.2718 cents in the dollar of CIV) for all rateable residential properties and ordinary vacant land;
- A general rate of 0.2310 percent (0.2310 cents in the dollar of CIV) for all rateable farm land properties;
- A general rate of 0.3153 percent (0.3153 cents in the dollar of CIV) for all rateable commercial and industrial properties;
- A general rate of 0.4031 percent (0.4031 cents in the dollar of CIV) for all rateable vacant land - residential and specified low density residential zones; and
- A general rate of 0.1060 percent (0.1060 cents in the dollar of CIV) for all rateable cultural and recreational properties.

Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of each rateable land (categorised by the characteristics described below) by the relevant percentages indicated above.

Council considers that each differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council functions. Details of the objectives of each differential rate, the types of classes of land, which are subject to each differential rate and the uses of each differential rate, are set out below.

Commercial land - any land used for commercial purposes

Occupied for the principal purpose of carrying out the trade in goods and services or unoccupied but zoned commercial under the State Planning Scheme

Industrial – any land used for industrial purposes

Occupied for the principal purpose of carrying out the manufacture or production of or unoccupied but zoned industrial under the State Planning Scheme.

Farm land

Land not less than 2 hectares in area; that is used primarily for grazing (including agistment), dairying, pig-farming, poultry-farming, tree farming, bee-keeping, viticulture, horticulture, fruit-growing or the growing of crops of any kind or for any combination of those activities; that is used by a business.

Land that has a significant and substantial commercial purpose or character; and that seeks to make a profit on a continuous or repetitive basis from its activities on the land; and that is making a profit from its activities on the land, or that has a reasonable prospect of making a profit from its activities on the land if it continues to operate in the way that it is operating.

Farm land with Sustainable Agriculture Rebate land

Used by the applicant for a single farm enterprise must comprise and aggregate of a minimum 30 hectares;

The property in respect of which the rebate is sought is classified as Farm Land; the applicant shall satisfy detailed criteria relating to sustainable farming practices and land care principles as developed by Council.

Other land

Unoccupied land which is not farm land, commercial/industrial land or vacant land - residential and specified low density residential zones.

Vacant Land - Residential and Specified Low Density Residential Zones

General Residential / Activity Centre Zone / Neighbourhood Residential Zones and Low Density Residential Zones (LDRZ) to which Development Planning Overlay 4 applies, on which no habitable dwelling exists.

Lots greater than 8,000 square metres in the Plenty LDRZ are excluded.

This is a higher differential to encourage construction of new dwellings in preferred locations across the Shire.

Rateable land under this definition includes Vic Roads land that is not used for transport or for residential properties.

The rating differential has been reduced in the 2021-2022 budget. On submission of a valid building or planning permit, the property rate type will revert to the general rate.

Cultural and Recreational Land

Council is required to determine an amount payable as rates in respect to recreational lands.

Recreational lands are described as lands which are:

- Vested in or occupied by any body corporate or unincorporate which exists for the purpose of providing or promoting cultural or sporting recreational facilities or objectives.
- Which applies its profits in promoting its objectives and prohibits the payment of dividend or amount to members used for outdoor sporting recreational or cultural purposes or similar outdoor activities.

4.1.2 Statutory fees and fines

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Animal infringements	10	73	63	630.00
Infringements & costs	203	636	433	213.30
PERIN court recoveries	10	20	10	100.00
Town planning fees	877	877	-	-
Building fees	210	310	100	47.62
Total statutory fees and fines	1,310	1,916	606	46.26

Statutory fees and fines (\$0.606 million increase)

Statutory fees relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include animal registrations, *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* registrations and parking fines.

A detailed listing of statutory fees is included in Appendix 1.

4.1.3 User fees

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Adult education	139	282	143	102.88
Aged services	10	-	(10)	(100.00)
Building services	102	140	38	37.25
Child care/children's programs	179	334	155	86.59
Edendale farm	171	284	113	66.08
Environmental health	230	247	17	7.39
Hall & sports ground hire	224	530	306	136.61
Leisure centre and recreation	11,391	12,710	1,319	11.58
Pound release	30	47	17	56.67
Registration fees	816	801	(15)	(1.84)
Subdivision supervision	218	221	3	1.38
Waste management services	429	657	228	53.15
Other fees and charges	215	251	36	16.74
Total user fees	14,154	16,504	2,350	16.60

User fees (\$2.350 million increase)

User charges relate mainly to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users of Council's services. These include use of leisure and other community facilities and the provision of human services such as family day care and home help services. In setting the Budget, the key principle for determining the level of user charges has been to ensure that increases are generally consistent with cost increases.

Revenue generated from user charges has increased driven by the increase in charges as listed in **Appendix 1 - Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees and Charges**. There is an overall projected increase in revenue generated by 16.6 percent, driven by a change in facility related contracts.

4.1.4 Grants

Grants are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's annual budget.

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Grants were received in respect of the following:				
Summary of grants:				
Commonwealth funded grants	1,886	3,620	1,734	91.94
State funded grants	35,941	4,320	(31,621)	(87.98)
Total grants received	37,827	7,940	(29,887)	(79.01)
(a) Operating Grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Adult education	50	49	(1)	(2.00)
Aged care	280	278	(2)	(0.71)
Family and children	189	202	13	6.88
Financial Assistance Grants	1,367	3,091	1,724	126.12
Recurrent - State Government				
Adult education	196	182	(14)	(7.14)
Aged care	301	-	(301)	(100.00)
Community health	17	17	-	-
Family and children	779	544	(235)	(30.17)
Maternal and child health	453	381	(72)	(15.89)
Recreation	15	15	-	-
School crossing supervisors	270	272	2	0.74
Total recurrent grants	3,917	5,031	1,114	28.44
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Adult Education	10	-	(10)	(100.00)
Environment	90	-	(90)	(100.00)
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Aged Care	16	-	(16)	(100.00)
Corporate Support	812	-	(812)	(100.00)
Emergency Management	230	-	(230)	(100.00)
Environment	435	60	(375)	(86.21)
Family and children	199	-	(199)	(100.00)
Recreation	3	40	37	1,233.33
Roads	145	-	(145)	(100.00)
Tourism and Business Support	500	-	(500)	(100.00)
Total non-recurrent grants	2,440	100	(2,340)	(95.90)
Total operating grants	6,357	5,131	(1,226)	(19.29)

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
(b) Capital Grants				
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Bridges	369	-	(369)	(100.00)
Drainage	-	175	175	100.00
Footpaths	-	60	60	100.00
Other Infrastructure	-	50	50	100.00
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	-	1,429	1,429	100.00
Roads	6,331	1,070	(5,261)	(83.10)
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Family and children	311	-	(311)	(100.00)
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	22,555	-	(22,555)	(100.00)
Roads	1,509	-	(1,509)	(100.00)
Other infrastructure	395	25	(370)	(93.67)
Total non-recurrent grants(capital)	31,470	2,809	(28,661)	(91.07)
Total capital grants	31,470	2,809	(28,661)	(91.07)
Total Grants	37,827	7,940	(29,887)	(79.01)

Grants - Operating (\$1.226 million decrease)

Operating grants include all monies received from State and Federal sources for the purposes of funding the delivery of Council's services to ratepayers. Overall, the level of operating grants is expected to decrease by 19.29 percent or \$1.226 million. This is mainly due to a large number one-off non-recurrent grants received in 2020-21.

Grants - Capital (\$28.661 million decrease)

Capital grants include all monies received from State, Federal and community sources for the purposes of funding the capital works program. Overall, the level of capital grants has decreased by 91.07 percent or \$29.887 million mainly due to specific funding for large capital works projects in 2020-21.

Section 4.5 Capital works program includes further detailed analysis of the grants and contributions expected to be received during the 2021-22 year.

4.1.5 Contributions

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Monetary	2,442	119	(2,323)	(95.13)
Non-monetary	-	-	-	-
Total contributions	2,442	119	(2,323)	(95.13)

Contributions (\$2.323 million decrease)

Contributions relate to monies paid by residents in regard to road construction schemes, developer contributions or monies paid by clubs for other minor capital works.

Contributions are projected to decrease \$2.323 million when compared to the 2020-21 Budget forecast. This is mainly due to the one off receipt of contributions tied to capital projects in 2020-21.

4.1.6 Other income

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Interest on investments	265	271	6	2.26
Other rent	295	350	55	18.64
Sale of valuations	10	10	-	-
WorkCover insurance recoveries	155	150	(5)	(3.23)
Major initiative other income	185	-	(185)	(100.00)
Other	270	356	86	31.85
Total other income	1,180	1,137	(43)	(3.64)

Other income (\$43,000 decrease)

Other revenue is showing a slight decrease of 3.64 percent compared to the prior financial year.

4.1.7 Employee costs

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Casual staff	664	454	(210)	(31.63)
Fringe benefits tax and WorkCover	172	150	(22)	(12.79)
Oncost recoveries	6,641	7,324	683	10.28
Redundancy	1,149	-	(1,149)	(100.00)
Wages and salaries	28,024	29,107	1,083	3.86
Total employee costs	36,650	37,035	385	1.05

Employee benefits (\$0.385 million increase)

Employee costs include all labour related expenditure including; wages and salaries and on-costs for both casual employees and permanent employees. Salaries and wages have been increased based on Council's Enterprise Agreement which provides a 1.8 percent increase. The superannuation rate has been increased to 10% to reflect changes in the superannuation guarantee legislation.

4.1.8 Materials and services

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Contract payments:				
Audit	195	197	2	1.03
External labour hire	309	181	(128)	(41.42)
HACC contracts	226	215	(11)	(4.87)
Leisure	11,507	12,725	1,218	10.58
Other	1,845	1,696	(149)	(8.08)
Valuations	78	61	(17)	(21.79)
Waste services	5,902	6,630	728	12.33
Materials and Services:				
Building maintenance	340	388	48	14.12
Communications	390	208	(182)	(46.67)
Corporate information	49	49	-	-
Corporate support	96	96	-	-
Emergency management	249	214	(35)	(14.06)
Fleet operations	890	887	(3)	(0.34)
Insurances	1,255	1,290	35	2.79
IT & telephone	1,922	2,032	110	5.72
Materials, maintenance & equip	10,435	8,091	(2,344)	(22.46)
Other	556	573	17	3.06
Planning & building services	19	14	(5)	(26.32)
Stationery, printing & postage	386	408	22	5.70
Subscriptions, Publications & Memberships	205	216	11	5.37
Utilities	1,155	1,149	(6)	(0.52)
Waste services	1,527	1,974	447	29.27
Total materials and services	39,536	39,294	(242)	(0.61)

Materials and services (\$0.242 million decrease)

Materials and services include the purchases of consumables, payments to contractors for the provision of services and utility costs.

4.1.9 Depreciation and amortisation

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Property	742	322	(420)	(56.60)
Plant & equipment	398	625	227	57.04
Infrastructure	11,251	11,551	300	2.67
Total depreciation and amortisation	12,391	12,498	107	0.86

Depreciation and amortisation (\$0.107 million increase)

Depreciation is an accounting measure which attempts to allocate the value of Council's property, plant and equipment including infrastructure such as roads and drains assets over their useful life.

4.1.10 Amortisation - Right of use assets

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Plant & equipment	513	420	(93)	(18.13)
Total amortisation - right of use assets	513	420	(93)	(18.13)

4.1.11 Other expenses

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Aged & family services	823	59	(764)	(92.83)
Arts and cultural services	593	532	(61)	(10.29)
Community development	353	207	(146)	(41.36)
Council support	3	3	-	-
Councillors' allowances	265	265	-	-
Economic development	377	394	17	4.51
Environmental works	114	99	(15)	(13.16)
Information technology	3	-	(3)	(100.00)
Leisure & education services	22	10	(12)	(54.55)
Library contributions (Yarra Plenty Regional Library)	2,882	2,946	64	2.22
Municipal laws	148	148	-	-
Short-term lease hire	221	151	(70)	(31.67)
Other	1,272	754	(518)	(40.72)
Payment agents & bank fees	179	181	2	1.12
Planning & building	98	97	(1)	(1.02)
Strategic planning	150	37	(113)	(75.33)
Youth services	14	14	-	-
Total other expenses	7,517	5,897	(1,620)	(21.55)

Other expenses (\$1.62 million decrease)

Other expenses are forecast to decrease by 21.55 percent or \$1.62 million. This is mainly as a result of reductions in aged and family services related expenditure and a reduction in expenditure as a result of the Council elections held in 2020-21.

4.2 Balance Sheet

4.2.1 Assets

Current Assets (\$17.262 million decrease)

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and investments such as cash held in the bank and the value of investments in deposits with short term maturities of twelve months or less.

Trade and other receivables are monies owed to Council primarily by ratepayers. Short and long term debtors are not expected to change significantly and continue to be monitored by Council.

Other assets includes items such as prepayments for expenses, inventories in Council's services and other revenues due to be received in the next 12 months.

The movement is reflective of the draw down of grant monies received for specific purposes.

Non-Current Assets (\$7.99 million increase)

Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment is the largest component of Council's worth and represents the value of all the land, buildings, roads, vehicles and equipment. The increase in this balance is attributable to the net result of the capital works program, and ongoing commitments to maintain and improve community facilities.

4.2.2 Liabilities

Current Liabilities (\$6.617 million decrease)

The decrease is driven by the recognition of unearned grants and contract liabilities under Australian Accounting Standard.

Non Current Liabilities (\$0.994 million decrease)

The decrease in non-current liabilities is mainly due to timing interest-bearing liabilities and provision movements.

4.2.3 Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

	2020-21	2021-22
	\$	\$
Amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year	10,779	13,391
Amount proposed to be borrowed	3,303	7,000
Amount projected to be paid	(691)	(3,425)
Amount of borrowings as at 30 June	13,391	16,966

4.2.4 Leases by category

As a result of the introduction of AASB 16 Leases, right-of-use assets and lease liabilities have been recognised as outlined in the table below.

	Forecast	Budget
	2020-21	2021-22
	\$'000	\$'000
Right-of-use assets		
Land and buildings	-	-
Plant and equipment	787	366
Other, etc.	-	-
Total right-of-use assets	787	366
Lease liabilities		
Current lease Liabilities		
Land and buildings	-	-
Plant and equipment	428	112
Other, etc.	-	-
Total current lease liabilities	428	112
Non-current lease liabilities		
Land and buildings	-	-
Plant and equipment	370	258
Other, etc.	-	-
Total non-current lease liabilities	370	258
Total lease liabilities	798	370

Where the interest rate applicable to a lease is not expressed in the lease agreement, Council applies the average incremental borrowing rate in the calculation of lease liabilities. The current incremental borrowing rate is 4.00%.

4.3 Statement of changes in Equity

4.3.1 Reserves

4.3.1 (a) Statutory reserves (\$2.218 million decrease)

These funds must be applied for specified statutory purposes in accordance with various legislative and contractual requirements. The decrease projected is illustrating the use of funds received for specific purposes.

4.3.1 (b) Discretionary reserves (\$1.275 million decrease)

These funds are not tied to a specific purpose. In this case Council has made decisions regarding the future use of these funds and unless there is a Council resolution these funds are to be used for those purposes. The decisions about future use of these funds has been reflected in Council's Budget.

4.3.2 Equity

Equity (\$1.661 million decrease)

Total equity must equal net assets and is made up of the following components:

- Asset revaluation reserve which represents the difference between the previously recorded value of assets and their current valuations.
- Other reserves that are funds that Council wishes to separately identify as being set aside to meet a specific purpose in the future and to which there is no existing liability. These amounts are transferred from the Accumulated Surplus of the Council to be separately disclosed.
- Accumulated surplus which is the value of all net assets less reserves that have accumulated over time.

The movement in other reserves reflects the net position of usage of investment cash reserves to partly fund the capital works program or operating project expenditure and additional transfers to reserves from transactions like developer contributions and asset sales.

4.4 Statement of Cash Flows

4.4.1 Net cash flows provided by/used in operating activities (\$28.579 million decrease)

The decrease is driven by to one off capital works funding through external contributions received and in materials and services.

4.4.2 Net cash flows provided by/used in investing activities (\$35.885 million decrease)

The overall decrease is a reflection of timing of cash flows associated with the capital works program for the 2021-22 year. The statement of capital works provides a full detail of projects for the 2021-22 year.

4.4.3 Net cash flows provided by/used in financing activities (\$1.091 million decrease)

This is primarily due to new loans to be taken in 2021-22 (\$7 million). Council continues to make repayments on existing loans.

4.5 Capital works program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2020-21 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source.

4.5.1 Summary

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000	% %
Property	4,035	2,320	(1,715)	(42.50)
Plant and equipment	2,169	1,105	(1,064)	(49.05)
Infrastructure	61,217	18,676	(42,541)	(69.49)
Total	67,421	22,101	(45,320)	(67.22)

* Forecast includes capital works projects carried forward from 2018-19 - \$17.97 million

4.5.1 (a) Property (\$2.320 million)

The property class comprises buildings and building improvements including community facilities, municipal offices, sports facilities and pavilions.

4.5.1 (b) Plant and equipment (\$1.105 million)

Plant and equipment includes plant, machinery and equipment, computers and telecommunications.

The more significant projects include ongoing cyclical replacement of the plant and vehicle fleet (\$1.005 million).

4.5.1 (c) Infrastructure (\$18.676 million)

Infrastructure includes roads, bridges, footpaths and cycleways, drainage, recreation, leisure and community facilities, parks, open space and streetscapes, off street car parks and other structures.

For the 2021-22 year, \$2.652 million will be expended on road projects. The more significant projects include:

- Road and carpark renewal (\$1.642 million);
- Road safety (\$0.340 million);
- Church Rd, Panton Hill, widening and guard rail (\$0.290 million); and
- Road upgrade (\$0.280 million).

\$7.409 million will be expended on recreational, leisure and community facilities, key projects being:

- Redevelopment of the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre (\$3.5 million);
- Funding allocation to potential grant opportunities (if required) (\$2.0 million);
- Eltham North Soccer Pitch replacement (\$0.635 million);
- Trails renewal (\$0.350 million)
- Marngrook Oval improvement works (\$0.300 million);

\$0.724 million will be expended on footpath construction and renewal program projects.

\$0.575 million will be expended on drainage renewal and upgrade projects.

\$5.0 million will be expended on waste management in relation to the rehabilitation of landfill sites.

\$0.150 million will be expended on bridge works.

Other infrastructure expenditure includes

- Disability access works (\$0.150 million);
- Street tree planting (\$95,000);
- Townships and streetscapes (\$92,000); and
- Bicycle Hoops in Eltham Activity Centre (\$50,000).

Asset Class	Project Cost	Asset expenditure types			
		Renewal	Upgrade	Expansion	New
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property	2,320	1,750	570	-	-
Plant and equipment	1,105	1,105	-	-	-
Infrastructure	18,676	10,141	7,486	859	190
Total	22,101	12,995	8,056	859	190

A distinction is made between expenditure on new assets, asset renewal, upgrade and expansion. Expenditure on asset renewal is expenditure on an existing asset, or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service of the asset to its original capability. Expenditure on new assets does not have any element of expansion or upgrade of existing assets but will result in an additional burden for future operation, maintenance and capital renewal.

Asset Class	Project Cost	Summary of Funding Sources			
		Grants	Contrib. and Other Funding	Council Cash	Borrowings
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property	2,320	470	-	1,850	-
Plant and equipment	1,105	-	-	1,105	-
Infrastructure	18,676	2,339	-	9,337	7,000
Total	22,101	2,809	-	12,292	7,000

Grants - Capital (\$2.809 million)

Capital grants include all monies received from State and Federal governments for the purposes of funding the capital works program. Significant grants budgeted to be received for 2021-22 include funding for Road and carpark renewal, Marngrook Oval improvement works, Eltham North Soccer Pitch Replacement; Church Rd, Panton Hill, widening and guard rail and the Diamond Creek Trail - amenity program. A list of projects with their funding source is provided below in 4.5.2.

Council Cash (\$12.292 million)

It is expected that in 2021-22, \$9.887 million of rates revenue will be used to fund various capital projects.

A number of reserves are set aside for specific purposes. For 2021-22, \$2.155 million will be used to fund part of the new capital works program including:

- Kangaroo Ground landfill rehabilitation (\$1.06 million);
- Plant and Fleet replacement (\$0.755 million); and
- Eltham North Soccer Pitch replacement (\$0.340 million).

Borrowings (\$7 million)

Borrowing is proposed to fund tip rehabilitation works at Kangaroo Ground (\$5.0 million) which is in response to and in compliance with the requirements set out by the Environment Protection Authority. \$2 million will be set aside to enable Council to respond to potential Government grant funding opportunities.

4.5.2 Capital works program

For the year ending 30 June 2022

* The below is a schedule of proposed and planned works for the 2020-21 financial year. It is not a list of Council assets.

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Summary of funding sources			
		Grants \$'000	Contrib \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
PROPERTY					
LAND	-	-	-	-	-
LAND IMPROVEMENTS	-	-	-	-	-
BUILDINGS					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Buildings renewal (including public toilets)	1,750	-	-	1,750	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - buildings	1,750	-	-	1,750	-
Asset upgrade expenditure					
Climate and water efficiency fund	100	-	-	100	-
Buildings upgrade (including public toilets)	150	150	-	-	-
CFA Plenty Building Upgrade	105	105	-	-	-
Research toilet works	215	215	-	-	-
Total asset upgrade expenditure - buildings	570	470	-	100	-
TOTAL BUILDINGS	2,320	470	-	1,850	-
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	-	-	-	-	-
LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS	-	-	-	-	-
HERITAGE BUILDINGS	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PROPERTY	2,320	470	-	1,850	-
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT					
PLANT, MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT (PM&E)					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Fleet replacement	510	-	-	510	-
Major plant replacement	495	-	-	495	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - PM&E	1,005	-	-	1,005	-
TOTAL PLANT, MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	1,005	-	-	1,005	-
FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND FURNITURE (FF&F)					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Playground renewal	100	-	-	100	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - FF&F	100	-	-	100	-
TOTAL FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND FURNITURE	100	-	-	100	-
COMPUTERS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS	-	-	-	-	-
HERITAGE PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	-
LIBRARY BOOKS	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	1,105	-	-	1,105	-

Capital Works Area	Summary of funding sources				
	Project Cost \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE					
ROADS					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Road and carpark renewal	1,642	380	-	1,262	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - roads	1,642	380	-	1,262	-
Asset upgrade expenditure					
Road upgrade	280	200	-	80	-
Ingrams Road Traffic Management	100	100	-	-	-
Total asset upgrade expenditure - roads	380	300	-	80	-
Asset expansion expenditure					
Church Rd, Panton Hill, widening and guard rail	290	290	-	-	-
Road safety	340	-	-	340	-
Total asset expansion expenditure - roads	630	290	-	340	-
TOTAL ROADS	2,652	970	-	1,682	-
BRIDGES					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Bridge renewal	150	100	-	50	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - bridges	150	100	-	50	-
TOTAL BRIDGES	150	100	-	50	-
FOOTPATHS AND CYCLEWAYS					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Footpath renewal	474	-	-	474	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - footpaths	474	-	-	474	-
Asset expansion expenditure					
Footpaths new	190	-	-	190	-
Total asset expansion expenditure - footpaths	190	-	-	190	-
New asset expenditure					
Elizabeth Street, Diamond Creek - carpark footpath connection	60	60	-	-	-
Total new asset expenditure - footpaths	60	60	-	-	-
TOTAL FOOTPATHS AND CYCLEWAYS	724	60	-	664	-
DRAINAGE					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Drainage (reactive)	200	-	-	200	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - drainage	200	-	-	200	-
Asset upgrade expenditure					
Drainage (proactive)	375	175	-	200	-
Total asset upgrade expenditure - drainage	375	175	-	200	-
TOTAL DRAINAGE	575	175	-	400	-

Capital Works Area	Summary of funding sources				
	Project Cost \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
RECREATIONAL, LEISURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Sports infrastructure renewal	60	-	-	60	-
Eltham North Soccer Pitch Replacement	635	295	-	340	-
Trails renewal	350	-	-	350	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - RL&CF	1,045	295	-	750	-
Asset upgrade expenditure					
Redevelopment of the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre	3,500	-	-	3,500	-
Funding allocation to potential grant opportunities (if required)	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Diamond Valley Library Redevelopment	270	-	-	270	-
Diamond Creek Trail - Amenity Program	214	214	-	-	-
Marngrook Oval Improvement Works	300	300	-	-	-
Total asset upgrade expenditure - RL&CF	6,284	514	-	3,770	2,000
New asset expenditure					
Quantity surveyor and planning for future grant funding opportunities	80	-	-	80	-
Total new asset expenditure - RL&CF	80	-	-	80	-
TOTAL RECREATIONAL, LEISURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES	7,409	809	-	4,600	2,000
PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND STREETSCAPES (POSS)					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Public open space infrastructure renewal	170	-	-	170	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - POSS	170	-	-	170	-
Asset upgrade expenditure					
Panton Hill bushland reserves management plan implementation	60	-	-	60	-
Public open space infrastructure upgrade	150	150	-	-	-
Total asset upgrade expenditure - POSS	210	150	-	60	-
TOTAL PARKS, O/SPACE & STREETSCAPES	380	150	-	230	-
WASTE MANAGEMENT					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Landfill rehabilitation	6,310	-	-	1,310	5,000
Total asset renewal expenditure - Waste Management	6,310	-	-	1,310	5,000
TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT	6,310	-	-	1,310	5,000
AERODROMES	-	-	-	-	-
OFF STREET CAR PARKS	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE					
Asset renewal expenditure					
Disability access works renewal	150	-	-	150	-
Total asset renewal expenditure - Other Infrastructure	150	-	-	150	-
Asset upgrade expenditure					
Street trees	95	-	-	95	-
Signage (non-regulatory) upgrade	50	-	-	50	-
Townships and streetscapes	92	-	-	92	-
Total asset upgrade expenditure - Other Infrastructure	237	-	-	237	-

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Summary of funding sources			
		Grants \$'000	Contrib \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Asset expansion expenditure					
Fire fighting water storage tanks	39	25	-	14	-
Total asset expansion expenditure - Other Infrastructure	39	25	-	14	-
New asset expenditure					
Bicycle Hoops in Eltham Activity Centre	50	50	-	-	-
Total new asset expenditure - Other Infrastructure	50	50	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE	476	75	-	401	-
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	18,676	2,339	-	9,337	7,000
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS 2021-22	22,101	2,809	-	12,292	7,000

2. Summary

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Summary of funding sources			
		Grants \$'000	Contrib's \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Asset renewal expenditure	12,995	775	-	7,220	5,000
Asset upgrade expenditure	8,056	1,609	-	4,448	2,000
Asset expansion expenditure	859	315	-	544	-
New asset expenditure	190	110	-	80	-
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS	22,101	2,809	-	12,292	7,000

5. Financial performance indicators

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Strategic Resource Plan					Trend +/-
			Forecast 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Projections			
Operating position								
Adjusted underlying result	Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue	1	(7.5%)	(1.2%)	0.1%	1.5%	2.4%	+
Liquidity								
Working Capital	Current assets / current liabilities	2	116%	77%	48%	44%	44%	-
Unrestricted cash	Unrestricted cash / current liabilities	3	47.5%	(5.5%)	(57.6%)	(62.4%)	(69.3%)	-
Obligations								
Loans and borrowings	Interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue	4	19.9%	24.3%	19.2%	16.5%	13.9%	o
Loans and borrowings	Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue		1.9%	5.7%	5.1%	2.9%	2.8%	+
Indebtedness	Non-current liabilities / own source revenue		32.9%	29.8%	24.7%	20.1%	16.6%	+
Asset renewal	Asset renewal expenses / depreciation	5	57.0%	104.0%	78.5%	74.7%	68.5%	o
Stability								
Rates concentration	Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue	6	74.6%	73.9%	74.3%	74.5%	74.6%	o
Rates effort	Rate revenue / CIV of rateable properties in the municipality		0.32%	0.33%	0.34%	0.34%	0.35%	o
Efficiency								
Expenditure level	Total expenses/ no. of property assessments		\$4,074	\$3,994	\$4,038	\$4,058	\$4,105	o
Revenue level	Residential rate revenue / no. of residential property assessments		\$2,806	\$2,899	\$2,943	\$2,996	\$3,056	o
Workforce turnover	No. of permanent staff resignations & terminations / average no. of permanent staff for the financial year		7.8%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	o

Key to Forecast Trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

Notes to indicators

1 Adjusted underlying result

An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. Improvement in financial performance expected over the period.

Council is projecting to achieve surpluses and projected financial sustainability remains a priority and challenge for Council.

2 Working Capital

The proportion of current liabilities represented by current assets. The working capital forecast remains steady, Council will continue to maintain the ability to service short term obligations.

The working capital indicator is showing Council will be able to service its projected short-term obligations into the future. The result also considers specific purpose grant funding which contributes to the trend.

3 Unrestricted cash

The trend is reflective of Council's ongoing reliance on grant funding to deliver projects / programs. This further highlights the need for Council to explore other revenue generating streams to maintain financial sustainability in the longer term.

4 Debt compared to rates

The results illustrate Council's commitment to pay down existing loans. Council is projecting borrowings of \$7 million in 2021-2022.

5 Asset renewal

A strong focus is placed on Council's capital works program with asset renewal playing a significant role. The trend indicates Council will maintain an adequate level of renewal spending over the next ten years.

6 Rates concentration

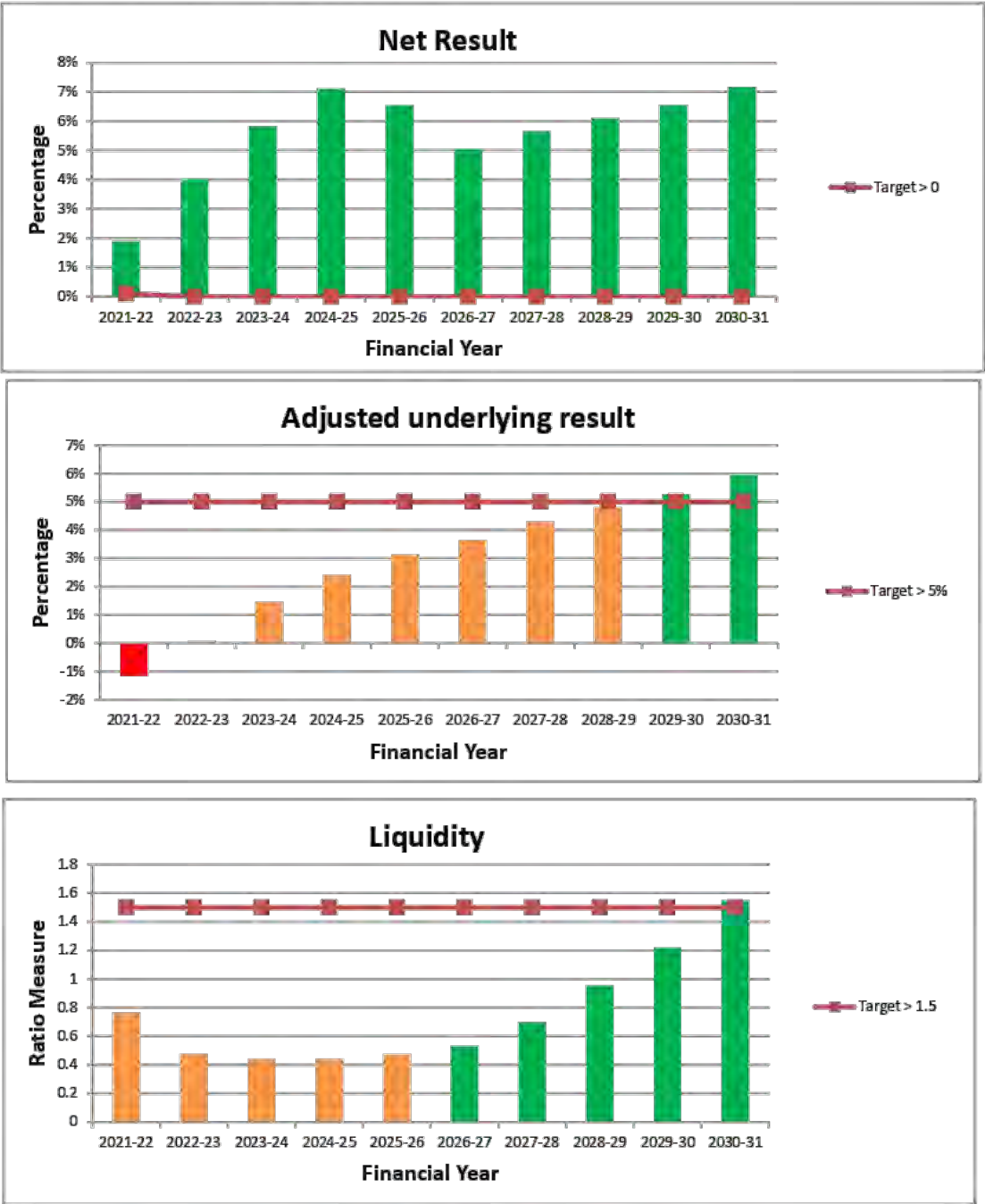
Reflects extent of reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's on-going services. The trend indicates Council will have a continual reliance on rate revenue compared to all other revenue sources.

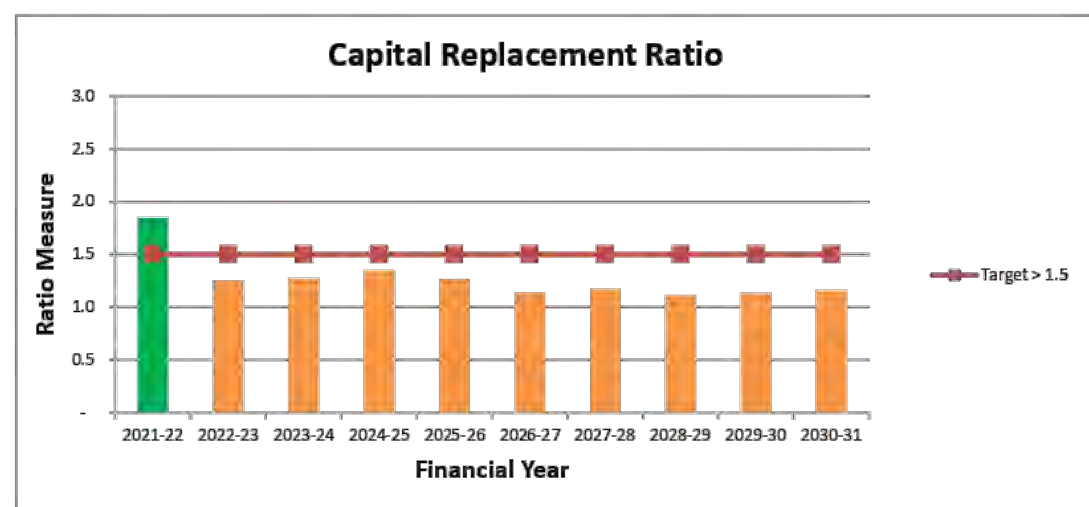
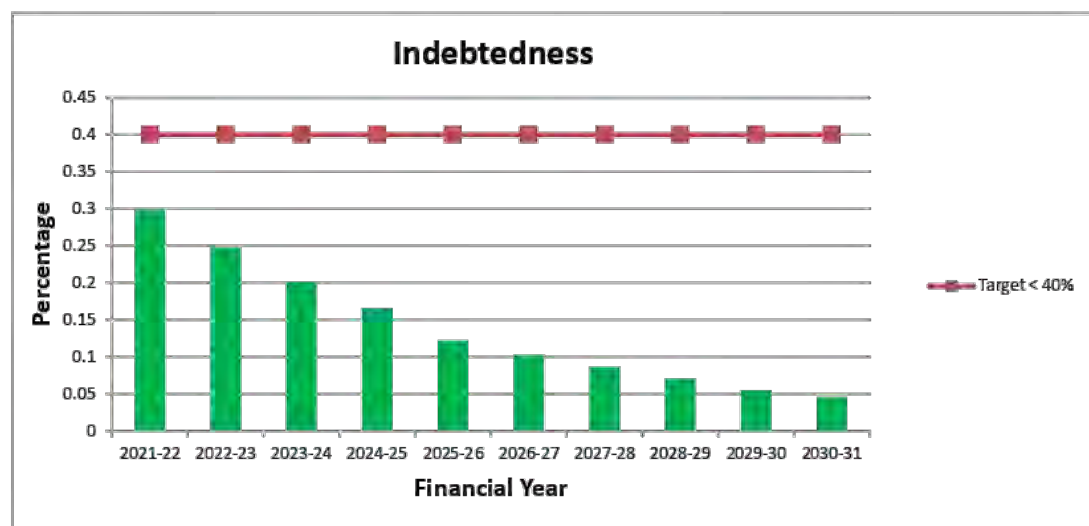
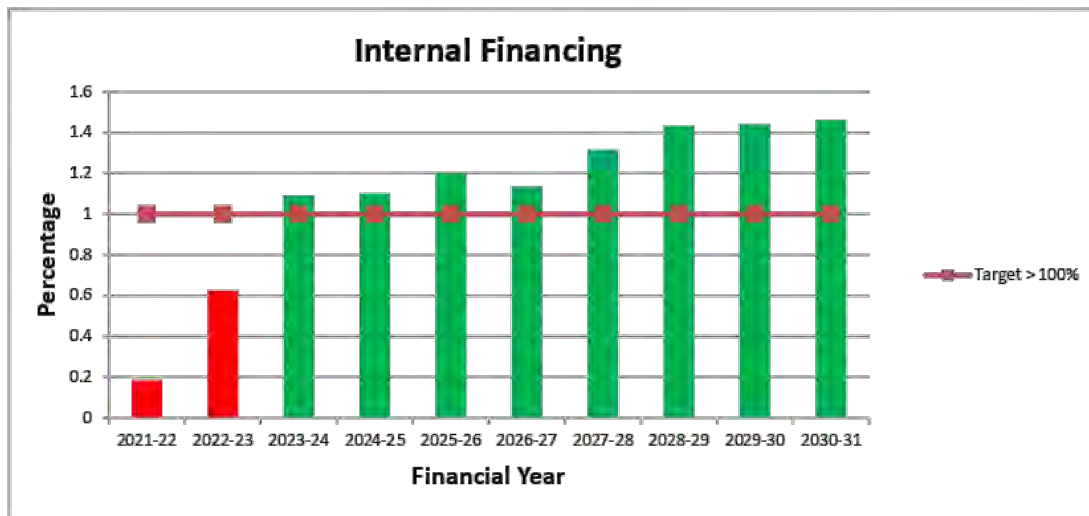
No significant changes are projected to Council operations, with the reliance on rates projected to remain consistent indicating no significant growth in rateable assessments.

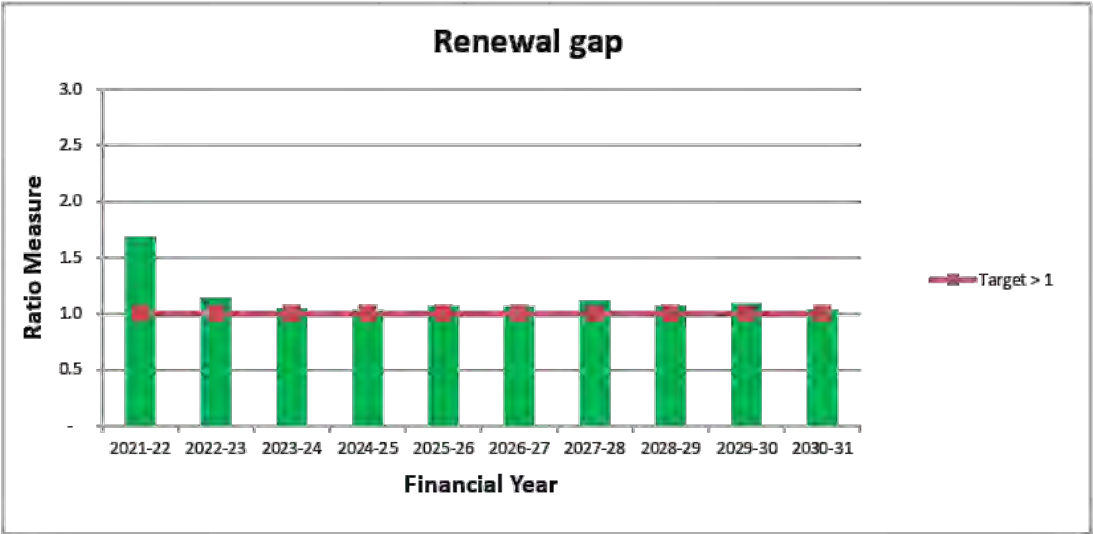
Financial Sustainability Performance

This appendix outlines Council's performance against the adopted financial sustainability plan indicators for the period 2021-22 to 2030-31

Financial Sustainability Plan indicators







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Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Waste Management			
Bin Tows	Each	30.00	30.00
120 litre green waste bin	Each	80.00	80.00
240 litre green waste bin	Each	95.00	95.00
80 litre landfill bin	Each	70.00	70.00
120 litre landfill bin	Each	80.00	80.00
140 litre landfill bin	Each	85.00	85.00
120 litre recycling bin	Each	80.00	80.00
240 litre recycling bin	Each	95.00	95.00
Recycling & Recovery Centre			
Minimum charge	1	-	25.00
Car Boot	1	48.00	50.00
Station Wagon	1	60.00	62.00
Small Utility/Van	1	73.00	76.00
Medium Utility/Van	1	110.00	114.00
Large Ute	1	116.00	120.00
Large Van	1	134.00	139.00
6 x 4 Trailer	1	99.00	102.00
6 x 4 Trailer High Side	1	136.00	141.00
7 x 5 Trailer	1	114.00	118.00
7 x 5 Trailer High Side	1	134.00	139.00
Medium Utility or Van	1	110.00	114.00
8 x 6 Tandem Trailer	1	136.00	141.00
8 x 6 Tandem Trailer High Side	1	147.00	152.00
White Goods - Refrigerator, Air-conditioners, Freezer etc.	1	43.00	45.00
Mattress - King / Queen / Double	1	46.00	48.00
Mattress - Single / Baby	1	33.00	34.00
Car Tyre	1	18.00	19.00
Car Tyre with Rim	1	21.00	22.00
4WD Tyre	1	22.00	23.00
4WD Tyre with Rim	1	25.00	26.00
Motor Bike Tyre	1	15.00	16.00
Motor Bike Tyre with Rim	1	16.00	16.00
Truck Tyre	1	40.00	42.00
Truck Tyre with Rim	1	46.00	48.00
Large Tractor Tyre	1	167.00	173.00
Motor Oil	Per litre	No charge	No charge
Car Battery	1	No charge	No charge
Scrap Metal (including stoves and washing machines)	1	No charge	No charge
Household Recycling - paper, cardboard & containers	1	No charge	No charge
Council Over the Counter native vegetation offset program			
General Habitat Unit (GHU) - Over the Counter native vegetation offset	Per unit	141,885.00	141,885.00
Species Habitat Unit (SHU) - Over the Counter native vegetation offset	Per unit	147,000.00	147,000.00
Infrastructure			
Dispensations	Building over easement (maximum fee)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)
	Front fence at corner (maximum fee)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)
	Land subject to flooding (maximum fee)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)
Subdivision supervision and plan checking	3.25% of actual costs of works - fees set by Subdivision Act plus GST (Fee rate set by requirements of the Subdivision Act)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)
Subdivision plan checking resubmission fee	3.25% of actual costs of works - fees set by Subdivision Act plus GST (Fee rate set by requirements of the Subdivision Act)	no charge	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)
Minor drainage supervision and plan checking	Flat rate (scaled for number of allotments)	3.25% of estimated cost of works	1-3 lots: \$620 4-10 lots: \$850 >10 lots: 3.25% of estimated cost of works
Minor drainage plan checking resubmit fee	Flat rate	no charge	140.00
Pit Opening - excluding traffic management	Per hour	95.00	95.00
Copy of additional approved engineering plans	Flat rate	130.00	130.00
Endorse Traffic Guidance Scheme (not applicable to community run events)	Per traffic guidance scheme	150.00	150.00

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Capital Works			
Storm Water and Drainage Information		As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)
Road Opening Permits - Works (other than minor works detailed below) :			
Arterial road - conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Arterial road - not conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is more than 50 kph - conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is more than 50 kph - not conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is not more than 50 kph - conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is not more than 50 kph - not conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Minor Works conducted by utilities or public transport provider that are traffic impact works :			
Arterial road - conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Arterial road - not conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is more than 50 kph - conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is more than 50 kph - not conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is not more than 50 kph - conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Local road where maximum speed limit at anytime is not more than 50 kph - not conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Vehicle Crossing	Per site	189.00	250.00
Landscaping of nature strip	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Stormwater Drainage Connection:			
- Easement or connection not requiring road opening	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
- Connection requiring road opening	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Asset Protection		378.00	378.00
Reinstatement Costs			
Asset Reinstatements	Council claims actual cost of works plus a 30% surcharge plus GST		
Road Pavements	2m ² to 10m ² (per m ²)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
	Greater than 10m ² (per m ²)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Footpath & Crossovers - Minimum charge of 2 m² or 2 lineal metres.			
These rates are charged for all reinstatements unless prior agreement to alternative arrangements (eg. cost plus 30%):			
- Footpaths	Asphalt, 75mm concrete, pitcher or flag type (per m ²)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
- Crossovers	150mm concrete (per m ²)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Industrial Vehicular Crossing	Up to 175mm reinforced concrete (per m ²)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Kerb & Channel	Concrete, dish gutters and spoon drains concrete kerb (per lineal m)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Saw Cutting	Per lineal metre	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Traffic Control	Per controller (per hour)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Following surcharges will apply for all concrete reinstatements works:			
Under 10m ² - 30% surcharge on invoice price			
Under 20m ² - 15% surcharge on invoice price			
Above 20 m ² - no surcharge applied			
Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre			
School Program Fees (1 July to 31 December)			
School program	Per child (1 hour)	5.80	6.60
School program	Per child - 1/2 day	13.30	15.10
School program	Per child - 3/4 day	17.00	19.25
School program	Per child - Full day	19.50	22.00
Preschool (excursion)	Per child (1 session)	7.80	8.80
Preschool (excursion)	Per child (2 session)	13.40	15.20
Preschool (excursion)	Per child (3 session)	15.80	17.60
Incursions	Per class	180.00 - 1,000.00	198.00 - 1,100.00
School visit/talk	Flat rate per hour	140.00	154.00
School Program Fees (1 January to 30 June)			
School program	Per child (1 hour)	6.60	Fee for service
School program	Per child - 1/2 day	15.10	Fee for service
School program	Per child - 3/4 Day	19.25	Fee for service
School program	Per child - Full day	22.00	Fee for service

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Preschool (excursion)	Per child (1 session)	8.80	Fee for service
Preschool (excursion)	Per child (2 session)	15.20	Fee for service
Preschool (excursion)	Per child (3 session)	17.60	Fee for service
Incursions	Per class	198.00 - 1,100.00	Fee for service
School visit / talk	Flat rate per hour	154.00	Fee for service
Workshops	Total direct costs of course divided by minimum number of enrolments: Direct costs (e.g.) - tutor - materials - equipment - venue hire - catering Plus indirect costs - staffing & administration calculated at \$26 per program hour All costs take into account CPI and GST where applicable. Fees will be adjusted to take into consideration the target group i.e. holders of concession cards	Fee for service	Fee for service
Local School rebate 50% of fee for service			
Other Fees			
Festival and event entry	Per person	10.00 - 50.00	10.00 - 50.00
Admissions - child (age 2 and over)	Child	Donation	Donation
Admission - adult	Adult	Donation	Donation
Farm Tour	Per child	9.50	9.50
Farm Tour	Per adult	10.50	10.50
Farm Tour	Adult concession	8.00	8.00
Eggs	Per dozen	8.00	8.00
Worms	Per batch	50.00 - 55.00	50.00 - 55.00
Poultry	Per head	At market price	At market price
Cattle	Per head	At market price	At market price
Sheep	Per head	At market price	At market price
Goats	Per head	At market price	At market price
Vegetable & Herb Seedlings	Per punnet or pot	2.00 - 5.00	2.00 - 5.00
Plants	Per tube	2.00 - 6.00	2.00 - 6.00
Plants	Per pot	5.00 - 75.00	5.00 - 75.00
Plants	Special	1.00 - 5.00	1.00 - 5.00
Stakes (3)	Per set	2.75	3.30
Stakes (50)	Per bundle	43.00	50.00
Tree Guards	Each	0.80	0.90
Planting Kit (Stake & tree guard)	Per set	3.50	4.00
Compost Bin	220 litre	59.50	59.50
Compost Mate	Each	22.00	22.00
Worm Factories	Standard	93.50	93.50
Worm Factory Spare Parts	Each	5.00 - 13.00	5.00 - 13.00
Indian Myna Traps	Each	66.00	70.00
Room Hire - Standard (Mummery and Macey rooms)			
Monday to Friday	Day time - 4 hours	185.00	190.50
Monday to Friday	Night time	185.00	190.50
Saturday and Sunday	Day time - 4 hours	185.00	190.50
Saturday	Night time	185.00	190.50
Monday to Friday	Per hour (max. 2 hours)	50.00	51.50
Kitchen use charge	Per day	42.00	43.00
Cleaning levy	Per event (if required)	160.00	165.00
Bond	Per event (if required)	250.00 - 1000.00	250.00 - 1000.00
Staff lock up fee	Night time	157.50	162.00
Room Hire - Community, local small business & Not For Profit organisations (Mummery & Macey Rooms)			
Monday to Friday	Day time - 4 hours	132.00	136.00
Monday to Friday	Night time	132.00	136.00
Saturday and Sunday	Day time - 4 hours	132.00	136.00
Saturday	Night time	132.00	136.00
Any day	Per hour (max. 2 hours)	35.00	36.00
Kitchen use charge	Per day	42.00	43.00
Cleaning levy	Per event (if required)	162.00	168.00
Bond	Per event (if required)	250.00 - 1000.00	250.00 - 1000.00
Staff lock up fee	Night time	155.00	159.50
Room Hire - Council and LLN (Mummery & Macey rooms)			
Monday to Friday	Day time - 4 hours	132.00	136.00
Monday to Friday	Night time	132.00	136.00
Saturday and Sunday	Day time - 4 hours	132.00	136.00
Saturday	Night time	132.00	136.00
Any day	Per hour (max. 2 hours)	35.00	36.00
Kitchen use charge	Per day	42.00	43.00
Cleaning levy	Per event (if required)	162.00	168.00
Bond	Per event (if required)	250.00 - 1000.00	250.00 - 1000.00
Staff lock up fee	Night time	155.00	159.50
Room Hire - Standard (Gaston & Cox rooms)			
Monday to Friday	Day time - 4 hours	136.00	136.00

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Monday to Friday	Night time	136.00	136.00
Saturday and Sunday	Day time - 4 hours	136.00	136.00
Saturday	Night time	136.00	136.00
Monday to Friday	Per hour (max. 2 hours)	35.00	36.00
Kitchen use charge	Per day	42.00	43.00
Cleaning levy	Per event (if required)	163.00	168.00
Bond	Per event (if required)	250.00 - 1000.00	250.00 - 1000.00
Staff lock up fee	Night time	157.50	159.50
Room Hire - Community, local small business & Not For Profit organisations (Gaston & Cox Rooms)			
Monday to Friday	Day time - 4 hours	98.00	101.00
Monday to Friday	Night time	98.00	101.00
Saturday and Sunday	Day time - 4 hours	98.00	101.00
Saturday	Night time	98.00	101.00
Any day	Per hour (max. 2 hours)	34.00	35.00
Kitchen use charge	Per day	42.00	43.00
Cleaning levy	Per event (if required)	162.00	167.00
Bond	Per event (if required)	250.00 - 1000.00	250.00 - 1000.00
Staff lock up fee	Night time	157.00	162.00
Room Hire - Council and LLN (Gaston & Cox)			
Monday to Friday	Day time - 4 hours	98.00	101.00
Monday to Friday	Night time	98.00	101.00
Saturday and Sunday	Day time - 4 hours	98.00	101.00
Saturday	Night time	98.00	101.00
Any day	Per hour (max. 2 hours)	34.00	35.00
Kitchen use charge	Per day	42.00	43.00
Cleaning levy	Per event (if required)	160.00	165.00
Bond	Per event (if required)	250.00 - 1000.00	250.00 - 1000.00
Staff lock up fee	Night time	157.50	162.00
Additional services			
PA Hire	Per session	52.00	53.50
Waste Free party kit	Per session	42.00	43.00
Set up Fee	Per session	42.00	43.00
Mini Party	Per session	77.00	79.00
Farm Tour Party	Per session	172.00	177.00
Shelter Hire Outdoor Spaces			
Ironbark Shelter			
Birthday party shelter hire	Per session	195.00	200.50
Birthday party guinea pigs patting (incl. Shelter Hire)	Per session	273.00	281.00
Birthday party farm tour (incl. shelter hire)	Per session	367.00	378.00
Peppercorn & Sheoak Shelter			
Birthday party shelter hire	Group	100.00	103.00
Birthday party guinea pigs patting (incl. Shelter Hire)	Group	178.00	183.00
Birthday party farm tour (incl. shelter hire)	Group	275.00	283.00
Acacia, Dam & Spiral Shelter			
Birthday party shelter hire	Per session	79.00	81.00
Birthday party guinea pigs patting (incl. Shelter Hire)	Per session	157.00	162.00
Birthday party farm tour (incl. shelter hire)	Per session	252.00	259.50
Hire of other spaces			
Hire of Amphitheatre	Day or Evening - 4 hours	175.00 - 250.00	175.00 - 250.00
Hire of designated lawn area	Per session	100.00 - 1,200.00	100.00 - 1,200.00
Hire of site	Exclusive use	1000.00 - 4000.00	1000.00 - 4000.00
Wedding	Per hour	350.00	350.00
Leisure Centre Facilities			
Eltham Leisure Centre	Per contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Diamond Valley Sports	Per contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Diamond Creek Pool	Per contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Yarrambat Golf Course	Per contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Diamond Creek Community Centre	Per Contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Community Bank Stadium	Per Contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Hurstbridge Sports Stadium	Per hour	39.00	40.00
Leisure & Recreation			
Summer - Juniors, Womens & Veterans (90% discount)			
Summer			
A Grade	Per team	880.00	886.20
B Grade	Per team	765.00	770.40
C Grade	Per team	650.00	654.50
D Grade	Per team	530.00	533.70
Summer - Juniors, Womens & Veterans (90% discount)			
A Grade	Per team	88.00	88.60
B Grade	Per team	76.00	76.50
C Grade	Per team	65.00	65.50
D Grade	Per team	53.00	53.40
Winter			
A Grade	Per team	1,500.00	1,510.50
B Grade	Per team	1,385.00	1,394.70
C Grade	Per team	1,255.00	1,263.80
D Grade	Per team	1,135.00	1,142.90
Winter - Juniors, Womens & Veterans (90% discount)			
A Grade	Per team	150.00	151.00

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
B Grade	Per team	138.00	139.00
C Grade	Per team	125.00	125.90
D Grade	Per team	113.00	113.80
Casual Ground Use			
Commercial Hire	Per day	400.00	402.80
Commercial Hire	Per 1/2 day	240.00	241.70
Commercial Use	Additional hourly charge	115.00	115.80
Community Use	Per day	120.00	120.80
Community Use	Per 1/2 day	73.00	73.50
Community Use	Additional hourly charge	26.00	26.20
School Fees			
Schools within Nillumbik	Per hour	27.00	27.20
Schools outside Nillumbik	Per hour	42.00	42.30
Zone events	Per day	257.00	258.80
Zone events	Per 1/2 day	131.00	131.90
Synthetic Soccer Pitch			
Local club use	Per hour	46.00	46.30
School use	Per hour	63.00	63.40
Other user groups	Per hour	69.00	69.50
Academy programs		84.00	84.60
Floodlight use (casual users only)	Per hour	59.00	59.40
Personal Training / Group Fitness			
Monthly Hire	Recurring	125.00	125.90
Casual Hire	Half day	195.00	196.40
Casual Hire	Full day	300.00	302.10
Building Services			
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$1 - \$5,000	750.00	POA - Minimum 750 (includes a maximum of 2 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$5,001 - \$15,000	1,000.00	POA - Minimum 1,000 (includes a maximum of 2 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$15,001 - \$50,000	1,200.00	POA - Minimum 1,200 (includes a maximum of 3 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$50,001 - \$100,000	1,500.00	POA - Minimum 1,500 (includes a maximum of 3 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$100,001 - \$150,000	1,600.00	POA - Minimum 1,600 (includes a maximum of 4 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$150,001 - \$200,000	1,900.00	POA - Minimum 1,900 (includes a maximum of 4 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$200,001 - \$300,000	2,000.00	POA - Minimum 2,000 (includes a maximum of 4 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$300,001 - \$400,000	2,250.00	POA - Minimum 2,250 (includes a maximum of 4 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$400,001 - \$1,000,000	2,350.00	POA - Minimum 2,350 (includes a maximum of 4 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works \$1,000,001 and over	POA	POA
Building Permit (within Nillumbik) - Additional inspections	Fee per additional inspection (beyond quantity provided for in permit contract)	150.00	165.00
Building Inspection (within Nillumbik)	Per hour	160.00	175.00
Building Inspection (outside Nillumbik boundaries)	Per hour	190.00	220.00
Multiple Dwelling Application (within Nillumbik)	Per application (Excludes apartment building applications - considered under commercial)	POA	POA
Building Permit (within Nillumbik) - Demolition Permit	Per demolition permit application	750.00	750.00
Building Permit (within Nillumbik) - Sheds, carports, non masonry garages, verandas (\$15,000 - \$30,000)	Per building permit application	900.00	990.00
Additional application fee	Fee in addition to relevant Building Permit fee, depending on the complexity of the application and extent of assistance/effort/time required to process the application	POA - Min \$100	POA - Min \$100 (\$220 per hour for Building Surveyor & \$80 per hour for administration support)

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Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Building Permit (Outside Nillumbik boundaries)	Fee per building permit application	POA	POA
Multiple Dwelling Application (Outside Nillumbik boundaries)	Per application (Excludes apartment building applications - considered under commercial)	POA	POA
Report & Consents (Dispensations)	As set by VBA	290.40 + CPI	290.40 +CPI
Amended Plans	Per application to amend plans	POA - Min \$250	POA - Min \$250
Extension of Time	Per application for extension of time	300.00	300.00
Above Ground Swimming Pool (within Nillumbik)	Per application	850.00	850.00
Certificate of pool and spa barrier compliance	Per application - includes 3 inspections	650.00	650.00 (less \$150.00 for each inspection not utilised)
Lodgement fee for registration of pools and spas	Per application	31.80 + CPI	31.80 +CPI
Pools and spas search fee	Per application - Not applicable if the application to register a swimming pool with Council includes a copy of CFI or Building permit that confirms date of construction of the swimming pool/spa	47.20 + CPI	47.20 +CPI
Lodgement of Certificate of swimming pool and spa barrier compliance	Per application	20.40 +CPI	20.40 +CPI
Lodgement of Certificate of pool and spa barrier noncompliance	Per application	385.10 + CPI	385.10 +CPI
Building Inspection for selected Private Building Surveyor (within Nillumbik)	Per building inspection	250.00	250.00
Building Inspection for selected Private Building Surveyor (outside Nillumbik boundaries)	Per building inspection	300.00	300.00
Building Prosecution Administration and Withdrawal Fee	Per building order withdrawal (Fee maybe waived/varied at the discretion of the Municipal Building Surveyor in circumstances where the issue of the Building Order has occurred due to events that have been outside the owner(s) control - e.g. house fire, vehicular collision)	850.00	850.00
Building Notice Administration and Withdrawal Fee	Per request for withdrawal of building notice (Fee maybe waived/varied at the discretion of the Municipal Building Surveyor, where the issue of the Building Notice is as a result of factors that have been outside the owner's control)	650.00	650.00
Permission to retain illegal structures	Value of works	POA - 1.5 x applicable cost of building permit fee (based on cost of works)	POA
Building Miscellaneous	Per property information request - Building form 10, As advised by VBA	47.20 + CPI	47.20 + CPI
Building Miscellaneous	Per priority request - additional charge for priority property information request - 24 hour turnaround	40.00	40.00
Building Miscellaneous	Per request for house plans (electronic copies only).	100.00	110.00
Building Miscellaneous	Per request for Commercial & Industrial Plans (Depends on number of plans) - electronic	200.00	200.00
Building Miscellaneous	Per hard copy page for Commercial & Industrial Plans (Depends on number of plans) - A4	0.20	0.20
Building Miscellaneous	Per hard copy page for Commercial & Industrial Plans (Depends on number of plans) - A3	0.50	0.50
Building Miscellaneous	Per hard copy page for Commercial & Industrial Plans (Depends on number of plans) - A0	5.00	5.00
Building Miscellaneous	Per external lodgement - commercial (Set by VBA)	121.90 + CPI	121.90 +CPI
Building Miscellaneous	Per external lodgement - residential (Set by VBA)	121.90 + CPI	121.90 + CPI
Building Surveying Consultancy	Consultancy service/advice per hour - General building surveying advice, pre-application advice. Applications which require additional work, effort or technical advice will attract consultancy charges. Any application where priority service is requested will attract a consultancy charge.	220.00	220.00
Liquor Licence Inspection and Report fee	Per inspection and report request	750.00	750.00
Bushfire Attack Level	Per request and assessment	250.00	315.00
Report and Consent 604	Per application	290.40 +CPI	290.40 +CPI
Hoarding Permit (Street Occupation)	Per occupied area, or minimum fee	\$5 per m2 per week or min \$200 per week	\$5 per m2 per week or min \$200 per week

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Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Commercial building permits (within or outside Nillumbik)	Value of works up to \$50,000	1,500.00	POA (fees to be determined at a rate of \$220 per hour for Building Surveying support, \$80 per hour for administrative support, and \$165 per required inspection)
Commercial building permits (within or outside Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$50,001 - \$200,000	2,500.00	POA (fees to be determined at a rate of \$220 per hour for Building Surveying support, \$80 per hour for administrative support, and \$165 per required inspection)
Commercial building permits (within or outside Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$200,001 - \$1,000,000	3,000.00	POA (fees to be determined at a rate of \$220 per hour for Building Surveying support, \$80 per hour for administrative support, and \$165 per required inspection)
Commercial building permits (within or outside Nillumbik)	Value of works greater than \$1,000,001	POA	POA (fees to be determined at a rate of \$220 per hour for Building Surveying support, \$80 per hour for administrative support, and \$165 per required inspection)
Commercial building inspection (within or outside Nillumbik)	Per inspection	200.00	200.00
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment (POPE)	Event conducted by Council or community based organisation with less than 5,000 attendees at any one time - site inspection during business hours.	No fee charged	No fee charged
Occupancy Permit Inspection Fee - Place of Public Entertainment (POPE)	Event conducted by Council or community based organisation with less than 5,000 attendees at any one time - site inspection outside business hours.	200.00	220.00
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment (POPE)	Event conducted through Council or community based organisation with greater than 5,000 attendees at any one time	450.00	460.00
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment (POPE)	Event conducted by a natural person or body corporate (business) with less than 5,000 attendees at any one time	750.00	765.00
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment (POPE)	Event conducted by a natural person or body corporate (business) with greater than 5,000 attendees at any one time	1,450.00	1,480.00
Occupancy Permit Inspection Fee - Place of Public Entertainment (POPE)	Inspection fee per hour if an inspection is required outside standard business hours - for event conducted by a natural person or body corporate (business)	200.00	200.00
Occupancy Permit - Place of Public Entertainment (POPE) - Events held within a building	Event conducted within a building	POA	POA
Siting of temporary structures	Per siting request/application approval	300.00	330.00
Siting of temporary structures	Inspection fee per hour if an inspection is required outside standard business hours	200.00	200.00
Community Safety			
Impounding Livestock	Labour - ordinary per hour	53.00	53.00
Impounding Livestock	Labour - time and a half per hour	80.00	80.00
Impounding Livestock	Labour - double time per hour	105.00	105.00
Impounding Livestock	Trespass sheep/goat/pig per head	27.00	27.00
Impounding Livestock	Trespass other cattle per head	32.00	32.00
Impounding Livestock	Transport - Monday to Saturday	105.00	105.00
Impounding Livestock	Transport - Sunday/Public Holidays	134.00	134.00
Impounding Small Livestock	Sustenance - chicken/rabbit/ferret/bird per day	5.50	5.50

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Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Impounding Medium Livestock	Sustenance - sheep/goat/pig per day	22.00	22.00
Impounding Large Livestock	Sustenance – cattle/horse per day	27.00	27.00
Impounding Livestock	Pound fees	22.00	22.00
Impounding Livestock	Posting notice	27.00	27.00
Impounding Livestock	Insertion of notice in newspapers	47.50	47.50
Impounding Livestock	Advertisement cost	At cost	At cost
Dog Pound - Release	Release same day	57.00	57.00
Dog Pound - Release	Release - one day	90.00	90.00
Dog Pound - Sustenance	Sustenance per day	32.00	32.00
Animal Registration	Dog maximum fee	200.00	200.00
Animal Registration	Dog reduced fee (Micro chipped only. Excludes new registrations)	102.00	102.00
Animal Registration	Dog minimum fee (Desexed)	52.00	52.00
Animal Registration	Cat maximum fee	300.00	300.00
Animal Registration	Cat reduced fee (Micro chipped only)	102.00	102.00
Animal Registration	Cat minimum fee (Desexed)	52.00	52.00
Animal Registration	Transfer	10.50	10.50
Animal Registration	Replacement tag	11.00	11.00
Animal Registration	Pensioner registration of any animal	1/2 Std Fee	1/2 Std Fee
Animal Registration	Domestic animal business	385.00	385.00
Animal Registration	Dangerous/restricted breed	385.00	385.00
Local Law Permits	More than animals specified in Local Law	110.00	110.00
Local Law Permits	Pensioner concession - animal permit	55.00	55.00
Local Law Bonds	Cat cage holding fee (refundable)	50.00	50.00
Local Law Permits	Outdoor eating facilities - 1st table	194.00	194.00
	- Thereafter	102.00	102.00
Local Law Permits	Temporary signs and A Frames	122.00	122.00
Local Law Permits	Temporary real estate signage (multiple signs/year)	500.00	500.00
Local Law Permits	Goods/furniture on footpaths	204.00	204.00
Local Law Permits	Busking per day	47.50	20.00
Local Law Permits	Commercial fairs	1,935.00	1,935.00
Local Law Permits	Storage on roads per day	47.50	47.50
Local Law Permits	Skips	47.50	47.50
Local Law Permit	Skip bin - annual consent	-	550.00
Local Law Permits	Use of motorised toy vehicles on private property	95.00	95.00
Local Law Permits	Burning off	-	-
Local Law Permits	Road side vending (per day)	185.00	185.00
Local Law Permits	Road side vending (half day = 4hrs)	97.00	97.00
Local Law Permits	Road side vending (per annum)	Refer day rate	Refer day rate
Local Law Permits	Caravans	104.00	104.00
Local Law Permits	Camping on Council land per day	27.00	27.00
Local Law Releases	Shopping trolleys per item	104.00	104.00
Local Law Releases	Charity bins per item	104.00	400.00
Local Law Releases	Skips per item	104.00	750.00
Local Law Releases	Caravans and trailers	0.00	400.00
Local Law Releases	A frames & signs	120.00	120.00
Local Law Releases	Miscellaneous small items	104.00	104.00
Local Law Releases	Miscellaneous medium items	0.00	250.00
Local Law Releases	Miscellaneous large items	104.00	400.00
Parking Fines	Section 87(4) of the Road Safety Act 1986 60% of one penalty unit	0.6 Penalty Unit	0.6 Penalty Units
Parking Fines	Infringement Court fees (as advised)	As advised	As advised
Parking Fines	Witness fees (as awarded)	As awarded	As awarded
Derelict Vehicles	Release	209.00	209.00
Derelict Vehicles	Towing	163.00	175.00
Derelict Vehicles	Storage per additional day - motor vehicles, caravans, trailers	26.00	26.00
Parking Permits	Resident schemes	52.00	52.00
Parking Permits	Resident schemes - Temporary 5-day	52.00	52.00
Parking Permits	Private parking permits	22.00	22.00
Parking Permits	Disabled parking	-	-
Parking Permits	Disabled parking - replacement	-	-
Parking Permits	Eltham Traders Permit Scheme - Annual permit	100.00	100.00
Parking Permits	Eltham Traders Permit Scheme - Casual permit	0.00	2.00
Parking Permits	Trade/Builders parking permit / day	52.00	52.00
Filming Permits	Application Fee - Filming	200.00	200.00
Filming Permits	Application Fee - Stills photography	100.00	100.00
Filming Permits	Application Fee (Student or Not For Profit)	-	-
Filming Permits	Use of Council Reserve / Facility - per day	700.00	700.00
Filming Permits	Use of Council Reserve / Facility - half day	350.00	350.00
Filming Permits	Parking - car / day	40.00	40.00
Filming Permits	Parking - truck / day	80.00	80.00
Filming Permits	Low impact permit fee (in addition to application fee)	150.00	150.00
Filming Permits	High impact permit fee (in addition to application fee)	500.00	500.00

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Environmental Health			
Initial Registration of Food Premises	Class One Premises	655.00	655.00
Initial Registration of Food Premises	Class Two Premises	765.00	765.00
Initial Registration of Food Premises	Class Three Premises	455.00	455.00
Plans Approval Fee of Premises	Premises	178.00	178.00
Initial Registration of Food Premises	Community Group - Class 2	600.00	600.00
Initial Registration of Food Premises	Community Group - Class 3	450.00	450.00
Notification of Food Premises	Class Four Premises	-	-
Renewal Registration of Food Premises	Class One Premises	570.00	570.00
Renewal Registration of Food Premises	Class Two Premises	670.00	670.00
Renewal Registration of Food Premises	Class Three Premises	375.00	375.00
Renewal Registration of Food Premises	Community Group - Class 2	345.00	345.00
Renewal Registration of Food Premises	Community Group - Class 3	187.00	187.00
Food Premises Additional inspection	Other than mandatory inspection and 1 follow up	150.00	150.00
Food Premises Associated Activity	Where a proprietor chooses to register fixed premises and associated mobile premises together this additional fee applies to the mobile premises (instead of individual street-trader fees)	124.00	124.00
Temporary Food Premises Permit	Single event	90.00	90.00
Temporary Food Premises Permit	Community group single event	45.00	45.00
Pre Purchase Inspection	Food or health premises	182.00	182.00
Failed sampling result	2nd and subsequent sampling results	187.00	187.00
Street-trader Registration	Class Two premises	254.00	254.00
Street-trader Registration	Class Three premises	170.00	170.00
Street-trader Registration	Community Group - Class 2	0.00	128.00
Street-trader Registration	Community Group - Class 3	0.00	85.00
Additional Component	Per additional component (eg bakery, butcher, deli) to main activity	150.00	150.00
Additional Staff	Additional charge per staff EFT over 5 for all premises	10.00	10.00
Hairdresser Registration - Initial only	1	178.00	178.00
Beauty Therapy Registration	1	208.00	208.00
Beauty Therapy Renewal	1	208.00	208.00
Skin Penetration Registration	1	254.00	254.00
Skin Penetration Renewal	1	254.00	254.00
Prescribed Accommodation	Fee for < 10 beds	290.00	290.00
	Fee for 10 - 20 beds	470.00	470.00
	Fee for > 20 beds	600.00	600.00
Aquatic Facility Registration	Category 1 Aquatic Facility	0.00	275.00
Aquatic Facility Renewal	Category 1 Aquatic Facility	0.00	275.00
Health - Colonic Irrigation Registration	1	208.00	208.00
Health - Colonic Irrigation Renewal	1	208.00	208.00
Domestic Wastewater Management (cost recovery)			
Septic Application	1	477.50	48.88 fee units
Minor Alteration to OWMS	1		37.25 fee units
Transfer a permit	1		9.93 fee units
Amend a permit	1		10.38 fee units
Renew a permit	1		8.31 fee units
Exemption	1		14.67 fee units
Report and Consent	1	As advised	As advised
Search for septic plans	1	47.20	47.50
Application to Retain Septic System in Reticulated Area	Includes site inspection, records search and one water sample analysis	415.00	415.00
Statutory Planning			
Planning Miscellaneous - History	Per request - general planning information (permits & dates etc.)	153.00	153.00
Planning Miscellaneous - Written Planning Advice	Per request - for written planning information/advice	153.00	153.00
Planning Miscellaneous - Copy of permit	Copy of permit (price per permit, without endorsed plans)	-	70.00
Planning Miscellaneous - Permit Information (1 Permit)	Planning permit details (copies of permits, including endorsed plans, price per permit). One permit	132.60	132.60
Planning Miscellaneous - Permit information (2 Permits)	Planning permit details (copies of permits, including endorsed plans, price per permit) Search last permit. Two permits	249.90	249.90
Planning Miscellaneous - Multiple Permit Information	Planning permit details (copies of permits, including endorsed plans, price per permit) Search all permits	377.40	377.40
Planning Miscellaneous - Form 29A Building Demolition Request	Per request - Section 29A Building Demolition Request	85.20 + CPI	85.20 + CPI
Planning - Miscellaneous Consents	Miscellaneous consents (eg. S173)	331.50	331.50
Planning - Extension of Time (1st)	Request for extension of time to permit - first request	325.00	325.00
Planning - Extension of Time (Subsequent)	Request for extension of time to permit - subsequent requests	425.00	425.00
Planning - Amendment to Application	Request for amendment to application - after notice	Variable - 40% of original fee	Variable - 40% of original fee

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Permit application class:			
Planning	Class 1	1,318.10 + CPI	1,318.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 2	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 3	629.40 + CPI	629.40 + CPI
Planning	Class 4	1288.50 + CPI	1288.50 + CPI
Planning	Class 5	1392.10 + CPI	1392.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 6	1495.80 + CPI	1495.80 + CPI
Planning	Class 7	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 8	429.50 + CPI	429.50 + CPI
Planning	Class 9	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 10	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 11	1,147.80 + CPI	1,147.80 + CPI
Planning	Class 12	1,547.60 + CPI	1,547.60 + CPI
Planning	Class 13	3,413.70 + CPI	3,413.70 + CPI
Planning	Class 14	8,700.90 + CPI	8,700.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 15	25,658.30 + CPI	25,658.30 + CPI
Planning	Class 16	57,670.10 + CPI	57,670.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 17	1,318.10 + CPI	1,318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 18	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 19	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 20	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 21	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 22	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Request for amendment to permit class:			
Planning	Class 1	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Planning	Amendment to change permit preamble or conditions (other than for a single dwelling)	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 2	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 3	629.40 + CPI	629.40 + CPI
Planning	Class 4	1,288.50 + CPI	1,288.50 + CPI
Planning	Class 5	1392.10 + CPI	1392.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 6	1392.10 + CPI	1392.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 7	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 8	429.50 + CPI	429.50 + CPI
Planning	Class 9	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 10	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Planning	Class 11	1,147.80 + CPI	1,147.80 + CPI
Planning	Class 12	1,547.60 + CPI	1,547.60 + CPI
Planning	Class 13	3,413.70 + CPI	3,413.70 + CPI
Planning	Class 14	3,413.70 + CPI	3,413.70 + CPI
Planning	Class 15	3,413.70 + CPI	3,413.70 + CPI
Planning	Class 16	3,413.70 + CPI	3,413.70 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 17	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 18	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 19	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 20	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Subdivision	Class 21	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 22	1318.10 + CPI	1318.10 + CPI
Certification	Certification of subdivision (per 100 lots)	174.80 + CPI	174.80 + CPI
Certification	Alteration of plan	111.10 + CPI	111.10 + CPI
Certification	Amendment to certified plan	140.70 + CPI	140.70 + CPI
Certification	Recertification of a plan of subdivision	140.70 + CPI	140.70 + CPI
Planning - Satisfaction Matter	Satisfaction matter	325.80 + CPI	325.80 + CPI
Planning - Certificate of Compliance	Certificate of compliance	325.80 + CPI	325.80 + CPI
Planning - Section 173 Change	For an agreement to amend or end a Section 173 Agreement - consent request	659.00 + CPI	659.00 + CPI
PS Copying/Scanning (not including written objections)	A3 copies	5.00	5.00
PS Copying/Scanning (not including written objections)	A4 copies	5.00	5.00
PS Copying/Scanning (not including written objections)	A1 copies	20.00	20.00
Digitisation of hard copy submissions	A4 and A3	n/a	55.00
Digitisation of hard copy submissions	Larger than A3	n/a	110.00
Advertising	Mail out up to 10 notices	125.00	125.00
Advertising	11-20 notices	200.00	200.00
Advertising	21-30 notices	250.00	250.00
Advertising	31-40 notices	300.00	300.00
Advertising	41-50 notices	350.00	350.00
Advertising	51-75 letters more	425.00	425.00
Advertising	76 letters or more	550.00	550.00
Advertising	1 site notice	75.00	75.00
Advertising	2 site notices	100.00	100.00
Advertising	3 site notices	125.00	125.00
Advertising	4+ site notices	150.00	150.00
Advertising	Replacement sign	40.00	42.35
Advertising	Planning notice installation service	Cost plus 10% administration charge	193.60
Advertising	Notice in local paper	Cost plus 10% administration charge	Cost plus 10% administration charge

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Plans to satisfy permit conditions	First submission of plans to satisfy Condition 1 of planning permit	-	-
Plans to satisfy permit conditions	Resubmission of plans to satisfy Condition 1 of planning permit	140.00	140.00
Removal of trees < 2 (Arborist) - fast-track	Per application (must be charged in conjunction with appropriate statutory application fee)	270.30	270.30
Request for secondary consent approval (<=3 Changes)	3 itemised changes	375.00	375.00
Request for secondary consent approval (4+ Changes)	4 or more itemised changes	525.00	525.00
Planning Scheme Amendments			
Planning	Planning Scheme amendment (stage 1)	3,050.90 + CPI	3,050.90 + CPI
Planning	Planning Scheme amendment (stage 2 - < 10 submissions)	15,121.00 + CPI	15,121.00 + CPI
Planning	Planning Scheme amendment (stage 2 - 11-20 submissions)	30,212.40 + CPI	30,212.40 + CPI
Planning	Planning Scheme amendment (stage 2 - > 20 submissions)	40,386.90 + CPI	40,386.90 + CPI
Planning	Planning Scheme amendment (stage 3)	481.30 + CPI	481.30 + CPI
Planning	Planning Scheme amendment (stage 4)	481.30 + CPI	481.30 + CPI
Arts & Culture			
Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing entry fee	"Open" per entry (max 3 entries)	25.00	25.00
Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing entry fee	"Local" per entry (max 3 entries)	no charge	no charge
Hire Eltham Gallery	Per week	40.00	40.00
Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art entry fee	Per entry	25.00	25.00
Artist Residency fee	Per week	100.00	100.00
Community Programs			
Social Support Group			
- Low	Per session (means tested)	9.45	9.45
- Medium	Per session (means tested)	9.70	9.70
- High	Per session (means tested)	10.65	10.65
Occasional Child Care			
Child Care for booked users - ELTHAM	1 child per session	78.00	78.00
Child Care for booked users - PANTON HILL	1 child per session	73.50	73.50
Child Care for casual users - ELTHAM	1 child per session	83.00	83.00
Child Care for casual users - PANTON HILL	1 child per session	78.50	78.50
Preschool			
Centralised preschool enrolments	Per child - 3 year old preschool	n/a	38.00
Centralised preschool enrolments	Per child - 4 year old preschool	38.00	38.00
Centralised preschool enrolments	Per child - combined 3 and 4 year old preschool	n/a	45.00
Community Transport			
Community Transport	Per trip (one way)	2.20	2.20
One on One Transport	Per trip inside shire boundary - one way	6.60	6.60
One on One Transport	Per trip outside shire boundary - one way	10.50	10.50
Community Bus Hire	Full day	120.00	120.00
Community Bus Hire	Half day	70.00	70.00
Living & Learning Nillumbik			
Fee for Service Courses	Total direct costs of course divided by minimum number of enrolments: Direct Costs (e.g.) - tutor - materials, marketing - equipment - venue hire - catering Plus Indirect Costs - staffing & administration calculated at \$26 per program hour All costs take into account GST where applicable. Fees will take into consideration the target group i.e. holders of concession cards		
Co-ops (untutored self-help interest groups)	Per session	Fees calculated as per Fee for Service	Fees calculated as per Fee for Service
Government Funded Training	As per ministerial directive	Fees calculated as per Fee for Service	Fees calculated as per Fee for Service
Corporate, business and institutional course delivery	Per course or per attendee, depending on delivery model	POA	POA
Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham			
Up to 25 people for meeting; includes kitchen facilities			
Pavilion	- Standard rate (per hour)	62.50	62.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	31.50	31.50
	- Unfunded voluntary group occasional	14.50	14.50
Up to 15 people; includes kitchen facilities (access needs to be arranged)			
Sunroom	- Standard rate (per hour)	49.50	49.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	23.00	23.00
	- Unfunded voluntary group occasional	14.50	14.50
Up to 12 people			
Kitchen	- Standard rate (per hour)	26.00	26.00
	- Community rate (per hour)	21.00	21.00
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Art Studio 2 (small)	Up to 20 people; includes kitchen facilities		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	49.00	49.00
	- Community rate (per hour)	20.00	20.00
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Clay Studio	Additional individual bookings by current class participants		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	49.00	49.00
	- Community rate (per hour)	26.50	20.00
Training Room	Up to 14 people		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	49.50	49.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	23.00	23.00
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Courthouse Training Room	Up to 20 people; includes kitchen facilities		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	49.50	49.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	26.00	23.00
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill			
Banksia/Eucalyptus	Up to 25 people - standard rate		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	36.50	36.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	25.50	25.50
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Sunroom	Up to 10 people; kitchen facilities		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	31.00	31.00
	- Community rate (per hour)	20.50	20.50
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Kitchen	Up to 15 people		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	36.50	36.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	25.50	25.50
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Living & Learning Nillumbik Diamond Creek			
Downstairs classroom	Up to 15 people for meeting; includes kitchen facilities		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	31.00	31.00
	- Community rate (per hour)	22.50	20.50
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Upstairs classroom	Up to 25 people; includes kitchen facilities		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	36.50	36.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	26.00	26.00
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Computer room	Up to 11 people; includes kitchen facilities		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	26.00	26.00
	- Community rate (per hour)	20.50	20.50
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
	If computers are required		
	- Standard rate (per hour)	36.50	36.50
	- Community rate (per hour)	26.00	25.50
	- Unfunded voluntary group	14.50	14.50
Community Halls Network			
Eltham Community & Reception Centre (ECRC)			
Function	Friday Saturday & Sunday		
	- Standard rate	1,215.00	1,215.00
	- Community rate	850.00	850.00
Event	Rate per event/day		
	- Standard rate	910.00	910.00
	- Community rate	637.00	637.00
Event - Whole of ECRC	Rate per event/day		
	- Standard rate	1,365.00	1,365.00
	- Community rate	955.00	955.00
ECRC Function weekends	Rate per event/day		
	- Standard rate	1,825.00	1,825.00
	- Community rate	1,275.00	1,275.00
1x Hall weekdays	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	60.00	60.00
	- Community rate	42.00	42.00
1x Hall week evenings Mon-Thur	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	90.00	90.00
	- Community rate	63.00	63.00
ECRC weekdays	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	90.00	90.00
	- Community rate	63.00	63.00
ECRC week evenings	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	125.00	125.00
	- Community rate	88.00	88.00
Additional Hours	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	150.00	150.00
	- Community rate	105.00	105.00
Cutlery / Crockery / Glassware	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	110.00	110.00

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Use of Kitchen	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	150.00	150.00
	- Community rate	105.00	105.00
Eltham Performing Arts Centre	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	37.00	37.00
	- Community rate	26.00	26.00
	Performance rate		
	- Standard rate	560.00	560.00
Eltham Library Multi Purpose Room	- Community rate	392.00	392.00
	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	37.00	37.00
Outdoor Performance Centre	- Community rate	26.00	26.00
	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	25.00	25.00
	- Community rate	18.00	18.00
	School concerts		
The Emergency Operations Centre/ Kangaroo Ground Hall	- Standard rate	250.00	250.00
	- Community rate	175.00	175.00
	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	34.00	34.00
	- Community rate	24.00	24.00
Hurstbridge Hall	Function		
	- Standard rate	560.00	560.00
	- Community rate	392.00	392.00
	Rate per hour		
	- Standard rate	37.00	37.00
Eltham North Hall	- Community rate	26.00	26.00
	Function		
	- Standard rate	560.00	560.00
	- Community rate	392.00	392.00
	Rate per hour		
North Warrandyte Family Centre	- Standard rate	34.00	34.00
	- Community rate	24.00	24.00
	Function		
	- Standard rate	560.00	560.00
	- Community rate	392.00	392.00
Senior Citizens - Diamond Creek	Small Meeting Room		
	1 day hire - concession	37.00	37.00
	1/2 day hire - concession	19.00	19.00
	Hourly rate - concession	9.50	9.50
	Hall/Large Meeting Room		
Senior Citizens - Eltham	1 day hire - concession	68.00	68.00
	1/2 day hire - concession	34.00	34.00
	Hourly rate - concession	17.00	17.00
	Annexe		
	1 day hire - concession	37.00	37.00
Large Hall	1/2 day hire - concession	19.00	19.00
	Hourly rate - concession	9.50	9.50
	1 day hire - concession	68.00	68.00
	1/2 day hire - concession	34.00	34.00
	Hourly rate - concession	17.00	17.00
Diamond Creek East Community Building - Coniston St			
Facility Hire charge	Hourly rate	11.00	11.00
	Weekend Function	100.00	100.00
Eltham North Maternal & Child Health Centre			
Facility Hire charge	Hourly rate	11.00	11.00
Hurstbridge Community Hub			
Community Room	Standard rate	69.50	69.50
	Community benefit	35.50	35.50
	Community group	21.50	21.50
Training Room	Standard rate	48.00	48.00
	Community benefit	23.50	23.50
	Community group	14.50	14.50
Meeting Room 1	Standard rate	37.50	37.50
	Community benefit	18.50	18.50
	Community group	11.00	11.00

Appendix 1
Fees and Charges

Nillumbik Shire Council 2021-22 Fees & Charges

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Adopted Fee 2021-22 \$
Meeting Room 2	Standard rate	37.50	37.50
	Community benefit	18.50	18.50
	Community group	11.00	11.00
Community Kitchen	Standard rate	48.00	48.00
	Community benefit	23.50	23.50
	Community group	14.50	14.50
Allied Health Room	Standard rate	31.00	31.00
Emergency Management			
Compulsory Clearance	Per Fire Prevention Notice	As per schedule of charges	As per contract rates
Compulsory Clearance - Administration Fee	Per Fire Prevention Notice	0.00	180.00
Freedom of Information			
Freedom of Information - application fee	Per application	29.60 + CPI	29.60 + CPI
Search time	Per hour	22.20 + CPI	22.20 + CPI
Photocopy fee	Per A4 page	0.20	0.20
Supervision of document inspections	Per hour	22.20 + CPI	22.20 + CPI
Finance			
Printing of duplicate rate notices	Per notice	15.00	15.00
Land Information Certificate	Per application	As advised	As advised
Dishonoured Cheque Fee (Australia Post)	Per dishonoured cheque	25.00	25.00
Direct debit dishonour fee	Per payment	10.00	10.00
Legal Collection Fee	Per assessment	As per agency schedule of fees	As per agency schedule of fees
Merchant Fees		0.40%	0.40%
Shire Maps			
Colour Map (aerial photos)	A1	31.50	31.50
	A2	26.00	26.00
	A3	16.00	16.00
	A4	10.50	10.50
Custom Mapping	Per hour	74.00	74.00

Nillumbik Audit and Risk Committee minutes



Meeting held Wednesday 12 May 2021, 5pm at Civic Drive Greensborough

1 Pre-meeting In Camera

Nil

2 Present

Independent members: John Watson (Chair), Greg Rimmer-Hollyman, Chris Eddy (arrived 17:22)

Councillors:

Mayor Cr Peter Perkins, Deputy Mayor Cr France Eyre

Council officers:

Carl Cowie (Chief Executive Officer), Vince Lombardi (Chief Financial Officer), Jeremy Livingston (Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance), Melika Sukunda (Finance Manager), Craig Commene (Risk and Safety Lead), Lance Clark (Senior Procurement Specialist), Eddie Cheng (IT Manager)

Other invitees:

Nick Walker (HLB Mann Judd) (Arrived 17.23), Richard Wilson (Pitcher Partners), Luke Heine (KPMG) (Arrived 17:20)

3 The Chair welcomed attendees and acknowledged the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which attendees were meeting.

4 Apologies

Graham Noriskin (Pitcher Partners)

5 Disclosure of any conflicts of interests

Nil

6 Declarations

i. CEO – Any impending legal action, legislation breaches or instances of fraud.

Nil

ii. Internal Auditors – Any obstructions to the work of the internal audit.

Nil

7 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held 15 February 2021

Decision

The minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 15 February 2021 were confirmed as accurate.

8 CEO Update

The CEO update was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The CEO update was received and noted.

The Committee record their congratulations on being awarded third place (Government and NFP Category) in the AFR Best Places to Work and recognised the contribution made by Sally Pickett, HR Manager.

9 Table of actions arising

The table of actions arising was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The status of actions outstanding was received and noted.

10 Procurement Policy Update and Draft Procurement Policy 2021 - 2025

The Procurement Policy Update and Draft Procurement Policy 2021-2025 was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Procurement Policy Update and Draft Procurement Policy 2021-2025 was received and noted.

The Committee recommended the draft Procurement Policy 2021-2025 to Council for adoption, pending the review of suggested changes.

11 Cyber Health Check Report, compiled by KPMG

The Cyber Health Check Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Cyber Health Check Report be received and noted.

The Committee raised questions regarding the context of some findings and note that when the report is presented at the August 2021 Audit and Risk Committee meeting, there will be further contextual information provided along with management comments.

12 VAGO Audit Strategy

The VAGO Audit Strategy as presented to the Committee.

Decision

The VAGO Audit Strategy was received and noted.

13 Business Transformation Program Health Check Internal Audit Report

The Business Transformation Health Check Internal Audit Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Business Transformation Health Check Internal Audit Report was received and noted.

The Committee suggested that on implementing the findings regarding the project management framework, management consider the distinction is made between large and small projects.

14 Internal Audit Status Report

The Internal Audit Status Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Internal Audit Status Report was received and noted.

15 Recent Risk and Issues Brief

The Recent Risk and Issues Brief was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Recent Risk and Issues Brief was received and noted.

The Committee requested that a report be presented at the next meeting on the VAGO findings regarding Road Management Plans and related data capabilities of Council.

The Committee requested that officer's report back to the Committee on the implementation of the safer playgrounds review.

16 Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2021-2022

The Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2021-2022 was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2021-2022 was received and noted.

17 Pending Audit Recommendations Report

The pending Audit Recommendations Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The pending Audit Recommendations Report was received and noted.

18 Risk and Safety Report

The Risk and Safety Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Risk and Safety Report was received and noted.

19 Draft Budget 2021-2022

The Draft Budget 2021-2022 was presented to the Committee.

Recommendation

The Draft Budget be received and noted.

20 Draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2022

The Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2022 was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Revenue and Rating Plan was received and noted.

21 Land and Buildings Material Change Review 2021

The Land and Buildings Material Change Review 2021 was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Land and Buildings Material Change Review 2021 was received and noted.

22 Transformation at Nillumbik (T@N) Update

The Transformation at Nillumbik (T@N) update was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Transformation at Nillumbik (T@N) update was received and noted.

The Committee commended the work of officers implementing the EDRMS and Intranet projects and recognise the continuing good work of the teams undertaking T@N projects and requested this be conveyed to the teams.

23 Covid-19 Update

The Covid-19 Update was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Covid-19 update was received and noted.

The Committee noted that this will be the last Covid-19 update to be tabled. An update on working from home arrangements will be provided at the August committee meeting.

24 Local Government Act 2020 Update

The Local Government Act 2020 Update was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Local Government Act 2020 Update was received and noted.

25 March Quarter Financial Report Summary and March Quarter Financial Report

The March Quarter Financial Report Summary and March Quarter Financial Report were presented to the Committee.

Decision

The March Quarter Financial Report Summary and March Quarter Financial Report were received and noted.

26 Rates in Arrears Report

The Rates in Arrears Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Rates in Arrears Report was received and noted.

27 Councillor Expenses Report

The Councillor Expenses Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Councillor Expenses Report was received and noted.

The Committee request that future reports distinguish between reimbursed Councillor expenditure and that paid directly by Council.

28 Audit Committee Work Plan

The Audit and Risk Committee Work Plan was be presented to the Committee

Decision

The Audit and Risk Committee Work Plan was received and noted.

29 Other Business

Chris Eddy noted his appointment as an administrator at the City of Whittlesea.

30 Meeting Schedule

The next Audit and Risk Committee meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday 23 August 2021 at Council Offices, Civic Drive Greensborough or via Zoom if required.

31 Meeting Close

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Nillumbik Community Pandemic Recovery Plan 2021-22





Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Nillumbik Shire Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people who are the Traditional Custodians of Land known today as Nillumbik. We pay respect to Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians.

Image: Hurstbridge shop front

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A Message from the CEO

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant and enduring impact on all aspects of life around the world. The social, health and economic impacts have stretched all of us as we have had to respond to new and challenging situations.

Through the collective experience of this pandemic, the Nillumbik community has proven that it is strong, resilient and caring. I would like to thank all of you for the role you have played in keeping our community safe, and supporting those around you through these incredibly challenging circumstances.

Through all phases of the COVID-19 pandemic, Council has continued to support the Nillumbik community through the adaptation of services and programs, so that people can continue to access what they need and stay as connected as possible. As we move from response to ongoing recovery, we need to look further ahead at how we can best rebuild and reconnect.

The *Nillumbik Community Pandemic Recovery Plan 2021 – 2022* outlines the initial response we have provided, along with the actions that Council will take to ensure we can recover as restrictions continue to ease and life shifts to a 'COVID normal'.

The plan is based on four main themes which guide the recovery process:

1. Inclusion
2. Healthy Environments
3. Healthy Behaviours and;
4. Employment and Education

Actions stated in the plan span across a number of areas of Council, and will be supported by State and Federal Government initiatives, and those delivered by community organisations and our local partners. Collaboration is a key principle of any work we do, and is especially the case for pandemic recovery.

It is important to note that although everyone has been affected, some people and groups are more vulnerable to the effects of such a disaster as this pandemic. As such, many of our recovery efforts focus on supporting those who are more at risk of the negative health, social and economic outcomes that have presented themselves.

As we rebound from such a historical and life changing event, we must work collectively to protect our health and that of our community.



Carl Cowie
CEO

A Message from the Mayor

Since early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged many of our previous assumptions and affected every aspect of our lives.

The resilience and resourcefulness of the Nillumbik community has been demonstrated on many occasions, whether in the face of fire, flood or now, global pandemic. Nevertheless, the challenges of the past 18 months have been like nothing we've previously experienced and have taken a large toll.

The pandemic continues to ravage much of the globe and our international borders are not expected to reopen until mid to late 2022. While we in Australia have done very well in comparison so far, we need to recognise that we are far from out of the woods.

The *Nillumbik Community Pandemic Recovery Plan 2021 – 2022* states our focus for the short to medium term recovery process. Longer term approaches will be embedded in key strategic documents such as the Council Plan and the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. It is the result of Council's efforts to gain a comprehensive understanding of the pandemic's effect on our community, informed by Council's experience in responding to community needs and feedback on issues of importance.

For all its undoubted challenges, the pandemic offers opportunities for finding new and improved ways of going about our lives. The plan reflects a commitment to embedding these improvements and building on them.

Throughout the pandemic, Council has been working closely with the Commonwealth and State governments, as well as local partners, to deliver the necessary support and services to our community. This approach is reflected in the plan, which highlights Council's critical role in service delivery and in advocating to other levels of government on behalf of our community.

It will be a critical roadmap as we, alongside our community, navigate the recovery phase and beyond.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes.

Cr Peter Perkins
Mayor

Introduction to the plan



Image: People planning in a workshop

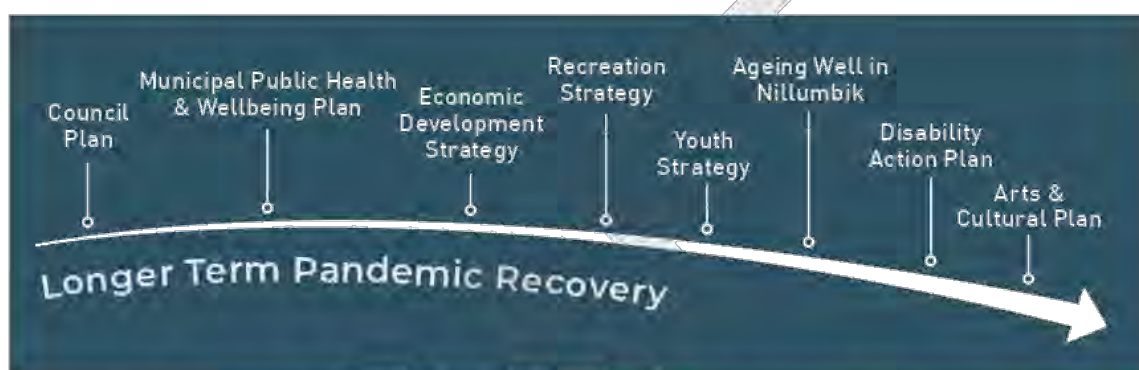
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The *Nillumbik Community Pandemic Recovery Plan 2021-22* seeks to outline how Council has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the approach we are taking to continue to support the community through the recovery process.

We recognise that pandemic response, relief and recovery are all dynamic. There is no way to set a point from which recovery began, and we cannot predict if response will need to occur again in the future. Therefore, we are committed to shift and adjust our approach where required, based on local need and the direction of the Victorian Government.

This plan states our focus for the short to medium term recovery process. Longer term approaches will be embedded in key strategic documents such as the *Council Plan* and the *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan*, as well as other relevant documents.

We will review and report on this plan at 30 June 2022 to evaluate what has been implemented and its effectiveness.



In Victoria, the COVID-19 pandemic has been managed by the State through the emergency management legislation (State of Victoria, 2013), the State Emergency Management Plan (Emergency Management Victoria 2020), and intergovernmental and interagency processes and protocols developed under these plans.

Management of the Pandemic has been informed by the Public Health and Wellbeing Act (State of Victoria, 2008) and the Public Health and Wellbeing Amendment Act (State of Victoria, 2020) designed to extend the State of Emergency powers and controls on a monthly basis.

In concert, these acts and plans, and the actions taken to implement them, have kept most Victorians free from the risk of contracting COVID-19.

Timeline of the COVID-19 pandemic

The following timeline highlights some key milestones of the COVID-19 pandemic, since its emergence in Australia in 2020.



How this plan was developed

A series of documents were developed to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on the community. Primary sources include:

- Together in Nillumbik COVID-19 Community Survey Findings (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2020g) which sought to understand the nature of impact on the Nillumbik community.
- COVID 19 Business support for Nillumbik, Respond, Recover, Thrive (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2020a).
- Nillumbik Recovery Plan, COVID-19 Literature Review (Boyce, 2021) which sought to better understand the nature of potential impacts of COVID-19 on the Nillumbik Community from a theoretical perspective.
- Nillumbik COVID-19 Workshop Summaries (2021a).
- Nillumbik Recovery Plan Actions (2021b).

In addition, the Local Government SenseVIC Pulse (June 2020 Wave) findings on COVID-19 (CSBA., 2020) were also considered.

A series of consultations were undertaken to better understand the nature of impact, potential recovery activity and support plan development.

This Plan is informed by literature and consultation and provides guidance on local responses required for recovery.

Although the Plan takes a strengths based approach we have tried to clearly identify the issues that arose from the pandemic in Nillumbik, and the likely impact these issues have had, and will continue to have, on the local community.

Nillumbik's approach to recovery

Focusing on resilience

Nillumbik's approach to recovery is underpinned by the concept of resilience.

Resilience is a psychological concept which broadly is a measure of a person's robustness, or capacity to 'bounce back' after being placed under pressure or stress.

Resilience can just as easily be applied to communities as it can to individuals, and is frequently used in a community disaster context to define how a community might respond and to better understand and measure how a community is fairing.

Community resilience in a disaster context is a developing field of academic research designed to better support our understanding of what occurs in communities and how they function in disaster contexts.



Figure 3: A Model for Community Disaster Resilience (Arbon, Gebbie, Cusack, Perera, & Verdonk, 2012)

Principles guiding recovery

Community-led process

The active involvement of the community is essential and we will work in partnership with the community, recognising the varying needs of people as they experience recovery in different ways and at different stages.

Individuals and communities are resilient

When individuals and communities are provided with information and resources, they are able to make informed choices and manage their own recovery.

Levels of recovery operations

Recovery operates at multiple levels of government and in collaboration between a range of agencies and organisations. Operational and strategic decisions relating to the recovery process will be made through already existing governance procedures.

Accessible and inclusive communications

Coordination and communication between the community, key agencies and Federal, State and Local Governments will assist in ensuring the success of recovery activities for the affected community.

Roles of organisations and agencies

Recovery is not the exclusive domain of any single agency. All agencies and organisations willing to participate have an important role to play. Recovery is a whole-of-government and a whole-of-community process. The recovery process will build on existing structures and relationships.

Key recovery directions 2021-22

Four key themes have been identified for Nillumbik to inform future pandemic planning and recovery. These themes are based on responses from the Together in Nillumbik COVID-19 Community Survey Findings and are centred on the social and economic impacts that emerged during the pandemic and include:

Inclusion

This theme relates to social inclusion and participation in all aspects of community life, with a focus on those who may be more disadvantaged or vulnerable, or may be physically isolated due to where they live or limitations they may have.

Healthy environments

This refers to the physical and social environments in which people and communities exist in, which promote healthy behaviours and positive health outcomes.

Healthy behaviours

These behaviours include those which a person, groups or communities engage in that promote health and are protective factors for ill health or chronic disease.

Employment and education

This theme relates to schooling and education of all types, employment, volunteering, business support and the promotion and stimulation of the local economy.

Image: Rural road in Nillumbik



The following table highlights the key recovery directions to guide Nillumbik's short to longer term recovery:

Inclusion	Healthy Environments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive opportunities in clubs for volunteering through disability, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) community, low income and gender equity lenses • Inclusive opportunities to support and sustain local business • Support for social inclusion opportunities for low income residents • Increasing opportunities for partnership between organisations, improving their capacity to deliver local and inclusive programming • Bridging the digital divide to better support inclusion across all ages and abilities • Return of face-to-face opportunities as soon as possible within restriction parameters • Support seniors to more easily adapt and connect through available technology • Provide connection opportunities for those who are socially isolated through volunteering, food bank activities and local news (2021a). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support local groups, sporting clubs and businesses to implement COVID-safe practices • Encouraging and supporting informal recreational access to the built environment. These would support healthy practices such as gathering for social events in the outdoor spaces, and provide opportunity for people of all incomes to participate • Promote engagement with nature through informal and formal opportunities • Support safe engagement in formal spaces through supporting and extending trading opportunities • Support sports and recreation clubs through sharing opportunities for accessing financial assistance (grants), community marketing of available clubs, help support those on low incomes and those who are isolated to participate, and skilled support to assist clubs in developing and implementing COVID-safe plans.
Healthy Behaviours	Employment and Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to clubs, services and supports that promote wellbeing and health • Improved access to services that provide informal and formal early intervention opportunities • Improved access to physical activity and exercise opportunities • Improved access to fresh food • Promote local services that provide food relief and connect those in need • Promote and support home food growing • Promote available family violence support services. • Improved access to services and support for those with psychological vulnerabilities, including to drug and alcohol services • Improved access to financial counselling and housing support services for those experiencing significant distress and dislocation. 	<p>Council developed an Economic Development Strategy (2020e) during the course of the pandemic to support the local economy. Rather than repeat actions agreed in that strategy, the Recovery Plan seeks to highlight key themes and objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve economic development practices and programs to assist local businesses • Enhancing the visitor economy, showcasing natural, recreational and cultural strengths • Promoting learning access across the life-course to promote an increasingly resilient workforce; and • Working across Council to increase opportunities for people with a disability to participate as volunteers in Council activities. • Council responded with a range of measures documented in Respond, Recover, Thrive (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2020a). These programs were designed to support the community during lockdown, with a prospective 'bounce-back' occurring within a six month period. Some of the likely impacts have not yet been experienced. <p>Council delivered the Art in the Time of COVID-19 program which offered a timely injection of employment opportunities for artists to do what they do best, create art. The program employed 163 artists through a Live Streaming, Written and Exhibition program that has engaged an audience of over 50,000. Council was successful in obtaining a six month Arts Recovery resource through the Working for Victoria Scheme.</p>

Supporting inclusion

Social inclusion covers factors that determine how well an individual can participate in their community.

Social inclusion is one of the main 'social determinants of health' and plays a significant role in community wellbeing. It is particularly important from a built environment and service perspective to ensure that everyone can access services; for example, people with a disability can physically access services; people who speak a language other than English can source the information they need; services are culturally appropriate and safe for all people including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People; people in low income households have equal opportunity to access basic resources; and people of all genders and sexualities have equal opportunities in workplaces and social situations.

What we know about COVID-19 impacts on inclusion	What we know about the Nillumbik community
Isolation can result in mental health issues.	➡ Only half of the population could get help from neighbours.
Key vulnerable groups are older people, low income households, those with a disability, those in rural areas, people who live alone, those with low literacy and those with limited communication skills.	➡ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 per cent of the population live in rural areas. In the years prior to COVID-19 there was a declining sense of feeling valued by society. The number of older adults in Nillumbik is increasing over time. The socioeconomic index for Nillumbik is quite high, and the area is fairly affluent, however there are still pockets of disadvantage.
<p>There are three key areas of social inclusion identified as experiencing notable impacts from COVID-19: Disability and caring, gender equality and volunteering.</p> <p>1. Disability and caring</p> <p>Those who have a disability, health condition or injury lasting for 6 months or more, more commonly experience a range of impacts (2020 Together in Nillumbik Community Survey):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 53% Concern that they or their family will contract COVID-19 (40% no disability) 22% Couldn't afford services (7% no disability) 22% Didn't know what services were available (11% no disability) 23% Need financial relief packages (12% no disability) 15% Need support to connect to Federal and State financial relief (8% no disability) 10% Need delivery of food packages / ready-made meals (3% no disability) 	<p>The Together in Nillumbik survey showed that males were less likely to identify the need for support and had lower incidence of reporting psychological distress, but were more commonly heavy drinkers (2020).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26% Concerned about the impact of remote learning on children (18% males) 11% Have to juggle home, caring, work and schooling activities (3% males) 30% Engaged in childcare (23% males) 65% Perform 5+ hours domestic work per week (40% males) <p>Females are more commonly employed in industries impacted by COVID (health, carer and clerical).</p>

Source: 2020 Together in Nillumbik Community Survey

2. Gender Equality

Consistent with international data, females bore the majority of the burden for caring and learning support activities. Together in Nillumbik 2020 survey findings and Census data show that females more commonly experience a range of impacts or are in high risk sectors.

Source: Census

3. Volunteering

Many traditional volunteering opportunities closed throughout the pandemic, increasing the social isolation of regular volunteers. Clubs identified the impact of COVID-19 on both club finances and their capacity to retain and attract volunteers to support viability (Recreation Department, 2020). healthAbility identified the benefit of volunteers engaging people who are vulnerable, and volunteering was identified as an important mechanism both Council and local community groups could use to better support the local community. (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2020g).

Supporting healthy environments

Healthy environments include both built and social aspects of our community that promote health, wellbeing and resilience.

These include infrastructure and activities available to residents and visitors that can contribute to improved health outcomes, such as community centres and cultural facilities. Safety is also an important aspect of a healthy environment, which has implications for Council through public space management such as vegetation maintenance (sightlines) and lighting (Community Profile, 2020).

What we know about COVID-19 impacts on healthy environments	What we know about the Nillumbik community
Access to public space was one of the only opportunities for interaction and exercise during lockdown periods.	➔ Most of the population live within 400 metres of public open space.
Perceptions of safety have declined.	➔ This was declining prior to COVID-19, although the interpretation of public safety has shifted from physical structures (eg uneven footpaths) and fear of other people to fear of getting sick.
Access to the internet is critical for maintaining connections during periods of lockdown.	➔ The proportion of households with access to the internet has been increasing over time (nine in 10 as at 2016).

During the pandemic, communities were limited in their capacity to safely access environments that support health, and in their capacity to safely distance when engaging in healthy behaviours and activities in the built and natural environments. The main impacts of COVID-19 on healthy environments were:

Sports clubs	Informal spaces	Transport and mobility	Environment and natural spaces	Formal spaces
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in income (memberships, fundraising) Unable to undertake usual activities (deliver value to members). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased usage of informal spaces (public open space) for gatherings and participation opportunities for those on low incomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase/improvement in delivery of care boxes and food parcels, library books, and medication Increase in assistance to those with limited internet skills to order online Increase in programs supporting checking in on vulnerable neighbours, encouraging public catch ups, and regular phone catch ups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in use of these spaces Increase in programs encouraging food production at home Switch to virtual engagement with nature. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in support for local businesses to provide outdoor opportunities (mobile trading, outdoor dining, and shop local campaign).

Supporting healthy behaviours

Behaviours such as smoking, excess consumption of alcohol, consuming an unhealthy diet and physical inactivity have an impact on health. High blood pressure and high cholesterol also influence health, and may also potentially be modifiable through behaviour change. The Literature Review (Boyce, 2021) identified challenges with people maintaining healthy behaviours under stressful conditions: excessive alcohol consumption, smoking or taking drugs in harmful ways; being able to maintain exercise routines or continue to eat in a healthy manner; and continue to access and eat healthy foods.

Some residents found eating healthily and being active on a regular basis more challenging during the pandemic, as they were not engaged in sports clubs, responded to stress with different eating habits and may not have had access to the same physical activity opportunities as they normally would.

What we know about COVID-19 impacts on healthy behaviours	What we know about the Nillumbik community
Pandemics can result in increased anxiety and depression.	➡ Prior to COVID a third were experiencing anxiety or depression. During COVID-19 28% ranked one or more mental health measures as 'all the time'. 25% want mental health support (Together in Nillumbik Survey).
Caregivers encounter more stress.	➡ Carer responsibilities disproportionately undertaken by older adults and females.
Can result in family conflict.	➡ Incidence of family violence was increasing prior to COVID-19.
Mental health impacts can increase due to reduced exercise and reduced healthy eating.	➡ Prior to COVID-19 over a third were not undertaking sufficient physical exercise, very few were meeting fruit and vegetable consumption guidelines. Many residents don't have easy access to mental health services due to long distances to services and limited transport options.
Increased alcohol intake can result in preventable mortality and can occur in times of high stress.	➡ The rate of ambulance attendance for alcohol intoxication was increasing prior to COVID-19. 43% of residents were drinking more alcohol during COVID-19 restrictions (Together in Nillumbik Survey).

Some important considerations about potential COVID-19 impacts in these areas are:

Alcohol and other drugs	Access to services and support	Mental health	Healthy eating and physical activity
<p>Factors associated with increased drinking during the pandemic are (Neill et al., 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • heavier drinking pre-pandemic • middle age • average or higher income • job loss • eating more • changes to sleep • stress and depression. <p>Increased drinking was also found to be linked to more severe symptoms of depression or anxiety (Tran, Hammarberg, Kirkman, Nguyen, and Fisher, 2020).</p>	<p>Groups identified as potentially experiencing access challenges are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who had services withdrawn due to COVID-129 restrictions - people with a disability and older adults • People with pre-existing psychological conditions or vulnerabilities • Indigenous young people • Young mothers • Those with chronic diseases • Those with undiagnosed illnesses as a result of inability to access medical care • Young people, and • Those vulnerable and at educational risk in school settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early intervention is important to prevent long-term health impacts • Sports clubs may benefit from mental health first aid training. 	<p>Some positive developments in this space due to the pandemic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food parcels have been sourced by a range of agencies and delivered by agencies, friends and neighbours throughout the pandemic. • Residents have been encouraged to grow fresh food in their gardens • Online exercise offerings were beneficial for some members of the community • Some residents used the pandemic as an opportunity to spend more time outdoors being active in the local area.

Supporting employment and education

Employment impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown are secondary impacts with significant economic consequences. See the Literature Review (2021) in Section 6.2 for more detail.

The Economic Development team provided targeted support for local businesses in response to the pandemic. Local artists were support through the Art in the Time of COVID-19 program which offered a timely injection of employment opportunities for artists.

What we know about COVID-19 impacts on employment and education

Women were more likely to be impacted by unemployment and less likely to be able to access JobKeeper payments.

Take-up of JobKeeper was higher in certain industries: 55.9% accommodation and food services, 36.9% healthcare and social assistance, 34% education and training.

Employment is protective against mental illness, depression and despair.

Education teaches resilience and provides opportunities.

What we know about the Nillumbik community

In 2020, over 2,000 residents of Nillumbik were on JobSeeker payments.

29% of Nillumbik's workforce are in these industries. 25% of Together in Nillumbik survey respondents were in receipt of JobKeeper or JobSeeker as a result of the pandemic.

During COVID-19 almost half of respondents (48%) switched to working from home, 8% were unable to work at all and 43% experienced a decrease in income.

Educational performance is high with students in Nillumbik schools outperforming the Victorian average in all years except Year 7. The rate of Nillumbik's population with a Bachelor degree is increasing.

Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic's primary impact should be understood as the actual health impact on some residents and the threat to the maintenance of good health and well-being of others.

The Victorian response to the COVID-19 pandemic focused on primary health harm prevention.

This approach was taken as a result of the severity of the likely impact on vulnerable communities, the contagious nature of the disease, the unknown nature of people who may be 'super-spreaders' and the rapidity of spread following 'super-spreading events' in the community.

Significant secondary impacts resulted from protecting the community from infection.

Primary health impacts

COVID-19 has and continues to pose a significant risk to the health of most people in the Victorian and Nillumbik community.

COVID-19 poses a particular risk to those working in settings where the risk of infection is high, and to vulnerable members, particularly older people and those with comprised health or pre-existing health conditions.

To the end of January 2021, 136 Nillumbik residents had acquired COVID-19 (Department of Health and Human Services, 2021b).

97 cases

occurred in aged care settings (71.32% of total cases) including 36 staff, 47 residents and 14 others

13 deaths

were directly related to COVID-19 outbreaks in aged care settings in Nillumbik (9.55% of total cases) (Department of Health and Human Services, 2021a).

Those who experienced severe bouts of COVID-19 could have faced long periods of time in induced comas breathing with ventilator support. A portion of those who recovered, will experience what is now known as 'Long COVID', which is typically a range of changing symptoms that persist across a reasonably long period of time (Carfi, Bernabei, Landi, and Group, 2020; Darley et al., 2020; Wise, 2020; Yelin et al., 2020). The nature and duration of Long COVID is an evolving area of medical research (Boyce, 2021).

COVID-19 will continue to pose a risk to everyone in the community until the vaccination rollout has been completed. The vaccination schedule for Victorians has been announced including priority for those at risk in workplace settings and those living and working in congregate care facilities, commencing 22 February 2021.



Image: Art in the Time of COVID, Montsalvat

Figure 1: Number of COVID-19 cases in Nillumbik Shire by date

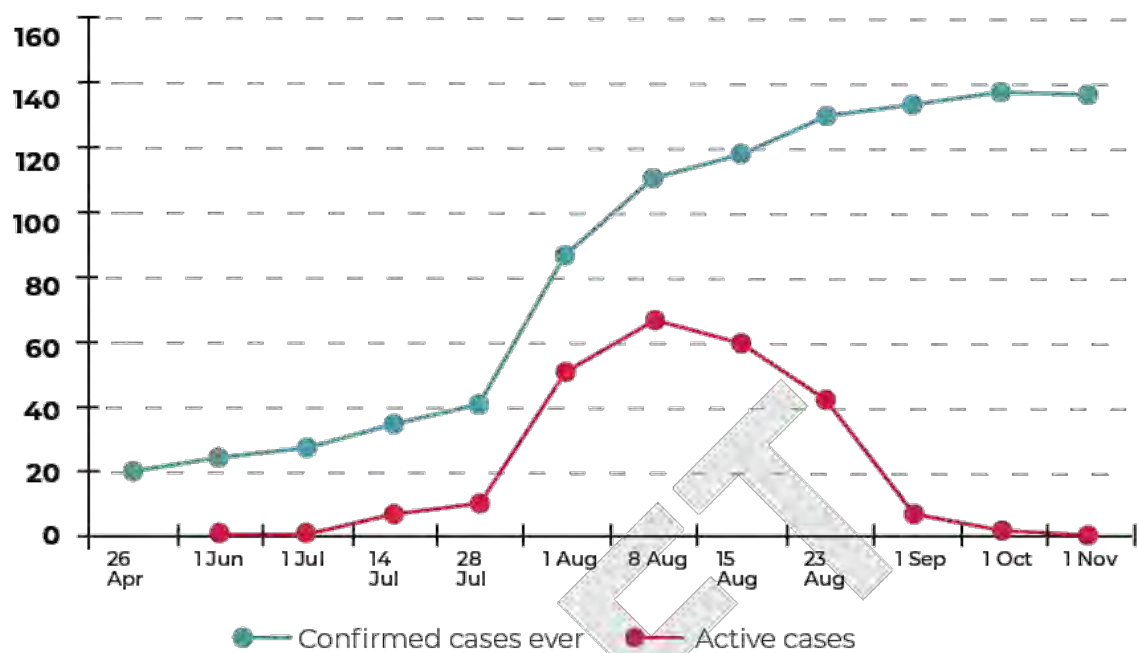
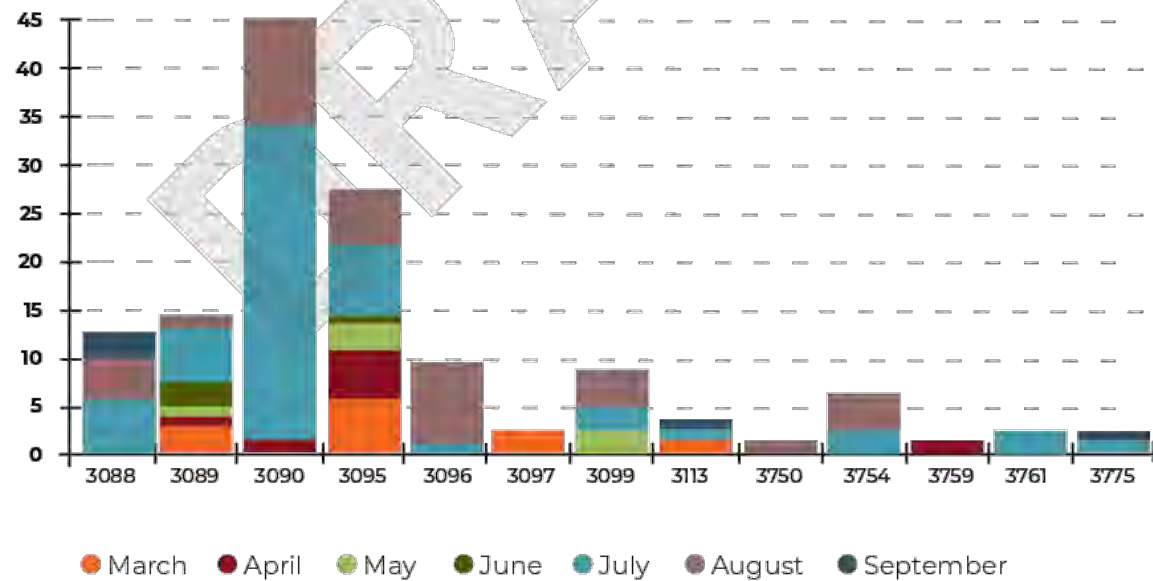


Figure 2: Number of COVID-19 cases in Nillumbik Shire by postcode and month



Economic impacts

Initial impacts and responses

Significant secondary economic impacts were clearly felt in the early months of the pandemic due to emergency orders restricting opening to essential businesses only.

Commonwealth and State economic support programs were developed or enhanced in response. These programs protected many Nillumbik residents from deeper and more sudden economic impacts. Given scheduled withdrawal of most programs, and the reduction of the level of JobSeeker payments, these programs may have only deferred the economic impact of the pandemic.

Despite these programs, some community members have fared significantly worse than others. As a result of the economic impact of lockdown, some:

- Lost livelihoods as businesses ceased trading for long periods of time or forever
- Live in communities reliant on tourism have only just commenced trading again
- Worked in businesses not eligible for JobKeeper
- Were refugees who were not eligible for JobKeeper or JobSeeker assistance
- Worked in industries where remote work was not an option and lost their jobs as a result.

Local economic impacts

Nillumbik has a three tier economy:

- A robust highly skilled and well paid workforce that works outside the municipality, characterised by relatively low unemployment
- A smaller more fragile local economy employing approximately 13,315 persons (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016), of which two thirds worked in industries that were likely to be impacted in the pandemic and eligible for JobSeeker in the accommodation and food services, tourism, healthcare and social assistance, education and training, retail trade and construction sectors
- A significant low income population with 17.47 per cent of the population, recipients in receipt of a pension or benefit (age and disability pension, JobSeeker and sole parent).

Only 2.2 per cent or 880 of 35,567 persons of working age were unemployed as at June 2020 compared to a state wide rate of 7.1 per cent.

Similarly, within the internal economy the unemployment rate only rose to 2.93 per cent during the peak of the shutdown.

Unequal impacts for those on more limited incomes

The COVID-19 supplement doubled income and the non-discretionary expenditure of JobSeeker recipients. The last available data indicates that approximately 6 per cent of Nillumbik residents were dependent on JobSeeker (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2020).

Despite having additional costs and a range of services withdrawn, aged and disability pensioners received limited additional assistance throughout the pandemic.

Interest rates have been at their lowest point in living memory, thus limiting potential earnings to support livelihoods of self-funded retirees.

Economists have been particularly concerned about the impact of the pandemic on women. Initial Treasury modelling on the take-up of JobKeeper program (Boyce, 2021; Equity Economics, 2020; Treasury, 2020) illustrated that while women were more likely to lose their jobs as a result of the pandemic, they were less likely to be eligible for JobKeeper. The JobSeeker benefit peaked at two thirds of JobKeeper payments and reduced more rapidly over the September to March 2021 period.

Refugees and international students were not entitled to statutory income support and their circumstances are likely to be dire.

Continuing economic impacts

Economic losses are still mounting and the repercussions of the pandemic will continue to be felt for months, and possibly for years to come.

Garnaut (2021) is predicting at least a four year period for recovery. The length and depth of the economic impact of COVID-19 depends on the ease or difficulty of 'bouncing back', and the monetary and fiscal choices made by Government.

On 31 March 2021 a number of factors coincide that may result in community members being particularly vulnerable to economic shock. These include the:

- end of the JobKeeper program;
- end of the eviction moratorium;
- end of bank mortgage payment relief
- lowering of the JobSeeker rate.



Image: Outdoor dining in Eltham

Social, health and wellbeing impacts

Economic stress has an impact on wellbeing, in turn causing emotional and personal stress. As did the long period of lockdown, with school and workplace closures and rescheduling of all but urgent medical appointments.

The Literature Review canvassed the likely impacts found in Australian and overseas research of populations facing similar economic impacts and lockdown restrictions.

Secondary well-being impacts included:

- Health conditions that went undiagnosed or where the diagnosis came late
- Stressors faced by people and families where some adapted better than others
- Stresses on families due to limited access to other mediating influences beyond immediate family, including of extended family support, and mediating influences of friends, social and work connection
- Stressors relating to home schooling, and supervising home schooling while maintaining employment, where some parents adapted better than others, as did some students
- Particular difficulties for vulnerable young people including children on the autism spectrum or with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Distinctly different responses to alcohol and drug intake where some people stopped imbibing whereas others coped through increasing levels of intake
- A rise in unhealthy eating behaviours that arose from stress and the inability to undertake sufficient daily physical activity making people more vulnerable to the impacts of COVID-19
- Projected and local increasing levels of family violence in families under new and different stresses as well as significant economic stress
- Job related stresses and mental distress in the health care, social care, residential care and age care workforces for frontline workers
- An increase in anxiety and depression, particularly for those exposed to stressors who were less resilient, or who had greater exposure through direct economic or health impacts
- A reduction in the capacity of many to volunteer due to their age and vulnerability
- A withdrawal of services from vulnerable people as volunteers and services withdrew home based service delivery
- The impact of extended social isolation, particularly for at risk older people whose sense of disconnection and loneliness, increased risks for physical and mental decline, substance use, emotional despair, and death.

To better support the community and manage and mitigate impact, Nillumbik Shire has decided to concentrate its recovery response across four domains: Inclusion; healthy environments; healthy behaviours; and employment and education.

Initial COVID-19 Response



Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Nillumbik Shire has been guided by the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2020d).

Activities designed to support recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic have been guided by the Nillumbik Relief and Recovery Plan (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2019b).

The Relief and Recovery Plan principles that guide the development of recovery plans are that recovery should be:

- A community led process;
- Start from the premise that individuals and communities are resilient;
- Include all levels of government in recovery operations; and that
- Council works in partnership with key agencies to promote recovery.

The Relief and Recovery Plan provides guidance on the development of specific recovery plans, to tailor responses to local circumstances and local need.



Image: Playground closure signage used during COVID lockdown

What we did – 2020



Staff wellbeing

Nillumbik recognises the importance of leading by example by supporting staff wellbeing throughout response and recovery.

Staff are often residents too, and by supporting staff wellbeing the organisation can:

- Help demonstrate desired behaviours amongst the community
- Ensure staff are well supported to perform community support roles
- Foster professional development
- Support staff through changing environments.

Nillumbik Shire supports staff wellbeing by:

- Interpreting Federal and State Government guidelines within the context of varying roles and responsibilities, and communicating these interpretations to staff in a timely manner
- Providing staff with flexible work arrangements through the pandemic restrictions and beyond, as we move towards a 'COVID normal'. This includes considering the needs of the customer, the business, the team and the individual
- Regular check-ins with staff who live alone during periods of stay at home restrictions

- Supporting staff with working from home through provision of:
 - IT equipment to work remotely
 - Flexible work options to support periods of homeschooling and caregiving
 - Leave to attend COVID testing sites
 - Virtual health and wellbeing, education and professional development
- Undertaking staff wellbeing surveys
- Providing the necessary technology for staff to continue their roles remotely (as required)
- Providing on-call telephone psychological support services for staff.

Staff recovery will be supported through:

- Recognition of professional development
- Upskilling through pandemic response activities.

Image: Nillumbik Shire Council offices in Greensborough



Initial COVID-19 Response | 22

Recovery grants

Council resolved at Future Nillumbik Committee Meeting on 9 February 2021 the allocation of unexpended 2020/21 Triennial Event funding toward community recovery through the delivery of an internal and external recovery grants program.

The internal Pandemic Recovery Grant Program offered financial support for teams within Council to assist with the delivery of projects and initiatives that align with the *Nillumbik Community Pandemic Recovery Plan 2021-22*.

Projects were required to align with one of the four key themes identified in the Together in Nillumbik Survey findings (Inclusion; Healthy environments; Healthy behaviours; and Employment and education).

Applications have been assessed and awarded by an Internal Pandemic Recovery Taskforce and projects to be commenced by 30 June 2021.

Successful projects included:

Projects	Description
Mental Health First Aid for Community Leaders	Provide 30 community leaders from sport and recreation clubs, community groups and youth programs/services with the opportunity to undergo Mental Health First Aid certificate training.
Emergency Resilience and Recovery Video Series for Communities	Info video series for residents to prepare and recover from emergencies – targeting vulnerable demographics.
Be in Motion – Exercise at Home	Exercise booklet in collaboration with Aligned Leisure. Program designed for older adults.
Live and Age Well Nillumbik – Resource Guide	Update, print and distribute resource guide for older adults, translated into three different languages.
Pop-Up Recording Studio	Two day pop-up for music recording, mixing, and mastering for young musician.
National Volunteer Week Events Support Project	Supplementary project created to support the 'National Volunteer Week' events in order to mitigate risks and adapt to COVID-19 impacts.
Community Garden Relaunch Program	Purchase of tools and equipment to establish and grow community gardens in Eltham and Panton Hill.
Your Ground Project	Secure "Your Ground" partnership with CrowdSpot and Monash YXX Lab. Documenting lived experiences of women regarding public and recreational space.
Place Shapers	Place making program engaging up to 12 local community members to participate in an eight week program at the Hurstbridge Community Hub.
Creative Industries Business Development Program	Business education program for creative industries – shifting hobbies to business. Four-to-six week workshops with online resources.
Nillumbik UNmuted	Four business breakfasts across municipality, with story sharing on adaptation through pandemic.



Nillumbik's external grants program, the **Nillumbik Recovery Fund**, aims to support eligible local community organisations, groups and businesses who have been impacted by COVID-19 via three available grant streams:

Community Services Brokerage Grants – grants of up to \$500

Funding for local service providers and community organisations to meet the needs of individuals and families experiencing adversity due to COVID-19.

Community Recovery Project Grants – grants of up to \$5,000

Support for local community organisations, groups and businesses to deliver community-led projects or events that support community recovery and resilience from COVID-19.

COVID-19 Community Quick-Response Grants – grants of up to \$2,000

Support for local community organisations through quick one-off payments to assist with the impacts of COVID-19.

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Nillumbik Shire Council

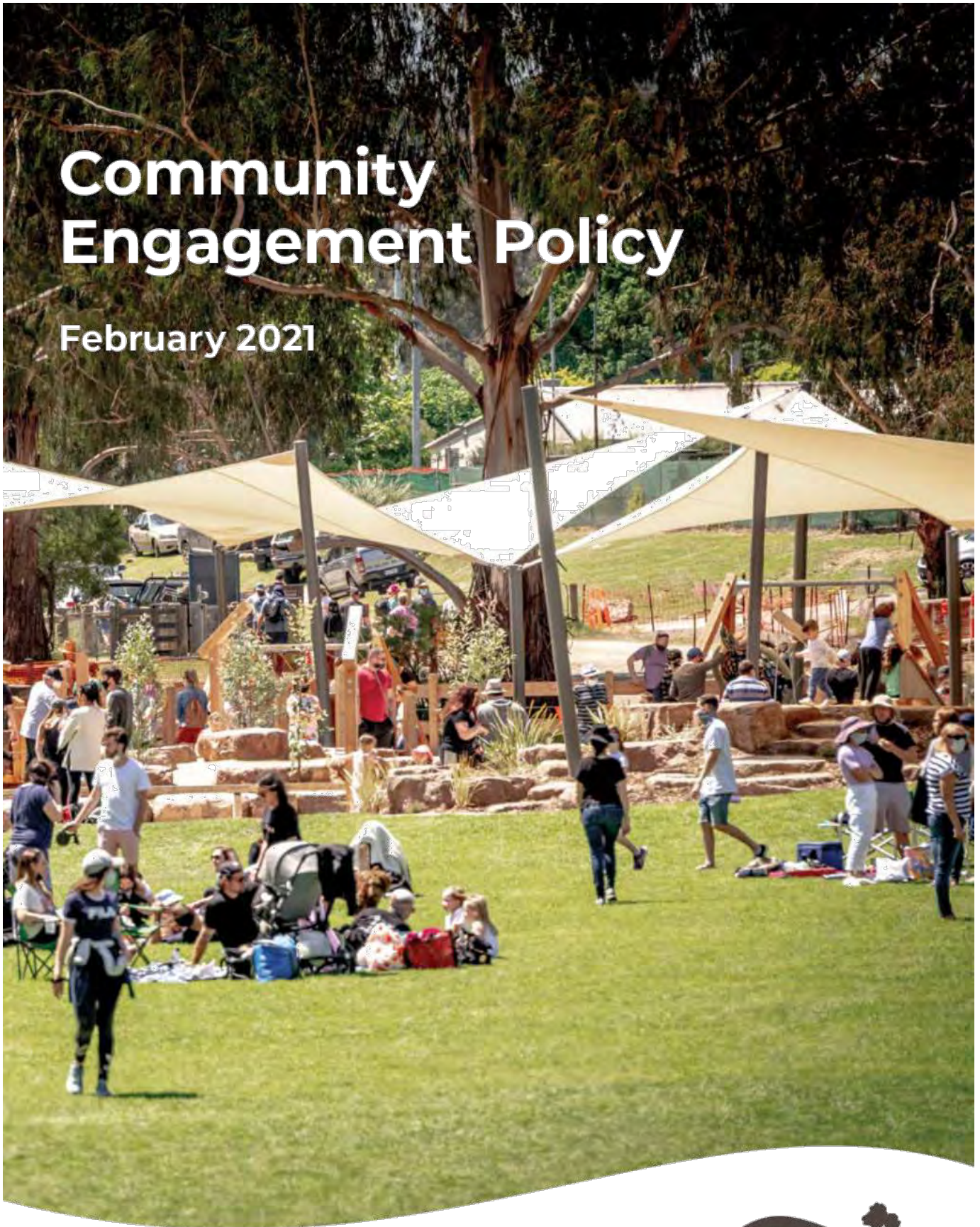
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Community Engagement Policy

February 2021





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Cover image:

Community enjoying the Diamond Creek Regional Playspace opening September 2020

Acknowledgement

Nillumbik Shire Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people who are the Traditional Custodians of Land known today as Nillumbik. We pay respect to the Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians.

Thank you to our community

Nillumbik Shire Council would like to thank community members who have contributed to the development of our community engagement policy.

Community feedback was used to inform the policy on how Nillumbik Shire Council will engage with our community going forward.

Through the feedback received by our community members and staff we identified some core engagement objectives.

Transparent	Effective two-way communication with clear and relevant information.
Time	Fair and reasonable opportunity for the community to give input.
Keep it simple	Easy to understand language and less jargon.
Opportunity	Multiple options to participate in the engagement processes.

What is community engagement?

Community engagement is the process of involving the public in decisions that affect them.

It is critical to the successful development and implementation of Council strategic planning and decisions, and for improving services by being responsive to the needs of the community.

Community engagement is:

- a two-way process of interaction between Council and the community,
- about matters such as a decision Council needs to make, a matter affecting the community that Council wishes to address or an issue that the community wants Council to address.

Purpose of this policy

This Community Engagement Policy (Policy) is a formal expression of Council's commitment to engaging the Nillumbik community in planning and decision-making through the use of appropriate, effective and inclusive practices.

This Policy:

- articulates Council's commitment to engaging effectively with its community in a meaningful, accountable, responsive and equitable way;
- outlines how Council will ensure that community engagement is integrated into Council activities to support decision-making, build relationships and strengthen the Nillumbik community's sense of identity;
- should be applied at the planning stage of any project or initiative, when a change in service, activities or infrastructure is considered and again prior to when a decision is made;
- when a change in government policy or legislation impacts Council services/business;
- seeks to improve Council's engagement processes and outcomes through encouraging a consistent and transparent approach and continual learning through evaluation, and through expanding the range of engagement methods used;
- applies to Councillors, staff, contractors and volunteers. It also serves as a guide to external organisations delivering infrastructure and services in Nillumbik; and
- outlines the key role of the community in Council's planning and decision-making.

Our commitment to community engagement

Nillumbik Shire Council is committed to providing good governance and the delivery of high quality local services by enabling meaningful engagement with the community.

It will achieve its commitment to inclusive and effective community engagement by adherence to this Community Engagement Policy to guide efforts to enhance the planning and delivery of Council's services and programs.

Community engagement does not necessarily mean achieving consensus. However, it does involve seeking broad, informed input into the decision-making process to achieve the best possible outcomes.



Image: Council officers at the Healthy Active Ageing Expo March 2019

Community engagement core values

The International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)¹ specify a series of core values that should be used to underpin community engagement.

Nillumbik's Community Engagement Policy builds on these core values.

1. Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
2. Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
3. Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognising and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
4. Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
5. Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
6. Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
7. Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.

¹ **Source:** www.iap2.org.au

Community engagement framework

Council's approach to community engagement is guided by the IAP2² framework for community engagement.

Council will apply the IAP2 framework appropriately in its community engagement processes based on the activity and context of the subject and the time and resources available.

The table below identifies each of the five levels of engagement.

Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Goal				
To provide the public with balanced, succinct, and objective information to assist them in understanding the matter, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution	To place the final decision in the hands of the public
Commitment to the community				
We will keep you informed	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives development and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision	We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible	We will implement what you decide
Examples				
Printed materials such as brochures, email, displays, website, social media, local radio	Participate (online consultation platform), printed materials, mailed surveys, feedback register	Printed materials, focus groups, interviews, workshops, field trips, Council meetings	Council Advisory Committees with specific focus, community representatives on Council committees	Mediation, negotiation, dialogue, citizen juries, deliberative polling

We will also look to introduce new and innovative ways to communicate to ensure our engagement achieves the necessary reach and level of information.

² **Source:** International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)

Community engagement principles

The following principles will guide Council's approach to community engagement:

<p>Clear Objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clearly define the objectives and scope of the community engagement process, by describing the decision to be made, taking into account relevant legislation, and making clear how the community's input will influence Council decision-making. • ensure that all information will be captured in a succinct summary and be available to the community. • ensure that the engagement is undertaken early enough in the decision-making process to ensure that its outcomes are considered before the decision is made. • ensure that the community is given enough time to take part in engagement processes and provide feedback, avoiding where possible engaging only over holiday periods such as Christmas and New Year and other significant occasions. • promote opportunities and provide reasonable support to enable a wide cross section of the people and groups affected by the matter that is the subject of community engagement to actively participate in decision-making. • consideration will be given to the types of engagement activities being planned to ensure they are inclusive and maximise the potential for participation.
<p>Inclusive and Diverse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approach engagement free from bias toward any stakeholder and treat all participants in the engagement process with respect and dignity. • provide participants in community engagement with relevant, objective, accessible and timely information and resources such as leaflets, rates notice, newspapers, <i>Nillumbik News</i>, social media, direct stakeholder engagement, stalls at community events to allow informed participation. • be accountable, accessible and ethical in all dealings with the community in a way that is consistent with our codes of conduct and relevant laws. • actively listen to all points of view and respect the rights of all citizens to be heard. • be willing to amend a position if a good argument/idea has been put forward. • recognise barriers to participation and increase opportunities by engaging in meaningful and supportive ways.
<p>Transparent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • commit to providing participants with updates at key stages throughout the project and why certain feedback may or may not have been taken into account. • demonstrate that all community contributions and relevant data have been considered, prior to making any decisions that affect the local community. • report back to the community on the outcome of the community engagement and how the community's input influenced decision-making.

When we engage

Council is committed to being inclusive and transparent in its decision-making. Council will engage on matters that affect our community and where it believes that community engagement will result in a better outcome for the community and better informed decisions.

Council's engagement will generally commence as early as possible in the process. This helps to ensure our community and stakeholders can make a meaningful contribution that can help direct Council outcomes and decision-making. Engagement may occur once or multiple times, commensurate with the scope, complexity and impact of the project or decision. Opportunities to give feedback and input will be made available for 3-4 weeks.

The following are examples of the occasions when community engagement would be undertaken:

- Major strategic planning;
- Land use planning;
- Service levels/standards;
- The design of new infrastructure or facilities and renewal of existing infrastructure;
- Specific projects or programs (such as sport and recreation, community safety, tourism);
- Legislative, policy or service issues that are the responsibility of higher levels of government, but where the Council wishes to convey community views (such as issues impacting the Green Wedge, housing, education, the environment and health); and
- Where the *Local Government Act 2020* or other legislation prescribes that community consultation is required.

There may be reasons or times when engagement will not be possible these may include;

- an immediate resolution is required, such as in an emergency;
- a risk to public safety;
- technical or other expertise is required;
- an initiative involves confidential or commercial information;
- clear and defined legislative responsibilities must be met;
- developing or reviewing internal policies and procedures; and
- time frames and methodology have been predetermined by other levels of government.

Image: Healthy Active Ageing Expo March 2019



Who we engage

Council values the input of all members of our community so it is important that our engagement methods are accessible and broad reaching.

For each engagement we will identify the communities or stakeholders who are impacted and seek to engage with them to ensure we have representative feedback to guide our project or decision-making.

The community includes but is not limited to:

- traditional owners of land in Nillumbik;
- people who live, work, participate in leisure activities, visit, study, invest in, or pass through Nillumbik;
- people and bodies who are ratepayers of the Council;
- Nillumbik Council staff; and
- people and bodies who conduct activities in Nillumbik. This may include, but is not limited to: community groups, not-for-profit organisations, businesses, State and Federal Governments, other local governments and service providers.



Image: Healthy Active Ageing Expo March 2019

How we engage

In planning for community engagement, Nillumbik Shire Council will ensure that appropriate tools and methods are applied, taking into account the scope and objectives of the engagement project, the significance and complexity of the matter, the level of resourcing required and the level of impact on the community.

The key drivers of community participation are:

- Having a clear understanding of the scope and potential impact of a decision;
- The level of influence that the community can have on a decision; and
- An understanding of the outcomes made possible through participation.

Council will align with 'engagement elements' specified by the Victoria Auditor General Office³, which councils may be audited on.

1. Define

Clearly define the decision required, and the scope of the public participation exercise.

2. Identify:

Understand who is affected and how they should be included.

3. Understand

Identify the resources, skills and time required for effective participation.

4. Document

Document the public participation and management approach.

5. Implement

Implement the public participation plan and monitor its progress.

6. Evaluate

Evaluate the public participation exercise and apply continuous improvement.

Council will apply deliberative engagement practices where legislation requires it such as the long term Community Visions, 4 Year Council plans, financial management plans, Asset Management Plans and when it is suitable to the scope, complexity and impact of the project or decision.



Figure 1: VAGO elements

³ Source: www.audit.vic.gov.au

Among the key features of deliberative engagement is that it must be:

- **Representative:** in the sense that it involves a representative cross-section of the community, usually selected at random – with the aim of maximising inclusion.
- **Deliberative:** allowing for extended consideration of a key question; and
- **Influential:** participants will be informed of the level of influence the community engagement process will have on Council decision-making.

We value and recognise the contribution of participants who have given up their time to provide feedback or attend engagement activities. Our community will be informed by progress updates of engagement processes underway.

Council will provide notice on the collection, use and disclosure of personal information provided within a submission.

Any data collected during the engagement process will be stored in a way that maintains privacy and meets the requirements of Information Privacy Principle 1 contained within the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*.

Submissions received under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* until its repeal or received through a community engagement process undertaken by Council are made available for public inspection and may be published in Council business papers.



Image: Council Officer demonstrating the Community Directory to a community member - March 2019

Evaluation and Review

The evaluation activities will allow Council to meet its commitment to best practice community engagement by responding to evolving needs and expectations.

Evaluating and reviewing our engagement allows us to be both transparent and accountable. Feedback from our community provides clear data and evidence. It is also an important tool used by our Councillors to help inform their decision-making in matters before the Council. The Community Engagement Guidelines will provide guidance and transparent criteria for Evaluation and Review.

Resources and tools to support our Community Engagement Framework

Independent research

Community satisfaction and preferred methods of engagement are captured in independent research. This is based on a randomly selected sample of citizens and delivers statistically reliable results that can be compared across years and in some years across Councils.

Each year Council engages a consultancy company to undertake the Annual Community Satisfaction Survey as Council wants to know what our community thinks about a range of areas including Council's overall performance, Council's services and facilities, Planning and Housing development, Communication methods and more.

The survey assists in providing insight into how we can provide improved and effective services and facilities to our community.

The survey also assists Council in meeting annual and mandated State Government performance reporting requirements by measuring community satisfaction in a number of areas covered by the survey. We are able to compare our customer satisfaction ratings and benchmark our performance from year to year.

Our communication channels

To encourage and invite our community and stakeholders to participate in community engagement activities, we may promote the opportunities in a range of different ways.

All communication will be in line with the Nillumbik brand guide.

Some of the communications channels and tools that can be used to support our engagement activities include:

- Participate Nillumbik website, participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au;
- Nillumbik Shire Council website, www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au;
- *Nillumbik News*;
- eNewsletters;
- Social media including Instagram, Facebook and Twitter;
- Print promotions such as letters, posters or flyers;
- Drop in sessions, site visits and open days;
- Focus groups, workshops and stakeholder briefing sessions; and
- Media promotion including media releases and/or advertising.

Resources and Training

To ensure the effective and consistent application of engagement principles, processes and behaviours, appropriate to the opportunity, a set of Community Engagement Guidelines has been developed.

These guidelines describe engagement approaches, provide guidance and set expectations for Council employees on the level of engagement and approaches we will use.

Access to expert staff to give advice on matters relating to project planning, resource allocation, communications and best practice engagement methods are also available.

Training will be provided to staff to increase understanding of our Community Engagement Framework, processes and tools, and to build capacity in order for staff to deliver sound engagement activities across the organisation.

Integrated community engagement

We have several legislative requirements to engage. Council is committed to being respectful of the community’s time in our engagement activities. We will coordinate and integrate our large scale community engagement where possible in the interests of efficiency.



Figure 2: Integrated community engagement

Definitions

Accessibility	Identifying and eliminating obstacles and barriers to ensure anyone can access or use places, services and information, regardless of their ability, location, culture, time, resources or other differentiating factors.
Council	Can refer to Nillumbik Shire Council as an organisation as well as the Mayor, Councillors, Administrators, Council staff, Executive Management Team, consultants, and contractors working on behalf of Nillumbik Shire Council.
Community	A group of people, the members of which reside in the same geographical area or have a shared background, interest, affiliation or membership.
Deliberative Engagement	Describes a series of engagement practices that demonstrate all of the following features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence - Promise of influence over policy and decision-making (Involve/Collaborate/Empower using the IAP2 Levels of Engagement). • Inclusion - Participation that is representative of the community and inclusive of diverse viewpoints and values. • Deliberation - open dialogue and discussion, access to information and movement towards consensus.
Engagement	A genuine process of working with people to build understanding, strengthen relationships and inform decisions.
Guidelines	A resource developed to provide guidance for Nillumbik staff to plan and evaluate community engagement initiatives.
IAP2	The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) is an international organisation dedicated to advancing the practice of public participation.
Public	Individuals who may not belong to a specific community relevant to the project, but they still have an interest in the project.
Stakeholder	Individuals or organisations, which affect, or can be affected by project decisions.
VAGO	Victorian Auditor General's Office

Statutory requirements

As a local government, Nillumbik Shire Council is required to meet a wide variety of legislative obligations. Many of these obligations relate to when and how engagement must occur, such as the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Nillumbik Shire Council will meet all of its legislative engagement requirements and this policy is designed to complement and support these existing requirements. Other relevant legislation includes, but is not limited to the following statutes and their associated regulations and guidelines:

- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010*
- *Disability Act 2006*
- *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- *Multicultural Victoria Act 2011*
- *Subordinate Legislation Act 1994*
- *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*
- *Matters subject to s.223 of the Local Government Act 1989*
- *Gender Equality Act 2020*
- *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*
- *Public Administration Act 2004*
- *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005*
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)*.

Image: Nillumbik Shire Council office at Civic Drive, Greensborough



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Together in Nillumbik

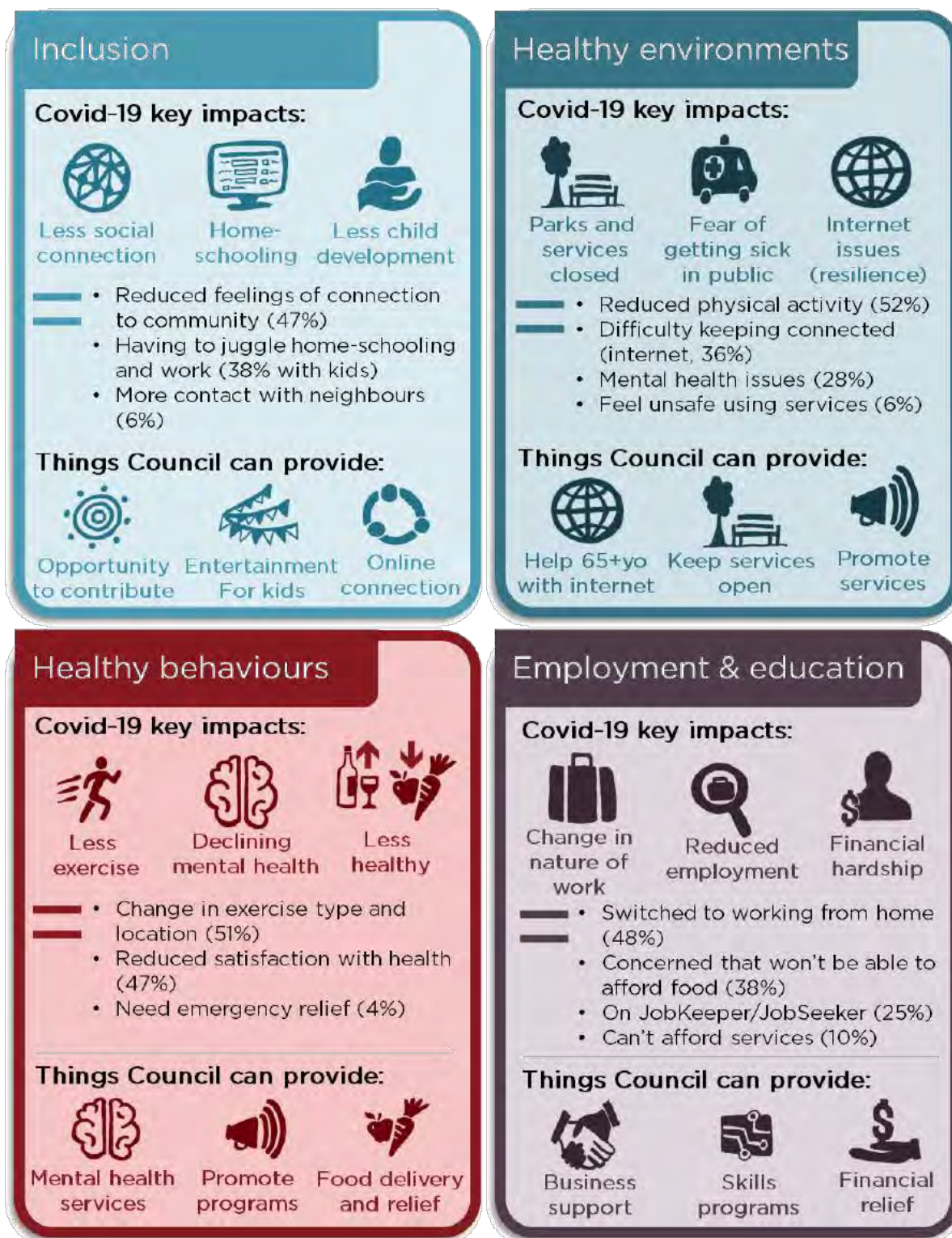
COVID-19 Community Survey findings



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Overview



Recommendation summary

The Together in Nillumbik Survey has been analysed and a suite of recommendations for consideration for Council and community have been developed.

These recommendations are based on feedback to responses provided by respondents. In future planning, these recommendations, should be coupled with evidence informed practice to ensure effectiveness and impact on community wellbeing.

Four key themes have been identified for Nillumbik to inform future pandemic planning and recovery. These have centred on the social and economic impacts during the pandemic period and include:

- Inclusion
- Healthy Environments
- Healthy Behaviours
- Employment and Education.

As the restrictions ease, it is anticipated that some identified impacts may ease, such as home schooling, whilst others will have longer term effects such as job loss and mental health. Broader research has already predicted some of these longer term concerns will take over 18 months to return to a level of regular life.

The recommendations are as follows:

Inclusion

- Provide supports for community cohesion (including opportunities to contribute to the community), and ensure these are well promoted.
- Consider a recovery grants program to encourage community members to take action.
- Target the central region (Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen) with programs to enhance community connections.
- Develop programs and assistance to support females, especially if there is another lockdown requiring children to be home-schooled. This support can include mental health services as well as programs for children.

Healthy environments

- Promote parks and services that are available to return to healthy lifestyles and socialising.
- Undertake a focussed communication campaign in the central region (Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen) to inform residents about availability of local services and how to access them.
- Develop programs to support older people to use digital technology (demand 35% 65+ year olds).
- Ensure family violence support resources are accessible to the CALD community.
- Enhance the message that social distancing and wearing a mask reduces chances of getting sick, to help reduce anxiety regarding use of public

spaces and services. This could extend to promoting cleaning processes for public spaces and services.

Healthy behaviours

- Provide the community with information about exercise opportunities. This could be coupled with the promotion of local fitness businesses and therefore also contribute to economic recovery.
- Plan for provision of in-home high-intensity exercise suggestions and advice on 'safety when exercising at home' should there be lock-downs in the future. This may also be coupled with exploring the provision of in-home exercise equipment for vulnerable members of the community.
- Encourage and promote free or low-cost exercise opportunities for those facing financial difficulties.
- Promote mental health resources available to the community (including guides on navigating the GP referral system for those who haven't had to use them before).
- Help facilitate / advocate for more affordable mental health support, particularly for females, young people, those with children, CALD, and those living in the Central region.
- The food delivery service is well received, and the most vulnerable members of the community will need continued support with food provision. Whilst demand may not be large at the moment, many feel they are at risk of food insecurity, so future decreases in JobKeeper and jobseeker may result in an increased need for this service.
- Consider social marketing to promote the long term risks of excess alcohol consumption; perhaps by offering people alternative methods to manage boredom, stress and anxiety.

Employment and Learning

- Explore financial support packages for those hardest hit by employment loss or reduction. In particular hardship grants and essential item vouchers.
- Continue to provide food support, with more comprehensive promotion of this offering.
- Closely monitor welfare offering in line with employment levels to identify risk of increased hardship.
- Make sure financial relief packages for low income earners are appropriate for CALD households.
- When designing business support programs, consider that many of those who would utilise programs have children, and therefore they will need to be structured in an appropriate way.

Please note the above recommendations have also been included under each section in the research findings.

Background

Context

Nillumbik Shire Council, in partnership with healthAbility, conducted a 'Together in Nillumbik' survey to assess the impacts of COVID-19 on community wellbeing.

The results of this survey will create an evidence base to inform the work of the COVID-19 Recovery Taskforce. The emerging trends will be integral in informing the priorities for recovery activities across the Shire.

The survey was conducted online through the Participate Nillumbik portal, and was promoted through a number of channels including social media, E-News, Nillumbik News and network meetings. It was open from 21 August through to 1 October 2020 and achieved 380 responses. Council also underwent a number of targeted focus groups with the community including the Community Network, Positive Ageing Advisory Committee and the Chinese Seniors. These are not included in this analysis.

During this period Melbourne was under stage 4 restrictions with the following directives:

- Only leave home for 4 reasons (work, essential health, care or safety).
- If you can work from home you must work from home.
- Must wear a face mask when outside of the home.
- No visitors to the home.
- No social gatherings or public gatherings.
- Curfew 9am-5pm.
- Schools and childcare closed except for families of permitted workers.
- Only 1 person per household per day can go shopping.
- Outdoor recreation must be within 5km of home and up to 2 hours.
- All sport and recreation facilities closed.
- No travel from metropolitan Melbourne to regional Victoria (or anywhere else in the Country) without permission.

How to read this document

Summary tables

Each section shows a summary table presenting the key findings in the following format:

% or mean

Measure / indicator
Questionnaire reference number
Question type
Notable statistically significant variations in results

Question type explanations:

Mean	Mean score out of 5 – applied for rating questions.
Unprompted	This means that respondents were asked to write in an answer, which was later grouped into themes for ease of analysis. These figures do not show incidence , but rather the % of people who thought to mention it.
Multiple response	Respondents were shown a list of answer options and they could choose more than one. Can represent incidence.
Single response	Respondents were shown a list of answer options and they were only able to provide a single answer. Can represent incidence.
Other specify	This was a code generated from the comments written in the “other (specify)” box. It represents the % of people who thought to add their own answer to the list. It doesn’t represent the percentage of people who would have selected it if it were included in the original list (likely significantly higher).
NET	This is a generated variable to show the percentage of respondents who provided an answer that aligns with multiple answer or question variables.

Statistical significance was analysed for the following categories:

- Region (See appendix 1).
- Gender.
- Age.
- CALD (born overseas, speak a language other than English or Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander).
- Vulnerable communities (those with a disability or health care card).
- Households with or without children.

Demographic coverage

2 respondents were removed from the analysis file as they were under 14 and had no guardian consent recorded.

When compared to 2016 Census population distribution, males and young people were under-represented in the data file. Weighting of age and gender to bring it in line with the Census proportions didn't result in any notable changes in findings, therefore the data wasn't weighted for this analysis.

		Count	%	2016 Census %
Gender	Male	122	33%	49%
	Female	236	65%	51%
	Non-binary	1	0%	-
	Prefer not to say / identify	5	1%	-
Age	15-34	34	9%	29%
	35-44	103	28%	16%
	45-54	83	23%	20%
	55-64	71	20%	18%
	65+	72	20%	16%
Region (see appendix 1)	South	130	40%	42%
	West	66	20%	16%
	Central	56	17%	22%
	East	74	23%	20%
Country of birth	Australia	295	80%	77%
	Outside Australia	72	20%	23%
LOE	No	311	89%	90%
	Yes	39	11%	10%
Disability, health condition or injury	No	272	75%	-
	Yes	87	24%	-
	Prefer not to say / not sure	6	2%	-
Health care card or pensioner concession	No	276	76%	-
	Yes	83	23%	-
	Prefer not to say / not sure	5	2%	-
Household	Single person household	37	10%	14%
	Couple living alone	83	22%	25%
	Couple with child / children	214	57%	47%
	One parent family with child / children, co-parenting with other parent living elsewhere	24	6%	9%
	Adults sharing house / apartment / flat	15	4%	1%
	Other	3	1%	4%

Research findings

Comparison to VicHealth data

Some of the questions in this survey were the same as, or suitably similar, to the VicHealth Covid-19 survey. In addition, there were a few questions that were modelled on the VicHealth survey, but were modified to consider local interests and as such cannot be compared (e.g. Q5 used a different rating scale).

It should be noted that the VicHealth survey was undertaken in May-June 2020, a period when the restrictions had been relaxed (allowing for gatherings of 20 people), whereas the Nillumbik survey was undertaken in October 2020 (a period of stage 4 lockdowns where people weren't allowed to socialise with people outside their household and could only travel within 5km of their home). The differences in restriction levels during the two surveys would have contributed to variations in results. Therefore, these comparisons can't illustrate 'Nillumbik compared to state-wide' but instead show '**Stage 4 lockdown compared to minimal restrictions**'.

The data is telling us that tighter restrictions are likely resulting in:

- More people working from home with greater flexibility in hours.
- More people finding it difficult to stay connected.
- Increased use of video conferencing and walking with others to stay connected.
- More sharing with neighbours.
- Less physical activity.
- A reduction in alcohol consumption at short-term harm levels. This is supported by the ASDF Research COVID-19 survey which shows that drinking more was more common at the start of the pandemic, and has been declining since.

Measure	Nillumbik		VicHealth		Notes
	Q#	Result	Q#	Result	
Worked mainly from another location with standard hours	Q25	15%	G7	32%	Re-run Nillumbik figure filtered by just those who had a job pre-COVID for comparability to how VicHealth was analysed. This filter has not been applied to the full analysis data.
Worked mainly from home with standard hours	Q25	21%	G7	29%	
Worked mainly from home with flexible start and finish times	Q25	32%	G7	20%	
Short Term Harm alcohol consumption	Q13 & 15	5%	E1	11%	More than 4 standard drinks a session at least weekly.
Relationships in household more strained	Q22	26%	C5w	21%	
Hard to stay connected	Q17	60%	C4w	35%	

Measure	Nillumbik		VicHealth		Notes
	Q#	Result	Q#	Result	
Videoconferencing	Q18	84%	C3	41%	
Walking with others	Q18	41%	C3	19%	
Sharing items with neighbours	Q18	26%	C3	11%	
Sharing chores with neighbours	Q18	11%	C3	12%	
Doing less physical activity	Q9	51%	B1	37%	
Women spending most time caring for school age children	Q31	70%	G11	72%	
Asked for financial help from friends or family	Q37	6%	G12	12%	
Couldn't pay utility bills on time	Q37	4%	G12	11%	
Couldn't pay the rent or mortgage on time	Q37	7%	G12	7%	

Segment insights

Regional variations

In most cases the results were similar across the four geographic regions. Some of the variations that have been highlighted by statistical analysis are as follows:

- Those in the central suburbs are finding the impacts of COVID-19 more challenging, driven by a reducing sense of community.
- Those in the East region are faring better, especially in terms of feeling part of the community. This may be due to those in the East having to switch to exercising in locations more local to their home (due to the 5km lockdown) and therefore interacting more with their neighbours.

Age variations

In most cases the results were similar across all ages, however there were a number of issues that results suggest vary between ages.

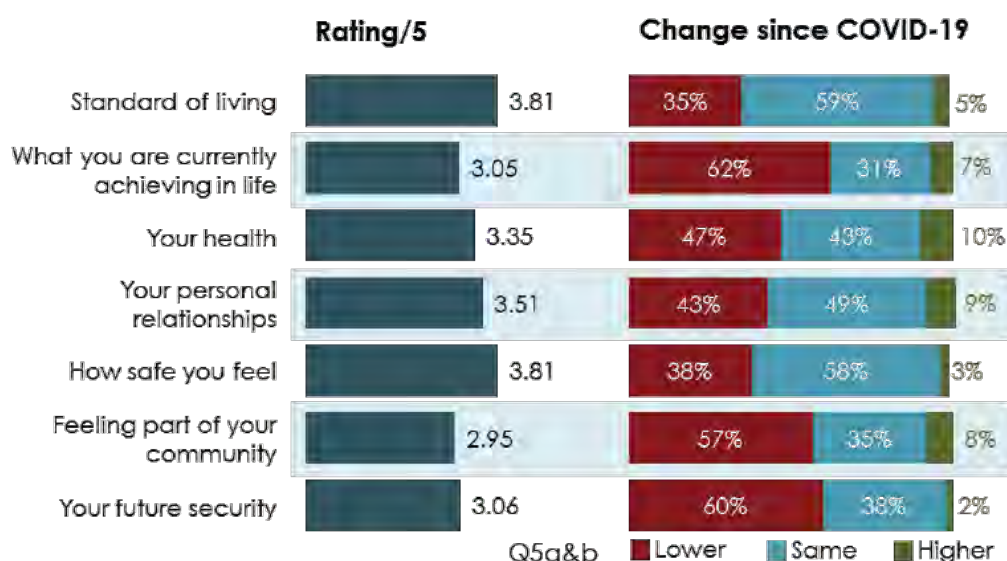
- Concern for getting sick from COVID-19 **increases with age**.
- The desire for counselling and mental health support is highest amongst **young people**, and then decreases with age. This could be because younger people show lower levels of feeling secure about their future and connection to the community, higher instances of experiencing a decreased income during COVID, and higher levels of nervousness, anxiety and difficulty getting going on things.
- Services for **young people** need to be affordable (many think they are too expensive). Service cost is generally not an issue for older adults.
- **Older adults** (65+ year olds in particular) are generally more satisfied with where they are in life, perhaps due to a stronger sense of ties to their community, lower rates of anxiety and nervousness, no changes to their quality of relationships, and a lack of issues with motivation. They also more commonly have had no changes in their satisfaction with their health since COVID-19 (perhaps due to fewer of their exercise activities being interrupted) and are more confident about their future security.
- **35-54 year olds** are particularly struggling with managing children's education from home, their health, quality of household relationships, connecting with friends and family outside their household, and not feeling like they are achieving something in life. They are also drinking more alcohol and show higher instances of being on JobKeeper.
- Families with **younger parents** have less equitable sharing of child care responsibilities. This improves a little amongst families with older parents.

Wellbeing overview

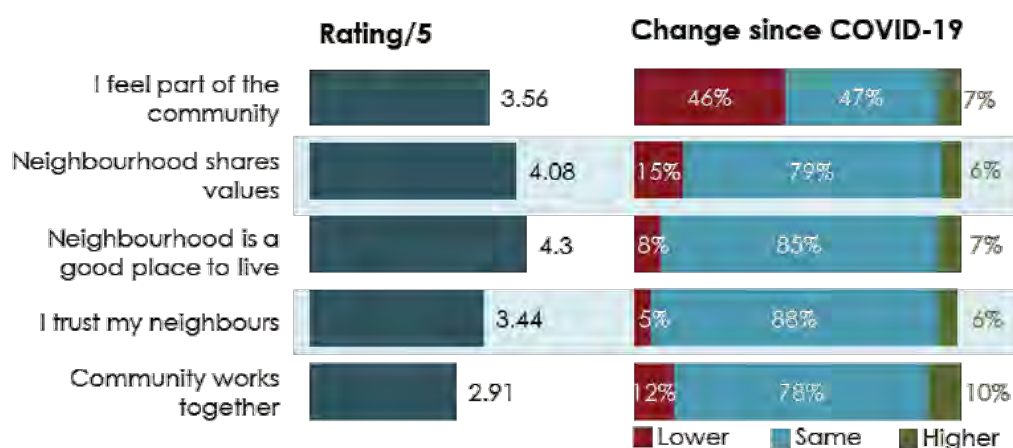
The components of wellbeing experiencing the greatest negative impact from COVID-19 are:

- What you are currently achieving in life.
- Feeling part of your community.
- Your future security.

For some, the restrictions have provided an opportunity to improve their health and personal relationships, although this experience is quite rare.



The rating scale presented for the following question (Q16) (On a scale of 1-5 with 1 being not at all and 5 being extremely how satisfied are you with...?) doesn't match the response codes, therefore there is no meaningful findings to be drawn from this analysis beyond that which was observed above – that being a decline in connection to the community.



When asked to write in the positive and negative impacts of the pandemic, most were related to social connections.

Top 4 Positive	Top 4 negative
1. More time with the kids / family (25%). 2. More time for self / hobbies / chores / study (12%). 3. More exercise / better fitness (8%). 4. Slower pace (8%).	1. Can't visit friends or family (26%). 2. Financial stress due to change in employment (15%). 3. Lack of sports / social activities (13%). 4. Loneliness / social isolation (13%).

Inclusion

Inclusion is closely linked to the Council Plan 'Engaged, Connected Communities' theme.

The main impacts of COVID-19 on inclusion are:

- **Lack of social connection** due to stage 4 restrictions preventing people from visiting and socialising with friends and family. For most, the sense of community connection has reduced, however some are becoming more connected to their immediate community than before, through talking to neighbours. There are also concerns that social isolation may have a negative impact on child development.
- **The need to home school children is placing pressure on parents**, with this disproportionately effecting mothers, who are more often carrying the majority of the work with home-schooling.
- There are some that are enjoying spending **more time with their family**.
- **Those with children** are struggling more during COVID in terms of financial stability and mental health.

When asked what supports Council could provide, the key recommendations relating to inclusion were:

33% 31% 40% 19% 7%

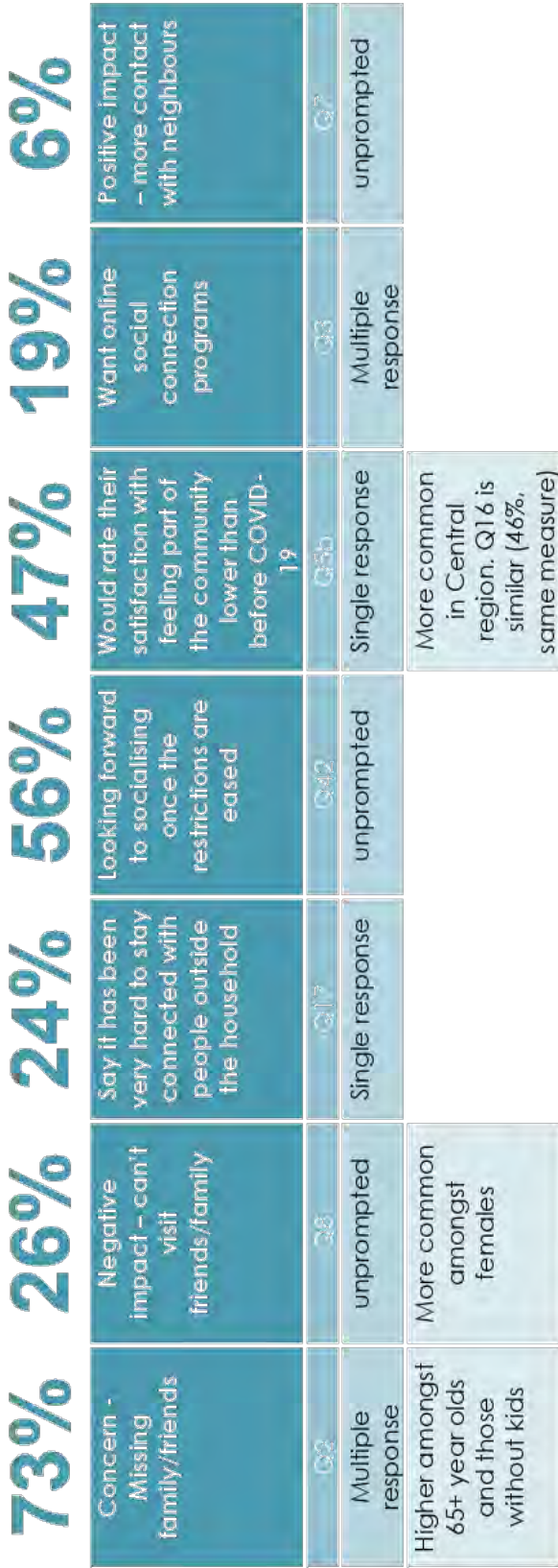
Support local communities to assist each other	Provide opportunities to contribute to the community	Entertainment programs for children and young people (% of those with kids)	Online social connection programs	Thought to mention community connections as a way Council can help manage impacts
Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
Multiple response	Multiple response	Multiple response	Multiple response	unprompted

Recommendations for recovery planning:

- Provide supports for community cohesion (including opportunities to contribute to the community), and ensure these are well promoted.
- Consider a recovery grants program to encourage community members to take action.
- Target the central region (Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen) with programs to enhance community connections.
- Develop programs and assistance to support females, especially if there is another lockdown requiring children to be home-schooled. This support can include mental health services as well as programs for children.

Community connections

A reduction in opportunities to socialise is the most significant challenge being faced by the community. This is having a negative impact on the sense of community.



People are connecting via:

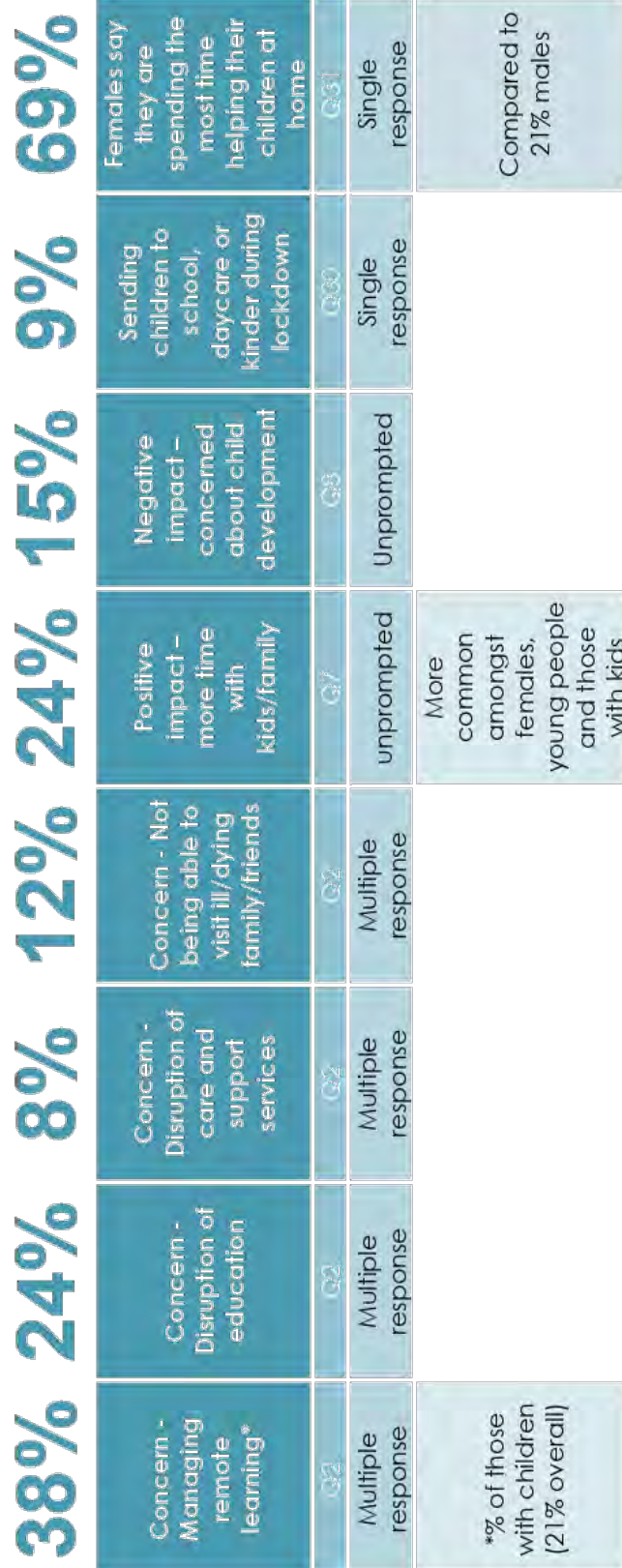
- Telephone (88%).
- Video calls (84%) (most common amongst 35-44 year olds).
- Walking with others whilst social distancing (41%).
- Sharing items with neighbours (26%).
- Sharing chores with neighbours (11%).

Things for Council to consider:

- The Central region is experiencing greater loss of sense of community than other areas of the municipality.
- Whilst the majority are missing their friends, and being unable to catch up with friends and family is the main negative impact being experienced, there is limited interest in online social connection programs.

Carer responsibilities

In most family households, females are undertaking the majority of the work helping children at home. This can provide a strain on some, and raise concerns about child development, however around a quarter like having more time with their family and kids.



The main things that would help support parents in caring for their children are:

- Tutoring (27%).
- Mental health support and outreach (18%).
- Virtual playgroups and story time (16%) (30% amongst people with kids aged 0-4).
- Careers support (4%) (27% amongst parents of 18+ year olds).

Carers say that main COVID-19 impacts on the person they care for are isolation and anxiety.

Of those who said they were primary carers (8%), the main supports that would assist them were:

- Social support for the person they care for (33%).
- Financial (13%).

Gender lens

In most cases the results were similar for men and women, however there were a number of issues that results suggest vary between males and females.

Males

- This sample has a higher proportion of retired people (23%) which may be impacting on their responses.
- Less commonly say they could use mental health support. This may be due to them not feeling as anxious or nervous, nor down and depressed as often.
- Are more commonly heavier drinkers.
- Are less commonly sharing the responsibility for looking after children at home.

Females

- More commonly taking on the majority of the work managing children in the household. Around half of the time their partner recognises this, however the data suggests there are likely many instances where the male parent thinks they are sharing the load, but the female parent feels they are doing most of it themselves. As such, females are more commonly facing challenges juggling looking after children (including home schooling).
- Females more commonly want entertainment options for children and programs to support children in crisis. There were similar proportions of males and females from households with children (51% males, 60% females) so it is unlikely that sample composition is having an effect on this.
- Some of the mental health challenges more commonly being experienced by females are being nervous and anxious, and difficulty getting going on things.

Target segments

In most cases the results were similar for CALD and people with a disability/health care card, however there were a number of issues that results suggest vary between these groups.

CALD is defined as those who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, those born overseas, and/or those who speak a language other than English at home.

CALD

- Duality of experiences with neighbours, with some finding out their neighbours are more trustworthy, whilst a similar proportion find their neighbours less trustworthy.

Disability / health care card

- Whilst this segment is experiencing a range of challenges, COVID has provided the opportunity for some to feel more part of their community.

Households with children

- Business support needs to take into account that most of those who want this support have kids.
- Those with kids are less satisfied with life during COVID-19.
- A higher proportion of those with kids have increased alcohol consumption.
- Those with children more often want financial and community support.
- Those without children are less commonly experiencing changes impacting on their finances, so they are coping better with the situation, however they are finding missing their friends a big concern.

Healthy environments

Healthy environments is closely linked to the Council Plan 'Engaged, Connected Communities' theme.

The main impacts of COVID-19 on healthy environments are:

- **Social and exercise infrastructure being closed.** This has flow-on impacts on physical and mental health as well as social cohesion.
- **Fear of getting sick from Covid-19 when in public spaces.** This results in general increases in anxiety and people feeling unsafe when accessing services.
- **Family violence concerns,** driven by an increase in difficult relationships in households.
- **Community resilience,** in particular access and ability with regards to use of the internet to cover work, education and social interaction needs at times of lock-down.

When asked what supports Council could provide, the key recommendations relating to healthy environments were:

37%	17%	23%
65+ year olds want programs to help older people use digital technology	Thought to mention that they want parks and services to open to help them manage COVID-19 impacts	Said services being closed was a major barrier
Q3	Q40	Q4
Multiple response	unprompted	Multiple response

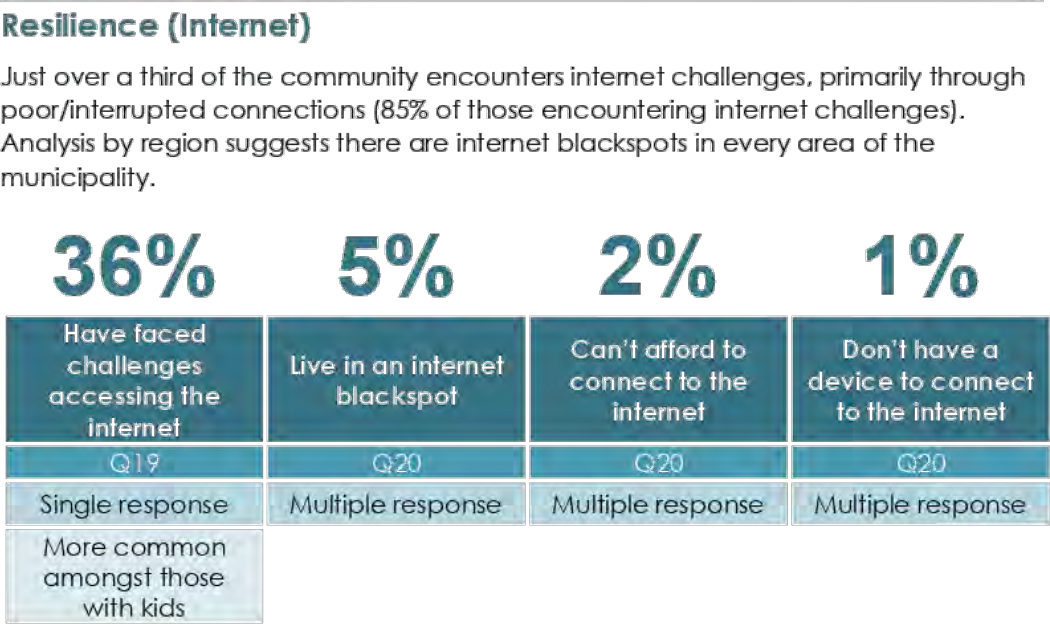
Recommendations for recovery planning:

- Promote parks and services that are available to return to healthy lifestyles and socialising.
- Undertake a focussed communication campaign in the central region (Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen) to inform residents about availability of local services and how to access them.
- Develop programs to support older people to use digital technology (demand 35% 65+ year olds).
- Ensure family violence support resources are accessible to the CALD community.
- Enhance the message that social distancing and wearing a mask reduces chances of getting sick, to help reduce anxiety regarding use of public spaces and services. This could extend to promoting cleaning processes for public spaces and services.

Safety

Around a third of the community is feeling less safe during COVID times, partially due to the fear of getting sick from COVID-19.





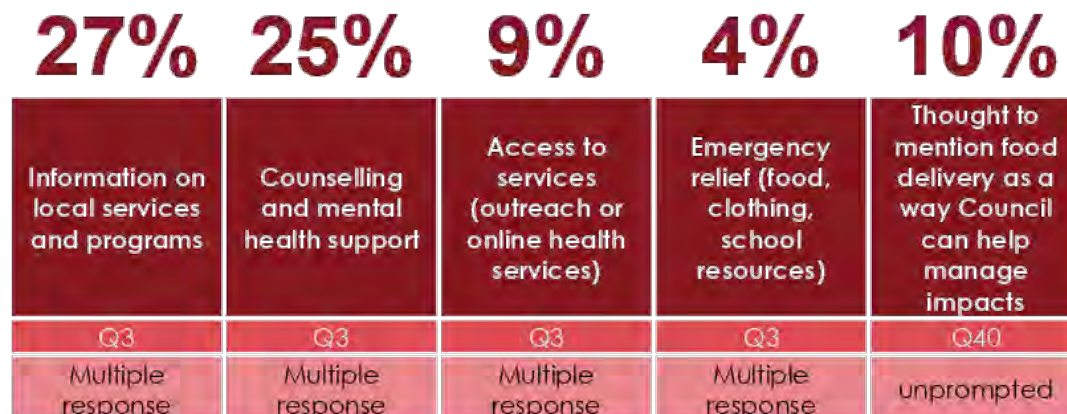
Health behaviours

Health behaviours are closely linked to the Council Plan 'Active and Creative People' theme.

The main impacts of COVID-19 on health behaviours are:

- **Reduced ability to undertake physical exercise** – due to exercise venues being closed and 5km travel limits, during the lockdown many switched to walking instead of more high-intensity exercise activities. This can impact on obesity rates and a range of health risks which rely on high intensity exercise to mitigate (such as cardiovascular health). Physical exercise is also recognised as contributing to improved mental wellbeing¹.
- **Declining mental health** – This stems primarily from isolation and anxiety (linked to fear of getting ill and financial challenges).
- **Ability to afford food** – Many community members are concerned about this happening in the future, however relatively few stated a need for emergency food relief at the time of the survey.
- **Increased alcohol consumption** – Almost half have increased their alcohol consumption. This can have a wide range of both short-term and long-term impacts on health, including reduced mental health, personal injury, and increase in risk of cancer, cardiovascular and brain related diseases².

When asked what supports Council could provide, the key recommendations relating to health behaviours were:



The greatest barrier to accessing services is not knowing what is available.

¹ https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/-/media/programsandprojects/physicalactivity/attachments/physical_act_fact.qshx

² <https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/alcohol/about-alcohol/what-are-the-effects-of-alcohol>

Recommendations for recovery planning:

- Provide the community with information about exercise opportunities. This could be coupled with the promotion of local fitness businesses and therefore also contribute to economic recovery.
- Plan for provision of in-home high-intensity exercise suggestions and advice on 'safety when exercising at home' should there be lock-downs in the future. This may also be coupled with exploring the provision of in-home exercise equipment for vulnerable members of the community.
- Encourage and promote free or low-cost exercise opportunities for those facing financial difficulties.
- Promote mental health resources available to the community (including guides on navigating the GP referral system for those who haven't had to use them before).
- Help facilitate / advocate for more affordable mental health support, particularly for females, young people, those with children, CALD, and those living in the Central region.
- The food delivery service is well received, and the most vulnerable members of the community will need continued support with food provision. Whilst demand may not be large at the moment, many feel they are at risk of food insecurity, so future decreases in JobKeeper and jobseeker may result in an increased need for this service.
- Consider social marketing to promote the long term risks of excess alcohol consumption; perhaps by offering people alternative methods to manage boredom, stress and anxiety.

Physical health

The stage 4 restrictions have resulted in around half the population decreasing their exercise and having lower levels of satisfaction with their health. For many their exercise habits have changed away from more cardio-vascular opportunities to walking.

47%	52%	6%	3%	8%	7%	51%	69%
Would rate their satisfaction with their health lower than before COVID-19	Doing a lot less exercise	Concern - Managing health conditions	Concern - Exercise	Positive impact -More exercise / better health	Negative impact -less exercise / fitness	Are exercising in a different location	Said their main form of physical activity is walking
Q5b	Q9	Q2	Q2	Q7	Q8	Q12	Q10
Single response	Single response	Multiple response	Other specify	unprompted	unprompted	Single response	unprompted
						More common in the East region	Not clear if pre or during COVID-19

The main places where people would normally exercise, but aren't during COVID-19 5km restrictions were:

- Gym (26%)
- Different outdoor locations (21%)
- Courts and fields (organised sport) (10%)
- Pool (8%)
- Yoga / Pilates (8%)

Those in the East were more often having to make changes to their exercise location, whereas in the Central region fewer were exercising in different locations.

	South region	West region	Central region	East region
The most popular exercise locations with a 5km radius of their home are:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local roads (26%) • Diamond Creek (21%) • Aqueduct (20%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local roads (32%) • Plenty River Gorge (25%) • Diamond Creek (17%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diamond Creek (57%) • Local road (18%) • Aqueduct (20%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local roads (29%) • Bushland, river, parks and trails (16%) • Hurstbridge (15%)
Different to where usually exercise	47%	52%	36%	63%

Mental health

Over a quarter of the community are experiencing high amounts of psychological distress and are wanting support. Key segments requiring assistance are residents in the Central region, females, young people and those with kids.

3.32 28% 12% 14% 25% 3%

Coping	Rated one or more of the mental health feelings as 'a lot of the time'	Negative impact – Mental health	Concern - Feeling lonely	Want mental health support	Positive impact – mental health / time to ones-self
Q1	Q6 NET	Q8	Q2	Q3	Q7
Mean /5 (1 = not at all, 5 = extremely well)	Single responses	unprompted	Multiple response	Multiple response	unprompted
Older people and those without kids are coping better	More common amongst those in the Central region, females, younger people and those with kids	More common amongst females, CALD and those with kids		More commonly wanted by females, younger people and those without kids	

The most common mental health issue being experienced a lot of the time is feeling nervous and anxious (17%).

Food

There is widespread concern about having enough money to buy food, however few of these were at the point where they required emergency relief at the time of surveying.

38%

Concern – Not being able to buy food

Q2

Multiple response

23%

Worried about having enough money to buy food

Q37

Multiple response

4%

Want emergency relief (including food)

Q3

Multiple response

Higher amongst those with children and those with a disability or health care card

Alcohol

Almost half the population have increased their alcohol consumption during COVID-19.

27%

Drinking more than 3 days a week in the last month

Q13

Multiple response

27%

Are drinking 3 or more standard drinks a day that they consume alcohol

Q15

Multiple response

More common amongst males

43%

Are drinking more than before COVID-19

Q14

Multiple response

More common amongst those with kids

Employment and learning

Employment and learning is closely linked to the Council Plan 'A Prosperous Economy' theme.

The main impacts of COVID-19 on employment and learning are:

- **Change in the nature of work.** In particular, almost half of the workforce has switched to working from home. This has flow-on impacts for household relationships (both positive and negative) as well as positively impact on financial position (saving money from commuting). Although some prefer working from home, many miss the social interaction and escape of working on-location.
- **Loss of employment or reduced employment.** Whilst many are on JobKeeper and/or JobSeeker, there is some anxiety about the future, particularly with planned reduction in benefits which don't align to the reality of work opportunities and could leave people struggling financially.
- **Financial vulnerability.** Loss of work, or a reduction in workload is having a severe negative impact on some members of the community. There is also a fear that this will worsen as Covid-19 continues. This leads to a reduction in the standard of living and not being able to afford much needed mental health and leisure services.

When asked what supports Council could provide, the key recommendations relating to employment and learning were:

16% 15% 12% 14% 10%

Want support for businesses	Want financial relief packages for low income earners	Want employment and vocational skills programs	Thought to mention rate relief as something that would help people manage the impacts of COVID-19	Said services being too expensive was a barrier to use
Q3	Q3	Q3	Q40	Q4
Multiple response	Multiple response	Multiple response	unprompted	Multiple response

Recommendations for recovery planning:

- Explore financial support packages for those hardest hit by employment loss or reduction. In particular hardship grants and essential item vouchers.
- Continue to provide food support, with more comprehensive promotion of this offering.
- Closely monitor welfare offering in line with employment levels to identify risk of increased hardship.
- Make sure financial relief packages for low income earners are appropriate for CALD households.
- When designing business support programs, consider that many of those who would utilise programs have children, and therefore they will need to be structured in an appropriate way.

Employment

Almost a third (31%) selected an employment related item as one of their top 3 concerns. Most of the changes to work have been location-based, with almost half switching to working from home (which for some is a positive thing). Around a quarter of the community are on JobKeeper or jobseeker.

15%	9%	8%	8%	48%	11%	25%	16%	12%	5%
Concern - Risk of unemployment	Concern - Working from home	Concern - Losing my business	Were employed before COVID-19 and are no longer working	Have been working from home	Worked on-location during COVID-19	Have received JobKeeper or Jobseeker	Want business support	Want employment and skills programs	Positive impact - working from home
Q2	Q2	Q2	Q23-24	Q25	Q25	Q26	Q3	Q3	Q7
Multiple response	Multiple response	Multiple response	Single response	Single response	Single response	Multiple response	Multiple response	Multiple response	Unprompted
Net 31% - Highest amongst 15-34 year olds then decreasing with age.			Higher amongst those with a disability / health care card				More common amongst those in the West region and 45-64 year olds.	More common amongst 35-54 year olds.	

Financial vulnerability

Whilst a few said their financial situation had improved since COVID-19 (through saving money), over two in five have experienced a decrease in income. This has a flow-on effect on standard of living, financial hardship and ability to afford services. A notable segment of the community would benefit from financial support.

20%	43%	35%	23%	4%	15%	10%	15%	30%
Concern - Financial instability	Said their income is less during COVID-19 than before COVID-19	Say their standard of living has decreased	Specified encountering financial hardship during COVID-19	Positive impact - saving money	Negative impact - financial stress	Barrier - Services too expensive	Want financial relief packages for low income earners	Specified a financial support that would help them
Q2	Q39	Q5b	Q37	Q7	Q8	Q4	Q3	Q38
Multiple response	Single response	Single response	Multiple response	Unprompted	Unprompted	Multiple response	Multiple response	Multiple response
More common amongst CALD	CALD more commonly say a lot less	More common amongst CALD	More common amongst those with a disability / healthcare card and those with children		More common amongst younger people and those with kids	Higher amongst 15-34 year olds and those with a disability or health care card	More commonly wanted by CALD and those with a disability/ healthcare card	

The main financial hardships were (selected from list in Q37):

- Couldn't pay utilities (9%).
- Worried about having enough money for food (9%).
- Asked for financial help from friends or family (9%).
- Withdrew from superannuation (7%).
- Unable to pay rent or mortgage on time (7%).

The most popular financial support potential offerings were (selected from list in Q38):

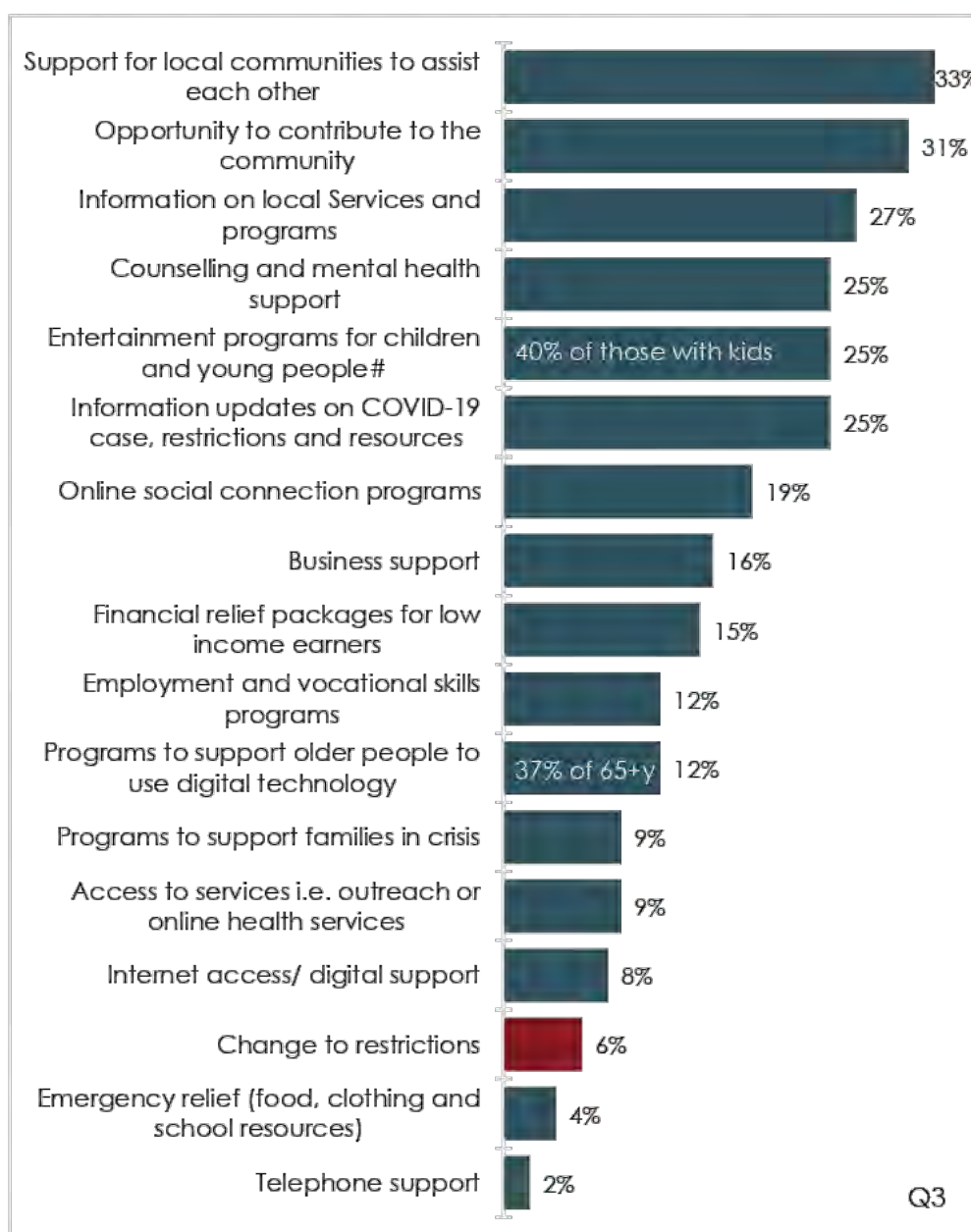
- One-off financial hardship grants (16%).
- Essential item vouchers (11%).
- Support to connect to State and Federal Government financial relief (9%).
- Delivery of food packages (5%).

What Council can do

In the charts below, the red bars show codes generated in the analysis process, based on comments written in text boxes. They do not represent incidence (percentages may have been higher if all respondents had seen the option).

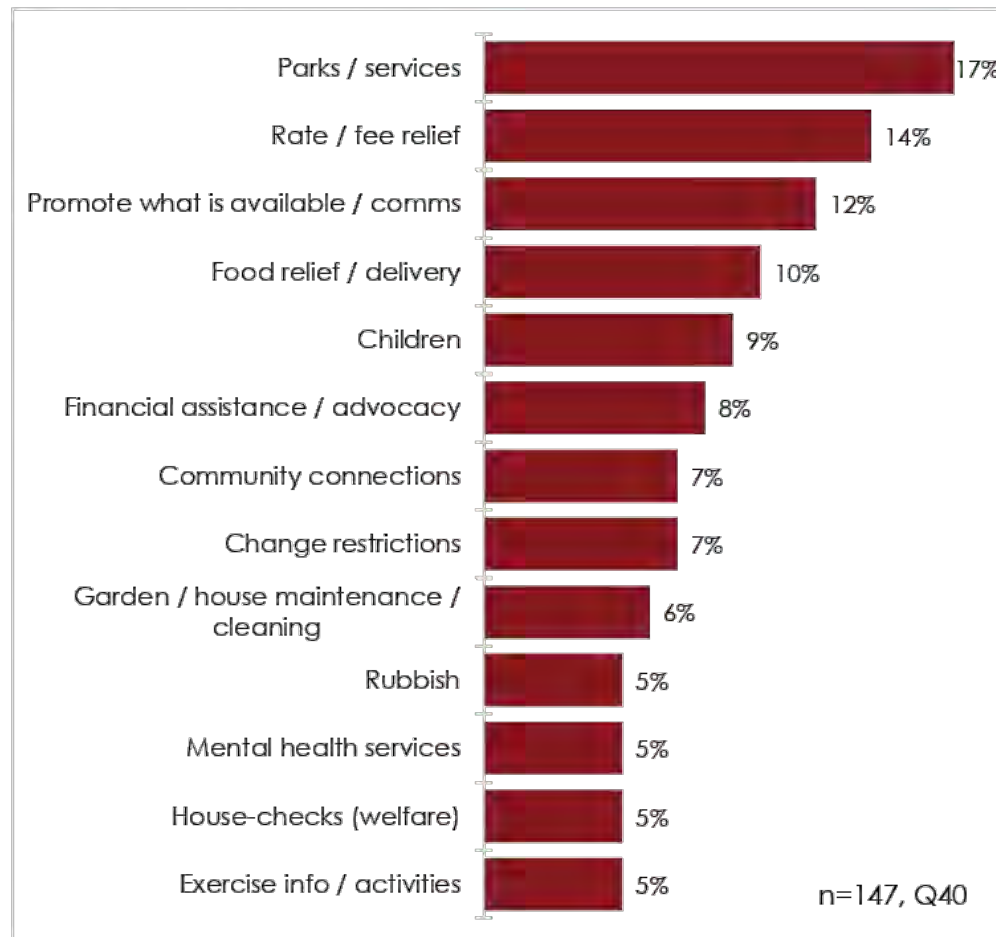
To help support wellbeing

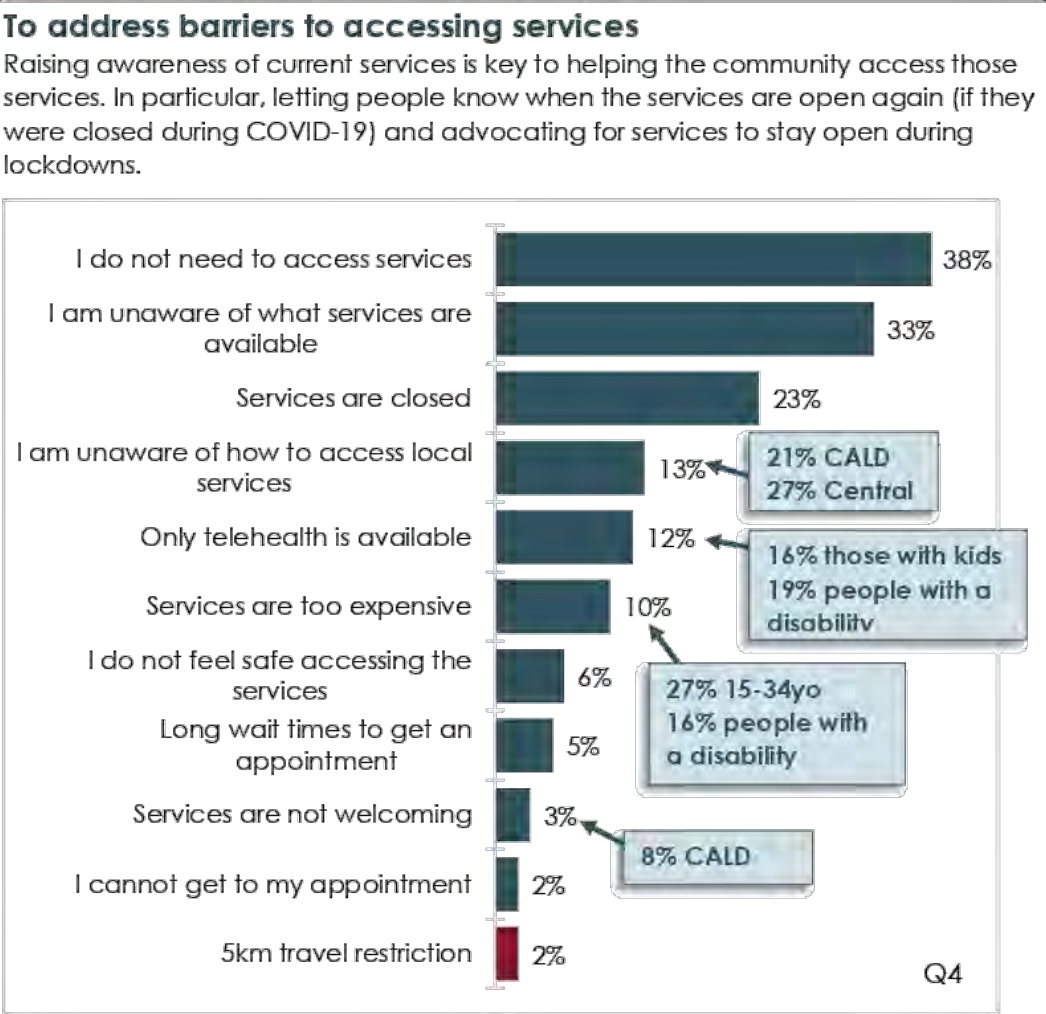
The community wants Council to provide supports for community cohesion, with opportunities to contribute and information on what is available.



To help people manage the impacts of COVID-19

In addition to fee and rate relief for those who are struggling financially, the community wants Council to open parks and services and promote what is available. The most common specific service mentioned was food delivery (including praising the current service).





Appendices

1. Note on Localities

Given the respondents locality was collected as a postcode, not all township profiles could be covered by this survey.

Postcode	% in Nillumbik	Nillumbik locality	Matching township	Valid	Sample
3088	19%	Greensborough	Greensborough	Yes	n=37
3089	100%	Diamond Creek	Diamond Creek	Yes	n=49
3090	100%	Plenty	Plenty	Yes	n=10
3091	100%	Yarrambat	Yarrambat	Yes	n=8
3095	100%	Eltham	Eltham	No	n=130
		Eltham North	Eltham North		
		Research	Research		
3096	100%	Wattle Glen	Wattle Glen	Yes	n=7
3097	100%	Kangaroo Ground	Kangaroo Ground		n=10
		Watsons Creek	Rural East		
		Bend of Islands	Rural East		
3099	100%	Hurstbridge	Hurstbridge	No	n=41
		Nutfield	Rural North West		
		Strathewen	Rural East		
		Cottles Bridge	Rural North West		
		Arthurs Creek	Rural North West		
3113	100%	North Warrandyte	North Warrandyte	Yes	n=9
3754	100%	Doreen	Doreen	Yes	n=11
3755	8%	Yan Yean	Rural East	No	n=0
3759	100%	Panton Hill	Panton Hill	Yes	n=6
3760	100%	Smiths Gully	Rural East	No	n=1
3761	100%	St Andrews	St Andrews	Yes	n=5
3775	9%	Christmas Hills	Rural North West	No	n=2

Given these discrepancies in categories, and small sample sizes for some postcodes, the data has been distributed into four regions for analysis:

Region	N=	Scope	
South	n=130	Eltham	3095
		Eltham North	
		Research	
West	n=66	Greensborough	3088
		Plenty	3090
		Yarrambat	3091
		Doreen	3754
Central	n=56	Diamond Creek	3089
		Wattle Glen	3096
East	n=74	St Andrews	3761
		Panton Hill	3759
		Smiths Gully	3760
		Christmas Hills	3775
		Kangaroo Ground	3097
		Watsons Creek	
		Bend of Islands	
		North Warrandyte	3113
		Hurstbridge	3099
		Nutfield	
		Strathewen	
		Cottles Bridge	
		Arthurs Creek	

2. Supporting data for segment Insights

The following data has been used to support the segment insights.

Regional variations

South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mean of 3.59 out of 5 for people in their neighbourhood sharing the same values (3.18 West). • Mean of 4.45 out of 5 for their neighbourhood being a good place to live (4.46 West). • Mean of 3.69 out of 5 for people work to get things done for this community (3.23 West).
West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24% of those who are employed worked on-location (8% South, 6% East).
Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26% unaware of how to access local services (10% South and 8% East). • 72% rated feeling part of your community lower since COVID-19 (47% East). • 30% said they are nervous or anxious most of the time (7% East). • 16% said they feel hopeless or worthless a lot of the time (3% East). • 65% said their rating of feeling part of the community was lower during COVID-19 (43% South and 41% East). • 72% say it has been hard / very hard to stay connected with family and friends outside the household (59% West). • 29% said they couldn't pay an electricity, gas or telephone bill on time (4% South).
East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 63% started exercising in locations other than their normal locations (likely due to the 5km radius directive from the health department) (36% central). • Mean of 3.24 out of 5 for feeling part of the community (2.63 West, 2.69 Central). • Mean of 4.46 out of 5 for their neighbourhood being a good place to live (4.02 West). • Mean of 3.83 out of 5 for people work to get things done for this community (3.23 West).

Gender lens

Males	Females
49% say one of their main concerns is self, family or friend contracting COVID (38% females).	25% say one of their main concerns is managing remote learning for children at home (13% males).
32% said they are not getting down or depressed (18%).	37% want support for local communities to assist each other (23% males)
39% of those who drink (29% all males) will have 3-6 standard drinks when drinking (19% females who drink, 14% all females).	31% want counselling and mental health support (12% males).
43% report no change in the quality of their relationships with people in their household (24% females).	29% want entertainment programs for children and young people (14% males).
36% of those in households with children say their partner is spending the most time helping the children.	11% want programs to support families in crisis (4% males)
	67% are nervous or anxious a lot/some of the time (46% males).
	19% say they are unable to get themselves going a lot of the time (9% males).
	42% of those who drink (32% of all females) will have only 1 standard drink when drinking (24% males who drink, 18% all males).
	46% were staying connected by going for walks with others (29% males).
	69% of those in households with children are taking on most of the responsibility for helping the children (21% males).
	38% want financial support for essential items (20% males).

Age variations

		Young 15-34	Middle-aged 35-44 45-54		Older adults 55-64 65+	
Concerns	Missing family and friends	88%	64%	67%	72%	87%
	Me or my family/friend contracting COVID-19	12%	33%	41%	61%	55%
	Missing key life events such as weddings, funerals and birthdays	38%	13%	19%	32%	45%
	Disruption of education	21%	32%	33%	11%	8%
	Managing remote learning for children at home	15%	39%	28%	6%	4%
Support	Counselling and mental health support	36%	30%	27%	25%	6%
	Entertainment programs for children and young people	33%	48%	18%	2%	8%
	Business support	15%	25%	16%	13%	2%
	Programs to support older people to use digital technology	9%	6%	1%	8%	35%
	Services too expensive	27%	10%	10%	9%	3%
Relationships	Satisfaction with personal relationships (mean/5)	3.41	3.2	3.56	3.6	3.89
	Satisfaction with personal relationships lower than pre-COVID	5%	52%	46%	36%	31%
	No change to quality of relationships with people in since the COVID-19 restrictions started	26%	19%	30%	32%	46%
	More strained/difficult quality of relationships with people in since the COVID-19 restrictions started	35%	39%	24%	16%	15%
	Equally sharing helping children at home during COVID (% of households with children and couple parents)	17%	18%	36%	27%	NA
Health	Satisfaction with health the same during COVID as before	38%	26%	41%	53%	67%
	Exercising somewhere different during COVID	65%	56%	52%	45%	39%

		Young 15-34	Middle-aged 35-44 45-54		Older adults 55-64 65+	
Community connections	Satisfaction with feeling part of your community (mean/5)	2.56	2.68	3.07	3.25	3.20
	I feel part of the community (mean/5)	2.47	2.63	2.93	3.19	3.28
	I trust my neighbours (mean/5)	3.55	4.02	3.91	4.23	4.39
	People work to get things done for this community (mean/5)	3.33	3.31	3.61	3.83	3.79
	My neighbours are helping each other get through the COVID-19 restrictions (mean/5)	2.9	3.19	3.16	3.7	3.68
	Since COVID it has been very easy+easy to stay connected with friends and family outside the household	21%	15%	7%	19%	25%
Mental health	Satisfaction with what achieving in life (mean/5)	2.84	2.85	3.15	3.11	3.37
	Your future security (mean/5)	2.59	2.76	3.11	2.39	3.48
	Nervous or anxious a lot of the time	24%	25%	21%	8%	4%
	Hopeless or worthless a lot of the time	9%	15%	7%	6%	1%
	Unable to get yourself going a little or not at all	27%	40%	40%	45%	61%
Alcohol	Drinking less alcohol in the last month than before COVID-19	39%	14%	6%	4%	12%
	Drinking more alcohol in the last month than before COVID-19	22%	54%	52%	34%	31%
Employment	Working from home during COVID (% of those employed)	59%	62%	63%	38%	20%
	Working at a location away from home (% of those employed)	12%	13%	21%	25%	1%
	Received JobKeeper (% of those employed)	18%	24%	28%	14%	4%
	Received JobSeeker (% of those employed)	9%	1%	6%	15%	0%
	Income decreased during COVID	61%	45%	45%	41%	29%

Target segments	
CALD	Disability / Health Care Card
27% said they are concerned about financial instability (17% not CALD)	52% said they are concerned about themselves or their family contracting COVID (39% not vulnerable)
5% said they are concerned about an increase in family violence at home (0% not CALD)	15% said they are concerned about managing chronic health conditions (1% not vulnerable)
22% want Financial relief packages for low income earners (12% not CALD)	23% want financial relief packages for low income earners (10% not vulnerable)
20% unaware of how to access local services (11% not CALD)	18% want programs to support older people to use digital technology (8% not vulnerable)
Lower mean standard of living (3.42, 3.96 not CALD)	7% want Emergency relief (food, clothing and school resources) (2% not vulnerable)
46% report a decrease in their standard of living (31% not CALD)	18% unaware of how to access local services (10% not vulnerable)
Lower mean personal relationships (3.3, 3.59 not CALD)	18% say telehealth only is a barrier (8% not vulnerable)
10% report an increase in the level of trust for their neighbours (5% not CALD) and 10% report a lower level of trust (4% not CALD). Not CALD mostly report no change (92%, 79% CALD)	16% say services are too expensive (7% not vulnerable)
	15% say they feel down or depressed a lot of the time (7% not vulnerable)
	12% said their rating of feeling part of the community has increased (4% not vulnerable)
	26% say their neighbours are helping each other get through COVID more (17% not vulnerable)
	17% receiving JobKeeper/jobseeker (2% not vulnerable)

Households with children

Children	No children
42% disruption of education is a main concern (5% no kids)	3.63 mean out of 5 coping (3.01 with kids)
39% managing remote learning for children at home (3% no kids)	80% missing friends is a main concern (65% with kids)
30% want counselling and mental health support (20% no kids)	55% getting COVID-19 is a main concern (31% with kids)
40% want entertainment programs for children and young people (8% no kids)	39% missing key life events (15% with kids)
23% want business support (8% no kids)	39% want an opportunity to contribute to the community (25% with kids)
24% feel anxious or nervous a lot of the time (9% no kids)	33% want information on local services and programs (22% with kids)
36% are under psychological distress (19% no kids)	45% don't need to access services (32% with kids)
20% named financial stress as a negative impact (10% no kids)	3.22 mean out of 5 satisfaction with what they are achieving in life (2.92 with kids)
17% named mental health as a negative impact (7% no kids)	3.58 mean out of 5 satisfaction with health (3.38 no kids)
50% say their alcohol consumption has increased (35% no kids)	3.15 mean out of 5 satisfaction with feeling part of your community (2.78 with kids)
34% having more strained relationships with people in their household (18% no kids)	3.34 mean out of 5 satisfaction with future security (2.82 with kids)
34% worked flexible hours from home (18% no kids)	54% say their alcohol consumption hasn't changed (37% with kids)
24% want one-off financial hardship grants (9% no kids)	79% don't need any financial supports (60% with kids)
17% want essential item vouchers (4% no kids)	60% has had no change in income (46% with kids)
22% named want parks services as something council and community organisations could provide (9% no kids)	18% looking forward to travelling / going on holiday once COVID-19 is over (10% with kids)

3. Questionnaire

Labels in dark red show codes / variables created during the analysis process.

Q1. On a scale of 1 to 5 (where 1 is not at all to 5 extremely well) how are you currently coping with the COVID-19 restrictions?

Q2. What are your three main concerns during COVID-19?

- Me or my family/friend contracting COVID-19
- Missing family and friends
- Risk of losing my job or unemployment
- Increased family violence at home
- Not being able to buy food or essential items
- I am on a temporary visa and uncertain about my future.
- Not being able to visit dying or seriously ill family/friends
- Missing key life events such as weddings, funerals and birthdays
- Disruption of education
- Disruption of care and support services
- Losing my business
- Managing remote learning for children at home
- Working from home
- Increased caring roles
- Financial instability
- Feeling lonely
- Managing chronic health conditions
- Other (specify) comments coded into:
 - Exercise
 - Local community
 - Mental health
 - Restrictions
 - Recreation

Q3. What assistance, services or programs could help support your wellbeing at this time?

- Counselling and mental health support
- Emergency relief (food, clothing and school resources)
- Information on local Services and programs
- Entertainment programs for children and young people
- Employment and vocational skills programs
- Online social connection programs
- Programs to support older people to use digital technology
- Information updates on COVID-19 case, restrictions and resources
- Support for local communities to assist each other
- Programs to support families in crisis (family violence, relationship breakdowns etc.)
- Business support
- Financial relief packages for low income earners
- Internet access/ digital support
- Access to services i.e. outreach or online health services
- Telephone support

Opportunity to contribute to the community

Other (specify) *comments coded into:*

Change to restrictions

Q4. Are there any barriers stopping you from accessing services you need during COVID-19?

I am unaware of what services are available

I am unaware of how to access local services

Services are closed

I cannot get to my appointment

Long wait times to get an appointment

Services are too expensive

I do not feel safe accessing the services

Services are not welcoming

Only telehealth is available

I do not need to access services

Other (specify) *comments coded into:*

5km travel restrictions

Q5a. On a scale of 1-5 (with 1 being not at all and 5 being extremely) how satisfied are you with...?

Your standard of living

What you are currently achieving in life

Your health

Your personal relationships

How safe you feel

Feeling part of your community

Your future security

Q5b. Is this rating higher, lower or the same as before COVID-19? [Answer options: Higher, Lower, Same]

Your standard of living

What you are currently achieving in life

Your health

Your personal relationships

How safe you feel

Feeling part of your community

Your future security

Q6. In the last month how often did you feel...? [Answer options: A lot more now, A little more now, About the same, A little less now, A lot less now]

Nervous or anxious

Hopeless or worthless

Unable to get yourself going

Down or depressed

Distressed to the point of seeking support

New variable was generated for analysis. NET of all people who rated one or more of Q6 as "A lot more now". Shows proportion experiencing mental health distress.

Q7. Have you experienced any positive changes in your life as a result of COVID-19?

[Open ended] comments coded into:

More time (including for chores , hobbies, study etc.)
Helping others
Community cohesion / more contact with neighbours
More contact with friends / extended family
More time with kids / family
Saving Money
New hobbies / skills
Less driving / traffic / commuting
Good for environment
More exercise / better fitness
Working from home
Slower pace
Mental health/ self time
Exploring local area
Jobseeker / JobKeeper
None/NA
Other

Q8. Have you experienced any negative changes in your life as a result of COVID-19? [Open ended] comments coded into:

Loneliness / social isolation
Boredom
Cannot visit friends/ family
Mental Health
Worsened relationships
Concerned about child development / education
Concerned about health of others
Financial stress / Lost job / business / income
Difficulty shopping
Lack of sports / social activities
Unable to attend health appointments / in person
Unhappy with government (state & federal) / lockdown rules
Unhappy with people not following rules
Worried about economy / businesses
Unable to travel / cancelled holiday plans
More to juggle (home schooling, carer work etc.)
Less exercise / fitness
Unable to attend wedding / funeral
Just answered "yes"
Unable to care for others
Increased alcohol consumption
Loss of relative to COVID-19
None / N/A
Other

Q9. Overall, do you feel you are doing more, less or about the same level of physical activity during COVID -19 restrictions, compared to before COVID-19?

- A lot more now
- A little more now
- About the same
- A little less now
- A lot less now

Q10. What is your main form of physical activity? [Open ended] comments coded into:

! Answers suggest that some people mentioned a pre-COVID physical activity. Need to clarify in future if you mean 'usual' or 'present'.

- Walking
- Running / jogging
- Exercise at home
- Gardening
- Bike riding
- Gym
- House work / maintenance
- Yoga / Pilates
- Dog walking
- Swimming
- Organised sport
- Work
- Horse riding
- Other

Q11. Within your 5km radius what reserve, space or location do you use if exercising outside? [Open ended] comments coded into:

- Local roads
- Diamond Creek (DC)
- Bushland / parks / trails / river
- Aqueduct / Research
- Can't / none
- Plenty river/gorge
- Oval
- Lower Eltham Park
- On property
- Hurstbridge
- Bike track
- Eltham (Various locations)
- Anthony Beale
- Warrandyte
- Bunjil
- Other
- Not enough information

Q12. Is this different to where you would normally exercise?

- Yes
- No

Q12a. [IF YES] Where would you normally exercise? [OPEN ENDED] comments coded into:

Gym
Different locations (walk / ride / park / river)
Courts / fields / ovals / clubs
Named a park
Yoga / Pilates studio
Pool
Diamond Creek trail
Leisure centre
Bike paths
Near work
Eltham lower park
River
Other

Q13. In the last month how often have you had an alcoholic drink of any kind?

Every day
4-6 days a week
1-3 days a week
2-3 days a month
Once a month
Less often
Never

Q14. Is this level of consumption higher or lower or the same as before COVID-19?

Higher
Same
Lower

Q15. On a day that you have an alcoholic drink, how many standard drinks do you usually have?

1 standard drink
2 standard drinks
3-4 standard drinks
5-6 standard drinks
7 or more

Q16a. On a scale of 1-5 (with 1 being not at all and 5 being extremely) how satisfied are you with...? ! This rating scale is not appropriate for the statements.

I feel part of the community
People in my neighbourhood share the same values
My neighbourhood is a good place to live
I trust my neighbours
People work to get things done for this community
My neighbours are helping each other get through the COVID-19 restrictions

Q16b. Is this rating higher, lower or the same as before COVID-19? [Answer options: Higher, Same, Lower]

- I feel part of the community
- People in my neighbourhood share the same values
- My neighbourhood is a good place to live
- I trust my neighbours
- People work to get things done for this community
- My neighbours are helping each other get through the COVID-19 restrictions
- ! Higher / lower rating for this item is not valid / doesn't make sense.

Q17. Since the COVID-19 restrictions started, how easy has it been to stay connected with family and friends outside your household?

- Very easy
- Easy
- Neither easy nor hard
- Hard
- Very hard
- Not sure

Q18. Excluding work or education did you connect with others in the following ways?

! In future this will need a 'none of these' option. 8 respondents provided no answer, but we don't know if that is because it was none, or because they missed the question.

- Telephone (voice only)
- Video calls e.g. FaceTime, Zoom, Houseparty
- Walking with one other while social distancing
- Sharing items with neighbours such as food, toys, books etc.
- Sharing chores with neighbours e.g. bringing in bins, grocery shopping, mow lawns

Q19. Are you facing challenges accessing the internet?

! this scale is not clear. Combined 'Yes' and 'Sometimes' for reported measure.

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

Q20. What are the challenges you face when trying to access the internet?

- Poor or interrupted internet connection
- I live in an internet blackspot
- I don't have a device to connect to the internet (e.g. computer)
- I cannot afford to connect to the internet
- I do not want to connect to the internet
- Other

Q21. Which of these best describes your household?

- Single person household
- Couple living alone
- Couple with child / children
- One parent family with child / children, co-parenting with other parent living elsewhere
- One parent family with child / children
- Adults sharing house /apartment / flat
- Other

Q22. How has the quality of your relationships with people in your household changed since the COVID-19 restrictions started?

- A lot closer/stronger
- A little closer/stronger
- No change
- A little more difficult/strained
- A lot more difficult/strained
- Not applicable – single person household
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say

Q23. Which of these best describes your main activity before COVID-19? Were you...?

- Self employed
- Employed for wages, salary or payment in kind
- Engaged in home duties
- A student
- Retired
- Unable to work
- Volunteer
- Other

Q24. Which of these best describes your main activity during COVID-19? Are you...?

- Self employed
- Employed for wages, salary or payment in kind
- Engaged in home duties
- A student
- Retired
- Unable to work
- Volunteer
- On JobSeeker
- On JobKeeper
- Other

New variable was generated for analysis to show how employment had changed from Q23 to Q24:

- No longer working
- On JobKeeper/Seeker
- Work mode changed
- Unchanged

Q25. Since the COVID-19 restrictions started, have you...?

- Worked mainly from home with standard hours
- Worked mainly from home with flexible hours
- Worked mainly from another location with standard hour (l.e. office, retail outlet, work site)
- Work mainly from another location with flexible start and finish times
- Prefer not to say
- Unsure
- None of the above

Q26. Since COVID-19 restrictions started...? [MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

- None of these
- Received, or have been notified that you will receive job keeper
- Received, or have been notified that you will receive job seeker
- Received, or have been notified that you will receive government rent assistance
- Prefer not to say
- Other
- Not sure

Q27. Do you have any children aged 18 or younger living in your house (full-time or part-time)?

- Yes
- No

Q28. How many children are living in your house?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 or more

Q29. What are their ages? [OPEN ENDED] comments coded into:

! Ask as a multiple response question in future to save time coding.

- Aged 0-4
- Aged 5-11
- Aged 12-17
- Aged 18+

Q30. Have you sent your children to school, daycare or kindergarten in the past week?

- Yes - most of the time
- Yes - some of the time
- I have discontinued my child/children going to childcare or kindergarten
- No - I have kept them home
- It is more complicated than that. [SPECIFY]

Q31. Who is spending the most time helping your child/ren at home during COVID-19?

- I am
- My partner or other parent
- Shared equally between my partner / the other parent and myself
- Other person outside of the household
- Other

Q32. What would support you to better care for them at this time?

! Collected as single response, should have been multiple

- Tutoring
- Virtual play groups and story time
- Careers related support for young people (resume writing, interview etc.)
- Parenting programs
- Mental health support and outreach
- Behavioural support
- Other

Q33. Are you the primary carer of an older adult and /or person with a disability?

- Yes
- No

Q34. How has COVID-19 impacted your role as a carer? [Open ended]

Q35. How has COVID-19 affected the person that you care for? [Open ended]

Q36. What support would further assist you in your role as a carer?

! Collected as single response, should have been multiple

- Information of services
- Financial supports
- Mental health support
- Peer support e.g. carer support group
- Social support for the person you care for
- Transport
- Other

Q37. Since COVID-19 do any of the following apply to you?

! Needs a 'none of these' option. Not sure if the blank responses were those who hadn't experienced any or missed/skipped the question? Blanks treated as "none of these" one in the data file.

- Could not pay electricity, gas or telephone bill on time
- Unable to pay rent or mortgage on time
- Worried about eviction/or repossession of your home
- Asked for financial help from friends or family
- Accessed support from community services/ organisations
- Attended a food relief agency, food bank or food pantry (or similar) to access food relief
- Worried about having enough money to buy food
- Skipped a meal in order to feed your household
- Withdrew from superannuation
- Other
- None of these

Q38. What financial supports would assist you during this period?

! Needs a 'none of these' option. Not sure if the blank responses were those who hadn't experienced any or missed/skipped the question? Blanks treated as "None of these" in the data file.

- Essential item vouchers (e.g. supermarket supplies, fuel, utility bill support etc.)
- Delivery of food packages/ ready-made meals
- Support to connect to Federal and State Government financial relief
- One-off financial hardship grants
- Business support
- Other
- None of these

Q39. Is your income more, less or the same now – during COVID-19 restrictions, compared to before COVID-19?

- A lot more now
- A little more now
- About the same
- A little less now
- A lot less now

Q40. What other services do you think Council or other community organisations could provide to help people manage the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic in Nillumbik? [Open ended] comments coded into:

- Parks / services
- Rate / fee relief
- Promote what is available / comms
- Food relief / delivery
- Children
- Financial assistance / advocacy
- Community connections
- Change restrictions
- Garden / house maintenance / cleaning
- Rubbish
- Mental health services
- House-checks (welfare)
- Exercise info / activities
- Specific shops
- Volunteering
- Single people socialising apps
- Encourage shop local
- Arts and culture
- Other

Q41. What other comments do you have about the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is impacting your life and/or the community that you would like to share with us?

[Open ended] comments coded into:

- None
- Personal negative
- Community negative
- Community positive
- Request for council / services/ activities
- Government negative
- Personal positive
- General negative
- Concern about future
- We are in this together
- Government positive
- General positive
- Other

Q42. What are you most looking forward to once COVID-19 restrictions are eased?

[Open ended] comments coded into:

- Socialising / friends
- See family
- Freedom (travel, visit)
- Travel / Holiday
- Eat out
- Exercising / sport
- Recreation
- Back to work
- Kids back to school / childcare
- Using services / shops
- Back to normal
- Church
- Other

Q43. Gender

! Prefer not to identify could be confused with prefer not to say. The correct term is 'Prefer to self-describe'

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to identify
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say

Q44. Age

! Need guardian consent to interview people under the age of 14. 2 respondents removed from analysis due to being under the age of 14.

Under 9
10-14
15-19
20-24
25-29
30-34
35-39
40-44
45-49
50-54
55-59
60-64
65-69
70-74
75-79
80-84
85 and over

Q45. Postcode

! Not possible to align this with townships. In future ask them to select a locality from a drop-down list of all suburbs / towns.

Q46. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

Yes, Aboriginal
Yes, Torres Strait Islander
Yes, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
No
Not sure
I'd prefer not to say

Q47. Were you born in Australia?

! Needs a prefer not to say option

Yes
No (Specify) Where were you born?

Q48. Do you speak a language other than English at home ?

! Needs a prefer not to say option

Yes
No

Q49. Do you have a disability, health condition or injury that has lasted, or is likely to last, 6 months or more ?

Yes
No
Not sure
Prefer not to say

Q50. Other than a Medicare card, are you the holder of a health care card or a pensioner concession card?

Yes

No

Not sure

Prefer not to say

Q51. How did you find out about this survey?

Social media (e.g. Facebook)

Local Paper

Plenty FM

Nillumbik News

healthAbility

Other

! Ask for tenure (owner or renter) as this can have an impact on challenges faced.

Planning and Environment Act 1987

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C135NILL

EXPLANATORY REPORT

Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by the Minister for Planning who is the planning authority for this amendment.

Land affected by the amendment

The amendment applies to all land within the municipality of Nillumbik

What the amendment does

The amendment replaces the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) at Clause 21 and Local Planning Policies at Clause 22 of the Nillumbik Planning Scheme with a Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS), local policies within the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) and selected local schedules to zones, overlays, particular provisions, general provisions and operational provisions, consistent with:

- The *Victoria Planning Provisions* as a result of Amendment VC148 and
- The Ministerial Direction – The Form and Content of Planning Schemes.

The amendment makes the following changes to the content of Clauses 21 and 22 of the Nillumbik Planning Scheme:

- Relocates the content to the appropriate theme-based clauses in the PPF, MPS and relevant local schedules, with the intended effect of the original clauses remaining unchanged.
- Clarifies and improves the style, format, language or grammatical form of content in accordance with the *Practitioner's Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes*, with the intended effect of the original clauses remaining unchanged.
- Updates clause references, department names, legislation names, document references, terminology and statistical data.
- Deletes or adjusts incompatible content that conflicts with State planning policy of the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP).
- Removes repetitive content.
- Removes or updates outdated content.

Specifically, the amendment proposes to make the following changes to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme:

Purpose and Vision

1. Introduces a new MPS at Clause 02 based on content from Clauses 21 and 22 of the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF).

Planning Policy Framework

2. Introduces revised local policy content into the PPF at Clauses 11 (Settlement), 12 (Environmental and Landscape values), 13 (Environmental Risks and Amenity), 14 (Natural Resource Management), 15 (Built Environment and Heritage), 16 (Housing), 17 (Economic Development), 18 (Transport) and 19 (Infrastructure) based on content from Clauses 21 and 22 of the LPPF.

Local Planning Policy Framework

3. Deletes Clauses 20, 21, 22 and 23.

Zones

4. Replaces Schedule 2 to Clause 37.08 (Activity Centre Zone) with a new Schedule 2 that includes precinct guidelines previously contained in Clause 22.14 of the LPPF.

Operational Provisions

5. Replaces the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (Background documents) with a new schedule that consolidates and updates all background documents from Clauses 21 and 22 of the LPPF.
6. Introduces a new Schedule to Clause 74.01 (Application of zones, overlays and provisions) to provide an explanation of the relationship between the municipal objectives, strategies and controls on the use and development of land in the planning scheme. The schedule consolidates all planning scheme implementation actions from Clause 21 of the LPPF.
7. Introduces a new Schedule to Clause 74.02 (Further strategic work) that consolidates all further strategic work actions from Clause 21 of the LPPF.

Strategic assessment of the amendment

Why is the amendment required?

Amendment C135nill forms part of Stage 3 of the Smart Planning Rules and Policy Program to reform Victoria's planning system and change the VPP to make planning schemes more efficient, accessible and transparent.

In 2018, Amendment VC148 introduced widespread changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions as part of Stage 2 of the Smart Planning Program. More specifically, Amendment VC148:

- Introduced a new PPF.
- Enabled the future introduction of an MPS.
- Introduced a new state, regional and local integrated policy structure.
- Modified the schedules to some existing zones, overlays and provisions to accommodate additional local content.
- Created new operational provisions.

A key focus for Stage 3 of the Smart Planning Program is to ensure better alignment of local planning policy with state and regional policy by integrating local policy content into the new PPF.

Local policy content has been translated in a generally policy neutral manner, in accordance with the principles set out in *A Practitioner's Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes* to ensure policy content is:

- Within the scope of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) and is strategically justified.
- Clear in its application, proportional to the intended planning outcome and consistent with relevant parent provisions, practice notes, advisory notes and ministerial directions issued by the Minister for Planning.
- Drafted to be clear and unambiguous.

How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?

By restructuring local policy content into the MPS, PPF and local schedules, the amendment will clarify, condense and modernise the Nillumbik Planning Scheme, implementing the following objectives of planning in Victoria set out in section 4(1) of the Act:

- a) To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and suitable use, and development of the land.
- c) To secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria.
- f) To facilitate development in accordance with the objectives of planning in Victoria.

The amendment provides certainty to users of the scheme and provides clear strategic direction that will inform decision making regarding use and development in the municipality, consistent with these objectives.

How does the amendment address any environmental, social and economic effects?

While the changes to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme are generally administrative and policy neutral, the amendment is expected to have positive environmental, social and economic effects for Victorian businesses, industry and the community by:

- Improving the clarity and transparency of local policy content in the MPS, PPF and proposed local schedules which results in greater certainty for users of the system.
- Reducing unnecessary costs to applicants and councils as a result of unclear planning provisions.
- Improving planning outcomes by removing errors, inconsistencies and incompatibility in local policy content in the MPS, PPF and proposed local schedules.

The application of updated and improved local policy content in the MPS, PPF and amended local schedules will provide certainty to the users of the planning system by ensuring land use and development outcomes are consistent with environmental, social and economic land use objectives of planning in Nillumbik and Victoria.

Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?

The amendment is not expected to result in any increase to the risk to life as a priority, property, community infrastructure and the natural environment from bushfire. Rather, it proposes to meet the objective and give effect to the strategies to address Bushfire risk in the PPF by:

- Addressing Bushfire risk in the MPS, as a key land use theme in the municipality.
- Providing a brief overview and strategic directions in this regard, based on content previously contained in the LPPF at Clause 21 and 22.

Does the amendment comply with the requirements of any Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?

The amendment is consistent with the *Ministerial Direction - The Form and Content of Planning Schemes* under Section 7(5) of the Act. The new MPS, together with the local planning policies at clauses 11 to 19 are in the format specified in Annexure 3 of the Direction. Where local schedules have been included or amended, the form of the schedule has been drafted to accord with the current *Ministerial Direction - The Form and Content of Planning Schemes*.

The amendment has been prepared in accordance with the strategic considerations set out in *Ministerial Direction No. 11 Strategic Assessment of Amendment* made under Section 12 of the Act.

How does the amendment support or implement the Planning Policy Framework and any adopted State policy?

The amendment introduces new local planning policies at clauses 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 of the PPF as follows:

Clauses	Amendments
11 Settlement	Introduces local policies relating to settlement in Nillumbik, land use and development in the Eltham gateway, activity centres in Nillumbik and Bridge Street business area from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clauses 21.03 (Municipal Profile and Key Influences), 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation), 22.10 (Eltham Gateway Policy) and 22.15 (Bridge Street Business Area Policy).
12 Environmental and Landscape values	Introduces a local policy relating to protection of biodiversity in Nillumbik and rural landscapes in Nillumbik from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clauses 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation), 22.04 (Siting and Design Policy for Buildings and Works in Non-Urban Areas), 22.06 (Roadside management Policy) and 22.11 (Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy) The policy application for Clause 12.05-2L (rural landscapes in Nillumbik) has been updated as a result of the merging of content from Clause 21.05 and Clause 22.04, in accordance with the principles set out in <i>A Practitioner's Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes</i> . The existing Clause 22.04 is currently applied to the LDRZ in North Warrandyte, a single dwelling lot (Lot 8 in PS415064K) in the SUZ1, and most private land

	<p>outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) limited to the RCZ and GWZ. The new policy application proposes to include the LDRZ in North Warrandyte, a single dwelling lot (Lot 8 in PS415064K) in the SUZ1 and all land outside the UGB (except land in Schedule 2 of the SUZ). It is considered that this update is policy neutral and in accordance with <i>A Practitioners Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inclusion of all land outside the UGB, rather than only just the RCZ and GWZ land, is policy neutral because the strategies in Clause 22.04 are replicated in the existing MSS, including Clause 21.05, and are applied through the MSS to all non-urban land, not just land limited to GWZ and RCZ. • The exclusion of the application to the SUZ2 is justified as this zone and its schedule, which is applied to the Bend of Isles Environmental Living Zone, sets out highly detailed and prescriptive requirements to support bushland living in the area. These requirements, due to their breadth and detail, are not a clear or sufficient match with the policy contained in Clause 22.04 and similar strategies in the MSS (now consolidated in Clause 12.05-2L). The inclusion of SUZ2 in the policy application of Clause 12.05-2L would therefore not satisfy rule 4 set out in <i>A Practitioners Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes</i>. For this reason, its exclusion is justified and considered to be policy neutral.
13 Environmental Risks and Amenity	Introduces a local policy relating to bushfire management in Nillumbik, floodplains in Nillumbik and managing erosion in Nillumbik from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clauses 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation), 22.04 (Siting and Design Policy for Buildings and Works in Non-Urban Areas), 22.06 (Roadside Management), 22.08 (Industrial Areas Policy), 22.12 (Neighbourhood Character Policy) and 22.13 (Wildfire Management Policy).
14 Natural Resource Management	Introduces a local policy relating to protection of agricultural land and sustainable agricultural land use from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clauses 21.03 (Municipal Profile and Key Influences), 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation), 22.04 (Siting and Design Policy for Buildings and Works in Non-Urban Areas) and 22.06 (Roadside Management Policy).
15 Built Environment and Heritage	Introduces a local policy relating to signs, building design in Nillumbik, medium density housing design, design in industrial areas, subdivision design, neighbourhood character and energy and resource efficiency in Nillumbik from content previously contained in the LPPF principally at Clauses 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation), 22.01 (Medium Density Housing Policy), 22.04 (Siting and Design policy for Buildings and Works in Non-Urban Areas), 22.08 (Industrial Areas Policy), 22.09 (Signage) and 22.12 (Neighbourhood Character Policy).
16 Housing	Introduces a local policy relating to location of medium density residential development from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clauses 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation) and 22.01 (Medium Density Housing Policy).
17 Economic Development	Introduces local policies relating to innovation and research in Nillumbik, business in Nillumbik, industrial land and tourism from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clause 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation).
18 Transport	Introduces local policies relating to public transport and the road system in Nillumbik from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clause 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation).
19 Infrastructure	Introduces local policies relating to open space, infrastructure provision, integrated water management in non-urban areas and telecommunications in Nillumbik from content previously contained in the LPPF at Clauses 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation) and 22.04 (Siting and Design Policy for Buildings and works in Non-Urban Areas).

How does the amendment support or implement the Municipal Planning Strategy?

The amendment introduces a new MPS at Clause 02 of the Nillumbik Planning Scheme. The new content is summarised below:

Clauses		Amendments
02.01	Context	Provides a general overview of the municipality derived from Clause 21.02 (Municipal Overview and Regional Context) and 21.03 (Municipal Profile and Key Influences) and updates demographic data.
02.02	Vision	Provides the vision for the municipality based on content previously contained at Clause 21.04 (Vision – Strategic Framework).
02.03	Strategic Directions	Addresses the key land use themes based on the PPF and provides a brief overview and strategic directions for each theme, based on content previously contained in the LPPF at clauses 21.02 (Municipal Overview and regional Context), 21.03 (Municipal Profile and Key Influences), 21.04 (Vision – Strategic Framework), 21.05 (Objectives – Strategies – Implementation), 22.01 (Medium Density Housing Policy), 22.04 (Siting and Design Policy for Buildings and Works in Non-Urban Areas), 22.05 (Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Policy), 22.06 (Roadside Management Policy), 22.07 (Eltham Town Centre Policy), 22.08 (Industrial Areas Policy), 22.09 (Signage Policy), 22.10 (Eltham Gateway Policy), 22.11 (Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy), 22.13 (Wildfire Management Policy), 22.14 (Diamond Creek Activity Centre Policy) and 22.15 (Bridge Street Business Area Policy).
02.04	Strategic Framework Plans	Includes the following new and revised strategic framework plans, based on content or plans previously contained in Clause 21: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic framework plan • Faunal habitat and remnant vegetation plan • Open space and recreation facilities plan • Infrastructure assets plan

The policy content of the MPS outlines the strategic directions for the municipality and underpins the policy content in the PPF.

Does the amendment make proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions?

The amendment revises local policy and associated local policy content in a form and using content that is consistent with the VPP as updated by Amendment VC148.

The bulk of content from the LPPF has been edited and moved to the new MPS at Clause 2 and local planning policies at clauses 11 to 19. Content from the LPPF was also relocated to clauses 72.08 and 74.01 and 74.02, as appropriate.

Schedule 2 to Clause 37.08 Activity Centre Zone has been amended to include precinct guidelines previously contained at Clause 22.14 of the LPPF.

How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agency?

Amendment C135nill makes administrative changes to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme following approval of the changed planning scheme format established in Amendment VC148. Various government agencies and other entities were involved in the identification or preparation of particular changes as part of the wider Smart Planning consultation.

The views of Nillumbik Council officers were addressed in the preparation of the amendment. The Council has endorsed the changes being introduced by the amendment.

Does the amendment address relevant requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?

Amendment C135nill will not have a significant impact on the transport system as defined by the *Transport Integration Act 2010*.

Resource and administrative costs

What impact will the new planning provisions have on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority?

Amendment C135nill is not expected to impose additional resource or administrative costs on the responsible authority.

Introducing a revised local policy format is expected to create a clearer more navigable policy framework where state and local policy are communicated consistently. After an initial familiarisation phase, the new format should have the effect of reducing any resource or administrative burden on the responsible authority, by providing a more succinct and navigable policy set.

Amendment C135nill will provide a clear set of guidelines that delivers a greater level of certainty to the community and other stakeholders within the municipality.

Where you may inspect this amendment

The Amendment is available for public inspection at www.delwp.vic.gov.au/public-inspection. Amendment C135nill is also available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at the Nillumbik Council Customer Service Centres at:

34 Civic Drive, Greensborough VIC 3088

NOTE: Due to restrictions imposed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the amendment may not be available for inspection at the above offices. However, the amendment can be still be inspected free of charge online at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website at: www.delwp.vic.gov.au/public-inspection.

Planning and Environment Act 1987

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C135nill

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The planning authority for this amendment is the Minister for Planning.

The Nillumbik Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Ordinance

The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

1. In **Purpose and Vision** – insert Clause 02 in the form of the attached document.
2. In **Purpose and Vision** – insert Clause 02.01 in the form of the attached document.
3. In **Purpose and Vision** – insert Clause 02.02 in the form of the attached document.
4. In **Purpose and Vision** – insert Clause 02.03 in the form of the attached document.
5. In **Purpose and Vision** – insert Clause 02.04 in the form of the attached document.
6. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 11.01-1L - Settlement in Nillumbik in the form of the attached document.
7. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 11.01-1L – Land use and development in the Eltham Gateway in the form of the attached document.
8. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 11.03-1L – Activity centres in Nillumbik in the form of the attached document.
9. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 11.03-1L – Bridge Street business area in the form of the attached document.
10. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 12.01-1L in the form of the attached document.
11. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 12.05-2L in the form of the attached document.
12. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clauses 13.02-1L in the form of the attached documents.
13. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 13.03-1L in the form of the attached document.
14. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 13.04-2L in the form of the attached document.
15. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 14.01-1L in the form of the attached document.
16. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 14.01-2L in the form of the attached document.
17. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.01-1L - Signs in the form of the attached document.
18. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.01-1L – Signs in Eltham Major Activity Centre in the form of the attached document.
19. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.01-2L – Building Design in Nillumbik in the form of the attached document.

20. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.01-2L – Medium Density Housing Design in the form of the attached document.
21. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.01-2L – Design in Industrial Areas in the form of the attached document.
22. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.01-3L in the form of the attached document.
23. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.01-5L in the form of the attached document.
24. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 15.02-1L in the form of the attached document.
25. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 16.01-1L in the form of the attached document.
26. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 17.01-2L in the form of the attached document.
27. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 17.02-1L in the form of the attached document.
28. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 17.03-1L in the form of the attached document.
29. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 17.04-1L in the form of the attached document.
30. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 18.02-2L in the form of the attached document.
31. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 18.02-3L in the form of the attached document.
32. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 19.02-6L in the form of the attached document.
33. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 19.03-2L in the form of the attached document.
34. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 19.03-3L in the form of the attached document.
35. In **Planning Policy Framework** – insert Clause 19.03-4L in the form of the attached document.
36. In **Local Planning Policy Framework** – delete Clauses 20, 21, 22 and 23.
37. In **Zones** – Clause 37.08, replace Schedule 2 with a new Schedule 2 in the form of the attached document.
38. In **Operational Provisions** – Clause 72.08, replace the Schedule a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.
39. In **Operational Provisions** – Clause 74.01, insert a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.
40. In **Operational Provisions** – Clause 74.02, insert a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

End of document

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

21.01 MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC STATEMENT OUTLINE

13/02/2014C86 Nillumbik Shire Council's Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) outlines the vision for sustainable land use and natural resource management in the Shire. It responds to the range of environmental, social and economic factors that shape the Shire. [21.01] rule 9 – describes what MSS is, this is not needed

The Municipal Strategic Statement:

- Outlines the objectives and strategies which need to be implemented to achieve the desired land use and natural resource management vision; [21.01] rule 9 – describes what MSS is, this is not needed
- not needed

Is the rationale for statutory planning controls and policies contained in the Nillumbik Planning Scheme; [21.01] rule 9 – describes what MSS is, this is not needed

- Provides a framework for the assessment of planning permit applications and amendment requests; and [21.01] rule 9 – describes what MSS is, this is not needed

Identifies additional strategic work which needs to be undertaken by the Nillumbik Shire Council; [21.01] rule 9 – describes what MSS is, this is not needed

Nillumbik Shire Council will regularly monitor the achievement of objectives in the Municipal Strategic Statement to ensure that it continues to guide land use and land management within the Shire towards a sustainable future in accordance with the Council's vision. [21.01] rule 1 – Council action, this is not needed

The Municipal Strategic Statement consists of the following sections:- [21.01] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.02 MUNICIPAL OVERVIEW & REGIONAL CONTEXT~~ [21.02] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.03 MUNICIPAL PROFILE & KEY INFLUENCES~~ [21.03] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.03-1 Settlement & housing~~ [21.03-1] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.03-2 Rural land use~~ [21.03-2] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.03-3 Environment, conservation & landscape~~ [21.03-3] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.03-4 Economic development~~ [21.03-4] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.03-5 Infrastructure~~ [21.03-5] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.04 VISION – STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK~~ [21.04] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.04-1 Overview~~ [21.04-1] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.04-2 Nillumbik Shire 'Council Plan'~~ [21.04-2] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.04-3 Nillumbik 2020 – A Preferred Future~~ [21.04-3] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.04-4 The Framework Plan~~ [21.04-4] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.05 OBJECTIVES – STRATEGIES – IMPLEMENTATION~~ [21.05] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.05-1 Settlement & housing~~ [21.05-1] rule 9 – contents this is not needed
~~21.05-2 Rural land use~~[21.05-2] rule 9 – contents this is not needed
~~21.05-3 Environment, conservation & landscape~~ [21.05-3] rule 9 – contents this is not needed
~~21.05-4 Economic development~~[21.05-4] rule 9 – contents this is not needed
~~21.05-5 Infrastructure~~ [21.05-5] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.06 FUTURE STRATEGIC WORK & EDUCATION~~ [21.06] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.07 MONITORING & REVIEW~~ [21.07] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

~~21.08 REFERENCES~~ [21.08] rule 9 – contents this is not needed

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MUNICIPAL OVERVIEW & REGIONAL CONTEXT

Location & Regional Perspective

Located on the north-eastern urban-rural fringe of Melbourne, the Shire of Nillumbik is approximately 25 kilometres from Melbourne's central activities area, ~~and extends to the Kinglake Ranges, some 50 kilometres from central Melbourne. The Shire of Nillumbik has an area of 430 square kilometres~~ and is generally bounded by the Yarra and Plenty Rivers and the Kinglake Ranges. [21.02] [02.01]

~~Adjoining municipalities are the Cities of Manningham and Banyule to the south, the City of Whittlesea to the west, the Shire of Yarra Ranges to the east and the Shire of Murrundindi to the north. Map 1 shows the location of the Shire of Nillumbik in a Melbourne Metropolitan perspective.~~ [21.02] rule 9 – additional info that is not needed

The Shire of Nillumbik has an estimated population of 62,500 people (2012). [02.01] ~~It is widely recognised that there is a community culture of environmental appreciation and responsibility, innovation and creativity.~~ [rule 9 -additional info not needed] The natural environment of Nillumbik is a significant reason for people deciding to live and work in the Shire. [02.01] ~~The community has a record of active participation in environmental management, education and works programs in the pursuit of the sustainable management of natural resources and protection of conservation values in the Shire.~~ [rule 9 -additional info not needed] [21.02]

Much of the Shire is rural and is used for a combination of agriculture, rural living and conservation purposes. The population, however, is concentrated in the residential areas of Diamond Creek, Eltham, Greensborough, Hurstbridge, North Warrandyte, Plenty, Research and Wattle Glen. [21.02] [02.01]

The Shire of Nillumbik forms part of a metropolitan 'green wedge', providing a non-urban break between the Whittlesea urban growth corridor and the Lilydale (eastern) urban area. [02.01] ~~The role of the Shire as a 'green wedge' was first formally recognised in 1971 in Planning Policies for the Melbourne Metropolitan Region produced by the then Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works. The metropolitan growth strategy, shown in a framework plan for the Melbourne Region, focused future urban growth in major 'growth corridors' radiating outward from the central Melbourne area, and separated by 'substantial wedges of open country' (Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works 1971). These strategies and policies were then supported, and reinforced in 2002 when the State introduced Melbourne 2030, the metropolitan strategy for future development in Melbourne which establishes an urban grown boundary to define the limits of future development and to protect green wedges outside of these areas.~~ [21.02]

~~The ongoing commitment to the Shire's future as a 'green wedge' corridor supports regional objectives for integrated catchment management as identified in the Port Phillip & Westernport Regional Catchment Strategy, 2004 (prepared by Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority).~~ [21.02] [rule 9 -additional info not needed]

~~The City of Whittlesea's designated residential growth area abuts the Shire of Nillumbik's western boundary (Map 1).~~ This will bring urban communities adjacent to highly valued conservation, recreation and farming areas in the Shire, and already places demands on the Shire's road network and other physical and social infrastructure. [02.03 transport] [21.02]

Regional recreation resources, such as Kinglake National Park, Plenty Gorge Park, Sugarloaf Reservoir Park, Yarrambat Park, and the network of parks in the Yarra River system, are progressively being developed and marketed as recreational experiences (Map 2). [02.01] ~~The recreational trail along the Diamond Creek links to the Yarra River trail, which in turn provides a path through north-eastern middle and inner suburbs and into central Melbourne. It is intended that the trail will go to Wattle Glen and Hurstbridge.~~ [additional context – also will be shown on plan] [21.02]

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The Shire of Nillumbik plays a pivotal role in protecting the region's biodiversity. Strategic habitat links which continue into surrounding municipalities connect extensive areas of native vegetation. A significant number of rare and endangered species are found in these native environments [02.01] ~~– In 1986 the former North East Regional Organisation of Councils (NEROC) commissioned a study of significant faunal sites and habitats for north east Melbourne. Commonly referred to as the NEROC Report the study was eventually published in 1997. The purpose of the study was to provide accurate and comprehensive information on sites of faunal significance and the species of native terrestrial vertebrates that require conservation management. Of the 104 sites identified across north east Melbourne, 65 sites occur in the Shire of Nillumbik (Beardsell, 1997). [21.02]~~

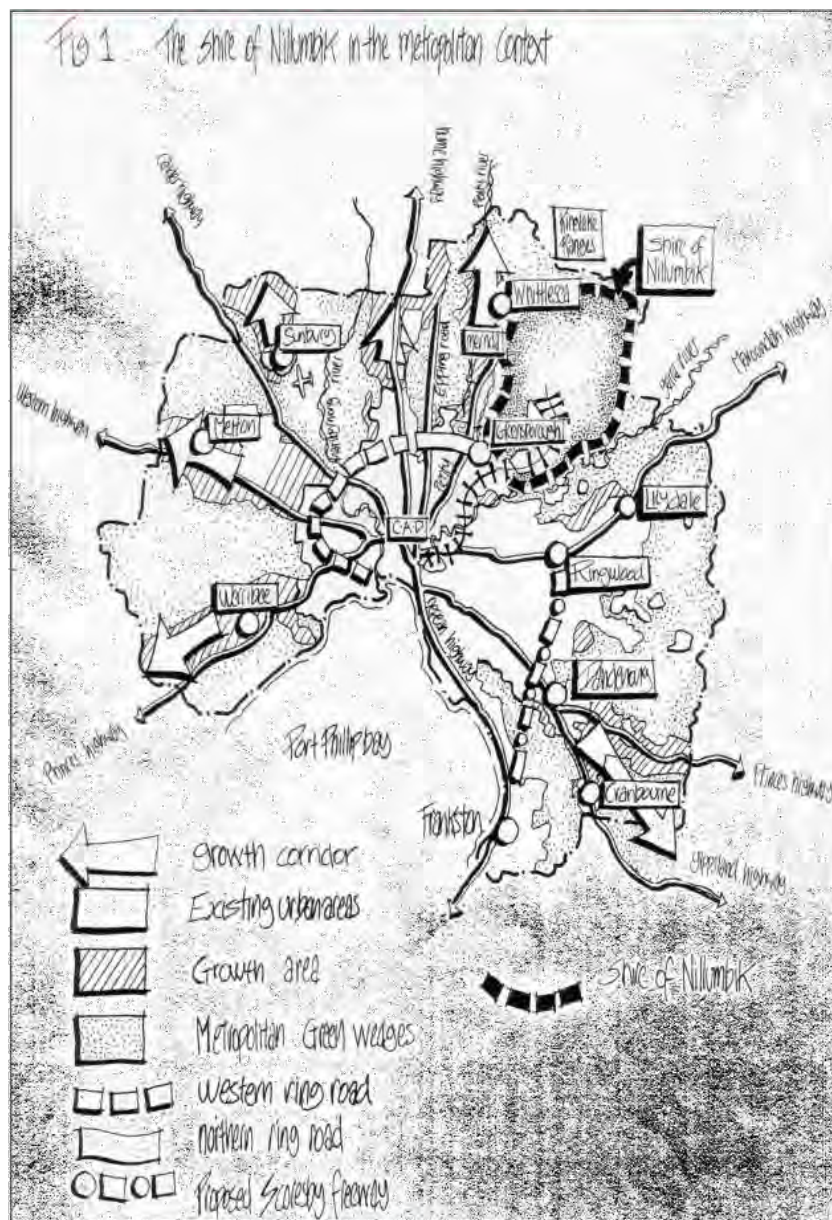
The Shire is generally bounded by the Plenty and Yarra Rivers and the Kinglake Ranges, which are of national and state environmental significance. [02.01] The Shire comprises a major part of the Plenty and Yarra River catchments, and land use activities in the Shire have the potential to create adverse effects in areas downstream. [02.03 enviro and landscape values] ~~Melbourne's metropolitan community expects environmental conditions in these catchments to be enhanced. [rule 9 - additional info not needed] [21.02]~~

~~Eltham and Diamond Creek have been identified as the Major Activity Centres in the Shire which provide for a range of commercial, entertainment and social activities for local and district catchments. [REP21.04.4] – Regional scale retail, commercial and entertainment facilities are provided in the Principal Activity Centres in Greensborough, Doncaster (Westfield) and Preston (Northland). [rule 1&9 – additional info; not a part of the Shire]~~ The Shire of Nillumbik is provided with a public transport link through the Melbourne metropolitan rail network links at Hurstbridge, Wattle Glen, Diamond Creek and Eltham to the north-eastern suburbs and central Melbourne. [02.01] The Shire of Nillumbik has good road access to the north and west of Melbourne, however the recent development of the Western Ring Road has lead to increased pressure on several arterial roads within the Shire. [02.03 transport] [21.02]

~~A number of tertiary education institutions, such as La Trobe University and RMIT University, are located nearby in adjoining municipalities. These institutions provide employment and further education opportunities for residents of the Shire. [21.02] [rule 1&9 - additional info not needed; not a part of the Shire]~~

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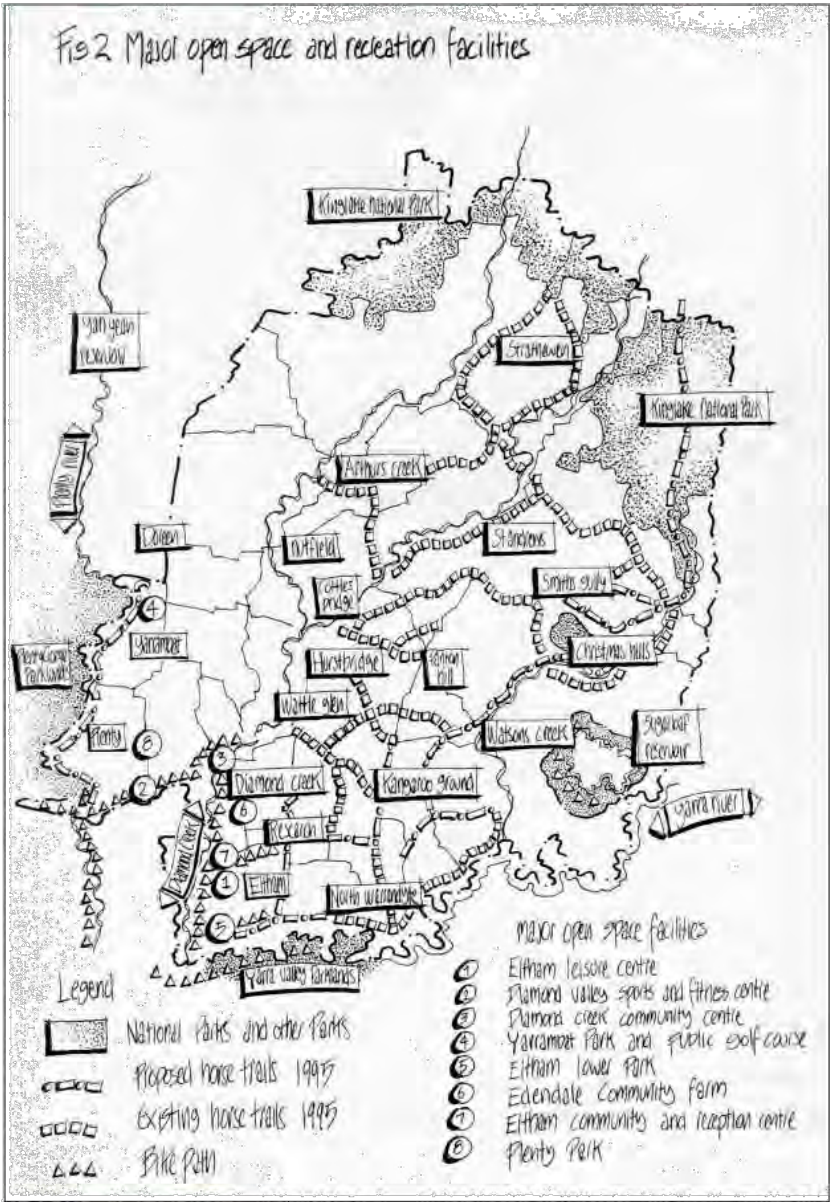
MAP 1 THE GREEN WEDGE IN THE METROPOLITAN CONTEXT



[21.02] map to be updated

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MAP 2 – MAJOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION FACILITIES



[21.02] map to be updated

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21.03 MUNICIPAL PROFILE & KEY INFLUENCES

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~~The Municipal Strategic Statement has been developed to address the key land use issues which face the Shire. Future land use and development planning decisions in the Shire need to be made in awareness of the needs of current and future populations and with an understanding of the environmental, social and economic influences that shape the Shire. [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~

~~The key characteristics of the municipality are referred to in the Municipal Strategic Statement under the following theme headings:- [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~

- ~~▪ Settlement & Housing [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~
- ~~▪ Rural Land Use [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~
- ~~▪ Environment, Conservation & Landscape [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~
- ~~▪ Economic Development [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~
- ~~▪ Infrastructure [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~

~~This section provides profiles under each theme heading and the resultant key influences. The objectives, strategies and implementation actions which respond to these issues follow, similarly under theme headings, in Clause 21.04. [21.03] rule 9 – not needed in PPF format~~

21.03- Settlement & Housing

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Settlement Pattern

~~The Shire of Nillumbik is part of the broader Yarra Valley, and prior to European settlement was home to Wurundjeri willam people of Woiworong language group for at least 30,000 – 40,000 years. [21.03-1] rule 9 – additional info~~

~~Non-Indigenous settlers arrived in what is now the Shire of Nillumbik in approximately 1837. Rural townships slowly developed until the 1850s when gold was found in the area. This led to prospecting activity and a significant increase in new settlements. Agricultural activity followed to supply the markets of Melbourne and the opening of the railway in the early 1900s led to sustainable townships. Most townships were located close to either a creek or river and the slow rate of development meant that urban development was largely limited until the 1950s, despite the existence of the railway and proximity of the area to metropolitan Melbourne. [21.03-1] rule 9 – additional info~~

~~Since 1971, non-urban breaks have been maintained between townships by planning policies and controls which help provide a sense of identity and community for each township. The effect of these policies has been to clearly identify the towns and to preserve the rural character of most of the Shire. The introduction of an Urban Growth Boundary in 2002 limited residential development in the areas outside of the urban areas. [rule 9 – additional info] These non-urban areas are the ‘green wedges’ and are areas of environmental and agricultural importance to both the Shire and the wider Melbourne Metropolitan area. [02.01] [21.03-1]~~

~~The Shire of Nillumbik includes the urban areas of Diamond Creek, Eltham, Plenty, Research, Wattle Glen, Hurstbridge and parts of Greensborough. Low-density residential development exists around both Eltham and Research, effectively forming a buffer to the rural areas. [02.01] The northern area of Plenty, as with Yarrambat further north, has a rural residential community, while North Warrandyte forms a well treed low-density residential area on the northern side of the Yarra River (the main township of Warrandyte is located within the adjoining City of Manningham). [02.01] [21.03-1]~~

~~Eltham and Diamond Creek are the Major Activity Centres and [REP 21.02] other centres are identified as Neighbourhood Activity Centres with different expectations for growth. [additional context] Within the non-urban areas, there are the townships of Pantom Hill and St Andrews and~~

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the much smaller rural communities of Arthurs Creek, Christmas Hills, Cottles Bridge, Doreen, Kangaroo Ground, Nutfield, Smiths Gully, Strathewen and Watsons Creek. [02.01] [21.03-1]

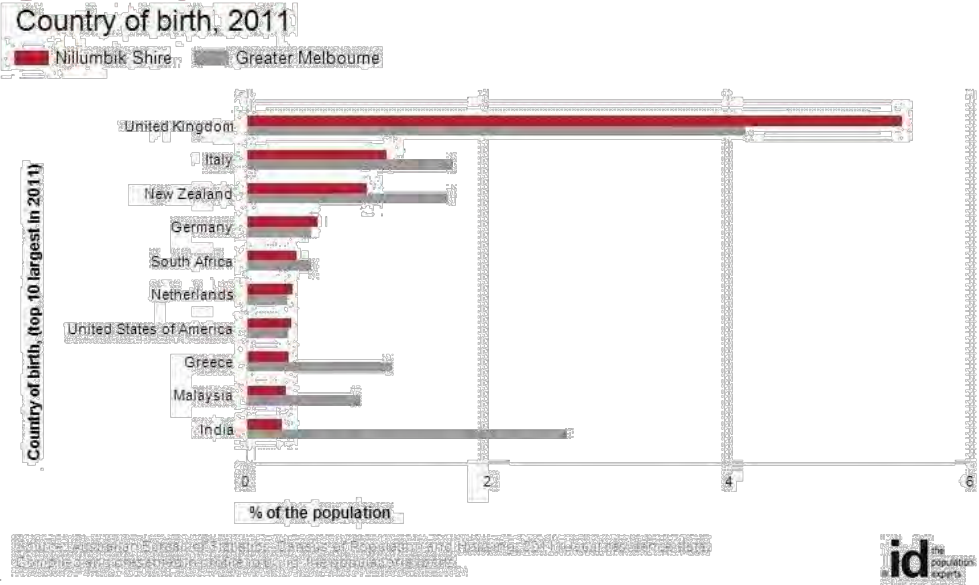
Population

~~The Shire of Nillumbik has a population of approximately 62,500 for the year 2012. [REP 21.02]~~
The Shire of Nillumbik’s population is not expected to increase substantially. [02.01] [21.03-1]

Cultural Diversity

~~Residents of the Shire of Nillumbik are relatively homogeneous with Australian born persons the dominant country of birth at 82% in 2011 compared to the metropolitan average of 63%. Figure 1 gives a breakdown of the ten top countries that the non-Australian born population comes from. Only 7 % of the population in 2011 were from non-English speaking backgrounds. [21.03-1] rule 9 unnecessary context~~

Figure 1: Country of Birth of Overseas Born Residents



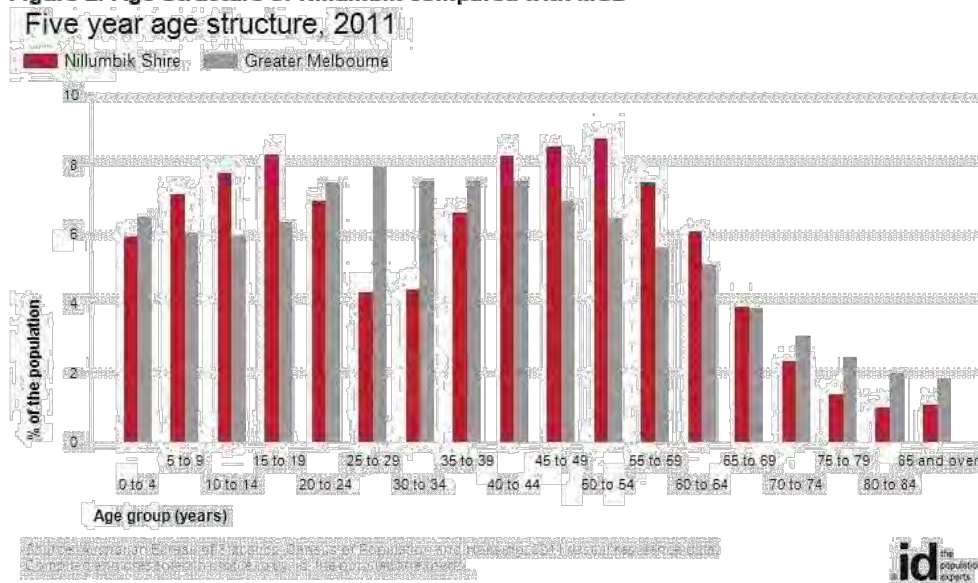
[21.03-1] rule 9 unnecessary context

Age Structure

~~The age structure of the population in the Shire of Nillumbik reflects that of many metropolitan fringe areas. People aged 5-25 years, and between 40 and 60 years form the largest age groups. Some 16% of people in the Shire are aged over 60 years compared with the neighbouring Councils (22% in Banyule and 15% in Whittlesea) and the MSD (18%). The overall population has aged since 1991 consistent with other parts of the metropolitan area, refer to Figure 2 following. [21.03-1] rule 9 unnecessary context~~

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Figure 2: Age Structure of Nillumbik compared with MSD



An Ageing Population

An overall ageing of the population for the municipality is expected as large numbers of people move up the age structure during the projected period. [21.03-1] 02.01

Although the age structure overall is younger than for the MSD, there are regional variations. The largest proportion of children aged 0–4 years are in Hurstbridge (7.0%), and Eltham East (7.0%) compared to the Nillumbik (5.9%) and MSD averages (6.5%). The largest proportion of school aged children (5–17) are in Edendale (24.1%), Eltham North (21.6%), Kangaroo Ground (21.6%) and Yarrambat (23.4%) compared with both the Nillumbik and MSD averages of 19.8% and 15.7% respectively. rule 9 unnecessary context The greatest proportion of people aged over 70 years live in Eltham Central (9.8%), Wattle Glen (8.2%) and Eltham South (8.1%) compared with the overall average for Nillumbik of 5.6% and the MSD average of 9.2%. [21.03-1] 02.01

A Changing Household Size with Implications for Dwelling Type

The average number of persons constituting a household in Nillumbik is expected to decline from 3.14 persons in 2011 to 3.01 by the year 2031 (DTPLI Victoria in Future 2012). However, it is agreed that Nillumbik will experience a reduction in household size due to an ageing of the population. [02.03 housing] A smaller household size has implications for the type of housing and services to be provided in the future to ensure residents have housing choice. [21.03-1]

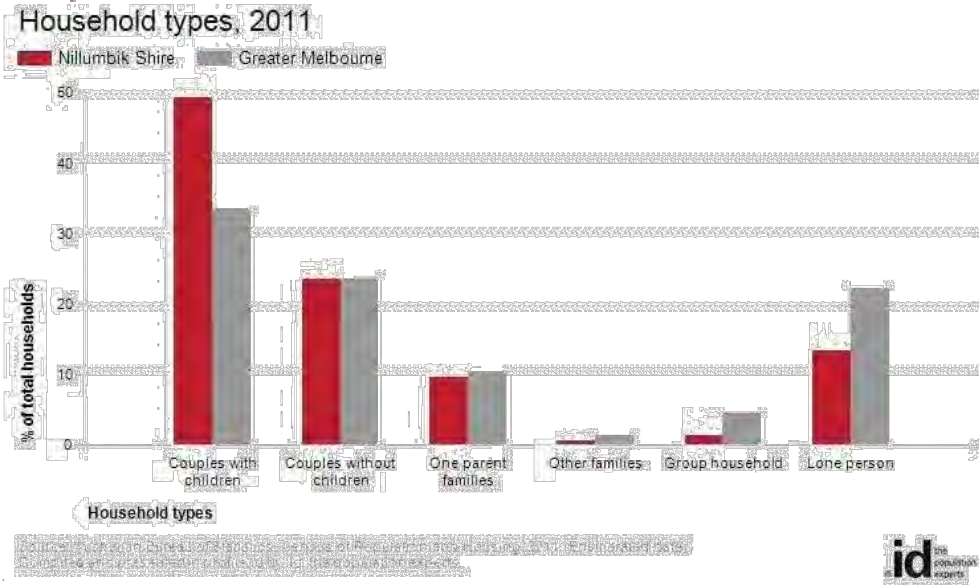
A key planning issue arising from these trends is that there is a lack of housing diversity and that the current predominant form of housing may not be suitable for all residents in the future, particularly as household size is decreasing and the age of residents is increasing. [02.03 housing] While the overall population is not expected to increase significantly over the next 20 years, the number of households and dwellings will increase by a more significant amount. This will drive demand for more housing and potentially a more diverse housing stock. [rule 9 additional context] [21.03-1]

Household Structure and Family Type

The household structure of the Shire of Nillumbik in 2011 was concentrated in traditional family household types with 60% of all households including a parent (or parents) and either dependent or non-dependent children. Refer to Figure 3 below for household types. [21.03-1] [rule 9 additional context]

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Figure 3: Household/family types in Nillumbik Shire compared to MSD[rule 9 additional context]



Housing Characteristics

Housing types in the municipality range from a scattering of early farm houses and cottages, to post-war homes in older suburban areas and townships, through to larger modern dwellings in more recent subdivisions. [additional context] While there may be no distinct building style, residential areas in the Shire are generally characterised by extensive indigenous tree canopies and bush streetscapes. [21.03-1] REP22.01

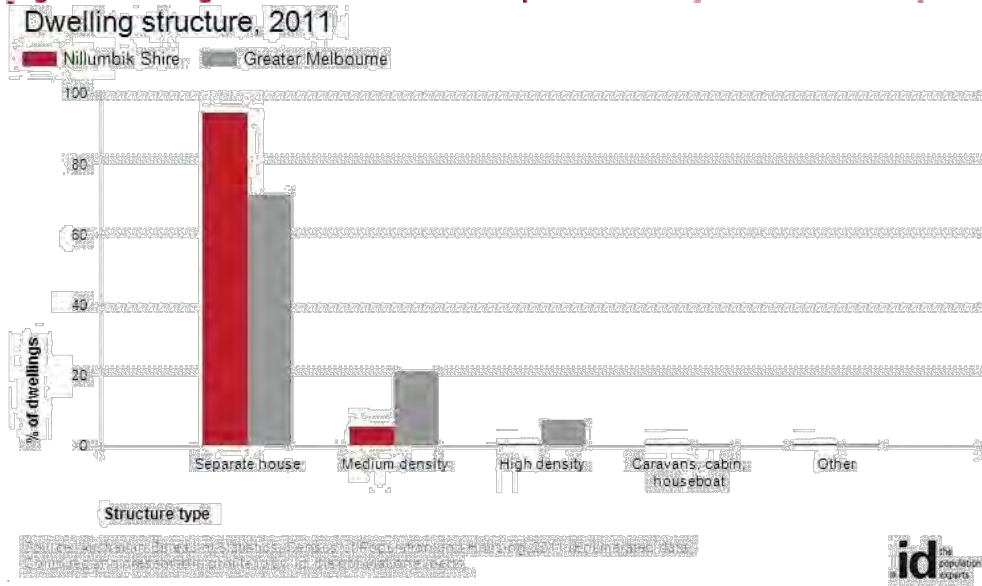
Most existing dwellings are of weatherboard or brick construction, although a strong tradition of adobe and mud-brick construction emerged from the artisans attracted to the area from the 1950s. Other building techniques such as rammed-earth and straw-bale construction provide continuing evidence of an interest in alternative construction materials in the municipality. These building types add character to the municipality and will be encouraged in the future, providing the scale of the development reflects the surroundings. [21.03-1] [02.03 built enviro]

Dwelling Types

There is a significant concentration of separate houses in the Shire of Nillumbik. The proportion of separate houses in the Shire of Nillumbik was significantly greater (95%) than for MSD (71%) in 2011. The share of flats and apartments was smaller in the Shire of Nillumbik in comparison with the MSD. [21.03-1] [rule 9 additional context]

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Figure 4: Dwelling Structure for Nillumbik compared with MSD [rule 9 additional context]



Accommodating Future Housing Needs

There is a clear framework in place at both the State and Local government policy levels for the location of future housing promoting urban consolidation, protection of green wedges and the provision of medium density housing within identified activity centres. [21.03-1] REP STATE PROVISIONS

Future housing demand in the region, including preferred housing locations, is likely to reflect historical patterns of movement. There continues to be a strong demand for housing within the municipality, including the desire to live in rural areas for lifestyle reasons. The ability of the Shire to meet projected demand for future housing will increasingly be constrained by the availability of land as the last remaining land parcels are developed. [21.03-1] additional info

Protecting and Enhancing Neighbourhood Character

Accommodating future housing needs inevitably will include provision of housing other than detached dwellings. This will occur in a sensitive manner which will not compromise neighbourhood character. This is to be achieved by ensuring that multi-unit housing will occur within a local policy context including stringent design guidelines, Significant Landscape Overlays and setting clear direction in respect to desired future character. [21.03-1] [REP 21.05-1 SD in 02.03 NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER AND 21.05-1 AND 21.03-1 SD IN 02.03-6 HOUSING]

Housing Affordability

House prices within the Shire of Nillumbik have risen substantially over recent years. In the last 5 years the median house price has increased from \$466,000 in 2008 to \$585,000 in 2013. (Melbourne median is \$569,000). Clear policies promoting the development of alternative housing types such as two-bedroom accommodation catering to small households can potentially provide more affordable housing in tune with State Government initiatives. [21.03-1] [rule 9 additional context]

Residential Supply and Demand

Victoria in Future 2012 projects that the estimated resident population of Nillumbik will increase from 64,219 people in 2011 to 72,238 people by 2031. This equates to an average annual increase of 0.6% between 2011 and 2031. The total number of households is projected to increase from

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~~20,391 households in 2011 to 23,812 households in 2031. This represents an increase of 3421 households over the 20 years from 2011 to 2031.~~ [21.03-1] ~~[rule 9 unnecessary state context]~~

Although there will be a small increase in accommodation for households in close proximity to the Activity Centres within the Shire, the key planning issue and challenge in the future will be to provide for a diverse range of dwellings within the Urban Growth Boundary while ensuring that the development is in keeping with the neighbourhood character of the locality. [21.03-1] 02.03 settlement

~~The realisation of lot yields will be affected by a number of constraints, including environmental values and characteristics, infrastructure servicing issues, willingness of land owners to develop, as well as the rate of take-up of land for medium density development.~~ [rule 9 additional context. Also rule 1 – some of these things aren't controlled by planning scheme] Areas identified as having further growth potential for residential subdivision in existing residential zones include: [21.03-1] 02.03 settlement

- Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres [21.03-1] 02.03 settlement
- Apollo Parkways [21.03-1] 02.03 settlement
- Land in the Diamond Creek North Area A Development Plan and Diamond Creek Area B Development Plan to the north and north-east of the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre;
- The Plenty Low Density Residential area. [21.03-1] 02.03 settlement and 74.01s

~~Undeveloped areas zoned for low density residential development in the Shire are in:~~ [21.03-1] REP LDRZ

- Yarrambat (1-2 ha lots), [21.03-1] 12.01-1L
- Plenty - generally between Kurraik Road and River Avenue (0.4 ha lots). [21.03-1] 12.01-1L

The proximity of the Plenty River to these areas means careful consideration of potential development is required based on existing environmental values. The facilitation of drainage and sewerage in these areas is an important consideration. 02.03 enviro landscapes and values ~~This is addressed in the Infrastructure section (21.03-5).~~ [21.03-1]

Influences

~~With respect to settlement and housing issues in the Shire of Nillumbik, the following influences must be considered:~~ [21.03-1]

- ~~The Urban Growth Boundary and the increased role for activity centres.~~ [21.03-1] rule 9 – policy guidance unclear

- There is a need to diversify housing stock to accommodate an ageing population and changes in household types and size. [21.03-1] 02.03 housing

~~The high presence of traditional nuclear families (49% of all households which is almost 16% higher than the Melbourne metropolitan average) supports traditional dwellings in urban areas of the Shire.~~ [21.03-1] rule 9 – policy guidance unclear

- ~~There is ongoing pressure for further urban development given the proximity of the municipality to central Melbourne and the Whittlesea growth corridor, and improved road access provided by the Western Ring Road.~~ [21.03-1] additional context
- ~~There is a need to address environmental constraints in the siting, design and construction of new dwellings in a way that responds to local characteristics, REP 15.01-1S AND 15.01-2S including the maintenance of the bushland character of many residential areas which are highly valued by the local community [REP 22.01] and the appropriate and sustainable management of stormwater throughout the municipality.~~ [21.03-1] REP 21.03-3

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Rural Land Use

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Early Development and Subdivision

~~In the late 1830s and early 1840s, the first Europeans to occupy small portions of land on the edges of the Shire of Nillumbik were squatters. Pastoral leases over most of the Shire of Nillumbik were claimed during the 1840s and 1850s, while some portions were purchased as freehold land. From the 1860s, selectors began to take up small and medium-sized blocks across the Shire, beginning with areas around the gold centres of Diamond Creek, Panton Hill and St Andrews. Under the Land Acts of the 1860s, selectors were able to purchase small holdings on the proviso that they improved them by clearing, fencing and building. Some aspects of the Land Acts specifically related to the gold-mining areas and allowed the sale of 8 hectare (20-acre) blocks. The more remote areas were not surveyed and settled until the end of the nineteenth century. [21.03-2]~~

~~The subdivision minimum permitted in some of these non-urban areas has remained at eight hectares since 1971 when 'Landscape Interest' controls were introduced through an amendment to the then Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Scheme. At the time these minimums were introduced, it was recognised that many lots were already below eight hectares in area. It was determined, however, that further subdivision would compromise the environmental and landscape values in the non-urban areas. The subdivision minimum permitted in the farming areas in the north and north-west and the conservation areas around Kinglake National Park, Christmas Hills and Watsons Creek has remained at forty hectares since 1971. [21.03-2]~~

~~Urban areas in the Shire took shape through a range of speculative subdivisions from the 1920s in areas such as north and central Eltham, followed by conventional subdivision and development from the 1960s to the present day. [21.03-2]~~

~~This pattern of development has been reinforced by the introduction of an Urban Growth Boundary to contain sprawl and minimise the extension of the current urban areas. The urban area occupies less than 10% of the Shire's total area, therefore confirming that the majority of the land area in the Shire is contained within the Green Wedge. [21.03-2]~~

~~Within the Plenty Valley, rural residential-sized lots were possible following the introduction of the Plenty Valley Strategic Plan in the early 1990s. In addition, larger lots (approximately two hectares) are located along the Plenty River fringe to provide a transition area between the conservation areas of the Plenty Gorge and adjacent residential areas to the east. [21.03-2]~~

ADDITIONAL CONTEXT

Agriculture

While much of the geographic area of the Shire is rural, there are only a handful of large scale agricultural enterprises. The majority of the Shire's rural areas have thin, highly dispersive soils with low fertility that are subject to erosion. This makes much of the Shire unsuitable for traditional agricultural use. However the Shire does experience relatively high and reliable rainfall and a long growing season. As a consequence, areas with gentle to moderate slopes (below 20%) are generally of average agricultural quality and much of the Shire has maintained its vegetation cover and resulting environmental values. [21.03-2] 02.03 natural resource management

Broad-scale agricultural enterprises are mostly concentrated to the north-west of the Shire around Arthurs Creek, Doreen and parts of Strathewen where enterprises run on larger land holdings. Very high quality agricultural land exists at Kangaroo Ground and Arthurs Creek. Small agricultural enterprises are prevalent in many rural areas of the Shire. [21.03-2] 02.03 natural resource management

~~In 2001, there were 119 farming enterprises in the Shire (Neil Clarke & Associates December 2005). 83 enterprises (69%) were classified as Part-time with enterprise turnover less than \$50,000. There were 12 enterprises (10%) with enterprise turnover greater than \$200,000. In 2001, most of these commercially viable enterprises derived their income from sheep, beef, poultry and egg production, followed by grape growing. The main horticultural crops, excluding grape growing, are tomatoes, apples, pears and nurseries. [21.03-2] additional context – rule 9~~

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Many areas in the Shire are significant for agricultural purposes, such as grazing or viticulture, as well as contributing to the significant landscape qualities that characterise the Shire. It may also be possible to expand the production of 'high value' agricultural commodities already well suited to the area. [21.03-2] 02.03 natural resource management

~~Various opportunities exist for land use within the region, particularly due to the Shire's suitable rainfall and high ability to change between different agricultural industries (Land Capability Study, 25 February 1998).~~ The Shire's close proximity to Melbourne poses various problems for the region, including an increased influx of tourists and the continual pressures of urbanisation upon the environment. An issue facing many farmers is the inability to achieve economies of scale, because of the high cost of land in the Shire. The principle pressures include the increasing land value and hence rising rates, as well as the changing nature of the rural community. [02.03 natural resource management] ~~It is important that all agricultural areas are retained for continued agricultural use and~~ [REP21.05-2] that fragmentation of rural land by inappropriate subdivision [02.03 settlement] ~~and residential development is not supported.~~ [REP21.05-2] Property owners are encouraged to consolidate land into larger lots to promote more viable agricultural pursuits and activities. [14.01-11] [21.03-2]

Rural Lifestyle

~~The Shire of Nillumbik has a rural population of approximately 11,250 (2011). Apart from broad-scale agricultural areas concentrated in the north-west of the Shire, rural land consists of rural residences set in a natural environment interspersed with small-scale agricultural farms. Much of this rural area is highly valued by residents and visitors for its strategic environmental and landscape qualities.~~ [21.03-2] [additional context]

As a consequence, residential settlement in these areas is usually based on an appreciation of the bush and often a willingness to revegetate previously cleared areas. With an undulating topography, there is also the attraction of distant views (including ranges, valleys and central and metropolitan Melbourne). [02.03 housing] ~~The desire to obtain a view by the siting of any building on ridge lines and/or the removal of trees is not supported.~~ [REP22.04] [21.03-2]

Extensive areas of native vegetation, water courses and undulating terrain are the main features which contribute to the extensive habitat links and the landscape identity of the Shire (Map 3). [split 02.03 enviro and landscape values] ~~These features are referred to in greater detail in the following section.~~ Additional residential development in the rural areas is discouraged due to the lack of services and facilities available and the potential for subdivision and development to fragment rural land into unviable land parcels. [21.03-2] [02.03 housing]

A large part of the rural areas in the Shire rely on all-purpose effluent disposal systems as sewer is unavailable. Irrespective of other considerations, a number of existing rural lots in the Shire are unsuitable for residential development as effluent generated on site cannot be contained on-site. These lots will need to be consolidated to create larger lots capable of containing effluent on site. [21.03-2] [02.03 infrastructure]

~~The Green Wedge Management Plan identifies rural land use and capability and provides guidance in developing a sustainable direction for the non-urban areas of the municipality. The study considers major rural issues including the role of agriculture, conservation, rural living and related tourism opportunities in the Shire.~~ [21.03-2]

Mining

~~From the 1850s, several gold mines have operated in rural areas which now form part of the Shire of Nillumbik. These areas include the Plenty/Yarrrambat corridor, Diamond Creek, Kangaroo Ground, Panten Hill and St Andrews. In most instances mines were operated without environmental precautions.~~ As a result some of these areas contain soil which is potentially contaminated through concentrations of arsenic and possibly cyanide and mercury (Sinclair Knight Merz 1998). [21.03-2] [02.03 enviro risk]

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~~A resurgence in mining activity is not expected in the Shire and support would be unlikely given the broad range of environmental values which are now attributed in the municipality. [21.03-2]~~

Influences

~~With respect to rural land use issues in the Shire of Nillumbik, the following influences must be considered:- [21.03-2]~~

- The Plenty/Yarrambat corridor area has ongoing pressure for low-density residential development. This area is also known for prior gold mining activity. Investigations and environmental audits, where appropriate, will ensure new sensitive development does not occur on land which contains unacceptable levels of soil contamination, unless property owners undertake appropriate remedial works. [21.03-2] [02.03 enviro risk]
- Agricultural land should be protected for both its productive potential and environmental value. [02.03 natural resource management] ~~Land currently used for agriculture or hobby farming should be retained and further subdivision and the development of dwellings should not be permitted. [REP21.05-2 AND 21.03-2]~~ Farm scale, particularly the broad-acre farming areas in the north-west of the Shire, should be strengthened and consolidation of properties to larger more viable farming lots encouraged. [14.01-1L] ~~In establishing agricultural uses, significant areas of natural bushland within the Shire of Nillumbik were cleared. Existing agricultural areas in the Shire are supported while the retention of existing native vegetation in the Shire is equally supported. The clearing of native vegetation for any use, including agriculture, is generally not supported and is guided by the Native Vegetation Framework, Clause 52.17. [REP21.05-3]~~ Conflict may occur between agricultural pursuits, rural living and other uses within rural areas of the Shire. [02.03-4] While many uses and associated developments are allowed in rural areas, new uses must be planned so as to maintain the quality and quantity of natural resources, support the sustainable management of natural systems and support 'best practice' agriculture. [02.03-4 SD] Similarly, subdivision and the development of additional dwellings should not challenge the integrity of the natural environment, disrupt the landscape or the productiveness of agricultural land. [02.03-6 SD merge] [21.03-2]
- ~~The location and design of buildings is very important in influencing the landscape of rural areas. The preservation of landscapes is best achieved by restricting the numbers and presence of buildings in rural areas. Endeavours by private land owners to take advantage of views (usually by building in prominent locations) are often at odds with landscape qualities. The rural landscape in the Shire is highly valued and the siting of buildings on ridgelines and/or removal of trees is not supported. [21.03-2] REP22.04~~
- ~~There are vacant rural lots in the Shire which are unable to contain all effluent generated from a typical residential use. The residential development of such lots would be inappropriate due to the escape of effluent into other lots and watercourses, as well as non-compliance with the Environment Protection Act 1970 and State Environment Protection Policies. REP21.03-2 The consolidation of these lots with adjoining lots is encouraged REP21.05-2. [21.03-2]~~
- ~~The protection of significant landscapes and vistas in the rural areas will be identified as an outcome from the Green Wedge Management Plan. [21.03-2] REP 21.05-2 SD IN 02.03-2~~
- ~~Earthworks and other works in rural areas, including vegetation removal, have the potential to detrimentally impact on stormwater quality. Development, building and earth works should all be conducted in a manner that seeks to minimise such detrimental impacts. [21.03-2] REP21.05-3 SD IN 02.03-3~~
- ~~In locations where soil contamination has been identified, soil audits will be required to ensure that the land is no longer contaminated, prior to further development being permitted to occur on the land. [REP21.03-2] The bush environment means that much of the Shire is high bushfire hazard as recognised by the application of the Bushfire Management Overlay. Development in these areas needs to minimise the risk to life and property. [21.03-2] REP 22.13 AND 13.02-1S~~

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4). Further north, the country becomes steeper and is described as upland hills where ridgelines exceed 200 metres in elevation. [02.03 landscapes] ~~The northern boundary of the Shire comprises mountainous terrain which forms the Kinglake Ranges of the Great Dividing Range with elevations typically in excess of 400 metres. additional context~~ [21.03-3]

Climate

~~Elevation and topography significantly influence the Shire's climate. Temperature generally falls and rainfall increases towards the more elevated parts of the Shire. Annual average rainfall ranges from about 800 mm in the south up to 1400 mm in the Kinglake Ranges. The Shire has a typical winter rainfall incidence and average maximum daily temperatures range from 25 degrees in January through to 10 degrees in June. [21.03-3] additional context~~

Catchments and Water Quality

The Shire of Nillumbik is situated in the Yarra Catchment and includes the sub-catchments of Arthurs Creek, Diamond Creek, Watsons Creek and the Plenty River (Map 4). [02.03 enviro & landscapes] ~~The Yarra catchment is overseen by the Port Phillip and Westemport Catchment Management Authority.~~ The condition of rivers and tributaries in the Shire ranges from excellent in the forested northern part of the Shire to poor in the urban areas. Decline in water quality is also associated with unsustainable land management practices, excessive vegetation clearance, unrestricted stock access to streambanks and low flow rates associated with the proliferation of private dams and drought. [21.03-3]). [02.03 enviro & landscapes]

~~Under the Water Act 1989, Melbourne Water has developed a Streamflow Management Plan for the Diamond Creek and Plenty River Catchment. This management plan does not permit a person to operate an aesthetic dam if the replenishment of evaporation from that dam will cause predetermined limits on water that are set for the catchment to be exceeded. [21.03-3] not controlled under P&E Act – rule 1~~

Development throughout the municipality has the potential to affect stormwater quality. [02.03 enviro & landscapes] ~~Urban development in particular is characterised by extensive areas that have been compacted, paved or covered (eg roads, car parking areas and building roofs). As these surfaces prevent rainfall from being absorbed into the ground, they result in higher volumes of stormwater run-off during rainfall events. [02.03 enviro & landscapes] Together with run-off from disturbed land, these factors change the rate of run-off and the character and quality of run-off into the Shire's rivers and streams. The pollutant sources may include construction debris and surplus soil on building sites and road reserves, run-off from unmade roads, seepage from underperforming septic systems and disposal of domestic grey water to stormwater from sites not connected to sewer.~~ The cumulative effect of these pollutants can result in considerable damage to the environmental quality of the Shire's waterways. [02.03 enviro & landscapes] The ongoing and sustainable management of stormwater in accordance with best practice principles is a priority for the Shire. [21.03-3] [02.03 enviro & landscapes]

Land Systems and Land Capability

~~The majority of the Shire, as indicated by the occurring land systems identified by McGrath (1999), has thin, highly dispersive soils with low fertility that are subject to erosion. Other common soil limitations include compaction, leaching of nutrients, waterlogging and the potential for soil salinity. As a result of these various natural constraints, the capability of much of the Shire for agricultural purposes is average. However there is relatively high and reliable rainfall in the Shire and a long growing season. There are some areas of deeper, better structured soils, most notably the volcanic soils at Kangaroo Ground and alluvial plains along Arthurs Creek which are of higher agricultural quality. [21.03-3] REP21.03-2~~

Environmental Significance

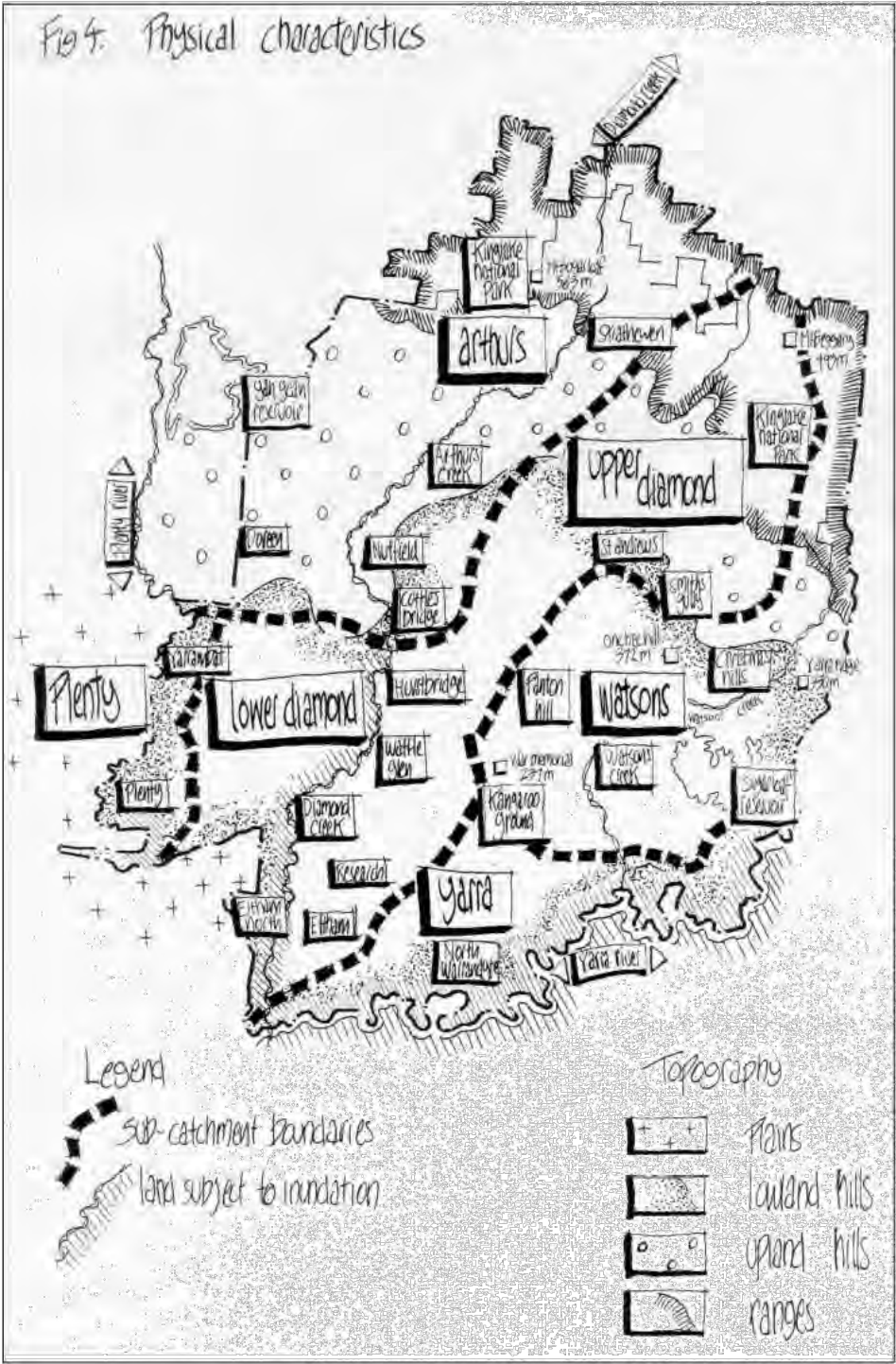
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Native Flora and Fauna

Much of the Shire remains heavily vegetated, particularly in the non-urban undulating regions and along the major rivers and creeks. [02.01] Map 5, following, shows the extent of remnant vegetation in the Shire. ~~The Department of Environment and Primary Industry has developed a comprehensive listing of ecological vegetation classes (EVC) that covers the entire state. This work is being progressively refined as flora and fauna surveys are performed or reviewed. Numerous EVC types have been identified in Nillumbik and the types which have the greatest coverage in Nillumbik are the Grassy Dry Forest (32%), Herb-rich Foothill Forest (191%) and the Valley Grassy Forest (16%). Three types – Creekline Herb-rich Woodland, Plains Grassy Woodland and Swampy [21.03-3] additional context~~
~~Riparian Complex – are considered to be endangered, and three types – Box Ironbark Forest, the Cool Temperate Rainforest, Gully Woodland, Riparian Forest – are regarded as vulnerable. [21.03-3] additional context~~

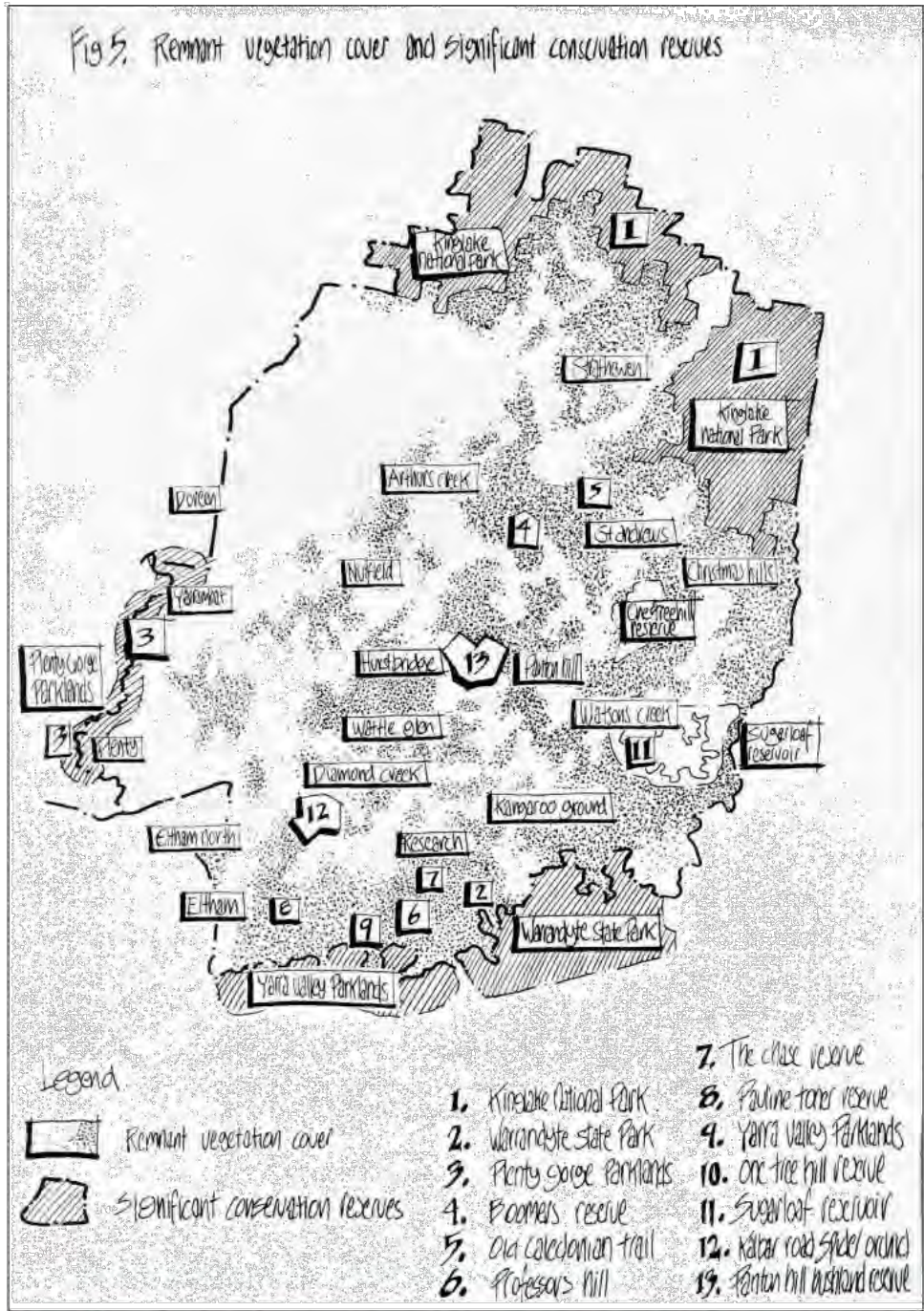
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Map 4 - Physical Characteristics



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Map 5 - Remnant Vegetation Cover and Significant Conservation Reserves



Of the 342 native faunal species recorded in Nillumbik, 63 are listed significant species including the distinctive Brush-tailed Phascogale, the Lace Monitor and the Common Dunnart. In relation to native flora, there are over 1000 species, 64 of which are listed significant species and many of these are delicate terrestrial orchids including some not found anywhere else. [21.03-3] additional context

Although conservation publicly owned land plays an important role in protecting biodiversity including specific vegetation communities, there is also significant remnant vegetation which occurs on privately owned land. In locations where high environmental values occur on private

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land, there is a need to ensure appropriate planning controls apply to protect the biodiversity values. [02.03 enviro & landscapes] ~~In addition, land stewardship programs, such as Trust for Nature Covenants, should also be encouraged to ensure these areas are appropriately managed.~~ [21.03-3] REP21.05-3

Environmental Weeds

~~Weeds are a major problem within the Shire with ecological, economic and social impacts. Most weeds originated from overseas, for example Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*) originated from Europe and Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) from South Africa. Other weeds are native to Australia but are not indigenous to the area. For example the Cootamundra Wattle (*Acacia baileyana*) indigenous to New South Wales and originally grown as a popular garden plant, is now a serious invasive weed of bushland areas within the Shire. There are many environmental weeds threatening natural ecosystems within the Shire, some include Angled Onion (*Allium triquetrum*), Wild Watsonia (*Watsonia meriana*), Sweet Pittosporum (*Pittosporum undulatum*), Crack Willow (*Salix fragilis*), Bridal Creeper (*Myrsiphyllum asparagoides*) Spanish Heath (*Erica lusitanica*) Cape Broom (*Genista monspessulana*) and Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*). Major agricultural weeds threatening agricultural productivity in the Shire include Paterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*), Capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), Serrated Tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) and Chilean Needle Grass (*Nassella neesiana*). [21.03-3] additional context – also REP of incorp doc 'Environmental weed list'~~

~~Weeds impact on environments by competing for light, nutrients, water, space and pollinators with desired plants. In natural ecosystems, biodiversity is reduced when weeds flourish at the expense of indigenous plants. The decline in indigenous plants leads to a reduction in the amount of food available for native wildlife. Weeds, notably those plants most at risk to threatening the biodiversity of native flora in the Shire, have been identified in the Shire of Nillumbik Environmental Weed List 2009, which is an incorporated document to the planning scheme. Council has prepared a Weed Action Plan which aims to provide more effective weed management throughout the Shire on both public and private land. [21.03-3] additional context – also REP of incorp doc 'Environmental weed list'~~

Pest Animals

~~Major pest animals within the Shire include the European rabbit, Red Fox, deer, goat and feral cat. Predation of native wildlife by the cat and fox have been identified as potential threatening processes under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act. At most risk are native birds such as the Superb Lyrebird (*Menura novaehollandiae*) and small native mammals including the threatened Brush-tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa*). Rabbits are a major environmental and agricultural problem across the Shire contributing to significant erosion problems particularly on streambanks. Rabbits also severely impact on natural regeneration of bushland and significantly reduce flora diversity. Rabbits are also responsible for reducing pasture productivity and impact on horticultural enterprises including viticulture. [21.03-3] additional context~~

Sites of Environmental Significance

~~All areas supporting native flora and fauna are environmentally significant, however there are specific locations in the Shire occurring on both private and public land that have been identified as particularly important. Figure 3 shows the national, state and regional environmentally significant areas and strategic habitat links within the Shire. [02.03 enviro and landscape values] Identification, protection and enhancement of the environmentally significant sites and strengthening of the connecting habitat links will assist the maintenance of biodiversity within the Shire and surrounding areas. [REP21.05-3] Major environmental features within the Shire are: [21.03-3]~~

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- ~~Major public reserves including Kinglake National Park, Plenty Gorge Park, Warrandyte State Park and Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System.~~ [21.03-3] [REP PLAN]
- ~~All of the major watercourses (notably Yarra River, Plenty River, Diamond Creek, Arthurs Creek and Watsons Creek).~~ [21.03-3] [REP PLAN]
- ~~Habitat links along the major watercourses.~~ [21.03-3] [REP PLAN]
- ~~The strategic habitat link connecting Kinglake National Park to Warrandyte State Park.~~ [21.03-3] [REP PLAN]
- ~~The east-west habitat links connecting the Plenty River, Diamond Creek and Yarra River.~~ [21.03-3] [REP PLAN]

~~In excess of 100km of significant roadside vegetation in the Shire.~~ [21.03-3] [REP 22.06]

~~Many community-based environmental groups, including Landcare and 'Friends Of' groups are actively involved in the protection and enhancement of the environment throughout the Shire. Groups are involved in a range of environmental projects occurring on public and private land. Projects involve revegetation of degraded areas, protection of remnant vegetation, weed and vermin control, education programs and participation in a water quality testing program known as Waterwatch.~~ [21.03-3] rule 1 – not controlled through planning scheme

Landscape

The Shire of Nillumbik has high landscape value and plays a regional role for metropolitan Melbourne as an accessible area of natural landscape beauty. [02.01] The rural areas provide vistas of agricultural land, treed bushland, hills and watercourses with minimal urban intrusion. [02.03 enviro and landscape values] In the urban areas spacious development of buildings has allowed the retention and regeneration of tree canopies and vistas that are not dominated by buildings. [02.03 built enviro] Indigenous vegetation is predominant in landscapes throughout the Shire. [02.03 enviro and landscape values] [21.03-3]

The integrity of streetscapes and natural landscapes in the Shire is threatened by some new uses and developments which do not respond to the local characteristics of areas. In urban areas, streetscapes generally consist of single dwellings on conventional lots with ample opportunities for canopy trees. [02.03 built enviro] ~~Recent developments (particularly medium density housing) provide mixed results in their impact or enhancement of streetscapes (especially in relation to set-backs, designs, landscaping and prominence).~~ [REP22.01] ~~Council's Neighbourhood Character Policy addresses this by implementing the findings of the Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study 2000 that identifies the key existing characteristics and preferred future character of the Shire's residential areas. It provides design guidance to ensure that development and, where relevant, works, respond to the preferred neighbourhood character of residential areas.~~ [additional info] [21.03-3]

In rural areas, dwellings on hill-tops and along ridge-lines take advantage of distant views but (together with associated out-buildings) compromise the natural landscape qualities of rural areas. The presence of multiple buildings and other structures (such as signs, telecommunication poles and power lines) can also be to the detriment of rural landscapes. The use of reflective materials in buildings can be a significant detractor in the rural landscape. [21.03-3] [02.03 enviro and landscape values]

The Eltham Gateway (located along Main Road, from Eltham Lower Park to the Eltham Major Activity Centre) was identified in 1987 and reconfirmed in 2011 as a significant landscape area for its role as the entrance to the Eltham Major Activity Centre. [02.03 settlement] ~~The Gateway contains a diversity of native vegetation species and an avenue of exotic vegetation, as well as a number of historic buildings and extensive community facilities. The Main Road entrance to Eltham from Kangaroo Ground also provides a significant visual entrance to the township.~~ [REP22.10] [21.03-3]

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Heritage

Aboriginal Heritage

~~Prior to European arrival, the Shire was occupied by the Wurundjeri willam clan of the Woiworung-speaking people. Available evidence suggests that indigenous Australians could be the longest surviving living culture in the world and that the Yarra Valley has been populated for at least 30,000 – 40,000 years. In this time there has been climatic changes, volcanic activity, reformation of the land, flora and fauna changes, rising sea levels and separation of Tasmania from the Australian mainland. The Wurundjeri willam people survived all this, adapting successfully to the changing conditions, living seasonally with the land in mobile clans, developing their own environmental management practices, complex social systems and spiritual beliefs – a way of life that developed over tens of thousands of years.~~ [additional context] [21.03-3]

~~The arrival of Europeans in the Port Phillip region in the 1830s had a significant impact on the Woiworung population. As the land in this region was taken over for farming and later for mining, traditional hunting and fishing grounds disappeared, sacred and significant sites were destroyed, lost or entry forbidden. Within two years of settlement Wurundjeri people were being forced off their traditional lands into reserves and missions to become ‘civilised’ and ‘productive’ workers in primary production enterprises.~~ [21.03-3] [additional context]

~~All Aboriginal sites in Victoria are protected by the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. All known places of Aboriginal Cultural Significance are registered by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. In addition, the SPPF and Council’s MSS commit Council to identifying, conserving and protecting places of Aboriginal heritage in the Shire. The locations of known places are not publicised as an active measure to ensure their protection.~~ [21.03-3] [additional context]

Non-indigenous Cultural Heritage

~~The first Europeans settled into the area during the 1830s, but it wasn’t until the discovery of gold in the 1850s that the population in the area began to grow. Throughout the 1850s and into the 1860s the settlements of Diamond Creek, Kangaroo Ground, Panten Hill (originally named Kingstown), Plenty, Research (originally named Swipers Gully), St Andrews (originally named Caledonia Diggings, then Queenstown), and Smiths Gully were established. Alluvial gold ran out quickly but quartz mining continued well into the twentieth century, and two mining leases exist in the Shire today.~~ [additional context] ~~A range of gold mining related historic sites have survived including mines, alluvial remains, tailings and a battery.~~ [02.03 built enviro] ~~Many of the disused mines are now important roosting sites for a range of bat species including the threatened Common Bent-wing Bat.~~ [additional context] [21.03-3]

~~Through the discovery of gold and the resultant increase in population, extensive land subdivision and vegetation clearance occurred. Agricultural activities began to expand, especially the establishment of orchards. By 1900, orchards covered much of the west of the Shire from Diamond Creek up to Strathewen in the north. Other agricultural pursuits included sheep and cattle farming in the north and east of the Shire and also a thriving agricultural settlement based around Kangaroo Ground.~~ [additional context] ~~Many historic original farm houses, bridges, and other features remain today.~~ [02.03 built enviro] [21.03-3]

~~With the arrival of the railway around the turn of the century, settlements within the Shire became more accessible.~~ [additional context] ~~Many artists, architects and environmentalists attracted by the area’s landscape and natural environment settled in locations such as Eltham, North Warrandyte and Kangaroo Ground. Today, the Shire is well known for its ‘environmental buildings’ such as the Montsalvat Artists’ Colony in Eltham and mud-brick dwellings designed and built by local identities Justus Jørgensen, John Harcourt and Alistair Knox.~~ [02.03 built enviro] [21.03-3]

Conservation Open Space

The Shire of Nillumbik contains extensive areas of open space for the purposes of conservation.

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These areas are mainly connected to the major river and creek systems. ~~02.03 open space Sites include the Plenty Gorge Park, Sugarloaf Reservoir Park, One Tree Hill Reserve, Kinglake National Park and the network of parks along the Yarra Valley including Warrandyte State Park. [21.03-3]~~

~~Most of the major parks in the region are managed by Parks Victoria (a State Government Agency). [21.03-3]~~

~~There are also significant areas managed by Nillumbik Shire Council including the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System, Professors Hill and The Chase Reserve in North Warrandyte. The Council also manages wetlands and riparian parkland along the Diamond and Watsons Creeks and several significant urban reserves including Eltham Copper Butterfly Reserves and the Kalbar Road Spider Orchid Reserve. Map 5 identifies significant conservation reserves within the Shire. [21.03-3]~~

~~The Nillumbik Open Space Strategy, November 2005 comprises a comprehensive inventory of public open space in Nillumbik and provides strategies for future use and enhancement. [21.03-3]~~

Environmental Hazards

Fire Risk

~~Due to the combination of extensive vegetation cover, the orientation of steep sloping land, and prevailing winds, much of the Shire's non-urban and urban areas are prone to high fire risk. This is evidenced by major fires occurring in 1939, 1962, 1969, 1981, 1991 and 2009 (Black Saturday). The Department of Transport Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI) has prepared Bushfire Management Overlays that identify those areas where particular precautions need to be taken in the design of subdivisions and buildings, and the ongoing management of land. [21.03-3] REP 22.13~~

Flooding

~~Some areas of the Shire are liable to inundation from 'overland flow', 'sheet flooding', or a 'one in one hundred year flood'. Most of these areas are located along the Diamond Creek from Hurstbridge to Eltham, along the Yarra River from Kangaroo Ground to Eltham and the Plenty River at Plenty. [02.03 enviro risks and amenity] [21.03-3]~~

~~Passage and storage of floodwaters, flood-related damage and protection of water quality are important issues. The increase of sealed and impervious surfaces, especially in the urban areas has increased the risk of flash flooding problems. [21.03-3] REP21.03-3 above~~

Unstable Land and Erosion

The Shire is not subject to significant landslide activity except where new development alters the conditions of sites on steeper slopes. Soils associated with the weathering of the Silurian rocks (ie. most of the soils in the Shire) are 'dispersive' and very susceptible to sheet or rill erosion on slopes and gully erosion in drainage lines. Soils in the vicinity of Kangaroo Ground are derived from weathering of basalt and have a high shrink-swell potential that can result in foundation movement and hence damage to structures and disruption to services. [21.03-3] [02.03 enviro risks and amenity]

Salinity

Low lying areas of the Shire are prone to dryland salinity particularly in areas that have been extensively cleared. ~~Without vegetation that would normally utilise surface and groundwater, watertables rise and mobilise salts to the upper soil horizons.~~ The retention of vegetation and revegetation of recharge areas will be critical in avoiding salinity related problems. [21.03-3] [02.03 enviro risks and amenity]

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Influences

~~With respect to environmental issues in the Shire of Nillumbik, the following influences must be considered: [21.03-3]~~

- ~~■ Although comparatively rich in native flora and fauna there are a number of key environment threatening processes that are occurring within the Shire. Five major threats have been identified (Beardsell 1997): [21.03-3] [these are covered across the MPS]~~
 - ~~- Habitat destruction, modification and fragmentation mainly through land clearing and other processes such as dieback. [21.03-3] REP21.05-3~~
 - ~~- Water quality decline as a result of pollution, soil erosion, reduced flow rates and poor catchment management. [21.03-3] REP21.03-3~~
 - ~~- Urban/human disturbance, particularly the impact of residential development, recreational activities and fire. [21.03-3] REP STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS THROUGHOUT MPS~~
 - ~~- Declining range/population of rare or threatened native species caused by habitat loss and ecosystem imbalances favouring certain species to the detriment of other species. [21.03-3] REP21.05-3~~
 - ~~- Introduced species impact—notably weeds, pests and the loss of limited resources such as hollow logs as a result of direct competition. [21.03-3] REP21.05-3~~
- ~~■ The Shire's waterways are highly important for their environmental, landscape and cultural significance. Increased awareness of the environmental impacts of stormwater on waterway values has lead to the need to protect waterways from inappropriate stormwater treatments. [21.03-3] REP21.03-3 & 21.05-2~~
- ~~■ Wider environmental threats which need to be addressed include increased levels of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from increased energy consumption, the use of non-renewable resources, [02.03 built enviro] and unnecessary use of the motor car and the generation of waste. [02.03 transport] [21.03-3]~~
- ~~■ The Shire of Nillumbik is rich in Aboriginal and post contact cultural heritage. With significant development occurring throughout the Shire, areas of archaeological, historic and cultural significance are under increasing threat and need to be identified and protected. As there are Aboriginal heritage sites in the Shire which have yet to be identified, proposals involving site disturbances may require assessment for heritage value and may also require referral to relevant heritage bodies. [21.03-3] REP21.03-3 ABOVE~~
- ~~■ Land use and development should reflect the limitations and threats posed by land capability, risk of fire, flood, stormwater management REP21.05-3; 22.04] and the availability of physical services. [REP21.05-3] In regards to proposed development in flood prone areas all potential detrimental environmental effects need to be addressed and the importation of fill in an attempt to raise the natural level of the land would be considered inappropriate. REP22.04 Regional and local catchment strategies that identify sustainable land management practices and appropriate land uses should be supported. Rule1 [21.03-3]~~
- ~~■ Landscape values, consisting of urban and non urban vistas within the Shire, are under increasing pressure as a result of changing land uses and developments. REP21.03-3 ABOVE The containment and consolidation of townships and the maintenance of boundaries between the urban and non-urban areas REP21.05-1 and vegetation retention will be critical in maintaining and enhancing these landscape values. [02.03 enviro & landscape values] Siting and design consideration which respects the neighbourhood character (including built form, vegetation and topography) is particularly important in the urban areas of the Shire. REP21.03-1 ABOVE Landscape values in rural areas will be best protected by restricting numbers of buildings and by ensuring buildings are sited and designed to avoid prominence from surrounding properties and roads. REP22.04 [21.03-3]~~

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Economic Development

Workforce, Industry, Employment & Travel

~~The Shire of Nillumbik workforce is skilled, with high levels of participation in the labour force. The Shire has a total labour force of 34,276 wherein 12,929 (38%) people are employed part-time compared with a lower percentage of part-time employment for the MSD (32%). [21.03-4] additional context – statistics are to be avoided because they go out of date quickly~~

Local Businesses

The Shire of Nillumbik has a relatively small economic base with a total of 6480 registered businesses (ABS Business Register 2012). The majority of businesses are small as 89% of Nillumbik businesses employ less than 5 people. The majority of local businesses are in the Property and business services (27%), Construction (26%) and Retail (9%) sectors (Economic Development Strategy 2011). It is estimated that 60% of small businesses are home-based. [21.03-4] [02.01]

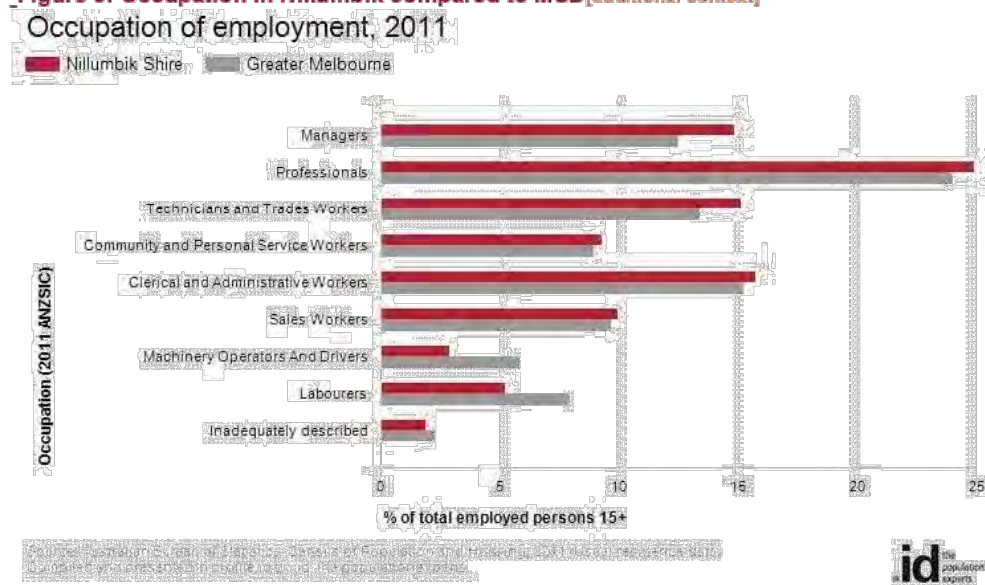
~~The Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016 estimates that there are approximately 3900 home-based businesses in Nillumbik. [additional context – statistics are to be avoided because they go out of date quickly] There is a growing trend towards home-based business, especially in the service sector. [02.01] Home-based businesses can achieve environmental and social benefits through decreased travel time, and provide increased custom for other local business as services and products are sourced locally. [additional context] [21.03-4]~~

~~There are 11,479 workers employed in the Shire of Nillumbik (2011), in which 6632 (58%) live and work within the Shire. The majority of the remaining workforce resides in Banyule (15%) and Whittlesea (9%). [21.03-4] [additional context – statistics are to be avoided because they go out of date quickly]~~

Workforce

~~The Nillumbik workforce has a greater proportion of managers, professionals and technicians & trades compared to the MSD as described in the following Figure 5. [21.03-4] [additional context]~~

Figure 5: Occupation in Nillumbik compared to MSD [additional context]



~~The percentage of the population employed in construction, education & training and health care & social assistance are slightly better represented than the MSD whereas manufacturing,~~

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~~accommodation & food, transport postal & warehousing, and financial & insurance are slightly under-represented compared with the MSD (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011). [21.03-4]~~
~~[additional context]~~

Travel to Work

The Shire of Nillumbik is a commuter area - in total, 66% of the workforce travel to other areas for employment. ~~[02.03 transport] The 34% level of local employment is very low by comparison with other municipalities such as Banyule, Yarra Ranges and Whittlesea. The small level of jobs found within the Shire is related to: [additional context] [21.03-4]~~

- ~~the relatively small amount of commercial and industrial land within the Shire; the relatively high proportion of Nillumbik residents who work in managerial, professional and semi-professional roles, being jobs that are traditionally concentrated in central and inner Melbourne; and [21.03-4] [additional context]~~

~~▪ Nillumbik's accessibility to central Melbourne and other employment centres. [21.03-4]~~
~~[additional context]~~

While the low level of employment opportunities in Nillumbik may not necessarily be a problem, it does have implications, notably the need for people to travel further to their place of employment and community connectedness. Issues arise such as increased traffic congestion and the need for residents to have good access to their place of employment, including access to public transport services. ~~[02.03 transport] The 2011 Census identified 22,933 (80%) of people in Nillumbik travelled to work as the driver of a car and 1447 (5%) of people were passengers. Public transport was used by 3218 (11%) of people. A total of 418 people walked to work, a further 180 people went by bicycle and 1739 people worked at home. [additional context] [21.03-4]~~

~~There are 20% of Nillumbik residents employed in the Shire. The next highest percentage of Nillumbik employed residents work in Melbourne City (13%) and Banyule (11%). [21.03-4]~~
~~[additional context]~~

Activity Centres

~~State Planning Policy aims to build up activity centres as a focus for high quality development, activity and living for the whole community. The Principal Activity Centres which serve the needs of Nillumbik residents are all located outside the Shire boundary and include Greensborough, Preston, Northland, Doncaster and Ringwood shopping centres. [21.03-4] additional context~~

~~At the third tier in the hierarchy, the designated Major Activity Centres in the Shire are Eltham and Diamond Creek. These major activity centres will provide the focus for services, employment and social interaction and the retail base of centres will be broadened to include a wider range of services over longer hours, and to restrict out-of-centre development. Structure plans have been developed for the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre. The Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan establishes a management framework to guide development and land use change in order to achieve stated environmental, social and economic objectives. The Eltham Structure Plan identifies the need for additional retail floorspace to meet existing demand, and further demand in the future arising from increased per capita retail spending of residents and an increasing population. The Structure Plan also identifies a need for the provision of small scale offices to accommodate local and regional services such as accountants, solicitors, consultants, IT services and employment services. [21.03-4] REP22.07, 22.14~~

~~The Neighbourhood Activity Centres in the Shire have been identified as Apollo Parkways and Hurstbridge Town Centre. Diamond Creek and Eltham Major Activity Centres and Hurstbridge Neighbourhood Activity Centre offer a good blend of uses, [02.03 settlement] opportunities for increased tourism activities [02.03 economic development] and the existence of public transport generally supports higher levels of business and other activities, resulting in lower car usage and enabling multipurpose trips. [02.03 settlement] These centres make it easier for people to gain~~

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access to a wider range of goods and services, employment opportunities, entertainment and community facilities. State Planning Policy also aims to locate a substantial proportion of new housing in or close to activity centres and other strategic redevelopment sites that offer good access to services and transport. Integrating new housing into activity centres further broadens the mix and helps to contain urban sprawl, strengthen the role of activity centres and better utilise existing physical and social infrastructure, including public transport. [REP 21.05-1] [21.03-4]
Below the fourth tier in the hierarchy, there are Local Convenience Centres in Beard Street, Eltham, Bolton Street, Eltham, Diamond Creek Road Business Area, Plenty and Main Road, Research. [REP 21.04-4, also should be mapped on plan] In relation to the Diamond Creek Road Business Area, retail activity is limited and it is not considered an appropriate location for a department store, supermarket or any other significant retail activity which would detract from the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre. [REP 21.05-4]

The rural townships of ~~Kangaroo Ground~~, [updated – council has advised Kangaroo ground is not considered rural township] Pantom Hill and St. Andrews have a strong sense of identity and provide a focus for community life and interaction [02.03 settlement] and also provide opportunities for an expanded role in tourist associated activities. [02.03 economic development] Other localities such as Doreen, Smiths Gully and Wattle Glen have a general store whilst a number of small communities, such as Arthurs Creek, Cottles Bridge and Strathewen, do not have local retail services. [21.03-4] [should be mapped on plan]

Industrial and Business Precincts

The three industrial estates in the Shire, located at Diamond Creek Town Centre, Bridge Street area, Eltham and Research, [REP 22.08] currently comprise approximately 30 hectares of land. This is a relatively small land area compared to the extensive industrial areas to the west of the Shire in the municipalities of Whittlesea, Darebin and Hume. additional context [21.03-4]

The Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan has identified a significant change in the strategic direction for part of the land in the industrial precinct in Eltham. The Structure Plan identifies community benefits from concentrating restricted retail uses, such as home furnishings and trade supplies, to the Bridge and Bolton Street areas and also supports the location of small scale offices in Brougham and Susan Streets. The Structure Plan supports land redevelopment to result in a more productive use of the precinct, such as encouraging non-industrial uses such as office accommodation or show rooms that cannot be accommodated in the Eltham Major Activity Centre due to a lack of sufficiently large sites. The Eltham Structure Plan supports the retention of small scale industrial activities in the core of the Eltham industrial precinct that do not generate negative off-site impacts. [21.03-4] REP22.15

Tourism

Tourism is a growing and vibrant sector in Nillumbik and offers destinations and visitor experiences based on the area's natural environment, rural landscapes, agricultural production including viticulture, heritage places and the arts. Hundreds of businesses in the Shire benefit, to varying degrees, on tourism for their trade. These range from wineries to motels, nurseries, cafes and antique shops. [21.03-4] additional context

Key attractions to the Shire include the Art in the Nillumbik Art Collection, Heidelberg School Artists Trail, Diamond Valley Miniature Railway, Eltham Blues and Jazz Festival, Diamond Creek Town Fair, Eltham Town Fair, Artists open studio weekend, Hurstbridge Wattle Festival, Edendale [21.03-4] additional context

Farm Community Environment Centre, Hurstbridge Shops, Kangaroo Ground Memorial Tower, Kinglake National Park, Montsalvat Artists Colony, St Andrews Market, Sugarloaf Reservoir, Galleries, Mud-brick architecture, natural environment, parklands, walking and cycling trails and wineries. [21.03-4] additional context

To assist with the development of tourism, the Nillumbik Tourism Association was launched in October 1998 with the full support of Nillumbik Shire Council. The Association aims to enhance

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~~tourism within the area. The 'Destination Nillumbik' strategy aims to improve the visitor experience in Nillumbik and will guide the Association's and Council's activities for the 2012-2015 period.~~ [21.03-4] additional context

~~Economic activity as it relates to the agricultural and rural tourism sector has been assessed as part of the Green Wedge Management Plan and changes to the MSS have been recommended.~~ [21.03-4] additional context

Agriculture

~~While the great majority of the Shire of Nillumbik consists of rural land, large parcels of land used for agriculture are concentrated in the north-west of the municipality. Smaller parcels are interspersed with environmental values throughout other rural areas. Many agricultural land holdings are of a small scale and are of greatest agricultural value if a concentrated agricultural use is undertaken.~~ [21.03-4] REP21.03-2 ABOVE

~~The total gross value of production (GVP) for the Shire in 2012 was \$16.3 million, of which 40% was from Poultry Slaughtered and 13% was from egg production (2011 Census and Neil Clark & Associates 2005). Some 31% of GVP was from horticultural crops and a further 3% was from pastures (including lucerne). The main horticultural crops were tomatoes, apples, pears, grapes and nurseries. A further 13% of GVP came from other livestock products and slaughtering.~~ [21.03-4] additional context

~~There is strength in the mix of agricultural enterprises in the Shire, and a balance between intensive livestock and horticulture. This leads to greater stability of GVP for the Shire, although when compared to total regional and Victorian production, the Shire of Nillumbik is a small-scale agricultural producer with only 0.2% of total State production.~~ [21.03-4] additional context

~~Sheep and beef industries make up a substantial proportion of agricultural properties in the Shire. It is unlikely that these properties will be able to increase to become large-scale enterprises. Land prices would be the main limiting factor. Horticultural industries and intensive livestock industries are able to produce relatively high levels of gross income per hectare and these industries have more scope for improvement. Viticulture is increasing in the Shire as are other niche products such as olives. Sub-commercial farming in the form of agistment of animals, especially horses, is another common means to supplement income derived off the land. It is estimated that approximately one-quarter of agribusinesses engage in some kind of value-adding activity, either with their own produce or with that produced by others. Such agribusinesses include winemakers, fresh fruit and vegetable producers, meat producers and dairying enterprises and lavender oil producers.~~ [21.03-4] additional context

~~Agricultural industries which are well managed and support natural environmental and landscape values are valued by the Nillumbik Shire Council. Increasing the productiveness of agricultural industries is important for the well-being and sustainability of the green wedge areas of the Shire, providing the environmental significance is not compromised.~~ [21.03-4] 02.03 nat resource management

Education

~~The Shire is close to the La Trobe University and is also serviced by 24 primary schools, 6 secondary schools, and 3 adult community education facilities.~~ [21.03-4] additional context

Influences

~~With respect to economic development issues in the Shire of Nillumbik, the following influences must be considered:-~~ [21.03-4]

- ~~▪ The continued viability of local commercial and industrial areas is important to provide local employment opportunities and readily accessible goods and services.~~ [21.03-4] REP21.05-4
- ~~▪ The Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres should provide goods and services for a local/regional clientele and special interest (niche) areas.~~ [02.03 settlement] Future development

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~~in these centres will be guided by the goals and strategies in any approved structure plans. The Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan must be taken into account in the consideration of the future development of Eltham.~~ REP STRUCTURE PLAN [21.03-4]

- ~~■ The Northern Area Consultative Committee (NACC) report, "Growing Melbourne's North", August 2003, identified small and medium size businesses in the personal, recreation and other services sector that are expected to increase in the future. Formation of businesses of this nature, together with general retailing, will be important in trapping a higher proportion of resident income in the future, creating more local income and employment.~~ [21.03-4] additional context

- ~~■ Local planning must focus on meeting the needs of local business, in particular business services, education/training and personal services. This strategy must also ensure that the residential living environment is protected and enhanced in order to retain and attract global knowledge workers and information focused businesses.~~ [21.03-4] not clear how planning does this also the idea of this seems to be repeated in the policy

- ~~■ Nillumbik is situated on the end of the Western Ring Road which has provided significant transport connections to the west and enables residents to access the key employment sectors of the west, including Melbourne Airport, La Trobe University, Greensborough and the Northern Hospital, Cooper Street, Epping. In addition, the Cities of Hume and Whittlesea have designated greenfield sites to attract new employment to the region. Nillumbik is also within close proximity to the Eastern freeway and the links that provides to the eastern employment centres. The future issue will be to manage effectively the growing traffic congestion arising from the high degree of car dependency in the Shire.~~ [21.03-4] additional context and action repeats 21.05-5

- ~~■ In addition to private transport routes, Nillumbik is serviced by the principal rail network from Hurstbridge to the Melbourne CBD. The challenge will be to provide more public transport services to meet the needs of an increasingly ageing population.~~ [21.03-4] REP21.05-5

- ~~■ The competitive advantage of the outer region is that the local catchment centres in the Shire rely on patrons who expect short travel times and easy access. Accessibility and car parking at these centres must be maintained to ensure the continued viability of local centres.~~ [21.03-4] REP22.07

- ~~■ Business development projects, and the revitalisation and upgrading of activity centres in terms of physical improvements, are important to the viability of local commercial areas.~~ 02.03 built enviro- Council and traders groups need to continue to work in partnership to ensure that activity centres and townships are well designed, attractive and viable and provide a range of retail and business facilities and community services to meet the needs of residents and tourists. [21.03-4] REP22.07

- ~~■ Through technology advances, there are opportunities for the establishment of further home-based businesses and there are benefits to the community in supporting these businesses.~~ REP21.05-4In addition, there are recognised gaps in the provision of small office accommodation to provide for the needs of new small businesses and professional services. additional context [21.03-4]

- ~~■ Changes in the global restructuring of agriculture have generally led to requirements for greater land holdings to achieve economic viability. The containment of lot sizes for agricultural land is important to ensure sustainable and productive agricultural land. There will continue to be land use conflict between agricultural and rural residential land uses and it is important that any potential conflict is managed appropriately.~~ [21.03-4] 02.03 housing

- ~~■ Existing 'high value' horticultural commodities (such as apples, grapes, pears, and nurseries) and intensive livestock (such as egg and poultry production) in the Shire indicate that they are well suited to the area. There is further potential for high value horticultural and intensive~~

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livestock commodities ~~[02.03-4 narrative] to establish in the Shire. In relation to intensive livestock, the amenity and environmental significance of the area must be considered in the further development of these activities. [21.03-4] REP21.03-2 & 21.03-4~~

- ~~Productive agricultural industries provide the potential for money to be injected into weed and pest animal control and revegetation of strategic areas of land. Agricultural industries should be encouraged to operate responsibly within the environmental and landscape qualities of rural areas, and subsequently, responsible operations should be fully supported. [21.03-4] REP 21.03-2~~
- ~~Tourism offers viable and ecologically sustainable economic development opportunities that are presently operating on a small scale. Agricultural-based and environment activities such as wineries, nurseries, eco-tourism and host farms may provide opportunities for tourist activities if appropriately designed, located and managed to respect the environmental conservation and landscapes of rural areas, and the existing road hierarchy. [21.03-4] rep21.05-4~~

21.03-5 Infrastructure

~~13/02/2014C86 The physical infrastructure services which support and make possible the existing settlement pattern in the Shire include roads, public transport, drainage, sewerage, water supply, gas, electricity, internet and postal services, garbage collection, community facilities and services and public open space (refer to Map 6). Various service providers operate within the municipality, while the Nillumbik Shire Council is responsible for the provision and maintenance of a number of local services, such as drainage, roads, community services, public open space and garbage collection. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~The provision of infrastructure services is most efficient in the established township and urban areas. [additional context] Rural areas are not provided with a full utility service provision. [02.03 housing] New development is therefore encouraged to locate in established areas to take advantage of the existing infrastructure. [02.03 settlement] New development in approved green field locations may be required to provide infrastructure in accordance with a development contributions plan. REP19.03-1S [21.03-5]~~

Utility Services

~~Melbourne Water manages Melbourne's water supply catchments, removes and treats most of Melbourne's sewerage, and manages rivers and creeks and major drainage systems in and around Melbourne. As a retail water company, Yarra Valley Water provides water supply and sewerage services to 1.5 million people who live and work in the Yarra River catchment area of Melbourne. Existing water supply services are expected to cater for anticipated population growth within existing residential areas subject to some local infrastructure upgrading. The Sugarloaf Reservoir is managed by Melbourne Water and is located in the eastern part of the Shire. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~The Eltham sewer catchment is managed by Yarra Valley Water, and services the residential areas of the Shire. Preliminary assessments indicate that the catchment will be able to service those areas set aside for future residential development. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~Melbourne Water is responsible for the management of the main drain system throughout the municipality. In most instances drainage is directed to the creek and river system, although an exception to this is the Eltham Main Drain which follows the Main Road through Research and Eltham. Nillumbik Shire Council manages street and easement drainage which directs flows from individual properties to the Melbourne Water system. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~Existing drainage arrangements in the Yarrambat area are insufficient for the further development of this area. [02.03 infrastructure] The Yarrambat Local Structure Plan (1993) and the Yarrambat~~

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~~Extension Area Local Structure Plan (1996) make special provision for the collection of levies to fund future drainage of the area. [21.03-5]~~

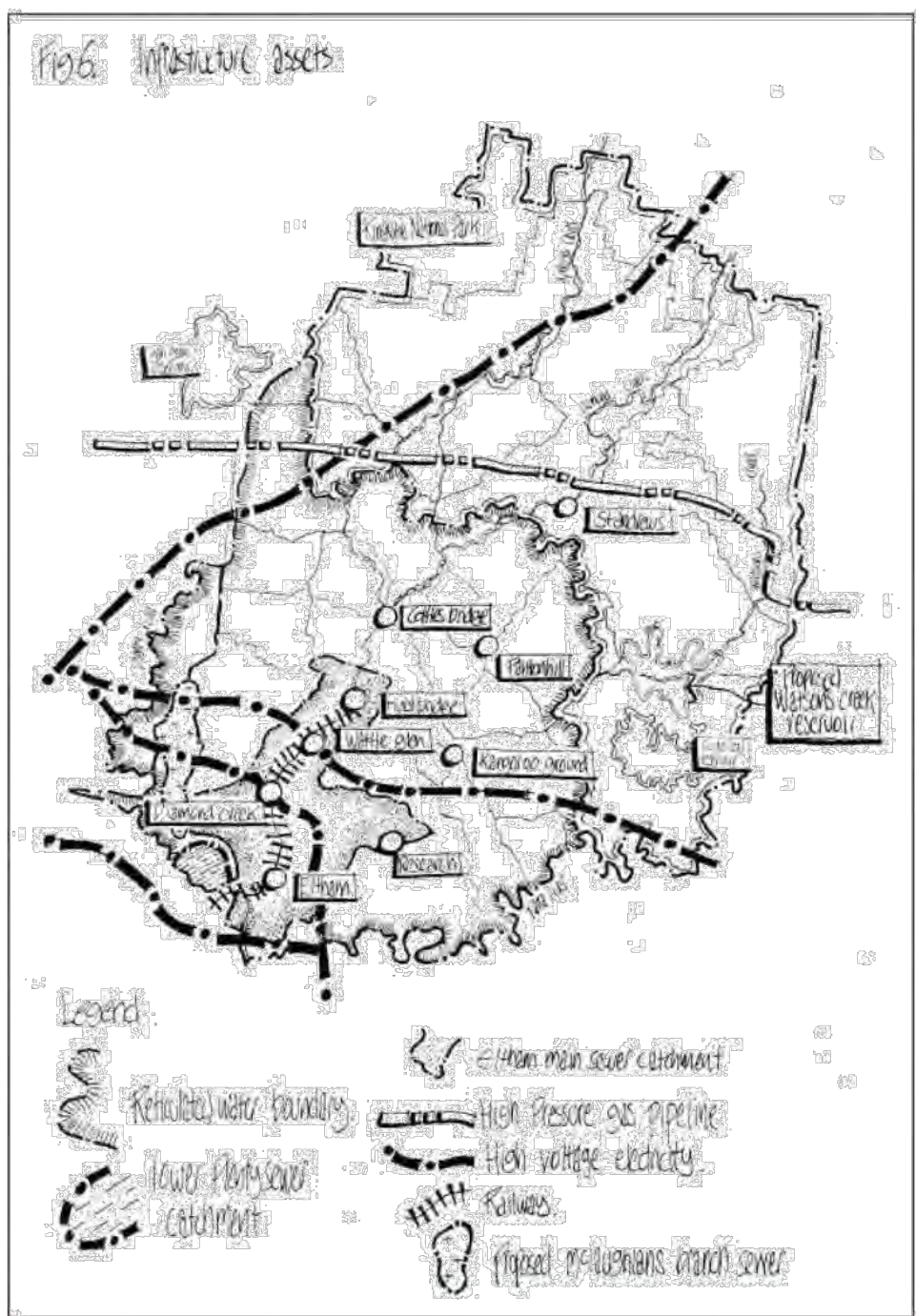
~~Development contributions plans have been prepared and implemented to fund major infrastructure in the new residential areas north of Diamond Creek, known as Areas A and B, as well as for the low density residential area of Plenty. The preparation of further development contributions plans may also be necessary in other areas of the municipality, depending upon the requirement to construct or upgrade infrastructure in response to need. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~Electricity is provided to the municipality by SP Ausnet. The electricity provision is extensive and is able to service most of the municipality. Most areas, with the exception of the more remote locations, have access to broadband internet services. In some locations, although mobile phone reception is faint, the provision of additional mobile phone towers would not be appropriate to environmental surroundings. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~Two major electricity transmission lines traverse the Shire. The transmission lines which are operated by SPI PowerNet, carry high voltage electrical energy from power stations to the major load centres, prior to delivery to consumers. Areas of land below and immediately adjacent transmission lines are clearance areas and therefore are devoid of medium to high vegetation. These areas are also restricted in the size and types of buildings which may be erected, with sensitive uses such as dwellings not permitted. [21.03-5] additional info~~

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Map 6 - Infrastructure Assets



There is one major gas transmission pressure pipeline running through the Shire. The responsibility, safe operation and ownership of this pipeline is vested in the APA Group. The pipeline provides a link between Pakenham and Wollert (City of Whittlesea) and can carry gas in either direction. While the pipeline does not directly supply households in the Shire of Nillumbik it is an integral part of Victoria's gas network. [21.03-5] additional info

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Transport

~~Many early roads in the Shire of Nillumbik were self funded and built by early settlers in a difficult terrain traversed by several waterways. The railway line was extended to Hurstbridge around 1912, primarily to enable the carting of orchard produce to Melbourne. [21.03-5] [additional info]~~

~~The municipality is now serviced by the metropolitan arterial road network, urban collector and rural connector roads (Map 7). [additional info]~~ Public transport consists of the Hurstbridge railway line, and various connecting local bus routes concentrated in the urban south-west area of the Shire. [21.03-5] 02.03 transport

~~There are some 100 kilometres of Arterial Roads in the municipality which cater for significant traffic movements in the metropolitan and rural regions. There are around 430 kilometres of sealed local roads and 340 kilometres of unsealed local roads in the municipality. [additional info]~~ Many unsealed local roads service traditional residential, agricultural or bush uses and would be unsuitable for new uses requiring significant increases in traffic movement. [21.03-5] 02.03 transport

~~The Western Ring Road provides a direct connection for the Shire to Melbourne Airport and the north western sector of Melbourne. While there are no existing State Government proposals to extend the Western Ring Road, Nillumbik Shire Council is very concerned at the significant impact a future extension would have on the municipality. This includes environmental, transport and settlement impacts that may be inconsistent with the Municipal Strategic Statement. [21.03-5] additional info~~

~~The North-East Integrated Transport Strategy is currently being prepared by the State Government Department of Infrastructure in partnership with Vic Roads, Department of Sustainability and Environment, Shire of Nillumbik and Cities of Banyule, Manningham and Whittlesea. The goals of the Strategy include the provision of safer, more accessible and responsive public transport, reduced growth in greenhouse gases, better road and traffic management and better integration of transport with land use. [21.03-5] additional info~~

~~The State Planning Policy Framework gives priority for the development of transport policies that seek to integrate land use planning and transport planning. Some of these policies are to identify and progressively implement a metropolitan wide Principal Public Transport Network (PPTN), build activity centres as important transport nodes, encourage walking and cycling, ensure an efficient and coordinated freight and logistics system and develop an arterial road system that is efficient, safe and considers the needs of all road users. In urban areas, there are 25 kilometres of formal trails and in rural areas, there are 3 kilometres of formal trails. [REP state policy and additional info]~~ The further development of trails to link the key activity centres is a priority to encourage safe pedestrian access for residents. [02.03 transport] [21.03-5]

~~The Shire has railway stations at Eltham, Diamond Creek, Wattle Glen and Hurstbridge. The Hurstbridge line remains an important link through the municipality and provides the main form of public transport for residents in the Shire to north-eastern suburbs and central Melbourne. The metropolitan bus system provides a limited bus service to Diamond Creek, Greensborough, Eltham and Warrandyte. [21.03-5] additional info~~

Recreation and Open Space

~~The Open Space Strategy defines Council's vision and strategic direction for the development and management of open space. [additional context – strategies should not be mentioned in the narrative]~~ In urban areas, the open space system needs to provide a broad range of recreational facilities and open areas which are in close proximity to residential areas. In rural areas, the emphasis is towards developing key regional and district recreational areas, enhancing and developing open space within townships and settlements, protecting native flora and fauna as well as developing a comprehensive regional based trail network. [02.03 infrastructure] ~~The Open Space Strategy lists a~~

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~~number of actions for improving and enhancing urban open space and developing and extending rural open space and the trail network. The Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 and the Nillumbik Trails Strategy 2011 provide further direction in the development of trails and recreational opportunities. [additional context – strategies should not be mentioned in the narrative] [21.03-5]~~

~~Several significant conservation open space areas in Nillumbik include Kinglake National Park, Sugarloaf Reservoir, Plenty Gorge Park, One Tree Hill Reserve and the open space areas along the major waterways of the Yarra River, Diamond Creek, Watsons Creek, Arthurs Creek and the Plenty River. The open space network, especially along the waterways, has retained large areas of native vegetation and plays a key role in protecting rare and threatened flora, fauna and vegetation communities. A nature conservation link has been created between Warrandyte and Kinglake National Park. The trail along the Diamond Creek, which commences at Yarra River and concludes at the township of Diamond Creek (Figure 2), may be extended to Hurstbridge. [21.03-5] REP21.02 AND 21.03-3~~

~~Rural regional and district open space areas include Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Tower, Yarrambat Park, Eltham Lower Park and St Andrews Reserve. Yarrambat Park provides a public golf course, driving range, archery club, aero club, pistol club and trotting facilities. Sailing activities take place at Sugarloaf Reservoir. A major private golf course, Heritage Golf Course, is located in the Bend of Islands. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~Other outdoor recreational facilities in the Shire include a swimming pool in Diamond Creek; hockey field in Plenty Park; rugby field in Eltham; an adventure park for children in Eltham North Reserve; and a number of equestrian venues. In addition, there are in excess of 32 ovals and 60 playgrounds and numerous other facilities for sports such as football, soccer, basketball, baseball, cricket, tennis, netball, bowls skate parks, BMX tracks, a Fishing platform and horse and pony clubs. In the urban areas there is an established network of bicycle and walking paths while in rural areas there are a number of horse riding, walking and mountain bike trails. [21.03-5] additional context~~

~~There are also a range of indoor recreational facilities which include the Eltham Leisure Centre which attracts more than 780,000 users per annum, the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre which attracts more than 420,000 users per annum, and the Diamond Creek Community Centre with approximately 225,000 users per annum. [21.03-5] additional context~~

Community Services and Facilities

~~Nillumbik Shire Council is engaged in planning and ensuring the provision of a range of community services, in partnership with State and Federal Governments and with local providers. The services are delivered to various groups, such as children, youth, and senior citizens and also to groups with additional needs such as the disabled. The Shire of Nillumbik covers a large area with diverse communities located in urban and rural areas. The dispersed population in the rural areas creates major challenges for the equitable distribution of community services [02.03 open space], especially Home Care, Personal Care, Respite Care, Home Maintenance, Community Transport and Delivered Meals. Rule 1 not controlled by planning [21.03-5]~~

~~The aim of these services is to help people maintain their safety and independence at home and in the community and to avoid early than necessary admission into residential care. [Rule 1 – above services not controlled by planning] The achievement of these aims is constrained in dispersed areas where the population is heavily reliant on private transportation. [21.03-5] [02.03 open space]~~

~~Other community services and facilities provided or subsidised by Council are located in activity centres and townships and include libraries, meeting halls, community health centres, senior citizen centres, pre-schools and a range of community and leisure activities. The concentration of a range of facilities within commercial areas increases the options for multi-purpose trips and the use of public transport. [21.03-5] [02.03 transport]~~

~~The Shire endeavours to meet the needs of all members of its community, and will ensure that people with a disability or impairment are able to participate in all aspects of life with equity,~~

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dignity and equality of access. [02.03 built enviro] In the development of new housing, a proportion must be able to be adapted for occupation by persons with a disability, impairment or who are frail and elderly. [REP CLAUSE 55, 58] In relation to new public and commercial buildings, access should be available for people with a disability, including easy access for wheelchairs and pushers. [21.03-5] REP21.05-5

Influences

With respect to infrastructure development issues in the Shire of Nillumbik, the following influences must be considered:- [21.03-5]

- Dispersed low-density residential development can create demand for infrastructure services that is both costly to provide and difficult to implement sequentially across an area. Where infrastructure is provided, a dispersed low-density pattern of residential development can mean that the infrastructure is of poor quality or has high recurrent costs for maintenance and use. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
- The high level of car usage and projected population increase may encourage the upgrade of arterial roads in the municipality. Similarly, there is mounting pressure for the sealing of rural connector local roads to provide improved access and to reduce the amount of sediment making its way into streams and rivers. The construction of new roads or road upgrades should be considerate of possible impacts on the rural amenity and should be consistent with local environmental values. Alternative travel arrangements such as public transport should be explored. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
- In-fill residential development in the form of medium-density housing in townships and urban areas adds to the usage of existing roads, drainage and increases traffic. Road capacities need to be determined. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
- Proposals for new uses need to be considered with respect to the capacity and condition of local roads. The potential impact that new uses would have on traffic numbers and matters such as traffic congestion, dust and impacts on road surface (such as corrugation and pot-holes) should be addressed as appropriate. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
- The Shire's location adjacent to the Whittlesea growth corridor and established urban areas of Melbourne will, over time, result in additional external traffic pressures within the Shire. Plenty Road and the light rail in the City of Whittlesea are the designated primary north-south transport spines servicing the Whittlesea growth corridor. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
 - An increasing population and changes in demographics result in a demand for additional recreational facilities and localised parks/playgrounds, and a greater variety of recreational opportunities. The use of development contributions in new subdivisions will assist in the provision of appropriate open space and recreational facilities. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
 - The management of roads in the Shire is a major consideration, especially due to pressures created by the Whittlesea Growth Corridor, the Western Ring Road and access to the Eastern Freeway. State Planning Policy recognises the importance of providing good public transport to activity centres, but although Eltham, Diamond Creek and Hurstbridge activity centres have good access to the principal public transport network, the service levels need to be increased and improved connectivity to other modes of public transport is also required. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
 - Access to social and recreational opportunities is influenced by the dependence of young people and elderly people on the existing public transport network and locations of facilities. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE
 - Disability access should be provided in all new public and commercial buildings and a significant proportion of private dwellings. [21.03-5] REP21.03-5 ABOVE

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~~Disability access for recreation and open space opportunities as well as other meeting places (including commercial facilities), is an important equity issue. Disability access should be improved for existing developments and pursued in the planning of new developments. [21.03-5]~~
REP21.03-5 ABOVE

■ ~~The concept of a Metropolitan Ring Road incorporating a future extension of the Western Ring Road into the Shire is of major concern especially in regard to the impact on the 'green wedge', infrastructure provision and private expectations. [21.03-5]~~ RULE1

■ Incorporate greater links between land use planning and transport, especially in relation to activity centres and the public transport network. [02.03 transport] Recognise the broader role of roads for all users including cycling, walking and buses. [02.03 transport] [21.03-5]

■ ~~The Open Space Strategy 2005, the Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 and the Nillumbik Trails Strategy 2011 must be referred to in any requirement to provide public open space arising from development. [21.03-5]~~ ADDITIONAL CONTEXT

■ ~~The ongoing management of stormwater quality is an issue that affects use and development throughout the Shire. Increasingly, the management of stormwater will be the responsibility of site holders and land developers who are to be encouraged to use best practice principles in relation to stormwater management. [21.03-5]~~ REP21.03-3

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VISION -STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Overview

The Shire of Nillumbik is and will remain a metropolitan 'green wedge' maintaining a large natural resource in Melbourne for the benefit of all Melburnians. The forward planning objectives, strategies and policies of Nillumbik Shire Council will continue to focus on the ongoing sustainability of the Shire's 'green wedge' in physical, social and economic terms. [02.02] ~~These activities will recognise the importance of community initiatives and education as key ways of implementing the vision, in partnership with effective statutory land use and development regulations. [rule 1][21.04-1]~~

The Shire of Nillumbik exists due to a vision of many individuals and groups interested in preservation of the natural environment and rural character, sustainable use of resources, maintaining a strong sense of community identity and effective long-term planning. All future land use and development will enhance the aesthetic qualities of the urban and rural environment, responding in particular to the character defined by land form, landscapes and vegetation cover. [21.04-1]

The Shire's social infrastructure will be equitably provided and concentrated in accessible locations recognising the individual needs for each township or community. Economic development that builds on the competitive strengths of the Shire and does not have negative environmental effects, will be encouraged. [21.04-1]

The energies of the Nillumbik Shire Council will be directed to enhancing the environmental conditions that enrich the area and promoting development which meets present needs without compromising the future well-being of the Shire. ~~In this way, the Shire of Nillumbik will achieve an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable future. [21.04-1]~~

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Nillumbik Shire 'Council Plan'

~~The Municipal Strategic Statement builds on the guiding principles of the Nillumbik Shire Council Plan which is prepared every four years.~~ [21.04-2] rule 9 – unnecessary info

The Council Plan establishes the future corporate direction for the Shire and provides a framework for improving the environmental, social and economic wellbeing of the community. The Council Plan lists goals and strategies to meet the expectations of the Nillumbik community. The goals are as follows: [21.04-2] 02.02

- To enable a better future for Nillumbik residents and encourage healthy, safe and resilient communities through the provision of quality services. [21.04-2] 02.02
- To preserve and nurture the natural environment of the Green Wedge for future and current generations through responsible leadership and stewardship. [21.04-2] 02.02
- To provide infrastructure and plan for a built environment which respects and preserves the unique character of the Green Wedge. [21.04-2] 02.02
- To develop a prosperous local economy through partnerships with local business, governments and the community, consistent with our Green Wedge values. [21.04-2] 02.02
- ~~To provide good governance, leadership and responsible financial management and to make decisions in an inclusive and transparent manner.~~ [21.04-2] rule 1 – not related to land use & development

Nillumbik 2020 - A Preferred Future

Nillumbik 2020 (Ellyard, 1997) is a strategic document prepared for Nillumbik Shire Council, which provides a vision for the municipality based on views and desired outcomes of the community. Consultation was a key component of *Nillumbik 2020*. The document provided a basis for the preparation of the Municipal Strategic Statement. [21.04-3]

The key ideas expressed in *Nillumbik 2020 - A Preferred Future* are:- [21.04-3]

- Conserving the natural environment, historical buildings and sites, while allowing for the progress and development of the area. [21.04-3]
- Maintaining balance between being economically viable and maintaining a predominantly environmentally-friendly place to live. [21.04-3]

This became the basis for a number of goals for the municipality's future, including to: Conserve

- and consolidate the 'green wedge'. [21.04-3]
- Retain the semi-rural/township lifestyle. [21.04-3]
- Retain productive farmlands. [21.04-3]
- Encourage sustainable development. [21.04-3]
- Encourage the development of environmentally sensitive/appropriate buildings. [21.04-3]
- Retain natural and cultural heritage. [21.04-3]
- Nurture and support the development and practice of the arts [21.04-3]
- Increase opportunities for employment within the Shire and encourage home-based employment. [21.04-3]

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21.04-4 The Framework Plan

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~~The Framework Plan (Map 8) outlines the major land use categories in the Shire and shows conceptually the strategy for land use and development including settlement, rural land use, environmental management activity centres. [21.04-4] rule 9 – unnecessary info~~

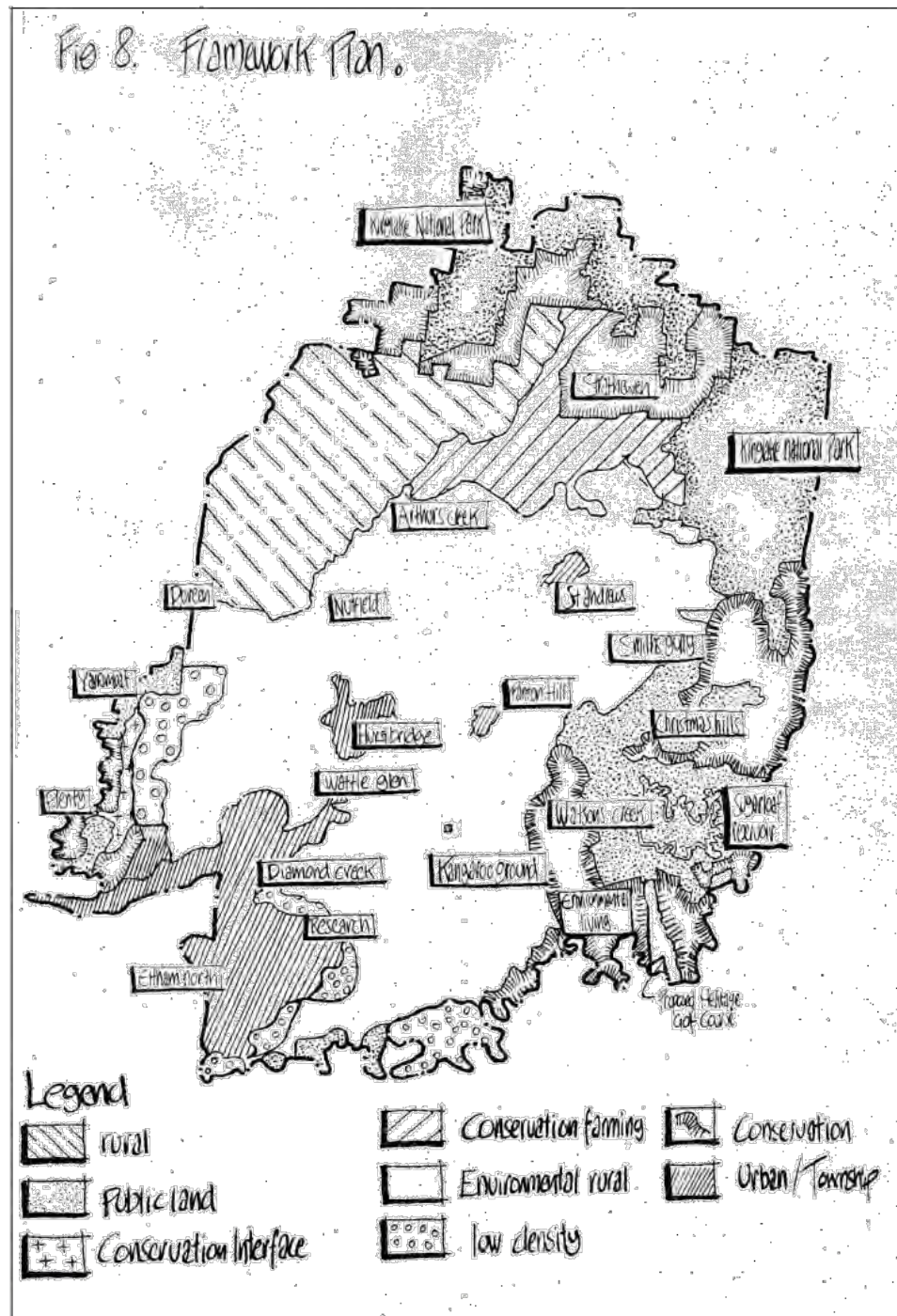
~~In identifying future land use directions, the Framework Plan builds on the following elements: [21.04-4]~~

- ~~■ The Diamond Creek “axis” which provides a focus for the Shire, drawing together the major activity centres of Eltham and Diamond Creek as the main commercial and community centres and Hurstbridge as the main neighbourhood activity centre, supported by small local convenience centres, rural townships, and rural stores. [02.03 settlement] This pattern of activity reinforces the historic, environmental and lifestyle attributes of the region and the pedestrian/cycle, rail and road transport routes which follow the Diamond Creek. [additional context]-[21.04-4]~~

~~■ Residential development focussed in the existing township areas. [02.03 settlement] [21.04-4]~~

Map 8 - Framework Plan

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- Medium density housing focussed in close proximity to commercial, community, public open space and public transport facilities.
- A low-density residential corridor at Plenty and Yarrambat.

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- Conservation farming (comprising a mix of bushland management and farming) and compatible rural activities on land along the Diamond Creek axis, extending north east to the Kinglake Ranges and south to Yarra River generally via Watsons Creek and in the Christmas Hills and Smiths Gully areas. [21.04-4]
 - Broad scale farming across the north-west of the Shire. [21.04-4]
 - A nature and landscape conservation focus throughout the Shire, enhancing the natural features of the rivers and mountains. [21.04-4]
 - A network of strategic habitat links north-south along the waterways (from Kinglake National Park to Yarra River) and east-west along roadsides and natural features. [21.04-4]
 - Protection and enhancement of indigenous vegetation in urban and green wedge areas. [21.04-4]
 - [4]
- Bushland conservation through the Kinglake Ranges, Yarra Valley Parklands and Plenty Gorge Park, including substantial areas of public land, and environmental living areas at the Bend of Islands, Dunmoochin and along the Plenty Gorge fringe. [21.04-4]
- Commercial development concentrated within major areas and neighbourhood activity centres, local convenience centres and townships serving local and district needs. [21.04-4]
 - Industrial development limited to existing industrial zones at Eltham, Research and Diamond Creek. [21.04-4]
 - A road network which joins the centres and allows access to and from non-urban and urban areas. [21.04-4]
 - The Sugarloaf Reservoir and the catchment area which provides water for metropolitan Melbourne. [21.04-4]
 - Provision of a broad range of recreational opportunities. [21.04-4]

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OBJECTIVES – STRATEGIES – IMPLEMENTATION

Settlement and Housing

The maintenance of the existing settlement pattern consisting of distinct urban areas and clearly defined rural townships surrounded by non-urban areas is critical to the ongoing sustainability of the Shire of Nillumbik as a ‘green wedge’ municipality. ~~Expansion of townships into surrounding areas is contrary to State Planning Policy and the principles of the ‘green wedge’.~~ The Shire of Nillumbik is located on the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne and it does not form part of a designated growth corridor. Outward metropolitan development, therefore, will not be a significant feature of the municipality. [02.03 settlement] [21.05-1]

The activity centres have an increased role in providing for a diversity of housing and in particular, medium density housing in accordance with the adopted structure plans. [02.03 settlement] ~~Relevant State Planning Policies in relation to settlement and housing include Activity centres (Clause 11.01), Urban growth (11.02), Melbourne’s urban growth (11.04-5), Green wedges (11.04-02) and Residential development (16.01). Environmental and Landscape Values (Clauses 12.01-04) of the SPPF are relevant to residential development, particularly in the more environmentally significant areas of the municipality. Key environmental issues are discussed in more detail in the ‘Environment, Conservation & Landscape’ section (Clause 21.05-3).~~ [21.05-1]

Objective 1

To provide for a range of housing types to meet the projected increase in the number and type of households within the municipality, while respecting the neighbourhood character, and protecting the natural and cultural heritage values of the locality. [02.03 housing] [21.05-1]

Strategies

- ~~Ensure anecdotal demand figures do not drive strategic planning decisions for the Shire, as population growth in the Shire is not predicted to be substantial.~~ [21.05-1] rule 1
- ~~Actively encourage residential development within existing urban zones in accordance with the framework plan, the Neighbourhood Character Study, the major activity centre structure plans and the township strategy plans.~~ [21.05-1] REP21.05-2 STRATEGY IN 11.01-1L
- Focus new residential subdivision and development in areas that are zoned residential and are currently vacant in Greensborough, Diamond Creek and Plenty, [11.01-1L] ~~and new low-density subdivision and residential development in areas currently zoned for that purpose in Yarrambat and Plenty and other appropriately zoned areas.~~ [REP 21.05-2] [21.05-1]
- Focus medium density housing in the designated areas in the major activity centre structure plans and in areas with good access to commercial and community services, public transport, open space [16.01-2L] ~~and where appropriate infrastructure is available~~ [REP 16.01-2R]. Strongly discourage medium density housing in areas where such services, facilities and infrastructure are inadequate. [16.01-2L] [21.05-1]

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- Require all accommodation, including medium density housing ~~to be site and locality responsive [REP15.01-2S] and to respect local neighbourhood character, including the retention of significant vegetation. [REP22.12]~~ [21.05-1]

~~Actively encourage the consideration of a comprehensive range of siting and design issues at~~

- ~~the earliest possible stage of development proposals. [rule 1 – process, also intent is REP 15.01-2S]~~ [21.05-1]
- Encourage good architectural design that meets the needs of our ageing population. [15.01-2L] [21.05-1]

- ~~Require development contributions to ensure the timely provision of appropriate infrastructure. [REP11.02-3S]~~ [21.05-1]

Encourage the use of alternative building materials such as mud-brick and rammed earth construction. [15.01-2L] [21.05-1]

~~Ensure all new residential development is undertaken in such a way that stormwater quality is not compromised and encourage all new development to accord with best practice principles in relation to storm water management. [REP19.03-3S]~~ [21.05-1]

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Objective 2

~~To contain urban development and~~ [REP 21.05-1 STRATEGY BELOW] maintain non-urban breaks between existing urban areas and townships, and between townships. [02.03 SETTLEMENT] [21.05-1]

Strategies

- Contain residential development within existing urban zones[11.01-1L] ~~and review township strategy plans in accordance with the Urban Growth Boundary. [rule 1 –Council process]~~ [21.05-1]

~~Contain new low density residential development in areas currently designated for that purpose~~

- ~~at Yarrambat and Plenty and other appropriately zoned areas. [REP21.02-1 STRATEGY ABOVE]~~ [21.05-1]
- Oppose the rezoning of land for urban or low-density residential purposes, unless supported by the framework plan or a future Council strategy. [11.01-1L] [21.05-1]
- ~~Maintain and enhance the Eltham Gateway (from Eltham Lower Park to the Eltham Major Activity Centre) [REP22.10]~~ [21.05-1]
- Encourage landscape and urban design works which retain the integrity of, and enhance existing entrances to townships and commercial centres. [15.01-1L] [21.05-1]

Strongly discourage the realignment of boundaries of rural properties for the purpose of creating defacto residential lots. Generally, realignments are only supported for minor boundary adjustments which respond to topography or physical man-made features and do not provide for further development opportunities. [14.01-1L] [21.05-1]

Objective 3

To consolidate and sustain existing urban areas [02.03 settlement] ~~and to protect and enhance urban streetscapes, townships and landscapes in the Shire. [02.03 built environment]~~ [21.05-1]

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Strategies

- ~~Encourage the concentration of commercial and community services and facilities in major and neighbourhood activity centres and townships.~~ [REP11.03-1S] [21.05-1]
- ~~Focus medium density housing in areas where appropriate infrastructure is available and in areas with good access to commercial and community services, public transport and public open space. Strongly discourage medium density housing in areas where such services, facilities and infrastructure are unavailable or inadequate.~~ [REP 21.05-1 STRATEGY ABOVE] [21.05-1]
- ~~Review strategies relating to medium density housing following completion of structure plans for Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres.~~ [RULE 1 Council action] [21.05-1]
- ~~Maintain the Eltham Gateway and ensure new development enhances the integrity of the Gateway (from Eltham Lower Park to the Eltham Major Activity Centre).~~ [REP 21.05-1 STRATEGY ABOVE] [21.05-1]

~~Review and implement township strategies.~~ [RULE 1 Council action] [21.05-1]

Objective 4

To maintain and enhance the character of urban and township areas. [02.03 built environment] [21.05-1]

Strategies

- ~~Encourage applicants to refer to the Neighbourhood Character Study and Guidelines to provide direction in relation to new development and in particular, to take into account the characteristics of the local landscape and built form, including the retention of existing vegetation and recognition of housing styles and set-backs.~~ [21.05-1] REP POLICY
- ~~Discourage development which would dominate and detract from the streetscape and which does not consider the neighbourhood character.~~ [21.05-1] REP15.01-5S
- ~~Encourage planting of indigenous vegetation.~~ [21.05-1] 12.01-1L
- ~~Encourage landscape planting which complements and enhances the entrances to urban areas, townships and commercial centres.~~ [21.05-1] REP21.05-1
- ~~Encourage the provision of tree reserves where the edge of a township or urban area abuts a main or secondary road [11.01-1L] and maintain existing non-urban breaks between rural townships and between urban and non-urban areas.~~ [REP21.05-1] [21.05-1]
- ~~Limit subdivision and buildings~~ [REP21.05-2] in rural areas to maintain vistas. [02.03 settlement] ~~Encourage consolidation of buildings in locations below the ridgeline.~~ REP22.04 [21.05-1]
- ~~Maintain and enhance the landscape values of the Eltham Gateway (from Eltham Lower Park to the Main Road shopping centre).~~ [21.05-1] REP22.10-2
- ~~Ensure that new development reflects the historic and rural character of the Hurstbridge [REPDD05] and St Andrews Townships.~~ [REPDD09] [21.05-1]
- ~~Encourage muted tones for external surfaces and strongly discourage bright or contrasting colours.~~ [21.05-1] 15.01-2L

Implementation

~~The Housing and Settlement strategies will be implemented as follows:~~ [21.05-1]

Using Local Policies

- ~~Use a local policy to facilitate medium density housing in areas with good access to local services and public transport, and which demonstrates site and area responsive design~~

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~~(Medium Density Housing Policy, Clause 22.01).~~ [21.05-1] rule 9 – not needed in PPF, you would need to do this anyway because there is a policy

- ~~Use a local policy to guide the consideration of use and development in the gateway to the Eltham Township (Eltham Gateway Policy, Clause 22.10).~~ [21.05-1] rule 9 – not needed in PPF,
- ~~you would need to do this anyway because there is a policy~~

~~Use a local policy to guide consideration of permit applications in the General Residential, Residential Growth, Neighbourhood Residential and Township zones (Neighbourhood Character Policy, Clause 22.12).~~ [21.05-1] rule 9 – not needed in PPF, you would need to do this anyway because there is a policy

- ~~Use a local policy to guide the consideration of signage proposals in order to protect the visual quality of the Shire's urban streetscapes and rural landscapes from inappropriate signage (Signage Policy, Clause 22.09).~~ [21.05-1] rule 9 – not needed in PPF, you would need to do this anyway because there is a policy

Applying Zones and Overlays

- ~~Apply the General Residential Zone, Residential Growth Zone, or the Neighbourhood Residential Zone to residential areas.~~ [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Apply the Low Density Residential Zone to existing low density residential areas located in North Warrandyte, the Plenty and Yarrambat corridor and around the urban edge of Eltham and Research. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Apply the Township Zone to Hurstbridge, Pantom Hill and St. Andrews to provide for residential development and a range of commercial, light industrial and other uses in these townships. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Apply the Urban Floodway Zone within urban areas which have the greatest risk and frequency of being affected by flooding. [74.01s] [21.05-1]

Apply Environmental Significance Overlays to residential and low density residential areas identified as sites of faunal and habitat significance, Yarra River environs and Plenty River environs to protect the special environmental values of these areas. [74.01s] [21.05-1]

- Apply the Significant Landscape Overlay to townships, low-density residential areas and parts of Eltham to encourage the retention of the treed nature of these areas and ensure that the preferred future character of the areas, as identified in the Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study 2000, is achieved. [74.01s] [21.05-1]

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- Apply the Development Plan Overlay to a low density residential area in Plenty and to land along the Plenty Gorge to specify requirements over the future development of these areas. The Development Plan Overlay will address land capability, infrastructure sequencing, environmental significance and preferred design outcomes which encourage a coordinated approach to development. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Apply the Design and Development Overlay to the Eltham Gateway to encourage the retention of the treed nature of this area and guide development. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Apply the Design and Development Overlay to locations in Plenty and Yarrambat where land capability, infrastructure sequencing, environmental significance and preferred design outcomes influence future residential development. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Use the schedule to the Design and Development Overlay for designated areas in Yarrambat, to incorporate considerations in the Yarrambat Local Structure Plan, May 1993 and Yarrambat Extension Area Local Structure Plan, September 1996. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Use the schedule to the Design and Development Overlay for designated residential areas in Plenty, to incorporate considerations in the Plenty Valley Environmental Living Area Outline Development Plan, March 1992 (including setting minimum lot sizes) and the Plenty Valley Environmental Living Area Siting and Design Guidelines, June 1991. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Apply the Design and Development Overlay to the Hurstbridge and St Andrews Townships to encourage the retention of the historic and rural character of the Township and guide development. [74.01s] [21.05-1]
- Use the schedule to the Design and Development Overlay to incorporate considerations in the Hurstbridge Design Guidelines Heidelberg-Kinglake Road (Main Road) Precinct, 2013 and the St Andrews Township Guidelines, April 2012. [74.01s] [21.05-1]

Undertaking Further Strategic Work

- Implement structure plans for the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres [74.02s] [21.05-1]

Identify opportunities for medium density and more diverse housing that meet community needs particularly in the context of an ageing population. This should be undertaken through structure planning in identified activity centres. [74.02s] [21.05-1]

- Review the stock of vacant residential land supply and demand [74.02s] [21.05-1]
- Review the strategy documents for Hurstbridge and Wattle Glen. [74.02s] [21.05-1]
- Consider undertaking further strategic work and reviewing implementation mechanisms to identify and ensure appropriate development including signage controls in township entrances and gateways. [74.02s] [21.05-1]
- Revise objectives relating to energy efficiency rating in accordance with State Government legislation. [74.02s] [21.05-1]
- Investigate application of energy rating systems to alternative building materials such as mud brick. [74.02s] [21.05-1]

Other Actions

- ~~Provide expertise and education to the public in the use of non-forest timbers and alternative building materials such as mud-brick, straw-bale and rammed-earth. c~~ [21.05-1]
- ~~Collate good examples of residential development designs and layouts which respond to site characteristics and streetscape and respect the neighbourhood. Make use of these to help~~

~~demonstrate to the public the expectations of site and locality analysis and response in residential proposals. [rule 1] [21.05-1]~~

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21.05-2

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Rural Land Use

Overview

Approximately 92% of the Shire of Nillumbik is rural land and lies outside the Urban Growth Boundary. Rural areas contain natural resource based activities including agriculture, hobby farming, limited gold mining and forestry. Rural areas also contain sites of environmental significance as well as residences in rural or bushland settings. This diversity of uses raises issues of land use conflict, resource use and environmental management. These issues must be managed by ensuring the sustainable land use and natural resource management of rural areas. [02.03 settlement] [21.05-2]

~~The objectives, strategies and means of implementation which relate to the natural environment, conservation and landscape, much of which is prevalent in the rural areas of the Shire, are addressed in the 'Environment, Conservation & Landscape' section (21.05-3). [21.05-2]~~

State Planning Policy (Clause 11.04-6) supports the protection of the green wedges of metropolitan Melbourne from inappropriate development. [02.03 settlement] In Nillumbik, environmental and social values are ascribed to areas of environmental and landscape quality in the vicinity of the Yarra River, Plenty River, Diamond Creek and surrounding areas. [02.03 environmental landscapes] ~~Relevant State Planning Policies include River corridors (11.04-8); Protection of agricultural land (14.01-1) and Sustainable agricultural land use (14.01-2); Catchment planning and management (14.02-1) and Rural residential development (16.02-1) [21.05-2]~~

~~Rural land use issues cover a range of themes including the environment, housing, economic development and infrastructure. This reflects the many considerations which are to be had for future subdivision, use and development in rural areas of the Shire. [21.05-2] rule 9 - additional info~~

Objective 1

To retain existing agricultural land for soil based agricultural production and promote sustainable agricultural activities.. [02.03 natural resource management] [21.05-2]

Strategies

- Promote land use in rural areas in accordance with the capability and productive potential of the land. [02.03 natural resource management] [21.05-2]
- Limit small lot subdivision and encourage the consolidation of titles of agricultural land in order to maintain farm scale, retain the productive potential of land and the ability to undertake sustainable land management practices. [14.01-1L] [21.05-2]
- Limit non-soil based use and development in land identified as rural, conservation farming or conservation in the Framework Plan, and land identified as high quality in Kangaroo Ground. [14.01-1L] [21.05-2]
- Support the continuance and diversification of agriculture which demonstrates sustainable land management practices. [14.01-2S] [21.05-2]
- ~~Protect the productive potential of agricultural land from inappropriate use and development. REP 14.01-1S [21.05-2]~~
- ~~Facilitate opportunities for diversification in agricultural activities. [21.05-2] REP 14.01-2S~~
- ~~Discourage residential uses within non-urban areas. [REP21.05-1 AND 21.05-2 in 11.01-1L] [21.05-2]~~

Objective 2

To limit the fragmentation of land in rural areas. [02.03 settlement] [21.05-2]

Strategies

- Ensure land use changes do not have an adverse impact on the landscape or strategic environmental values of the land. [02.03 enviro landscapes and values] [21.05-2]
- ~~Protect the productive potential of rural land by limiting small lot subdivision.~~ [REP 21.05-2 STRATEGY ABOVE] [21.05-2]

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Strongly discourage subdivision of property boundaries for the purpose of creating rural residential or hobby farm lots. [14.01-1L] [21.05-2]

- ~~Generally, support realignments for minor boundary adjustments which respond to topography or physical man-made features.~~ [REP 21.05-1 STRATEGY ABOVE] Where small lots are allowed via the realignment of existing property boundaries, consider restrictions for the balance of the land with respect to future development and subdivision potential. [14.01-1L] [21.05-2]
- Encourage new rural residential development in areas zoned for that purpose at Yarrambat and Plenty and other appropriately zoned areas. [11.01-1L] [21.05-2]
- ~~With respect to subdivision, consider rural land consistent with the Framework Plan, as rural, conservation, environmental rural and conservation interface based on land capability, rural character, proximity to major environmental assets and potentially conflicting low-density residential areas, landscape features and strategic environmental values.~~ [21.05-2] rule 9 – wording is unclear. Words such as consider can no longer be used in PPF as it does not provide policy direction. That being said, the planning intent of these considerations are covered by existing local and state policy.
- Encourage retention of large lots in single ownership for the purposes of preserving conservation values or agricultural potential which may require a larger subdivision size. [14.01-1L] [21.05-2]

~~Encourage the consolidation of titles.~~ [REP 21.05-2L STRATEGY ABOVE] [21.05-2]

Objective 3

To ensure that any new dwelling built in the non urban area does not adversely impact on the primary production activities carried out on the land or on the environmental values of the land. [14.01-1L merge] [21.05-2]

Strategies

- Ensure that the development of any new dwelling outside of the Urban Growth Boundary does not adversely impact on the primary production activities carried out on the land or on neighbouring land. [21.05-2] [14.01-1L merge]
- ~~Encourage sites to be used according to land capability,~~ [REP 21.05-2 STRATEGY ABOVE] and be managed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the ~~quality and quantity of natural resources,~~ [REP 14.01-2S] surrounding land and the catchment. [02.03 agriculture merge] [21.05-2]

- Ensure land to the west of the Bend of Islands will not threaten the integrity of the protection
- of flora and fauna in the Bend of Islands when residential use is introduced to this area. [12.01-1L] [21.05-2]

Consolidate residential uses and development in the urban areas, townships and designated low density residential areas in the Shire. [11.01-1L] [21.05-2]

Objective 4

To minimise infrastructure servicing demand in rural areas. [02.03 infrastructure] [21.05-2]

Strategies

- Limit the development of new dwellings and buildings on rural allotments below the minimum subdivision size, unless exceptional circumstances apply. [14.01-1L] [21.05-2]
- Strongly discourage commercial [17.02-1L] and industrial type uses and developments in rural areas with limited vehicular access, due to unsealed roads, no-through roads or other constraints to road safety or efficiency. [17.03-1L] [21.05-2]
- Encourage the location of commercial/tourism uses which have the potential to attract substantial numbers of daily visitors, such as art galleries, cafes, plant nurseries, restaurants and wineries, in close proximity to major roads to limit the impact of these uses on the local road network. [18.02-3L merge] [21.05-2]
- ~~Facilitate the restructuring of old and inappropriate subdivisions.~~ [21.05-2] REP 45.05
- RESTRUCTURE OVERLAY

~~Encourage new rural residential development in areas currently designated for that purpose at Yarrambat and Plenty and other appropriately zoned areas.~~ [rep 21.05-2 strategy above] [21.05-2]

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~~Ensure lots have the capacity to contain all effluent generated on site and provide for the appropriate management of stormwater. [REP19.03-3S] [21.05-2]~~

- *Note: Services and facilities for the urban population of Mernda in the City of Whittlesea should be located in the urban-zoned land of the City of Whittlesea. [RULE 1]-Rural land in the Shire of Nillumbik near the Whittlesea growth corridor will continue to be used for rural purposes. [RULE 9 – additional info, land is already zoned for rural purposes]*

Objective 5

To protect and enhance rural landscape character. ~~02.03 enviro & landscape values~~ [21.05-2]

Strategies

- Conserve bushland and encourage revegetation. [12.01-1L] [21.05-2]
- Ensure uses, buildings and works in rural and low-density residential areas maintain or enhance the landscape character of the locality, including views to the site. [12.05-2L] [21.05-2]
- Restrict multiple buildings in rural and low-density residential areas, and support the consolidation of buildings (especially outbuildings). [15.01-6L] [21.05-2]
- ~~Ensure that the siting and design of buildings and works in rural areas avoid ridge lines and hilltops wherever possible to ensure that they do not form a silhouette on the horizon.~~
- ~~[REP22.04] [21.05-2]~~
- ~~Discourage the use of reflective building materials such as zincalume in rural areas where a proposed building would be visible from other properties or roads. [REP22.04] [21.05-2]~~
- ~~Encourage the use of muted tones on external surfaces while discouraging the use of bright or contrasting colours. [REP22.04] [21.05-2]~~
- Restrict subdivision and the development of buildings on lots in rural areas to maintain landscape qualities. [11.01-1L] [21.05-2]
- ~~Consult the Nillumbik Shire Council Roadside Management Plan in the consideration of works on roadsides. [rule 9 –planning intent unclear][21.05-2]~~

~~Encourage the planting of indigenous vegetation and discourage the planting of exotic species. [REP21.05-3] [21.05-2]~~

Implementation

~~The above strategies will be implemented by:~~ [21.05-2]

Using Local Policies

- ~~Use a local policy to protect the integrity of landscape values in the Shire from inappropriate siting and design of buildings and works (Siting and Design Policy for Buildings & Works in Non-Urban Areas, Clause 22.04). [21.05-2]~~
- ~~Use a local policy for an area adjoining the Bend of Islands to help protect flora and fauna in the Bend of Islands (Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy, Clause 22.11). [21.05-2]~~

Applying Zones and Overlays

- Apply the Green Wedge Zone to land which provides for sustainable use for extensive animal husbandry and crop raising (land described as Farming in the Framework Plan). [74.01s] [21.05-2]
- Apply the Rural Conservation Zone to non-urban land with environmental significance and landscape values. [74.01s] [21.05-2]

Use the schedule to the Rural Conservation and Green Wedge Zones to establish varying subdivision minimums based on land classified in the Framework Plan as Conservation,

Conservation Farming, Rural Conservation and Conservation Interface. The schedule specifies the outcomes unique to each of the classifications. [74.01s] [21.05-2]

- Apply the Special Use Zone to protect the unique environmental and lifestyle values of the Bend of Islands area. [74.01s] [21.05-2]

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NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Apply the Restructure Overlay to two old and inappropriate subdivisions at Rankin Street in Panton Hill, Fawcner Crescent in Hurstbridge and Smiths Gully Road in Smiths Gully. [74.01s] [21.05-2]

Undertaking Further Strategic Work

- Review planning controls including Local Planning Policy Framework (MSS and local policies) and the application of zones and overlays as an outcome of the Green Wedge Management Plan. [74.02s] [21.05-2]
- Review the Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy, upon implementation of the Warrandyte to Kinglake nature conservation link. [74.02s] [21.05-2]

Note: Many future strategic initiatives for rural areas of the Shire are included in the Environment, Conservation & Landscape section (21.05-3).

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Environment, Conservation & Landscape

Overview

In order to maintain the high environmental and landscape values that occur within the Shire, threatening processes associated with the loss and degradation of the natural and built environment need to be addressed. The long term protection of native species and ecosystems requires large areas of high quality native vegetation interconnected by a network of habitat corridors. These areas are located on both public and private land. [02.03 enviro landscapes and values] Knowledge and understanding of environmental and cultural significant values within the Shire, and the encouragement of a coordinated catchment approach based on sustainable principles, is critical in achieving sound planning decisions. [unclear what the planning action is] [21.05-3]

~~State Planning Policy supports improved environmental management that ensures water resources are managed in a sustainable way, that resource use and waste generation is reduced and that native habitat and areas of important biodiversity through appropriate land use planning is protected. [21.05-3] [rule 9 – additional info]~~

~~Relevant State Planning Policies include: Open space planning (Clause 11.03-1), River corridors (11.04-8), Protection of habitat (12.01-1), Native vegetation management (12.01-2), Environmentally sensitive areas (12.04-1), Landscapes (12.04-2), Bushfire planning strategies and principles (13.05-1), Energy and resource efficiency (15.02-1), Heritage conservation (15.03-1) and Aboriginal cultural heritage (15.03-2). Given the unique natural and cultural value of the Shire, Clause 15.03 is highly relevant and states “to ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance” and “to ensure the protection and conservation of places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance” [REP 21.05-3 OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES] [21.05-3]~~

State Planning Policy also states ‘to assist the protection and conservation of biodiversity, including native vegetation retention and provision of habitats for native plants and animals and control of pest plants and animals.’ Given the large number of threatened native species and

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threatening processes occurring in the Shire, this is a particularly relevant consideration in any planning decision. [02.03 enviro landscapes and values] [21.05-3]

Objective 1

To protect and enhance sites of environmental significance. [02.03 enviro landscapes and values] [21.05-3]

Strategies

- ~~Protect areas of environmental significance, by restricting land uses and development that may adversely impact on native flora and fauna.~~ [REP12.01-1S] [21.05-3]
- ~~Establish a shire wide network of strategic habitat links and~~ [REP12.01-1S] retain high value conservation land in public ownership wherever possible. [12.01-1L] [21.05-3]
- Incorporate the retention and enhancement of strategic habitat links into subdivision plans and site management plans where appropriate. [12.01-1L] [21.05-3]

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Encourage the retention of vegetated areas of sufficient size that maintains the viability of faunal populations and vegetation communities and protects biodiversity and other significant environmental values. [12.01-1L] [21.05-3]

- ~~Identify significant nature conservation values and develop actions to ensure their long-term survival.~~ [rule 1 - process for Council, can be moved to FSW if needed] [21.05-3]
- Protect and enhance roadside vegetation through the implementation of the Nillumbik Shire Council Roadside Management Plan (2012) and the planting of roadside reservations only with indigenous plantings, unless there are exceptional circumstances for alternative plants. [split 12.01-1L strategy, policy guideline and policy document; 14.01-2L] [21.05-3]
- Protect remnant vegetation by encouraging the use of Trust for Nature Conservation Covenants on private bush land. [12.01-1L] [21.05-3]
- Encourage the protection and enhancement of sites of environmental significance with planting of indigenous vegetation rather than exotics. [12.01-1L] [21.05-3]
- Encourage siting and design of dwellings that avoids the need to remove native vegetation [12.01-1L] ~~and ensure development proposals address the Net Gain Principle of the Native Vegetation Framework.~~ [REP12.01-2S] [21.05-3]
- Protect all wetlands, floodplains [02.03 ENVIRO LANDSCAPES AND VALUES] ~~and native habitat areas [02.03 ENVIRO LANDSCAPES AND VALUES] from inappropriate land use, development and works~~ including dam construction. [14.01-2L] [21.05-3]

Objective 2

To ensure land use and development is assessed in the context of its potential effect on the wider catchment and encourage sustainable land management. [02.03 enviro landscapes & values] [21.05-3]

Strategies

- Encourage land uses which ~~complement land capability,~~ [REP 21.05-3 STRATEGY BELOW] improve water quality and maintain environmental flows. [02.03 ENVIRO LANDSCAPES AND VALUES] [21.05-3]
-

~~Encourage coordinated environmental management of public and private land. [rule 1 and 9] [21.05-3]~~

~~Protect the natural systems including land, air and water from pollution and detrimental activities [REP STATE POLICY] in accordance with relevant State legislation including State Environment Protection Policies, [REP 13.06-1S, 19.03-3S] best practice environmental management guidelines [REP 19.03-3S] and approved catchment strategies. [REP 14.02-1S] [21.05-3]~~

~~▪ Encourage use and development that can demonstrate consistency with the requirements of – [rule 1 – council actions and repeats existing strategies] Council’s Sustainable Water Management Plan 2008 [72.08s] and best practice principles in relation to stormwater management. [REP21.05-1 strategy above] [21.05-3]~~

~~▪ Refer to Melbourne Water’s Diamond Creek and Plenty River Streamflow Management Plans when responding to permit applications within these catchments. [rule 1 - RA process] [21.05-3]~~

~~▪ Protect all waterways within the Shire from disturbance and pollution caused by inappropriate land use, development and works [02.03 ENVIRO LANDSCAPES AND VALUES] including dam construction. [12.03-1] [21.05-3]~~

~~Ensure land use and development is consistent with identified land capability and environmental constraints [REP21.03-1] and is managed to have minimum adverse impact on neighbouring properties [REP15.01-2S] -and the catchment. [REP21.05-3 strategy above] [21.05-3]~~

~~▪ Protect rural land from subdivision and development that impacts on the ability of the land to undertake sustainable land management practices. [14.01-2L] [21.05-3]~~

~~▪ Where a permit is required for agriculture, seek to apply conditions requiring the protection of native vegetation (e.g. fencing off remnant vegetation). [rule 1 – instruction to RA] [21.05-3]~~

Objective 3

To protect places of natural and cultural heritage. [02.03 built environment] [21.05-3]

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Strategies

- ~~Work with Aboriginal Victoria to~~ [rule 1 – process] protect sites of Aboriginal heritage significance. [02.03 built environment] [21.05-3]
- ~~Ensure that informed assessments are carried out with respect to the potential Aboriginal heritage value of a site, and require referral to relevant heritage bodies as necessary.~~ [rule 1 – process] [21.05-3]
- ~~Protect heritage sites, buildings and trees identified in heritage studies~~ [DELETE - ALL ARE PROTECTED BY HO] and undertake ongoing review of places for their heritage significance [rule 1 – process] [21.05-3]

Encourage new use and development to contribute to the protection and enhancement of natural and cultural heritage. [02.03 built environment] [21.05-3]

~~Undertake and support community education programs that protect sites of natural and cultural heritage.~~ [rule 1] [21.05-3]

Objective 4

To promote energy efficiency in the layout of subdivisions and the siting and design of buildings. [02.03 built environment] [21.05-3]

Strategies

- Encourage subdivision designs to maximise solar access for lots. This includes careful orientation and sizing of house lots to maximise free solar heating and reduce overshadowing of north facing windows [15.01-3L] [21.05-3]
- ~~Encourage greater use of renewable energy resources such as solar, wind and water and reduce reliance on non-renewable resources such as fossil fuels.~~ [REP 15.02-1S] [21.05-3]

Objective 5

~~To avoid and mitigate the limitations and threats posed by environmental hazards in land use and development.~~ [REP OTHER SDs IN 02.03 ENVIRO RISKS AND AMENITY, INCLUDING 21.05-3, 22.04, 22.13] [21.05-3]

Strategies

- ~~Ensure that development in areas of bushfire risk is appropriately sited, designed and managed to avoid or minimise risk.~~ [REP BMO 44.06 & 53.02] [21.05-3]
- Restrict sensitive uses, such as dwellings, in areas of bushfire risk. [REP 13.02-1S] [21.05-3]
- ~~Implement fire management programs which are integrated with environmental objectives and strategies and the Municipal Fire Management Plan~~ [rule 1] [21.05-3]
- ~~Ensure development is assessed in accordance with the Bushfire Management Overlays where applicable.~~ [REP BMO 44.06] [21.05-3]
- ~~Ensure that development in areas subject to inundation and flooding is appropriately designed and managed to minimise risk and to protect the environmental values of the site including water quality and streamside habitat.~~ [REPLSIO; UFZ; 12.03-1S & 13.03-1S] [21.05-3]
- Ensure that development, including vegetation removal, takes into account the potential risk of soil erosion, stormwater quality, soil expansion and landslip. [02.03 enviro risk and amenity] [21.05-3]

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- Ensure that land which may be contaminated is appropriately investigated and treated before new sensitive uses are allowed. [02.03 potentially contaminated land SD merge] [21.05-3]

Objective 6

~~To promote resource conservation. [rule 1]~~ [21.05-3]

Strategies

- Encourage retention and planting of indigenous vegetation ~~through planning provision and environmental initiatives [rule 1]~~, recognising the role that vegetation plays in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. [21.05-3]
~~Encourage waste minimisation and [rule 1] the use of recycled and plantation grown timbers in the construction of new buildings. [covered by other strategies in the PPF e.g. NC policy where relevant, e.g. encouraging muted tones, natural materials etc] [21.05-3]~~
- ~~Encourage the use of alternative building materials such as mud-brick and rammed-earth construction. [REP 21.05-1 strategy above] [21.05-3]~~

Objective 7

To protect and enhance conservation areas and [02.03 enviro landscapes and values] identify opportunities to create and link areas of open space in accordance with the Open Space Strategy. [02.03 infrastructure] [21.05-3]

Strategies

- Encourage large lot rural land use and rural living opportunities that protect the environmental and landscape values of major conservation areas such as the Plenty Gorge Park, Kinglake National Park and the Yarra River Valley. [12.01-1L] [21.05-3]
- Strongly encourage ~~the design of subdivisions to incorporate the potential for open space linkages and [REP15.01-3S]~~ the retention of remnant vegetation and drainage lines as parts of open spaces. [15.01-3L] [21.05-3]
~~Develop and implement site management plans for conservation areas of high environmental sensitivity owned and managed by Council. [rule 1] [21.05-3]~~
- ~~Retain high value conservation land in public ownership. [REP21.05-3 strategy above] [21.05-3]~~

Implementation

~~The Environment, Conservation and Landscape strategies will be implemented by: [21.05-3]~~

Using Local Policies

- ~~Use a local policy to provide guidelines on appropriate and responsive siting and design of buildings in rural areas and to minimise landscape impact, energy usage and fire hazard (Siting and Design Policy for Buildings & Works in Non-urban Areas, Clause 22.04). [21.05-3]~~
- ~~Use a local policy to acknowledge the prior occupation of the Shire by the Wurundjeri people and which requires future development in particular areas to have regard to sites of Aboriginal heritage, (Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Policy, Clause 22.05). [21.05-3]~~
- ~~Use a local policy which acknowledges Nillumbik Shire Council's Roadside Management Plan and provides guidelines for the consideration of proposals within or near roadsides (Roadside Management Policy, Clause 22.06). [21.05-3]~~

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- ~~Use a local policy for an area adjoining the Bend of Islands to help protect flora and fauna in the Bend of Islands (Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy, Clause 22.11).~~ [21.05-3]

Applying Zones and Overlays

- Apply the Rural Conservation Zone to most rural areas in the Shire to protect environmental values and to promote sound management and land capability practices. [74.01s] [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply a Special Use Zone to protect the unique environmental and lifestyle values of the Bend of Islands area. This zone specifically prohibits the construction of fences, keeping of domestic pets, grazing and agriculture and the planting of non-indigenous vegetation (except for a small kitchen garden).~~ [REP 21.05-2] [21.05-3]
- Apply the Public Conservation and Resource Zone to manage the use of major public reserves of significant environmental value. [74.01s] [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the Urban Floodway Zone within urban areas which have the greatest risk and frequency of being affected by flooding.~~ [21.05-3] [REP 21.05-1]
- Apply the Public Acquisition Overlay to land identified by an authority for the purposes of acquiring public open space, notably Yarra Valley Parklands, Plenty Gorge Metropolitan Park and the Diamond Creek Linear Open Space Link. [21.05-3] [74.01s]

Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to identified sites of national, state and regional faunal and habitat significance, derived from the NEROC Report (Beardsell, 1997). [74.01s]~~The overlay identifies potential environmental constraints, strengthens vegetation retention controls and where appropriate requires property management plans to demonstrate how new development or land use will not impact on environmental values.~~ [additional text] [21.05-3]

- Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to protect and enhance environmental and landscape characteristics of the Yarra River Valley environs. The overlay will facilitate the objectives of the *Middle Yarra Concept Plan* (Melbourne Water, 1991). [21.05-3] [74.01s]
- Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to protect and enhance the environmental and landscape characteristics of the Plenty River environs. The overlay will facilitate the objectives of the *Lower Plenty River Concept Plan* (Melbourne Water, 1992). [21.05-3] [74.01s]
- Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to all land within 30 metres of the Diamond, Arthurs and Watsons Creeks to protect existing vegetation, stream banks and improve water quality. [21.05-3] [74.01s]
- Apply a Significant Landscape Overlay to low density residential areas in North Warrandyte and around Eltham that will protect the environmental and landscape character of the area. [74.01s]~~Proposed development will need to address issues including vegetation retention and the sensitive siting of buildings and works.~~ [additional text] [21.05-3]
- Apply a Significant Landscape Overlay to bushland residential areas that will protect the environmental and landscape character of the area. [74.01s]~~Proposals will need to address the retention of native vegetation.~~ [additional text] [21.05-3]

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- ~~Apply the Design and Development Overlay to the Eltham Gateway to encourage the retention of the treed nature of this area and guide development.~~ [21.05-3] [REP21.05-1]
- Apply the Environmental Audit Overlay to areas identified as potentially contaminated with concentrations of arsenic, cyanide or mercury, as a result of past gold mining activity. [21.05-3] [74.01s]
- Apply the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay to areas affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other flood prone area determined by Melbourne Water. [21.05-3] [74.01s]
- Apply the Special Building Overlay to urban areas identified by Melbourne Water that are liable to inundation by overland flows from the urban drainage system. [21.05-3] [74.01s]
- Apply the Bushfire Management Overlay to areas of high bushfire risk. [21.05-3] [74.01s]
- Apply the Heritage Overlay to identify, protect and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance. [21.05-3] [74.01s]

~~Apply the Development Plan Overlay (for areas expressed in Clause 21.05-1) to ensure consideration of environment and landscape in specifying requirements over the future development of these areas.~~ [21.05-3] [REP21.05-1]

Undertaking Further Strategic Work

- ~~Ongoing implementation review of the Environmental Charter and associated statement and strategies to ensure appropriate actions to protect and enhance the natural environment.~~ [21.05-3] [RULE 1]
- ~~Prepare a catchment management plan for the Watsons Creek catchment based on State of the Environment Reporting.~~ [21.05-3] [rule 1]
- Review the Open Space Strategy. [21.05-3][74.02S]

~~Review planning controls including Local Planning Policy Framework (MSS and local policies) and the application of zones and overlays as recommended by the Green Wedge Management Plan.~~ [21.05-3] [REP21.05-2]

- Review the ESO1 boundaries and schedule to improve mapping and identification of significant environmental sites, threatened vegetation communities and species and identification of habitat links. [21.05-3] [74.02S]

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- Review the ESO1 schedule to clarify the need for information such as a flora and fauna assessment, proposed revegetation/landscaping, identification and control of weed species and ongoing management of the site. [21.05-3] [74.02S]
- Review the coverage of ESO4 waterways to consider inclusion of additional significant waterways such as running creek and Deep Creek in Arthurs Creek, Pigeon Bank Creek and Stony Creek in Kangaroo Ground/North Warrandyte. [21.05-3] [74.02S]
- Review the NERO Report (Beardsell, 1997) as part of a regional project involving adjoining municipalities and DSE. [21.05-3] [74.02S]
- Review the LSIO, UFZ and SBO as new information becomes available. [21.05-3] [74.02S]
- Review the Local Planning Policy Framework to incorporate bushfire considerations into the Planning Scheme. [21.05-3] [74.02S]
- Continue to review the Environmental Audit Overlay in relation to identification of sites of potential contamination. [21.05-3] [74.02S]
- Identify and protect significant landscapes and vistas in the rural areas as an outcome of the Green Wedge Management Plan. [21.05-3] [74.02S]
- ~~Implement the Biodiversity Assessment Guidelines 2013.~~ [21.05-3] [implemented by State]

21.05-4
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Economic Development

Overview

Economic development opportunities in the Shire of Nillumbik are likely to be generated by small business enterprises especially home-based businesses involved in leisure services, retailing, rural industry, tourism, information technology, education and training, innovative environmental management and sustainable agriculture. The principal focus with respect to economic development is to strengthen existing enterprises and facilitate new business initiatives which respect the Shire's environmental, social and economic development priorities. [21.05-4] [02.03-7]

~~Relevant State Planning Policies include: Activity centre network (Clause 11.01-1), Activity centre planning (11.01-2), Urban design (15.01-1), Business (17.01-1), Industrial land development (17.02-1) and Facilitating tourism (17.03-1).~~ The main employment locations in Nillumbik, the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres, Hurstbridge Neighbourhood Activity Centre and the industrial land at Research need to be maintained to continue to provide opportunities for local employment. In the non-urban areas, the range of tourism and commercial activities are restricted to activity centres or purposes that can be used in conjunction with agriculture, rural industry or winery. [21.05-4] [02.03-7]

~~Many of the objectives included in Clause 17 directly relate to strategic directions for economic development in the Shire of Nillumbik. These objectives must be pursued in conjunction with other objectives identified in the Municipal Strategic Statement.~~ [21.05-4] unnecessary content in PPF

Objective 1

~~To facilitate environmentally sustainable economic development.~~ [21.05-4] unclear what this means, also 21.05-4 now an SD in 02.03-7 economic development does a better job in articulating this.

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▪ Strategies

- Facilitate establishment of clean green businesses ~~and strategies [rule 1]~~ encouraging greenhouse reduction targets as part of Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2010-2015 and Ecologically Sustainable Development Policy 2012. [21.05-4] 17.02-1L

- Facilitate establishment and growth of enterprises involved in environmental and agricultural research and development, [17.01-2L] and tourism based on environmental and local sustainable interests. [17.04-1L] [21.05-4]

Ensure urban and rural based tourism is compatible with the environmental capacity of the Shire and the locality. [17.04-1L] [21.05-4]

~~Develop links between research and education organisations and the Shire's community to provide opportunities to implement innovative approaches to sustainable land use and land management.~~ [21.05-4] [rule 1 – cannot be implemented through scheme]

- Promote economic development opportunities that build on the cultural and physical characteristics of the conservation and rural focus (the 'green wedge') of the Shire. [21.05-4]
- [02.03 SD economic development]

Encourage home-based businesses which achieve environmental and social benefits through decreased travel time, use of existing structures and resources, provision of a neighbourhood presence [17.02-1L] ~~and provides increased demand for other local businesses as services and products are sourced locally. [rule 1]~~ [21.05-4]

- Facilitate signage to advertise business undertaken on-site, while ensuring that signs will not detract from streetscapes or landscape characters of areas [15.01-1L signs], ~~and not raise traffic safety concerns.~~ [REP52.05] [21.05-4]

~~Promote passive recreational activities within the Shire.~~ [21.05-4] [SECTION 1 USE IN GWZ AND RCZ – CLARIFIED WITH COUNCIL THAT THIS IS IMPLEMENTED THROUGH INFORMAL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES IN GWZ AND RCZ]

Objective 2

To promote Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres as the main commercial and community activity areas in the Shire, and support the viability and vitality of these areas. [21.05-4] [02.03 economic development SD]

Strategies

- Concentrate the Shire's major retail activities in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres. [21.05-4] [11.03-1L]
- Develop a sense of place and opportunities for meeting and community interaction in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres. [21.05-4] [11.03-1L]
- ~~Implement the Structure Plans for the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres.~~ [21.05-4] [rule 1 - direction to Council]

Ensure use and development in the Diamond Creek Road Business Area (north east corner Diamond Creek Road and McLaughlans Lane, Plenty) is of only for limited local convenience and does not detract from the retail role and function of Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre. [21.05-4] [17.02-1L]

- ~~Ensure that the future land use and development in activity centres is appropriate to the role and function of the centre~~ [REP11.03-1S] ~~and enhances the natural and built environment.~~ [REP15.01-2s AND 15.01-1S] [21.05-4]

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Maintain the retail nature of uses in core retailing areas at pedestrian thoroughfare levels (i.e. non-retail activities, such as offices and storage, should not be located at pedestrian thoroughfare levels in core retailing areas, as these uses detract from the retail presence of these areas). [21.05-4] [11.03-1L]

- ~~Ensure that new development enhances the accessibility of commercial and public areas to all users.~~ [21.05-4] [REP21.05-5]
- ~~Broaden the mix of land uses in and around major activity centres and neighbourhood activity centres to include services and medium density housing.~~ [21.05-4] [REP11.03-1S & 21.05-1]
- ~~Undertake infrastructure and streetscape improvements.~~ [21.05-4] [rule1 – Council work does not require permit]

~~Develop and implement a new masterplan for traffic and landscape development along Main Hurstbridge Road which maintains two lane/two-way traffic but keeps open possible duplication after 2020 to help improve traffic flows and conditions for pedestrians and cyclists, improve the town centre landscape and develop a distinct image.~~ [21.05-4] [rule1]

- ~~Implement the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan, 2004 and Diamond Creek twenty20-Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan, September 2006.~~ [21.05-4] [Instruction to Council]

Objective 3

To promote good urban design in all activity centres and townships and recognise the importance of retaining the historical and individual characteristics of each area. [21.05-4] [02.03 SD built enviro]

Strategies

- ~~Encourage the creation of a sense of place and opportunities for meeting and community interaction.~~ [21.05-4] [REP15.01-1S]
- Ensure that new development enhances accessibility for all users including pedestrian and cyclist access, improved public space, orientation to public transport and the main public transport networks. [21.05-4] [02.03 SD built enviro]
- ~~Implement the Eltham Major Activity Centre Guidelines 2009 and the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan, 2005 and the Bridge Street Business Precinct, Urban Design Framework to assist consideration of development in the Eltham Major Activity Centre.~~ [21.05-4] [Instruction to Council and already implemented]
- ~~Implement the Diamond Creek twenty20-Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan, September 2006 and the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Guidelines 2009 to guide the urban form and landscape development in and around the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre.~~ [21.05-4] [Instruction to Council]
- ~~Implement the Hurstbridge Township Strategy 2002 and the Hurstbridge Design Guidelines, Heidelberg-Kinglake Road (Main Road) Precinct 2013 to guide the built form and landscaping of the Hurstbridge Township.~~ [21.05-4] [Instruction to Council]
- ~~Implement to the Eltham Gateway Design Guidelines 2013 to provide guidance on new development in the Eltham Gateway.~~ [21.05-4] [Instruction to Council]
- ~~Ensure that business signs do not detract from streetscapes or landscape characters of areas, [REP 21.05-4 strategy above] and do not raise traffic safety concerns.~~ [REP52.05] [21.05-4]
- ~~Ensure that new development is complementary to and enhances the existing historical and individual character of each locality~~ [21.05-4] [rep21.05-4 objective above]

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▪ Objective 4

~~To facilitate small-scale industries and business opportunities and the retention of low-impact business and industrial areas. [21.05-4] [unclear what this means, also intent is covered by 21.05-4 now SD in 02.03-7 economic development]~~

Strategies

- Encourage industrial uses to consolidate in industrial areas. [21.05-4] 17.03-1L
 - With the exception of designated areas in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plans, discourage non-industrial type uses from establishing in designated industrial areas. [21.05-4] 17.03-1L
 - ~~Encourage low-impact uses such as offices, health centres and recreation venues on the north side of Brougham Street and west side of Susan Street (Eltham) [REP22.15 POLICY] as well as areas identified in the Diamond Creek Structure Plan. [REP 22.14 POLICY] [21.05-4]~~
 - ~~Encourage site consolidation and the development of bulky goods retailing in Bridge Street, Bolton Street and Sherbourne Road, Eltham. [21.05-4] REP22.15 BRIDGESTREET BUSINESS AREA POLICY]~~
 - Discourage large inappropriate industrial uses from establishing in the Shire. [21.05-4] 17.03-1L
 - Encourage occupiers of industrial estates to undertake coordinated beautification works. [21.05-4] 15.01-2L
- ~~Encourage appropriate landscaping for existing and new developments in industrial areas. [21.05-4] REP22.08~~

Objective 5

To provide for land uses that expand tourism opportunities in the Shire and realise a potential for additional local employment. [21.05-4] 02.03 economic development SD

Strategies

Facilitate low impact tourism development opportunities that build on the cultural and physical characteristics of the 'green wedge'. [21.05-4] 17.04-1L

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- Encourage the establishment of tourism related uses in urban locations where there is safe and efficient access to main roads, and which would not be to the detriment of neighbouring and surrounding land uses and from the neighbourhood character and streetscape. [21.05-4 split] 17.04-1L
- Encourage the establishment of tourism related uses in rural locations where there is direct access from a major road, and where such use and development is compatible with the environmental and landscape values of the site and surrounding area. Ensure that access is not reliant on unsuitable local roads and that the use will not adversely impact on neighbouring and surrounding land uses. [21.05-4 split] 17.04-1L
- Ensure tourism use is of a scale and type which can be adequately catered for by available infrastructure services. [21.05-4 merge] 17.04-1L

Implementation

~~The above strategies will be implemented by:~~ [21.05-4]

Using Local Policies

- ~~Use local policy to provide guidelines for the consideration of applications with respect to development and use in the Eltham Major Activity Centre. The policy includes considerations of environmental character, amenity, traffic, parking and advertising signs (Eltham Major Activity Centre Policy, Clause 22.07).~~ [21.05-4]
- ~~Use local policy to guide decisions about land use and development in and around the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre. The Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Policy, Clause 22.14 deals with land use, building form and landscape, community and leisure facilities, transport and mobility.~~ [21.05-4]
- ~~Use local policy to provide guidelines for the siting and design of industrial buildings. The policy includes considerations of landscaping, materials, building heights, loading and unloading facilities and earthworks (Industrial Areas Policy, Clause 22.08).~~ [21.05-4]

Applying Zones and Overlays

- Apply the Industrial 3 Zone to the three established industrial areas in Diamond Creek, Eltham and Research. [21.05-4] 74.01s
- Apply the Business 1 Zone to established retail areas in the Shire. [21.05-4] 74.01s
- Apply the Business 1 Zone to a limited local convenience centre on the north east corner of Diamond Creek Road and McLaughlan's Lane, Plenty. [21.05-4] 74.01s
- Apply the Business 2 Zone to two areas in the Shire at the Eltham Major Activity Centre (on the western side of Main Road) and the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre (on the northern side of Main-Hurstbridge Road east of the railway crossing). [21.05-4] 74.01s
- ~~Apply the Township Zone to provide for a range of residential, commercial, light industrial and other uses which complement the multi-use function of smaller townships in the Shire.~~ [21.05-4] REP21.05-1

- Apply the Development Plan Overlay to the Kangaroo Ground commercial precinct to specify requirements over the future development of the area. [21.05-4] 74.01s

~~Apply a variety of overlays which do not relate specifically to economic development but will highlight considerations for particular land parcels (e.g. significant landscape and land subject to inundation). These overlays are included under other themes.~~ [21.05-4] REP OTHER THEMES

- ~~Apply the Design and Development Overlay to the Hurstbridge Township to specify requirements to guide development.~~ [21.05-4] REP21.05-1

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Undertaking Further Strategic Work

~~Implement the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plans, [REP21.05-1] the Bridge Street Business Precinct Urban Design Framework and the Hurstbridge Township Strategy. [21.05-4] already implemented~~

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- As part of structure planning for activity centres review the quality, extent and visual impact and effectiveness of signage in industrial, commercial and gateway precincts to allow businesses to effectively promote their presence, products and activities. [21.05-4] 74.02s

- Review the Industrial Areas Policy (Clause 22.08). [21.05-4] 74.02s

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Infrastructure

Overview

~~The provision of appropriate infrastructure services such as public utilities, public open space, recreation and transport networks are integral to a variety of land uses. The dispersed nature of low-density residential areas creates some difficulties in the provision of a full range of infrastructure services, and rural areas invariably have only limited physical infrastructure. [02.03 infrastructure] Planning for all areas of the municipality needs to take into account the appropriate level of infrastructure provision required. New development is encouraged to be more concentrated at activity centres to ensure the most efficient use of existing infrastructure. REP12.01-1S [21.05-5]~~

~~Relevant State Planning Policies in relation to infrastructure include Open Space (Clause 11.03), Integrated Transport (18.01), Movement Networks (18.02), Community Infrastructure (19.02) and Development Infrastructure (19.03). [21.05-5] unnecessary content~~

~~State Planning Policy states that 'planning for development of urban physical and community infrastructure should enable it to be provided in a way that is efficient, equitable, accessible and timely...' It is important to note that the Council is regularly approached to allow development in non-urban areas. [additional content] Rural areas do not and will not contain the levels of, and types of, infrastructure that are common place in urban areas. [REP21.03-5 IN NARRATIVE OF RURAL RES DEVELOPMENT IN 02.03] [21.05-5]~~

State Planning Policy also states that 'planning authorities are to consider the use of development contributions (levies) in the funding of infrastructure.' This is particularly important in the Shire of Nillumbik for low-density housing in the Plenty/Yarrambat Corridor, as well as new residential developments in Plenty and Diamond Creek, and in-fill development throughout urban areas of the Shire. [21.05-5] [02.03 infrastructure]

Objective 1

To ensure the efficient provision of infrastructure to areas designated for residential and low-density residential development. [21.05-5] [02.03 infrastructure]

Strategies

- Encourage the provision of utility services to designated residential areas. [21.05-5] [19.03-2L]
- Limit the development of residential and low-density residential services until critical infrastructure services are available [19.03-2L], ~~and in particular ensure the development of low-density residential areas in Plenty occurs in accordance with the development plan which includes, amongst other things, arrangements for reticulated water and sewerage in the area. [REP DPO4 43.04] [21.05-5]~~

- ~~Ensure the provision of useable public open space in new subdivision and encourage open space links to the existing open space network in accordance with the Recreation Strategy 2011-2019, Nillumbik Trails Strategy 2011 and the Open Space Strategy 2005. [21.05-5] REP~~
~~STATE PPF, documents are all background docs~~
- ~~Implement approved development contributions plans for residential and low density residential areas to assist in the fair and equitable provision of infrastructure and review the need for further plans in the Shire. [21.05-5] REP19.03-1S, 45.06 DCPO & INSTRUCTION TO COUNCIL~~
- ~~Encourage the implementation of best practice principles in relation to stormwater management, [rep 19.03-3S] including (where appropriate) the development and enhancement of natural drainage lines [REP12.03-1S] and promote reuse of stormwater on site. [rep 19.03-3S] [21.05-5]~~
~~Implement the Shire of Nillumbik Sustainable Water Management Plan 2008. [21.05-5][rule 1 - instruction to Council]~~

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Objective 2

To provide safe and efficient roads and road links within the municipality and to the wider region.
[21.05-5] 02.03 transport SD

Strategies

- ~~Upgrade the local road network to provide all weather roads and reduce environmental impacts on downstream waterways, by sealing unmade local roads where appropriate, in an environmentally sensitive manner. [21.05-5] rule 1~~
- ~~Provide for adequate access and egress for emergency services to ensure community safety. [21.05-5] REP CLAUSE 56~~

Discourage the introduction of uses in areas along local roads (especially unsealed, narrow and/or no-through roads), where uses would attract significant additional vehicular movements which would be inconsistent with existing vehicular traffic and the capacity of the road, and/or which would be to the unacceptable detriment of the condition of the road. [21.05-5] 18.02-3L

- ~~Recognise that traffic levels along Yan Yean Road has increased due, in part, to recent and anticipated future residential development in the Whittlesea growth corridor in the City of Whittlesea. Ensure that land use adjacent to Yan Yean Road is compatible with the long term arterial road transport function of the road and that direct access to properties from Yan Yean Road is minimised. [21.05-5] [REP 45.01 PA01]~~
- ~~Provide for the long term duplication of Yan Yean Road, from Diamond Creek Road to Kurrak Road, [18.02-3L] and encourage sufficiently large set backs for development and use on properties fronting the road along this alignment. [outdated as advised by Council, road has been duplicated already - delete] [21.05-5]~~
- ~~Encourage vehicular traffic generated by the Whittlesea growth corridor in the City of Whittlesea, to access Melbourne via Plenty Road, and not via Yan Yean Road. [21.05-5] [rule 1]~~
- ~~Recognise the broader role of roads for all users including cycling, walking and buses. [repeats state policy] Ensure integrated planning of transport modes, [REP18.01-2S] especially the provision of paths and roads to be continuously accessible in and between neighbourhoods and community facilities where possible to maximise opportunities for walking, cycling, use of mobility devices (i.e. motorised scooters/wheelchairs) and access to public transport. [21.05-5] [REP18.01-2S, 18.02-1S, 18.02-3S, 18.02-2S]~~

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Objective 3

To encourage increased public transport usage. [21.05-5] 02.03 transport SD

Strategies

- ~~Promote medium density housing around scheduled public transport stops and where there is good access to commercial and community facilities and open space links. [21.05-5] REP 22.01~~
- Encourage improved and more flexible public transport provision and public transport linkages across the Shire which meets the needs of lower population densities on the urban fringe. [21.05-5] 18.02-2L
- ~~Advocate accessible public transport options for people with disabilities to relevant transport authorities. [21.05-5] [rule 1]~~
- ~~Incorporate greater links between land use planning and transport especially [REP 18.01-1S] in relation to activity centres and the public transport network. [REP 11.01-1R & 11.03-1S] [21.05-5]~~

Objective 4

To provide equitable local recreational facilities ~~and public open spaces to meet local community needs. [REP 21.05-3 REWORDED IN 02.03 SD] [21.05-5]~~

Strategies

- ~~Encourage, particularly through structure plans and strategies, the formation of open spaces and opportunities to link areas of public open space. [21.05-5] REP 21.05-3 REWORDED IN 02.03 SD~~

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- Refer to the Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 and the Open Space Strategy, November 2005 to identify recreational needs of local communities in the development of public open spaces in local areas. [21.05-5] 19.02-6L

- Provide active and passive recreational facilities as an integral part of each township. [21.05-5] 02.03 infrastructure SD

- ~~Consolidate public open space into viable management units.~~ [21.05-5] rule 1

- Provide public open space networks within reasonable walking distance of urban residential areas. [21.05-5] 19.02-6L

- ~~Design public open spaces in ways that ensure that access is available to all persons where appropriate.~~ [21.05-5] REP19.02-6S

- View open space as an environmental resource and as a means of protecting significant habitat. [21.05-5] 19.02-6L

- ~~Seek public open space contributions in accordance with the Open Space Strategy, November 2005.~~ [21.05-5] REP53.01 SCHEDULE

~~Provide active recreation areas, including playgrounds and identify opportunities for more sporting fields in accordance with the Recreation Strategy, 2000.~~ [21.05-5] strategy outdated - delete

Objective 5

To provide a network of public open spaces across the Shire and similarly a network of recreation trails throughout the Shire. [21.05-5] 02.03 infrastructure SD

Strategies

- ~~Link public open spaces where possible to provide diversity of recreational opportunities in accordance with the Open Space Strategy, November 2005.~~ [21.05-5] REP19.02-6S

- ~~Actively encourage the design of subdivisions to incorporate the potential for open space linkages and the retention of remnant vegetation and drainage lines as parts of open spaces.~~ [21.05-5] [REP21.05-3]

- Provide appropriate access to regional recreation features. [21.05-5] 19.02-6L

- ~~Identify a network of appropriate routes.~~ [21.05-5] rule 9 and instruction to Council

~~Consider feasibility studies for the provision of recreation trails including the development of regional trails along the Maroondah Aqueduct from Research to Sugarloaf Reservoir, trails from Greensborough to Diamond Creek and from Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge.~~ [21.05-5] outdated as advised by Council – delete. Council also cannot facilitate these trails.

- ~~Progressively install trail infrastructure.~~ [21.05-5] rule 1

Objective 6

To ensure access and mobility needs of people of all abilities are:

- addressed for existing public places;
- encouraged for existing private meeting places; and

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considered in future use and development proposals. [21.05-5]

02.03 built enviro SD

Strategies

- ~~Improve accessibility to Council facilities and programs for people with disabilities.~~ [21.05-5]
rule 1
- ~~Ensure that disability access issues are addressed in strategic planning initiatives.~~ [21.05-5]
delete as advised by Council – no adopted/incorp policy to back this statement

Incorporate physical mobility and access needs of people of all abilities in the design, construction and maintenance of public roads, footpaths, seating, designated parking bays for people with disabilities and other physical infrastructures, providing topography permits. [21.05-5] 15.01-2L

- ~~Encourage provision of accessibility to private meeting places for people with disabilities.~~ [21.05-5] REP15.01-1S
- ~~Require applications to address accessibility issues for commercial proposals and other proposals where appropriate.~~ [21.05-5] REP15.01-1S
- ~~Actively promote to developers their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, and the economic effects of non-compliance.~~ [21.05-5] rule 1

Implementation

~~The above strategies will be implemented by:~~

Using Local Policies

- ~~Use a local policy for areas having appropriate infrastructure provision and good access to public transport and public open space, which may be proposed for medium density housing (Medium Density Housing Policy, Clause 22.01).~~ [21.05-5]

Applying Zones and Overlays

- ~~Apply the General Residential Zone, Residential Growth Zone, Neighbourhood Residential Zone and the Low Density Residential Zone to contain township areas which can be serviced by an appropriate range of utility services.~~ [21.05-5] REP21.05-1
- Apply the Public Use Zone to areas of public infrastructure in the Shire. [21.05-5] 74.01s
- Apply the Road Zone Category 1 to proclaimed State highways and the Road Zone Category 2 to other key roads. [21.05-5] 74.01s
- Apply the Public Park and Recreation Zone to areas used as public recreation reserves. [21.05-5] 74.01s
- Apply the Special Use Zone to the Heritage Golf Course at Christmas Hills. [21.05-5] 74.01s
- ~~Apply the Public Acquisition Overlay to land proposed to be acquired by Melbourne Water, VicRoads, Parks Victoria and Nillumbik Shire Council.~~ [21.05-5] REP21.05-3

Apply Development Plan Overlays and ~~Design and Development Overlays~~ in areas of ~~Plenty~~ [REP21.05-1] and Yarrambat where they assist in the coordinated provision of services to new residential and low density residential areas. [74.01s] [21.05-5]

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- ~~Apply the Restructure Overlay to three old and inappropriate subdivisions at Rankin Street in Panton Hill, Fawcner Crescent in Hurstbridge and Smiths Gully Road in Smiths Gully.~~ [21.05-5] REP21.05-2

Apply the Development Contributions Plan Overlay to require development contributions applying to the development of the areas known as Diamond Creek North, Areas A, and B and the Plenty Low Density Area, west of Yan Yean Road and south of Kurrak Road, Plenty. [21.05-5] 74.01s

- Apply the Schedule to Clause 52.01 to specify an open space provision of 5% in Diamond Creek North Areas A and B. [21.05-5] 74.01s
- Apply the Schedule to Clause 52.01 to specify an open space contribution of 7.9% of site value for the Plenty Low Density Area. [21.05-5] 74.01s

Undertaking Further Strategic Work

- Finalise a disability access policy and develop and implement a disability access action plan. [21.05-5] 74.02s

~~Implement the Open Space Strategy, November 2005.~~ [21.05-5] already in the scheme

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FUTURE STRATEGIC WORK & EDUCATION

~~Progress towards the vision outlined in this Municipal Strategic Statement will only be possible if the Nillumbik Shire Council and the broader community work together. Implementation of this vision will require a range of actions by Council, the resident and business communities and government agencies. These actions will take the form of educational programs, financial and social incentives and guidance through the planning scheme. Existing planning scheme provisions and controls alone will not implement the vision. [21.06]~~

- ~~Further strategic planning work that needs to be prepared is listed below with an estimated Timeframe in terms of priority, short term indicating greatest priority and the main related policy area. [21.06]~~

	Timeframe	Main Related Policy Areas
Review the medium Density Housing Policy (Clause 22.01) [21.06] 74.02s	Short-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Review Siting and Design Policy for Building and Works in Non-urban Areas (Clause 22.04) [21.06] 74.02s	Medium-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Implement the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan [21.06] [REP21.05-1]	Short and Medium term [21.06]	Economic development [21.06]
Prepare and implement the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plan. [21.06] [REP21.05-1]	Short and Medium term [21.06]	Economic development [21.06]
Identify opportunities for medium density and more diverse housing that meet community needs particularly in the context of an ageing population. This should be undertaken through structure planning in identified activity centres and also as part of a review of Council's Housing Strategy and work coming out of the Regional Housing Working Group. [21.06] [REP21.05-1]	Short-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Review the stock of vacant residential land supply and demand. [21.06] REP21.05-1	Medium-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Implement the Hurstbridge Township Strategy, March 2002. [21.06] REP21.05-4	Medium-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Implement the Wattle Glen Strategy (Amended 2005). [21.06] already in the scheme	Medium Term [21.06]	Rural land use [21.06]
Undertake further strategic work on township entrances and gateways. [21.06] 74.02s	Short-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Revise objectives relating to energy efficiency rating. [21.06]	Long-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Investigate application of energy rating systems to alternative building materials. [21.06]	Long-term [21.06]	Settlement and Housing [21.06]
Prepare and implement a Green Wedge Management Plan. [21.06] 74.02s	Short-term [21.06]	Rural land use [21.06]
Review planning policies following finalisation of the Green Wedge Management Plan. [21.06] [REP21.05-2]	Medium-term [21.06]	Rural land use [21.06]
Review the Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy. [21.06] [REP21.05-2]	Long-term [21.06]	Rural land use [21.06]

Commented [VT1]: Note: I've only moved short term and medium term FSW over to 74.02s, where relevant.

Review the Open Space Strategy 2005. [21.06] [REP21.05-3]	Medium-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]
Complete the Heritage study review. [21.06] 74.02s	Medium-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]
Consider implementation mechanisms to protect sites for Aboriginal cultural heritage. [21.06]	Long-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]
Review the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 [21.06] [REP21.05-3]	Short-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]

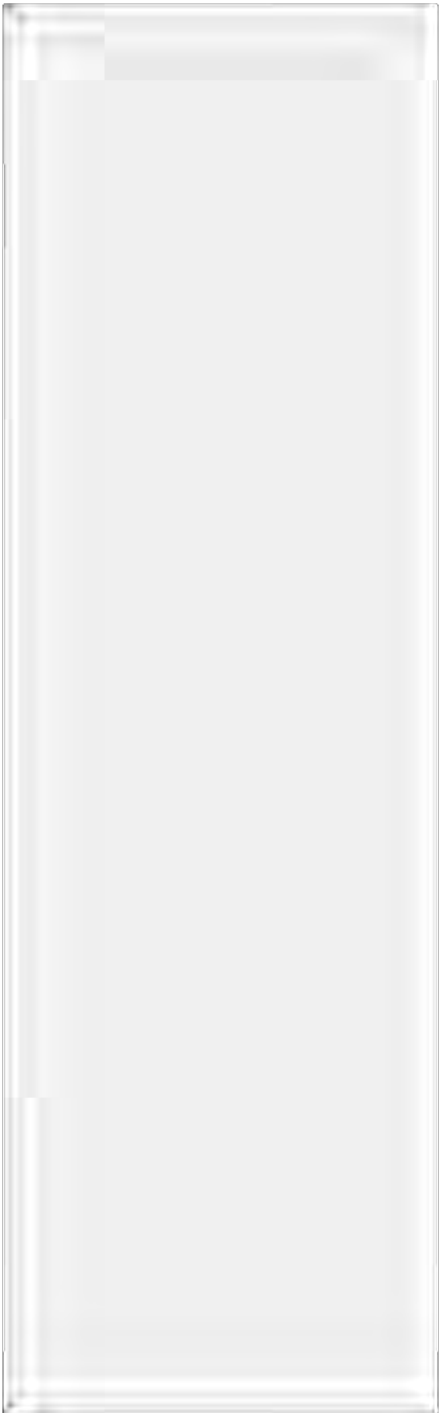
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Identified Strategic Work	Timeframe	Main Related Policy Areas
Review Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 (Waterways) to consider inclusion of additional waterways. [21.06] REP21.05-3	Medium-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]
Review the NEROC Report as part of a regional project. [21.06] REP21.05-3	Long-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]
Investigate and respond to the State Government's Biodiversity Assessment Guidelines 2013; [21.06] rule 1	Medium-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]
Investigate issues associated with bushfire risk as a strategic influence over land use and development. [21.06] REP21.05-3	Medium-term [21.06]	Environment, conservation and landscape [21.06]
Develop strategies to link subdivision design and the development of activity centres that encourage walking, cycling, public transport and reduce car dependency. [21.06] 74.02s	Medium-term [21.06]	Infrastructure [21.06]
Complete the Industrial Areas Audit (Clause 22.08) [21.06] 74.02s	Medium-term [21.06]	Economic Development [21.06]

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	<div>NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME</div>	
<div>21.07 13/02/2014 C96</div>	<div><div>MONITORING & REVIEW</div><div><p>A review of the Nillumbik Planning Scheme will be undertaken every four years in accordance with the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>. Council is committed to maintaining the relevance of the Municipal Strategic Statement on a continuous improvement basis and the monitoring program is linked to Council's corporate planning process in the Council Plan. [21.07]</p><p>In addition, an ongoing program of performance monitoring will be developed to evaluate the achievement of strategic policy directions and the operational effectiveness of the administration of the scheme. [21.07]</p><p>A general performance monitoring program will include analysis of: [21.07]</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Number of planning applications. [21.07]▪ Average time taken to process applications. [21.07]▪ VCAT and independent panel support for the clarity of the MSS and LPPF. [21.07]▪ Change in the average number of amendments per year. [21.07]▪ Feedback from the applicants and community on the efficiency of processing planning permit applicants. [21.07]<p>Council will continue to monitor use, development and tree removal through surveillance of up to date aerial photography. In the non-urban areas, changes in land use will be mapped and analysis will be provided in the Green Wedge Management Plan. [21.07]</p></div></div>	<div><div>Commented [VT 1]: There is no place for this in the new PPF format. This is about process, which is a rule 1 deletion</div></div>



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21.08 REFERENCES

13/02/2014C86

~~The following is a list of the main documents referred to in the Municipal Strategic Statement:~~

Activity centres

Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre – Car Parking Strategy; GTA Consultants 2013 [21.08] 72.08s

Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre - Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan; Nillumbik SC 2006 [21.08] 72.08s

Diamond Creek MAC Design Guidelines, Hansen, 2009[21.08] 72.08s

Eltham Major Activity Centre – Car Parking Strategy; GTA Consultants 2013 [21.08] 72.08s

Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan; Hassell & Partners 2004[21.08] 72.08s

Nillumbik Major Activity Centres - Sustainable Transport Study and Strategy; Booz & Co 2010 [21.08] 72.08s

~~Activity Centres and Principal Public Transport Network Plan; DPCD 2010 [21.08] superseded and REP incorp doc~~

Eltham Gateway Review; Nillumbik SC 2011 [21.08] 72.08s

Bridge Street Business Precinct Urban Design Framework; KLM Gerner Consulting Group 2003[21.08] 72.08s

Environment

Biodiversity Strategy; Nillumbik SC 2012 [21.08] 72.08s

~~Biodiversity Assessment Guidelines; DEPI 2013 [21.08] SUPERSEDED, REP12.01-1S~~

Climate Change Action Plan 2010-2015; Nillumbik SC 2010[21.08] 72.08s

Ecologically Sustainable Development Policy; Nillumbik SC 2012[21.08] 72.08s

~~Environment Charter; Nillumbik SC 2012 [21.08] SUPERSEDED, DELETE AS ADVISED BY COUNCIL~~

~~Environmental Education Strategy; Nillumbik SC 2012 [21.08] rule 1 – not implemented through planning scheme~~

Integrated Water Management Strategy (Draft); Nillumbik SC 2013 [21.08] 72.08s

Rabbit Action Plan; Nillumbik SC 2009 [21.08] 72.08s

~~Sustainable Water Management Plan; Nillumbik SC 2008 [21.08] SUPERSEDED, DELETE AS ADVISED BY COUNCIL~~

Weed Action Plan; Nillumbik SC 2008[21.08] 72.08s

~~Technical Guidelines for Waterway Management; DSE 2007 [21.08] superseded, REP 19.03-3S AND INCORP DOCS~~

~~Renewable Energy Action Plan; DSE 2006 [21.08] Superseded, REP19.01-2S~~

Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne; C Beardsell for North East Regional Organisation of Councils (NEROC) 1997 [21.08] 72.08s

~~Natural Resource Inventory – Nillumbik Shire; McGrath for Centre for Land Protection Research 1999 [21.08] Not relevant, DELETE AS ADVISED BY COUNCIL~~

~~Port Phillip and Westernport Regional Catchment Strategy 2004-2009; Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority 2004 [21.08] replaced at State level~~

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~~Yarra Catchment Action Plan; Yarra Care and the Port Phillip Catchment & Land Protection Board 1999~~ [21.08] replaced at State level

Townships

St Andrews Township Plan; Nillumbik SC 2013 [21.08] 72.08s

Yarrambat Park Masterplan; Nillumbik SC 2012 [21.08] 72.08s

Hurstbridge Township Strategy; Nillumbik SC 2002
[21.08] 72.08s

Wattle Glen Township Strategy; Nillumbik SC 2005
[21.08] 72.08s

Heritage

Heritage Assessments Shire of Nillumbik (Amendment C13); Graeme Butler & Associates 2006 [21.08] 72.08s

Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study - Stages 1 & 2; Graeme Butler & Associates 1996-2001 [21.08] 72.08s

Heritage Gap Study Framework; HLCD Pty Ltd 2009 [21.08] 72.08s

Heritage Strategy - Identifying and Conserving Nillumbik's Cultural Heritage; Nillumbik SC 2011 [21.08] 72.08s

Nillumbik Shire Heritage Review; Tardis Enterprises 2006 [21.08] 72.08s

Nillumbik Shire Council Aboriginal Heritage Study; Du Cros & Assoc 1996 [21.08] 72.08s

Open Space and Recreation

Nillumbik Trails Strategy; Nillumbik SC 2011 [21.08] 72.08s

Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 (Volumes 1-3); Nillumbik SC 2011 [21.08] 72.08s

~~Shire of Nillumbik Playground Development Plan; M Jeavons 1996~~ [21.08] delete – cannot find

Open Space Strategy; Nillumbik Shire Council 2005 [21.08] 72.08s

~~Diamond Creek Trail: Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge Feasibility Study; Parklinks Pty Ltd & Ardam Design Services 1999~~ [21.08] outdated – alignment largely set through approval of amendment 2010-2015

Population

~~Census of Population and Housing 2011; ABS~~ [21.08] delete – not a background doc

~~Agricultural Census; ABS 2001~~ delete –

not a background doc [21.08] ~~Victoria in~~

~~Future; DTPLI 2013~~ [21.08] -
superseded

Economic Development

Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016; Tim Nott for Nillumbik SC 2011 [21.08] 72.08s

~~A Vision for Victoria to 2010 – Growing Victoria Together; DPCD 2005~~ [21.08] superseded - delete

~~Growing Melbourne's North – Developing an Integrated Economy; National Institute of Economic and Industry Research 2003~~ [21.08] superseded

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~~Nillumbik Shire Profile: Shire Commodity and Economic Profiles; Neil Clarke & Associates 2005 [21.08] delete – outdated and cannot find~~

Transport

Road Management Plan; Nillumbik SC 2009 [21.08] 72.08s

Roadside Management Plan; Nillumbik SC 2012[21.08] 72.08s

~~Cycling into the Future—Victoria's Cycling Strategy 2013-2023; State Government of Victoria 2013 [21.08] superseded and REP18.02-1S~~

~~_Victoria the Freight State—The Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan; State Government of Victoria 2013[21.08] superseded and REP18.05-1S~~

~~Public Transport Guidelines for Land Use and Development; DoT 2008 [21.08] REP18.02-2S~~

~~The Victorian Transport Plan; DoT 2008 [21.08] REP18.02-2S~~

Metropolitan Planning

~~Melbourne 2030: A Planning Update—Melbourne @ 5 million; DPCD 2008 [21.08] [REP 11.01-1S]~~

~~The Victorian Integrated Housing Strategy; State Government of Victoria SGV 2010 [21.08] SUPERSEDED AND REP16.01-1S~~

~~Planning Policies for the Melbourne Metropolitan Region; Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works 1971 [21.08] SUPERSEDED~~

~~Melbourne 2030 Planning for Sustainable Growth; State Government of Victoria 2002 [21.08] superseded~~

Shire-wide

~~_Council Plan 20132017; Nillumbik SC 2013[21.08] not a background doc~~

Growing Our Arts and Culture: A Cultural Plan for Nillumbik Shire 2011-17; Nillumbik SC 2011 [21.08] 72.08s

Municipal Fire Management Plan 2013-16; Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee [21.08]201372.08s

Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan 2010-2025; Nillumbik SC 2011 [21.08] 72.08s

~~Picture Nillumbik; Village Well for Nillumbik SC 2012 [21.08] delete as advised by Council~~

Nillumbik 2020 - A Preferred Future; P Ellyard 1997 [21.08] 72.08s

Neighbourhood Character Study and Residential Design Guidelines, Planisphere and John Curtis Pty Ltd 2000[21.08] 72.08s split

Other

~~AS 3959-2009 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-prone Areas; Standards Australia, 2009 [21.08] REP13.02-1S~~

~~Victorian Code for Broiler Farms; DPI 2009 [21.08] REP72.04~~

~~Development Contributions Guidelines; DSE June 2003— as amended March 2007 [21.08] REP19.03-1S~~

~~Guidelines for Higher Density Residential Development; DSE 2005 [21.08] superseded and REP15.01-1S~~

~~Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria; Crime Prevention Victoria and DSE\ 2005 [21.08] superseded and REP15.01-1S~~

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Middle Yarra Concept Plan, Burke Road to Watsons Creek; Melbourne Water 1991 [21.08]
72.08s

Lower Plenty River Concept Plan Resource Document; Melbourne Water 1992[21.08] 72.08s

Site History and Contamination Assessment from Goldmining and Other Land Uses in Plenty
River Corridor; Sinclair Knight Merz 1998 [21.08] 72.08s

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME					
22.12 24/07/2014 CS7	<div><div>NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER POLICY</div><p>This policy applies to development (including subdivision) and works in the General Residential, Residential Growth, Neighbourhood Residential, Low Density Residential and Township zones within the Shire of Nillumbik as shown on Maps 1, 2 and 3 forming part of this Clause except where Design and Development Overlay Schedule 1 applies. [22.12] [15.01-6L Policy Application]</p><div><div>Policy basis</div><p>This policy assists in achieving the objectives of Clause 16 Housing and in applying the objectives of Clause 15 Built Environment and Heritage of the State Planning Policy Framework to local circumstances. [22.12-1] [Rule 3 Superfluous. Clause now sitting under relevant PPF policy] The policy responds to the vision contained in the Nillumbik Municipal Strategic Statement and implements the objectives and strategies contained in Clause 21.05 by ensuring that development respects local community and environmental values, and maintains and enhances the character of urban and township areas. The policy implements the findings of the Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study 2000, that identifies the key existing characteristics and preferred future character of the Shire's residential areas. It provides design guidance to ensure that development and, where relevant, works respond to the preferred neighbourhood character of residential areas. [22.12-1] [Rule 5 superfluous. Implicit in applying the policy] Development in residential areas needs to respond to the particular built form and natural environment elements that make up the neighbourhood character of Nillumbik. The extent of the predominately native and indigenous vegetation cover is a particular characteristic of Nillumbik that makes it distinctive from other areas of Melbourne. However, many other elements contribute to the individual character of different parts of the municipality. These elements include topography, vegetation density, building form, scale, siting, materials and front fencing. The Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study defines residential precincts based on the delineation of areas of similar character elements (as shown on Maps 1, 2 and 3 forming part of this Clause). The Nillumbik Residential Guidelines 2000 provide additional design advice. The Key Characteristics, Statement of Preferred Future Character, Design Objectives and Design Responses for the precincts in this policy are to taken into account when considering any application to develop or subdivide land. [22.12-1] [Rule 6 superfluous. Implicit in applying the policy]</p></div></div>				
22.12- 2 13/01/2006 VC37	<div><div>Objectives</div><ul style="list-style-type: none">To ensure that development is responsive to the preferred future character of the area. [22.12-1] [Rule 3 15.01-6S]To retain and enhance the identified elements that contribute to the character of the area. [22.12-2] [Rule 3 15.01-6S]To implement the recommendations of the Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study 2000 and the Nillumbik Residential Design Guidelines 2000. [22.12-2] [Rule 5 superfluous. Implicit in applying the policy]<p>To recognize the potential for change as a result of new social and economic conditions, changing housing preferences and State and local housing policies. [22.12-2] [Rule 3 Captured across several PPF State policies]</p></div>				
22.12- 3 13/01/2006 VC37	<div><div>Design Objectives and Design Responses - All Precincts</div><p>The Desired Future Character is to be achieved by these additional Design Objectives and Design Responses:</p><table><tr><th>Design Objectives</th><th>Design Responses</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div>	Design Objectives	Design Responses		
Design Objectives	Design Responses				

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME	
To maintain the existing vegetation including canopy trees. [22.12-3] 15.01-5L objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Retain existing high canopy trees wherever possible and as appropriate. [22.12-3]
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Design Objectives	Design Responses
To minimise site erosion, the detrimental effects of excavation and the landscape impact of development[22.12-3] 15.01-5L objective	<p>Buildings and other development should minimise the impact on the natural slope of the site by following the topography of the site.[22.12-3]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Retain plant ground covers and plants with substantial root systems on sloping sites.[22.12-3]13.04-3L. Buildings should be designed so as not to protrude above the ridgeline, when viewed from lower areas.[22.12-3]. Use elevational treatments, such as stepping, which complement the landscape setting. [22.12-3]
To ensure buildings do not dominate the streetscape. [22.12-3] 15.01-5L objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Removal of existing trees or development adjacent to existing indigenous canopy trees may require an arboricultural report on the effects on existing vegetation. application requirements no longer form a part of the PPFUse earthy toned finishes and paint colours.
To ensure that car parking areas, garages and carparks do not dominate sites when viewed from the street. [22.12-3] 15.01-5L objective	<p>Minimise excavation for car access, loss of front garden space and dominance of access driveway and car storage facilities. [22.12-3]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide sufficient space in front of dwellings for the retention and/or planting of canopy trees. [22.12-3] 15.01-5L All precincts strategy
To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the garden settings and the openness of the front boundary treatment [22.12-3]. 15.01-5L objective	
22.12-4 13012006 VC37	
Garden Court Precincts	
Key Characteristics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Occasional high canopy native trees combine with substantial exotic trees occurring at a density of one to every 200m². [22.12-4] 15.01-5L GCP policy guidelines	
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	<p>NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME</p> <p><i>To maintain the existing mix of native and exotic vegetation including canopy trees and understorey. [22.12-4] 15.01-5L GCP objective</i></p> <p><i>To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the garden settings and the openness of the front boundary treatment. [22.12-4] Repeats objective in 22.12-3 above that has already been moved to 15.01-5L as an objective.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Retain remnant indigenous understorey vegetation where possible and replant where appropriate. [22.12-4] 15.01-5L GCP strategy▪ Substantial native and exotic trees should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired future character having regard to solar access, residential amenity and bushfire safety issues. [22.12-4] 15.01-5L All precincts strategy▪ Avoid front fencing or solid side fencing visible from the street where this is a feature of the streetscape. [22.12-4] 15.01-5L GCP strategy
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Bush Garden Precincts

Key Characteristics

- Frequently rolling to hilly topography [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP objective merge
- Average sized dwellings in earth tones, not always visible from the street. [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP strategy
- Dwellings usually constructed 1960s-1980s [22.12-5] irrelevant context to NC strategies
- Native gardens [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP strategy merged with garden strategy below
- Significant native and indigenous tree canopy occurring at a density of one to every 150m². [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP objective and policy guideline split
- Gardens extend into the street space, with little or no delineation between public and private land. [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP strategy merged with native garden strategy above
- Predominantly low hipped or split gabled roof forms. [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP strategy merged with strategy above re: earthy tones etc

In some areas two storey buildings are frequent. [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP policy guideline split

Few front or side fences visible from the street. [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BGP strategy

Statement of Preferred Future Character for Bush Garden Precincts

~~Development is sited to minimise disruption to landform and vegetation. [REP22.12-5 BGP OBJECTIVE] - Buildings maintain the pattern of orientations and setbacks of adjoining properties and the streetscape. [REP ALL PRECINCT STRATEGY IN 15.01-1L] - Some variation occurs EFwhere innovative higher density housing has and will develop in areas close to activity centres and transport routes. [15.01-5L BGP PG] - Driveways and car storage areas should occupy the minimum functional area. [REP22.12-4 ALL PRECINCT STRATEGY] - [22.12-5]~~

~~Residential development is set among predominantly indigenous trees, although there are some locations where native or exotic trees are present. Hillsides of residential development viewed from a distance appear to be lushly vegetated. There is little or no physical evidence of the boundary between private and public property at the front of the house, and no solid front fence. Solid side fences stop level with the front of the building. [22.12-5] 15.01-5L BG objective and strategy~~

~~The public domain includes footpaths and verges that are generally informally aligned. Some exceptions occur where formal standard suburban footpath and nature strip layouts are~~

Commented [VT1]: Bit of a discrepancy compared to key characteristics, which says native gardens are key – which is correct?

Commented [PF2R1]: The preferred character should be used to produce objectives

Commented [VT3R1]: Noted. Have merged this with the strategy

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appropriate. Roadways are mostly sealed with roll-over kerb and sometimes no kerb. In some areas, roll-over kerb and channels have been constructed to prevent erosion and to protect properties from storm water runoff. [22.12-5] The description of the footpaths, nature strips and verges provide little guidance for development on a site.

Design Objectives and Design Responses

The preferred future character is to be achieved by the following Design Objectives and Design Responses:

Design Objectives	Design Responses
To retain remnant indigenous trees and continue enhancing the landscape setting with indigenous and Australian natives and understorey (where appropriate with other planning requirements including bushfire safety) [22.12-5]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain remnant indigenous understorey vegetation where possible and replant where appropriate [22.12-5] 15.01-1L BGP strategy Substantial indigenous and native trees should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired future character having regard to solar access, residential amenity and bushfire safety issues. [22.12-5] Repeats strategy in 22.12-3 above that has already been moved to 15.01-5L as a strategy.
To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the vegetation of the bush garden landscape. [22.12-5]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid front fencing or side fencing visible from the street where this is a feature of the streetscape. Repeats 22.12-5 above BGP strategy
To design and site buildings which minimize the risk of loss in a bushfire and landscaping which minimizes the spread and intensity of bushfires. [22.12-5] REP13.02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscaping and bush retention should maintain an area of defensible space around the dwelling. [22.12-5] [Exemptions for veg removal for defensible space under 52.12] New properties should have a permanent built-in and easily-maintained fire protection system, linked to an independent water and power supply. [22.12-5] [Rule 3 Bushfire dealt with elsewhere in the scheme] Note: Further regulations for wildfire management and safety may apply elsewhere in the planning scheme.

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Semi Bush Precincts

Key Characteristics

- Rolling to hilly topography. [22.12-6] 15.01-1L SBP strategy
- Modified grid street layout or connective bush tracks, some unsealed. [22.12-6] unclear relevance of this and how this is translated to strategy
- Predominantly 1950s — 1980s dwellings; with some pockets of inter-war and recent development [22.12-6] unclear relevance of this and how this is translated to strategy

Generally earth toned materials [22.12-6] 15.01-1L SBP strategy

Bushy vegetation with significant indigenous or native canopy trees occurring at a density of one to every 50-100m². [22.12-6] 15.01-5L SBP objective and policy guideline split

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- Native gardens continuous with road vegetation, some terraced gardens. [22.12-6] ~~repeated below~~
- ~~Few front fences, few side fences visible from the street.~~ [22.12-6] ~~REP STRATEGY BELOW REGARDING AVOIDING FENCES~~

Statement of Desired Future Character of Semi Bush Precincts

Development is sited so that buildings nestle into the landform and are partly obscured from view by the topography or tree canopy. Development responds to sloping landforms and creates minimal disturbance. [22.12-6] 15.01-5L SB objective

~~Hillsides of residential development when viewed from a distance appear to be tree covered. In typical streetscapes, substantial indigenous or native trees dominate the skyline and are common in gardens.~~ Garden planting is mostly indigenous or native, and flows uninterrupted to the edge of the roadway. [15.01-1L SBP STRATEGY] There is little or no physical evidence of the boundary between private and public property at the front of the house, and no solid front fences. ~~[generally repeated in strategy below regarding avoiding fencing] The only fencing is around rear gardens, and this is often open (eg. post and wire).~~ ~~[superseded by strategy below 22.12-6] [22.12-6]~~

Driveways and car storage areas are confined to a small portion of the land area. [REP 22.12-4 ALL PRECINCTS STRATEGY] Garages and carports are hidden from view. 15.01-1L SBP STRATEGY [22.12-6]

~~The public domain includes a dominance of indigenous or native vegetation, although there are some locations where exotics occur. Roadways minimise impacts on the landscape by retaining unsealed surfaces or on sealed roads using roll over kerbs and channels to prevent erosion and protect properties from storm water.~~ [22.12-6] ~~The description of the footpaths, nature strips and verges provide little guidance for development on a site.~~

Design objectives and design responses

The Desired Future Character is to be achieved by the following Design Objectives and Design Responses:

Design Objectives	Design Responses
To maintain the indigenous vegetation including canopy trees and understorey planting and encourage the replanting of indigenous plants. [22.12-6]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace any mature trees lost to development with advanced indigenous species. Replace any other trees or understorey vegetation lost to development with similar size indigenous species where appropriate. [22.12-6] [15.01-1L SBP STRATEGY] Substantial indigenous species trees should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired future character having regard to solar access, residential amenity and bushfire safety issues. [22.12-6] Repeats strategy in 22.12-3 above that has already been moved to 15.01-5L as a strategy.
To minimise site disturbance and impact on the landform and vegetation. [22.12-6]	
To minimise excavation for car access, impact on bush setting and visibility of [22.12-6] access driveway and car storage facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buildings should be designed to sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy or to sit within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-6] [15.01-1L SBP STRATEGY] Integrate the design of carports and garages with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation.

[22.12-6] [15.01-1L SBP STRATEGY merged with strategy above]

- [22.12-6]

- Avoid fencing unless of post and wire construction. [15.01-1L SBP STRATEGY (22-12-6)]
- Use timber and rock for retaining walls. [15.01-1L SBP STRATEGY]

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	<div><div>NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME</div><div>Key Characteristics</div><div><div><div>▪ Rolling topography sloping down to the Yarra River. [22.12-7] 15.01-1L BP objective merge</div><div>▪ Connective bush tracks and long cul-de-sacs follow topography. [22.12-7] description</div><div>▪ Many unsealed roads, no footpath or kerb treatments, driveways generally unsealed.</div><div>▪ [22.12-7] description</div><div>▪ Predominantly 1970s–1980s dwellings; description</div><div>▪ most dwellings not visible from the road [22.12-7] 15.01-1L BP strategy</div><div>▪ visible dwellings are earth tones, mixed materials [22.12-7] 15.01-1L BP strategy</div><div>▪ Landscape appears as a natural bush setting. [22.12-7] covered by BP objective in 15.01-1L</div><div>▪ Significant indigenous vegetation with substantial trees occurring at a density of 50m²-100m² [22.12-7] split 15.01-1L BP objective and policy guideline</div><div>Some pockets of cleared land with rural feel. [22.12-7] description</div><div>Very few front and side fences, no solid fences. [22.12-7] covered by strategy below.</div><div>High bushfire risk. [22.12-7] Addressed in other parts of the scheme</div></div></div><div>Statement of Desired Future Character of the Bush Precinct</div><div><div>Development nestles into the landform and vegetation with minimal disturbance and no erosion. [REP ALL PRECINCT STRATEGIES IN 15.01-1L]. The landscape appears as a natural bush setting, including a dense understorey merging into open bush gardens around the houses. The grounds of properties are indistinguishable from the continuous bushland that characterises the area, [15.01-5L B strategy] whilst landscaping and planting close to the house considers bushfire safety. [REP BUSHFIRE PROVISIONS AND ALL PRECINCTS STRATEGY IN 15.01-1L]. Buildings are obscured from view from the street by topography or indigenous vegetation. [covered by strategy below in 15.01-1L]. Buildings are not visible above the tree canopy, and are articulated to respond to sloping landforms. [15.01-5L B strategy]. [22.12-7] 15.01-5L B objective</div><div>Driveways are discreet [rep all precincts objective] and car storage areas are hidden from view [15.01-5L B strategy split between the car storage strategy and driveway strategy] and confined to a small portion of the land. [REP ALL PRECINCTS STRATEGY]. [22.12-7]</div><div>The “public” domain between the garden and the roadway is not delineated as a separate space, and is dominated by indigenous vegetation. There are no footpaths (other than bush tracks) and no recognisably separate verges. Roadways are unsealed bush tracks and where sealed are of minimum width and without kerbing. In some areas, roll-over kerbs and channels have been used to protect properties from storm water runoff. [22.12-7] The description of the footpaths, nature strips and verges provide little guidance for development on a site.</div></div><div>Design objectives and design responses</div><div><div>The Desired Future Character is to be achieved by the following Design Objectives and Design Responses: [22.12-7]</div><div><div>Design Objectives</div><div>Design Responses</div></div></div></div>
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<p>To maintain the indigenous vegetation including canopy trees and understorey planting and encourage the replanting of indigenous plants (where compatible with</p>	<p>Replace any mature trees lost to development with advanced indigenous species. Replace any other trees or understorey vegetation lost to development with similar indigenous species where appropriate.</p>
<p>other planning requirements including bush fire safety). [22.12-7]</p>	<p>Substantial indigenous species trees should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired future character having regard to solar access, residential amenity and bushfire safety issues. [22.12-7] Repeats strategy in 22.12-3 above that has already been moved to 15.01-5L as a strategy.</p>
<p>To minimise site disturbance and impact on the landform and vegetation. [22.12-7]</p>	<p>Buildings should be designed to sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy or to sit within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-7] [15.01-1L B strategy]</p>
<p>To minimise the visibility of buildings from the road.</p>	<p>Locate buildings within the landform and vegetation so as to be wholly or partly obscured, wherever possible. [22.12-7] [15.01-1L B strategy]</p>
<p>To minimise excavation for car access, impact on the bush setting and on the visibility of access driveway and car storage facilities. [22.12-7]</p>	<p>Integrate the design of carports and garages with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation [22.12-7]. [15.01-1L B strategy merged]</p>
<p>landscape.</p>	<p>Use non impervious surfaces for driveways and only seal the driveways in locations where erosion may occur. [22.12-7] [15.01-1L B strategy merged]</p>
<p>To design buildings which minimise the risk of loss in a bushfire and landscaping which minimises the spread and intensity of bushfires. [22.12-7]</p>	<p>Landscaping and bush retention should maintain an area of defensible space around the dwelling. [22.12-7] [controlled by bushfire provisions]</p>
<p></p>	<p>New properties should have a permanent built-in and easily-maintained fire protection system linked to an independent water and power supply. [22.12-7] [controlled by bushfire provisions]</p>
<p></p>	<p>Design driveways to minimise the impact on existing vegetation. [22.12-7] [15.01-1L B strategy]</p>
<p>To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the vegetation and Existing [22.12-7]</p>	<p>Avoid fencing unless of post and wire construction to the frontage and rear and side boundaries. [15.01-1L B strategy]</p>
<p></p>	<p>Note: Further regulations for wildfire management and safety may apply elsewhere in the planning scheme. [22.12-7]</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>
<p>[22.12-7] [controlled by bushfire provisions]</p>	<p></p>

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Eltham Central Precinct

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME	
Key Characteristics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reasonably flat topography. [22.12-8] descriptionGrid street layout. [22.12-8] descriptionSealed roads, generally upstand kerbs and footpaths either one or both sides. [22.12-8] descriptionrule 1 not implemented through planning scheme1950s–1990s dwellings; mixed styles and materials [22.12-8] description;Residential development is set amongst predominantly indigenous/native trees [22.12-8] 15.01-1L ECP PG	
Concentration of recent medium density development [22.12-8] description	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fairly open, intermittent street trees. [22.12-8] rule 1 – not implemented through planning schemeGardens are a mix of native and exotic vegetation with substantial trees occurring at a density of one to every 200m². [22.12-8] 15.01-1L ECP PG	
Front fences often present - side fences always present. [22.12-8] 15.01-1L ECP strategy	
Statement of Desired Future Character of the Eltham Central Precinct	
<p>Development responds to topographic and vegetation contexts. [too broad – no policy guidance]</p> <p>Buildings maintain the pattern of orientations and setbacks of adjoining properties and the streetscape. REP 15.01-1L ALL PRECINCT strategy Some variation occurs in areas where innovative higher density housing has and will develop. 15.01-1L ECP PG</p> <p>Driveways and car storage areas should occupy the minimum functional area, and excavation and other earthworks are minimal. REP 22.12-3 ALL PRECINCT OBJECTIVE/STRATEGY [22.12-8]</p> <p>In typical streetscapes, substantial indigenous/native trees dominate the skyline and are common in gardens. 15.01-1L ECP objective merge</p> <p>Hillsides of residential development viewed from a distance appear to be lushly vegetated. [repeats strategies and objectives about maintaining veg and canopy as dominant feature] [22.12-8]</p> <p>The 'public' space between the garden and the roadway is not delineated as a separate space, and includes informal native plantings with some substantial native trees. Many footpaths and verges are informally aligned, but formal footpath plus standard suburban nature strip layouts are common. Sealed roadways occur some with roll-over kerbs and some with upstand kerbs. [22.12-8] The description of the footpaths, nature strips and verges provide little guidance for development on a site.</p>	
Design objectives and design responses	
The Desired Future Character is to be achieved by the following Design Objectives and Design Responses:	
Design Objectives	Design Responses
To maintain the existing mix of native and exotic understory. [22.12-8] 15.01-1L ECP objective merge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Trees and understorey vegetation should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired character having regard to solar access, residential amenity and bushfire safety issues. [22.12-8]Repeats strategy in 22.12-3 above that has already been moved to 15.01-5L as a strategy.

Commented [VT4]: This is somewhat at odds with the dot point below that suggests development is set within a mix of exotic and native gardens. Not sure what to do with this.

There is also another sentence in the preferred precinct statement that says "the public space between the garden and the roadway is not delineated as a separate space, and includes informal native plantings with some substantial native trees". So is native veg the dominant one?

Commented [PF5R4]: The preferred character allows for a mix of native and exotic, but natives are dominate the skyline (through the contribution of native canopy trees) and are common in gardens.

Commented [VT6R4]: Noted – have reworded the strategy

Commented [VT7]: I don't understand how this works with the existing characteristic that most dwellings have front fences and all have side fences?

Commented [PF8R7]: The front and side fences are often low, particularly front of a dwelling and are often of an open construction allow the street frontage

Commented [VT9R7]: Noted, reworded strategies

Commented [VT10]: How does this work with the PG of a mix of native and exotic trees? Should we be saying that native is dominant and what Council wants to see or is this redundant given the Policy guideline "retaining or planting a mix of native and exotic trees occurring at a density of one tree to every 200qm"?

Commented [PF11R10]: See my comment above. Probably need to have a chat about this one.

Commented [VT12R10]: Reworded strategy and PG in policy

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NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME	
Rural Precinct	
Key Characteristics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Flat to rolling topography. [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP objective merge▪ Long bush roads. [22.12-9] description▪ Generally unsealed roads, no footpath or kerb treatments. [22.12-9] rule 1 – not implemented through scheme▪ All eras of architecture, dwellings on large lots. [22.12-9] description▪ Open, rural feel in parts. [22.12-9] description▪ Strong canopy trees along roadside, natives and some exotics (eg. pines). [22.12-9] rule 1 – not implemented through scheme	
Generally post and wire fencing, [22.12-9] repeated in precinct statement below that was translated as strategy in 15.01-1L RP strategy	
Significant native and indigenous vegetation, with some exotics, and substantial trees occurring at a density of for every 50m²-100m². [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP PG	
Statement of Desired Future Character of the Rural Precinct	
Development is sited so that it nestles into the landform and vegetation. 15.01-1L RP strategies There is minimal disturbance to the landform and no erosion. [Generally covered by strategy in 15.01-1L RP] Buildings are sited well back from the road and away from natural features such as hilltops or gullies and where possible are wholly or partly obscured from view. Buildings are generally low in form with strongly emphasised horizontals. [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP strategies	
Driveways and car storage areas are confined to a small proportion of the land area. REP ALL PRECINCT STRATEGY and are usually unsealed. REP OF 15.01-1L RP strategy BELOW Garages and carports are hidden from view, and the driveway entrance is discreet. 15.01-1L RP strategies merge [22.12-9]	
The grounds of properties merge into, and are subsidiary to, the rural landscape. 15.01-5L RP objective Front boundaries are often heavily planted and the only physical evidence of any property boundary is a post and wire fence. 15.01-1L RP strategies The "public" space between the garden and the roadway is not delineated as a separate space, and is dominated by native vegetation with some substantial indigenous and native trees. There are no footpaths (other than bush tracks) and no recognisably separate verges. Roadways are unsealed bush tracks or, where sealed, of minimum width and without kerbing. Roll over kerbs and channels have been used in some areas to prevent erosion and protect properties from storm water runoff. The description of the footpaths, nature strips and verges provide little guidance for development on a site. [22.12-9]	
Design objectives and design responses	
The Desired Future Character is to be achieved by the following Design Objectives and Design Responses:	
Design Objectives	Design Responses
To maintain the indigenous vegetation including canopy trees and understorey planting and encourage the replanting of	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Replace any mature trees lost to development with advanced indigenous species and replace any other trees or understorey vegetation lost to development with similar

	<p>NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME</p> <p>indigenous plants (where compatible with other planning requirements including bushfire safety). [22.12-9]</p> <p>To minimise site disturbance and impact on the landform and vegetation. [22.12-9]</p> <p>To minimise the visibility of buildings from the road.</p> <p>To minimise excavation for car access, impact on bush setting and visibility of access driveway and car storage facilities. [22.12-9]</p> <p>[22.12-9]</p> <p>To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the vegetation and existing landscape. [22.12-9]</p>	<p>size indigenous species where appropriate. [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP strategies</p> <p>▪ Substantial indigenous species trees should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired future character having regard to solar access, residential amenity and bushfire safety issues. [22.12-9] Repeats strategy in 22.12-3 above that has already been moved to 15.01-5L as a strategy.</p> <p>▪ Buildings should be designed to sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy or to sit within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP strategies</p> <p>▪ Locate buildings within the landform and vegetation so as to be wholly or partly obscured, wherever possible. [22.12-9] repeated above in precinct statement converted to strategy in 15.01-1L RP</p> <p>Integrate the design of carports and garages with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation [22.12-9]. 15.01-1L RP strategies</p> <p>▪ Use non impervious surfaces for driveways and only seal the driveways in locations where erosion may occur. [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP strategies</p> <p>▪ Design driveways and access tracks to follow the contours of the site to minimise gradients and the need for retaining walls. [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP strategies</p> <p>▪ Design driveways to minimise the impact on existing vegetation. 15.01-1L RP strategies</p> <p>▪ Avoid fencing unless of post and wire construction to the frontage and rear and side boundaries. [22.12-9] 15.01-1L RP strategies merge</p>
<p>22.12-10 13/01/2006 VC57</p>	<p>Settlement Precinct</p> <p>Key Characteristics</p> <p>▪ Flat to hilly topography. [22.12-10] 15.01-1L SP objective merge</p> <p>▪ Modified grid street layout (St Andrews), connective bush tracks (Panton Hill). [22.12-10] description</p>	

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- ~~Sealed and unsealed roads, no footpath or kerb treatments.~~ [22.12-10] ~~description, not implemented through scheme~~
- ~~Mixed eras and styles of housing;~~ [22.12-10] ~~description~~
- earth tones, some mud-brick [22.12-10] 15.01-1L ~~SP strategy~~
- Main road township commercial and facility buildings dominant with residential buildings recessed in bush. [22.12-10] 15.01-1L ~~SP strategy~~
- Bushy, rural feel, with significant indigenous canopy, almost closed in parts with trees at a density of one to every 50m²-100m². [22.12-10] 15.01-1L ~~SP objective and PG split~~
- Native vegetation consistent but less dense than bush areas, houses visible. [22.12-10]
- Site landscaping continuous with road vegetation. [22.12-10]
- ~~Some post and wire fencing.~~ [22.12-10] ~~covered by design guideline below, now strategy in 15.01-1L SP~~
- ~~High bushfire risk.~~ [22.12-10]

Statement of Desired Future Character of the Settlement Precinct

Development is sited so that it nestles into the landform and vegetation, with minimal disturbance and no erosion. Buildings are partly obscured from view from the street by topography or native vegetation. They are often low in form. Most building materials are 'earth' coloured and textured. [22.12-10] 15.01-1L ~~SP objective~~

~~Driveways are often unsurfaced [REP DESIGN GUIDELINE BELOW] - and car storage areas are confined to a small portion of the land area. [REP ALL PRECINCTS STRATEGY] Garages and carports are hidden from view, and driveway entrances are discreet.~~ 15.01-1L ~~SP strategy merge~~ [22.12-10]

~~Hill sides of residential development viewed from a distance appear to be tree covered.~~ - REP 15.01-1L ~~SP OBJECTIVE~~ In typical streetscapes, substantial native trees dominate the skyline and are common in gardens. 15.01-1L ~~SP strategy merge~~ Garden planting is mostly native, and flows uninterrupted to the edge of the roadway, whilst landscaping and planting close to the house considers bushfire safety. [COVERED BY BUSHFIRE PROVISIONS] There is little or no physical evidence of the boundary between private and public property at the front of the house, and no solid front fence. [15.01-1L ~~SP strategy~~] ~~The only fencing is around rear gardens, and this is often open (eg. post and wire).~~ - [REP DESIGN GUIDELINE BELOW] - [22.12-10]

~~The 'public' space between the garden and the roadway is dominated by native vegetation with some substantial native trees. Footpaths are generally unsurfaced and wind informally through the trees. Verges form part of the uninterrupted flow of vegetation across the public and private domains. The impact of the roadway on the flow of the landscape is minimised by retaining unsealed surfaces or on sealed roads, using roll over kerbs or omitting kerbs altogether. In some areas kerbs and channels have been used to prevent erosion and protect properties from storm water runoff.~~ [22.12-10] ~~The description of the footpaths, nature strips and verges provide little guidance for development on a site.~~

Design objectives and design responses

~~The Desired Future Character is to be achieved by the following Design Objectives and Design Responses:~~ [22.12-10]

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Nillumbik Shire Council – Neighbourhood Character Precincts – Map

Design Objectives	Design Responses
<p>To maintain the indigenous vegetation including canopy trees and understorey planting and encourage the replanting of indigenous plants. [22.12-10]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ safety issues [22.12-10] Repeats strategy in 22.12-3 above that has already been moved to 15.01-5L as a strategy. ▪ Buildings should be designed to sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy or to sit within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-10] 15.01-1L SP strategy <p>To minimise excavation for car access, impact on bush setting and visibility of access driveway and car storage facilities. [22.12-10]</p>
<p>To minimise site disturbance and impact on the landform and vegetation. Replace any mature trees lost to development with advanced indigenous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Design Objectives	Design Responses
<p>species and replace any other trees or understorey vegetation lost to development with similar size indigenous species where appropriate. 15.01-1L SP strategy</p> <p>Substantial indigenous species trees [22.12-10] should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired future character having regard to solar access, residential amenity and bushfire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Integrate the design of carports and garages with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation. [22.12-10] 15.01-1L SP strategy ▪ Use non impervious surfaces for driveways and only seal the driveways in locations where erosion may occur. 15.01-1L SP strategy ▪ Design driveways and access tracks to follow the contours of the site to minimise gradients and the need for retaining walls. 15.01-1L SP strategy ▪ Design driveways to minimise the impact on existing vegetation. [22.12-10] 15.01-1L SP strategy
<p>To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the landscape and vegetation and the bush character of the front garden vegetation. [22.12-10]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Avoid fencing unless of post and wire construction to the frontage and rear and side boundaries. 15.01-1L SP strategy
<p>To design and site buildings which minimise the risk of loss in a bushfire and landscaping which minimises the spread and intensity of bushfires. [22.12-10]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscaping and bush retention should maintain an area of defensible space around the dwelling. [22.12-10] covered elsewhere in the scheme (bushfire provisions) ▪ New properties should have a permanent built-in and easily maintained fire protection system, linked to an independent water and power supply. ▪ Note Further regulation for wildfire management and safety may apply elsewhere in the planning scheme. [22.12-10] covered elsewhere in the scheme.

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Reference

Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study and Residential Design Guidelines, Planisphere and John Curtis Pty Ltd, 2000. [22.12-10] 15.01-51. Policy documents

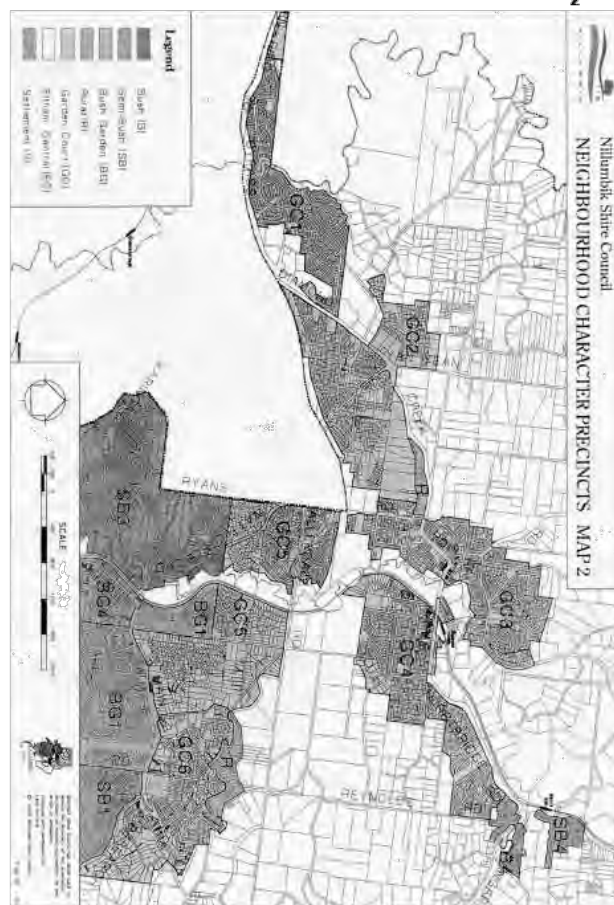
1

Nillumbik Shire Council – Neighbourhood Character Precincts – Map



NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Nillumbik Shire Council – Neighbourhood Character Precincts – Map



[22.12-10]

[illegible]

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22.01 MEDIUM DENSITY HOUSING POLICY

12/03/2015GC20 This policy applies to land in the ~~Residential Growth Zone~~, [there's no RGZ in Nillumbik] General Residential Zone and Neighbourhood Residential Zone and more particularly to applications made under the provisions of Clauses ~~32.07-4~~, [there's no RGZ in Nillumbik] 32.08-4 and 32.09-5 (Construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings). [22.01] 15.01-2L

Policy Basis

The urban and township areas of the Shire are characterised by a tree canopy of predominantly indigenous species. Residential areas are generally of a lower density than for metropolitan Melbourne, providing for open spaces and retention of a bushland setting. 02.03 built enviro ~~The built environment does not dominate the natural environment.~~ [REP21.03-3] [22.01]

The natural and built character of residential areas contributes to a high level of amenity and a strong sense of place for the community. ~~Medium density housing development needs to take account of these qualities and not detract from the character of residential areas.~~ [22.01]

REP22.01 OBJECTIVE

By the year 2021, it is forecast that Nillumbik Shire Council will need to accommodate an additional 4,800 households. [22.01] 02.03 built enviro

The demonstrated trend of decreasing average household size in the Shire of Nillumbik provides the impetus to provide for some medium density housing as an alternative housing choice.

[22.01] 02.03 built enviro

As well as providing for more efficient use of infrastructure, consolidation of development will assist to protect the surrounding natural environment, water catchments, rural landscapes and unique settlement pattern - elements of the Shire which are highly valued by the community.

[22.01] 02.03 built enviro

The locations considered most suited to medium density development are those with appropriate infrastructure in close proximity to public transport scheduled stops, commercial areas, public open space and other community facilities. [22.01] 02.03 built enviro

~~The design and location of medium density housing should be managed to provide for a diversity of housing that contributes to the preferred character of the urban area.~~ [22.01] REP 21.05-1 AND 21.03-1 SD IN 02.03-6 HOUSING

Objectives

- To identify appropriate locations for the facilitation of medium density housing development. [22.01] 02.03 housing SD

~~To ensure that medium density housing development is compatible with the existing character of the area.~~ [22.01] REP21.05-1, 21.03-1 MERRGED SD IN 02.03-6 HOUSING AND SD IN 02.03 NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER

Policy

~~It is policy that:~~ [22.01]

Design and Siting

- ~~Medium density housing that detracts from the character of the area will be strongly discouraged.~~ [22.01] REP 22.01 OBJECTIVE ABOVE

The siting and design of buildings and works should protect and enhance local amenity, areas of environmental significance and heritage places. [22.01] 15.01-2L

~~New development should have regard to the building form and style of surrounding dwellings.~~ REP 22.12 precinct strategies Contemporary and innovative design that does not detract from the preferred character of the area will be encouraged. 15.01-1L split ~~The use of timber, stone, mud-brick or any combinations of these materials is generally encouraged.~~ REP TO A MORE INDEPTH LEVEL IN 22.12- (INDIVIDUAL NC OF INDIVIDUAL NC PRECINCTS) [22.01]

- Medium density housing development that is designed and sited to appear of a single dwelling when viewed from the street will be encouraged. [22.01] 15.01-2L
- Continuous building lines and blank walls should be avoided, building lines and walls should be articulated, contain visual features or be otherwise varied. [22.01] 15.01-2L split
- Siting and design should respond to the slope of the land to minimise the need for cut and fill. Split levels in dwelling floors should be used to reduce building bulk and mass. [22.01] 15.01-5L merge

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- Siting of buildings and works should respond to existing vegetation (including drip-lines of trees) and minimise the need for the removal of existing trees. Sufficient space should be provided for adequate planting of appropriate vegetation. Open space should be sited around significant vegetation. [22.01] 15.01-1L
- If tree removal is approved as a result of a development proposal, a minimum planting of twice the number of trees that existed on the site prior to the development will be encouraged. [22.01] 15.01-1L PG

Canopy trees (preferably indigenous to the area) should be provided within a site frontage of a new medium density housing development and in strategic locations elsewhere within the site. [22.01] 15.01-1L

- Private open space areas should be practical and useable having consideration for shape of open space, continuity or fragmentation of open space, slope of land and any other relevant factor. [15.01-2L] ~~Sufficient space should be designated to provide for adequate planting of appropriate vegetation.~~ [REP 15.01-2L STRATEGY ABOVE] [22.01]
- Medium density housing should not need to rely on road reserves or other public land to facilitate a proposed development (including works and screen vegetation planting). [22.01] 15.01-2L
- ~~Energy efficient housing will be promoted. New dwellings will be encouraged to achieve a home energy rating of 4 or 5 stars.~~ [22.01] REP 15.02-1S & 15.02-1L

~~Site design should consider ease of access by car and pedestrians to, and within, the site. [REP CLAUSE 55 AND OTHER PROVISIONS] Driveway, footpath and other access ways should follow contours of the land and [REP 22.12 precinct specific strategies] respond to other environmental characteristics. [REP STATE POLICY 15.01-1S] 'Gunbarrel driveways' will be strongly discouraged.~~ [22.01] 15.01-2L

- Additional visitor car spaces (above the standard requirements in Clause 55) will be encouraged for developments along main roads, where sites are adjacent to or near main intersections and where narrow roads make on-street parking difficult or dangerous. [22.01] 15.01-2L

Location

- Medium density housing should be located close to Eltham Town Centre, Hurstbridge Shopping [22.01] 16.01-2L Centre, or Diamond Creek Shopping Centre and in proximity to the Eltham, Hurstbridge and Diamond Creek railway stations respectively, because sites considered suited to medium density development are those with appropriate infrastructure in localities within walking distance (approximately 400 metres) of all of the following:- [22.01] 16.01-2L
 - a public transport scheduled stop; [22.01] 16.01-2L
 - public open space; [22.01] 16.01-2L
 - community facilities; and , [22.01] 16.01-2L
 - commercial centres. [22.01] 16.01-2L

The Eltham Town Centre, Hurstbridge Shopping Centre and Diamond Creek Shopping Centres provide such facilities. [22.01]02.03 built enviro context

- ~~Medium density housing opportunities are considered at the planning stage of proposed residential estates rather than following the planning approval of new estates.~~ [22.01]rule 1 - process

Policy References

- Relevant town structure plans, strategies, housing/residential character studies and design guidelines (including Eltham Town Centre Strategy, Diamond Creek and Hurstbridge Township Strategies, [72.08s] Shire-wide Housing Strategy, [16.01-2L & 72.08s]Urban Residential Character Study, [72.08s] ~~Residential Design Guidelines for urban areas~~. [Superseded] [22.01]

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22.04 SITING AND DESIGN POLICY FOR BUILDINGS AND WORKS IN NON-URBAN AREAS.

28/04/2011 C40 This policy applies to the Green Wedge Zone, Rural Conservation Zone, Lot 8 in PS415064K in the Special Use Zone - Schedule 1 and also the Low Density Residential Zone in North Warrandyte. [22.04] 12.05-2L

Policy Basis

A significant element of the unique character of the Shire of Nillumbik is its highly attractive landscapes and picturesque views from and of the many valleys and elevated ridge lines. These landscape vistas are highly valued by the community and visitors to Nillumbik and inappropriate design and siting of buildings (including dwellings, sheds, poles, signage and other structures) compromises the integrity of these features. [22.04] 02.03

The need to protect habitat links and minimise fire and flood risk and erosion are also important considerations in the determination of siting buildings and works in rural areas. These and off-site considerations (such as ensuring that effluent does not enter watercourses) at the planning stage benefit future occupants of land and the environmental integrity of the area. [22.04] 02.03 enviro risks & amenity

Sustainable energy usage in house siting, irrespective of whether a dwelling is situated in a rural or urban location, is also important. [22.04] 02.03 built enviro

Objectives

- To encourage the appropriate and respectful siting and design of dwellings and other buildings in rural areas to minimise landscape and habitat impacts, avoid erosion, areas liable to flooding and other off-site effects and best prepare for potential fire risk. [22.04] split and merged with objectives below 02.03 enviro landscapes and values; and enviro risks and amenity
- ~~To encourage the appropriate and respectful siting and design of structures, such as signage and poles, in rural areas to minimise landscape and habitat impacts.~~ [22.04] merged with objective above
- ~~To encourage appropriate and respectful works in rural areas to minimise landscape and habitat impacts, avoid erosion and mitigate threats posed by flooding and other off-site impacts.~~ [22.04] merged with objective above

To ensure the promotion of energy efficiency is not restricted to and concentrated in urban areas. [22.04] 02.03 built enviro merged

Policy

~~It is policy that:~~

Landscape and amenity [22.04]

- The siting of buildings (including dwellings, sheds, utility services and other structures) on hill-tops and/or ridge-lines should be avoided and will be discouraged. Buildings on hill-tops/ridge-lines should only be considered when it can be demonstrated that a building will be sited and designed so that it will be adequately screened from other properties and roads so not to be prominent in the landscape. [22.04] 12.05-2L
- Buildings should be located wholly below the alignment of ridgelines to ensure silhouetting against the skyline does not occur and to allow buildings to blend into the natural landscape with the elevated ridgeline providing the appropriate backdrop. [22.04] 12.05-2L
- ~~Building numbers should be limited and the consolidation of buildings (including outbuildings) will be supported and will be encouraged, to reduce the visual impact of buildings on the landscape.~~ [22.04] REP21.05-2

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- The use of reflective building materials such as zincalume in areas where a proposed building would be clearly visible from other properties or roads will not be supported. [22.04] 12.05-2L merged

~~The use of muted tones on external surfaces will be supported while the use of bright or contrasting colours will not be supported in areas clearly visible from other properties or roads. [REP21.05-1 IN 15.01-2L] [22.04]~~

- Landscaping using indigenous vegetation species will be encouraged as appropriate to screen buildings. [12.05-2L split] Landscaping, as a means of providing a screening, should not be viewed as a simple solution to proposals for buildings in prominent locations, especially in areas not already supported by areas of existing vegetation screening. [22.04] [12.05-2L split]
- Telecommunication facilities (especially towers/poles) which are usually proposed to be located in prominent locations should be screened wherever possible. [19.03-4L split] ~~Telecommunication carriers and their representatives are strongly encouraged to meet with the responsible authority to discuss potential sites for the installation of facilities before embarking on formal lodgement of applications. Telecommunication carriers and their representatives are also strongly encouraged to submit detailed information about identified potential sites (at least three sites if possible) prior to meeting with the responsible authority. [rule 1 - process]~~ Assessments should be undertaken of the possible effects on flora and fauna for areas which are identified for their landscape and/or environment significance. [19.03-4L split] [22.04]
- Undergrounding of services, such as power, will be encouraged to minimise visual impact in rural areas. [22.04] 12.05-2L
- Dwelling envelopes should be designated for properties where they will ensure that building occurs on favourable sites, and conversely building does not occur on sites which would be prejudicial to landscape values. [22.04] 12.05-2L

Vegetation and habitat

- Buildings, earthworks (including internal roads and dams) and utility services should be located to ensure minimal impact on native vegetation (especially vegetation identified as being part of a strategic habitat link or identified as being environmentally significant) [12.01-1L merge] and the topography of the area. [12.05-2L] [22.04]
- The impacts which the construction of dams may have down-slope to flora, fauna and watercourses (natural flow) will be considered. [22.04] 14.01-2L
- ~~Routes for the undergrounding of services, such as electricity, should have regard for existing native vegetation so to minimise the need for the removal of, or damage to native vegetation. [22.04] REP22.04 ABOVE~~

~~Dwelling envelopes should be designated for properties where they will ensure that building occurs on favourable sites, and conversely building does not occur on sites which would be prejudicial to environment values. [22.04] REP 22.04 STRATEGY ABOVE~~

Earthworks and erosion

- ~~Earthworks should not increase the potential for erosion. [22.04] REP 13.045-2S~~
- Building profile and form should respond to the topography on which the building is sited and the need for cut and fill should be minimised. [22.04] 12.05-2L
- Internal roads should follow contours to minimise the potential for erosion and to support the landscape vista of rural areas. [12.05-2L] They should also be designed to minimise the impact caused by run-off. [12.05-2L] [22.04]
- Dams should not be sited in significant gullies/tributaries. [22.04] 14.01-2L
-

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Dams should be located so that there are sufficient areas for spillways to contain overflow on-site. [22.04] 14.01-2L

Fire and flood

- In considering landscaping to screen developments and in preparing landscape designs, consideration will be given to minimising fire risk. [22.04] 13.02-1L
- ~~In regards to proposed development in flood prone areas, all potential detrimental environmental effects need to be addressed and~~ [REP FLOODING PROVISIONS] the importation of fill in an attempt to raise the natural level of the land is inappropriate and will not be supported. [22.04] 13.03-1L

Energy efficiency

- Dwellings will be encouraged to have living areas located on the north facing side to provide for a northerly aspect. [22.04] 15.02-1L
- ~~Dwellings designs should achieve a 4 or 5 star energy rating, and the use of Energy Efficiency Victoria's Home Energy Rating Scheme and energy rating software will also be encouraged.~~
- [22.04] superseded

~~Greater use of renewable energy resources such as solar, wind and water and a reduction of the reliance on non-renewable resources such as fossil fuels will be encouraged.~~ [22.04] REP15.02-1S

Drainage and effluent

- In the event that there is no underground Council drainage system servicing a lot, roof drainage should be absorbed on-site. If a proper drainage system is later provided to the site, a permanent sealed drain should replace the on-site absorption system. [22.04] 19.03-2L
- For developments containing toilets, showers, washing facilities and/or the like, effluent disposal envelopes should be nominated to provide sufficient areas for the containment on-site of effluent/sullage disposal generated on-site. Applications which propose effluent disposal fields and systems which are unlikely to ~~contain effluent/sullage onsite~~ [REP 22.04 STRATEGY ABOVE] or ensure effluent/sullage does not enter watercourses will not be supported or otherwise require modifications. ~~Consideration will also be given to the locations of effluent disposal fields in relation to stormwater drainage areas.~~ [22.04] 19.03-3L

Other

- ~~The 'Nillumbik Siting and Design Guidelines – Environmentally Sensitive Areas' will be considered for proposals as appropriate (many policy statements above including erosion, fire and flood, indigenous vegetation, and impacts on waterways are addressed in this guideline).~~ [22.04]

Policy References

- Nillumbik Siting and Design Guidelines – Environmentally Sensitive Areas [22.04] 15.01-6L & 72.08s
- ~~Nillumbik Septic Tank Conditions & Specifications Guide~~ [22.04] delete – cannot find copy of this doc
- Shire of Nillumbik - Drainage to Unserviced Allotments [22.04] 19.03-3L & 72.08s
- ~~A Code of Practice for Telecommunications Facilities in Victoria~~ [22.04] REP19.03-4S

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22.05 ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE POLICY [advised by Council to be removed. REP state policy and a lot of applications are exempt from the requirement for a CHMP – have retained narrative for 02.03]

19/01/2006VC37

~~This policy applies to all land in the Shire.~~

Policy Basis

Nillumbik Shire lies within land occupied by the Wurundjeri - willam clan of the Woi wurrung speaking people. [02.03 heritage] ~~The Woi-wurrung territory took in the watersheds of the Yarra and Maribymong Rivers and thus occupies much of the areas of present-day metropolitan Melbourne. Healesville, to the immediate east of the Shire, is a major focus of the region.~~
[additional context] A large number of existing Aboriginal archaeological sites which contribute to the cultural heritage of the region have been identified within the Shire of Nillumbik. [02.03 heritage] [22.05]

Objectives

- ~~To provide for the identification of sites of Aboriginal cultural significance and the appropriate level of management in consultation with the local Aboriginal community.~~ [REP 15.03-2S]
- [22.05]

To ensure new uses, developments and works do not impede on or detract from sites and features of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological significance. [22.05] [02.03 heritage]

Policy

~~It is policy that:~~

- ~~The identification, protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage values should be promoted.~~ [22.05]
- ~~A planning application for land in an area where there is a known heritage site should include a report from a suitably qualified archaeologist, approved by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, demonstrating what the impact would be of the proposal on existing Aboriginal cultural heritage values.~~ [22.05]
- ~~Any planning application in an area which is relatively undisturbed (i.e. no known history of vegetation clearance and/or activities which involve the modification of existing land surfaces either by soil removal, soil movement or filling) and is within 200 metres of a river or creek should include an archaeological survey conducted by a suitably qualified archaeologist, approved by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. If the site is identified as an Aboriginal archaeological site, a report from a suitably qualified archaeologist, approved by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, should be provided which demonstrates what the impact would be of the proposal on existing Aboriginal cultural heritage values.~~ [22.05]

Policy Reference

- ~~Nillumbik Shire Council Aboriginal Heritage Study, 1996~~ [22.05]

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22.06 ROADSIDE MANAGEMENT POLICY

19/01/2006VC37 ~~This policy applies to all roadsides throughout the Shire.~~ [not needed – this is implied if there is no policy application]

Policy Basis

Roadsides are an integral part of maintaining biodiversity in the Shire of Nillumbik. Vegetation on roadsides provides wildlife with corridors for movement between larger areas of habitat, and can be the remaining refuge for many native floral and faunal species. [22.06] 02.03 ~~enviro~~ landscapes and values

In many parts of the Shire, land clearing and urban expansion have left roadsides as the only areas of relatively intact habitat where ground, middle and upper storey vegetation still remain. ~~Council therefore has considerable investment in maintaining and protecting the vegetation on roadsides, whilst aiming to achieve this in the face of a growing weed problem, economic constraints, and under increasing pressure for more services.~~ [22.06] 02.03 ~~enviro~~ landscapes and values

~~Nillumbik Shire Council's Roadside Management Plan has categorised the conservation values of roadsides, based on the degree of intact indigenous vegetation, level of weed invasion and other signs of disturbance.~~ [22.06]

Objectives

- To maintain and enhance the environmental, historical and landscape values of roadsides in the Shire, through the implementation of the Nillumbik Roadside Management Plan. [22.06] 02.03 ~~enviro~~ landscapes and values merge

To protect roadside vegetation for its habitat value. [22.06] 02.03 ~~enviro~~ landscapes and values merge

Policy

~~It is policy that:~~

- ~~The conservation values of roadsides as identified in the Nillumbik Roadside Management Plan, be fully considered.~~ [22.06] this is a decision guideline, which there is no place for in the PPF unless reworded into a strategy, this should be covered by the strategies
- ~~Roadside vegetation be removed in accordance with the box clearance guidelines in the Nillumbik Roadside Management Plan and with minimal impact and disturbance to the roadsides conservation values. The relocation of buildings on vehicles and other oversized loads may not be able to be accommodated along roads in the Shire where box clearances cannot be met.~~ [22.06] rule 1 – roadside veg removal is not implemented through planning scheme.
- Roadside vegetation should not be adversely affected by water diversion into dams from roadsides or overflows from dam construction near property boundaries. [22.06] 14.01-2L merge
- Fire protection works should have consideration for the protection of roadside vegetation values wherever possible. [22.06] 13.02-1L
- Cross-over proposals/access points to roadsides are minimised in all areas, although especially in areas identified as Category A, B and C in the Nillumbik Roadside Management Plan. [22.06] 12.01-1L

Policy Reference

„Nillumbik Roadside Management Plan [22.06] 12.01-1L

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22.07 ELTHAM TOWN CENTRE POLICY

11/08/2016C106 ~~This policy applies to land identified within the Eltham Town Centre (Precincts 1-4 of the Eltham Activity Centre), as shown in the map attached to this policy. [22.07]~~

Policy Basis

The central area of the Eltham township is one of the primary community and commercial focal points within the Shire of Nillumbik, providing a diverse range of commercial activities, community services, recreational facilities and housing opportunities, as well as containing a substantial public transport hub. ~~In recognition of these qualities, the area is designated as an Activity Centre under Plan Melbourne. [22.07]~~ 02.03 activity centres

~~To provide greater direction and certainty for managing change, the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) divides the activity centre into eleven distinct precincts, which are grouped into three local policy areas: [22.07]~~

■ ~~The Eltham Town Centre: which consists of Precincts 1-4 and contains the commercial and community core of the activity centre, including the public transport hub. [22.07]~~

■ ~~The Eltham Town Park: which consists of Precincts 5-7 and includes those areas of public open space within the activity centre, as well as a number of recreational facilities. [22.07]~~

■ ~~The Bridge Street Business Area: which consists of Precincts 8-11 and comprises those industrial and commercial areas generally bounded by the railway line and Bolton, Susan and Brougham streets. [22.07]~~ no policy relates to the other precincts

~~The Eltham MAC Structure Plan seeks to ensure that the Eltham Activity Centre (Precincts 1-11) continues to be the focus of community life, and provides a wide range of residences, shopping and professional services, and places to meet and recreate. Further, that residents, workers and visitors will enjoy an attractive, distinctive, indigenous, safe and highly accessible urban environment. [22.07]~~ 02.03 built environment

~~This policy implements those objectives and strategies in the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) pertaining to the Eltham Town Centre (Precincts 1-4). To this end, this policy encourages an expansion in the range of commercial and community services available within the Eltham Town Centre, as well as increasing the diversity and amount of housing available within an urban environment that is sustainable and appropriately scaled to respect the surrounding topography. [22.07]~~ REP ACZ1

Objectives

■ ~~To implement the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004). [22.07]~~ REP ACZ1

■ ~~To promote the provision of convenient access to daily and weekly shopping, as well as a modest amount of comparison shopping. [22.07]~~ REP ACZ1

■ ~~To encourage the development of leisure and social opportunities which operate day and night, and at weekends. [22.07]~~ REP ACZ1

■ ~~To promote a wide range of health, family support and professional services, and the provision of high-quality office space. [22.07]~~ REP ACZ1

■ ~~To create a lively and people-based centre with civic and community spaces that enhance community interaction and general health and well-being. [22.07]~~ REP ACZ1

~~To provide more employment opportunities by intensifying and expanding the range of commercial and community activities in the centre, particularly the amount of office development. [22.07]~~ REP ACZ1

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- ~~To promote mixed-use (particularly office and residential) developments. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~To promote an increase in the amount and diversity of housing by providing medium density housing, particularly that suited to one and two person households. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~To promote a transport and circulation network that encourages people to walk and cycle safely, balances the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles, assists the movement of public transport and provides convenient and accessible parking. [22.07] REP ACZ1 & 11.03-1S~~
- ~~To optimise the development potential of the centre by ensuring that individual sites are developed to their highest and best use in accordance with the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004). [22.07] REP ACZ1~~

Policy

~~It is policy to:~~

Land Use

Precinct 1 (Commercial Core) [22.07]

- ~~Provide a safe, attractive and convenient centre offering a range of retail outlets to meet daily, weekly and comparison shopping needs of the Eltham community. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~Encourage retail development in Pryor Street and Commercial Place, Arthur Street and Dudley Street [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~Encourage restaurants and active uses near the Town Square and on Commercial Place between Luck and Pryor Streets. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~Encourage the development of offices throughout the precinct, particularly on sites abutting the west side of the Circulatory Road. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~Promote active street frontages by encouraging small shops and other retail activities at ground level. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~Encourage the creation of a new pedestrian link between the Town Square and Main Road by converting one of the retail premises fronting Main Road into an open plaza. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~

Precinct 2 (Residential Interface)

- ~~Encourage medium density housing, whilst also providing some small to medium scale office use. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~Discourage convenience restaurants (the Bridge Street Business Area is the preferred location in the Eltham Activity Centre for convenience restaurants.) [22.07] REP ACZ1~~

Precinct 3 (Transport)

- ~~Ensure that future use and development maintains and enhances the functionality of the precinct as a commuter hub, and accommodates the anticipated growth in demand for public transport services and the corresponding need to upgrade the Eltham Station and Hurstbridge line. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
- ~~Subject to the use and anticipated further development of Precinct 3 for public transport infrastructure and provision of adequate commuter car parking: [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
 - ~~Encourage mixed-use developments (any combination of retail, office and car parking) on land between Main Road and the railway line, including land in front of the railway station and bus interchange. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~
 - ~~Encourage a mix of residential, office and car parking uses on land between the railway line and Youth Road. [22.07] REP ACZ1~~

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- ~~Promote active frontages between the railway line and Main Road by locating retail activities on the ground floor and provide convenient public access between Main Road, Eltham Station, sporting facilities (to the south and west) and community facilities (to the south).~~ [22.07] REP ACZ1

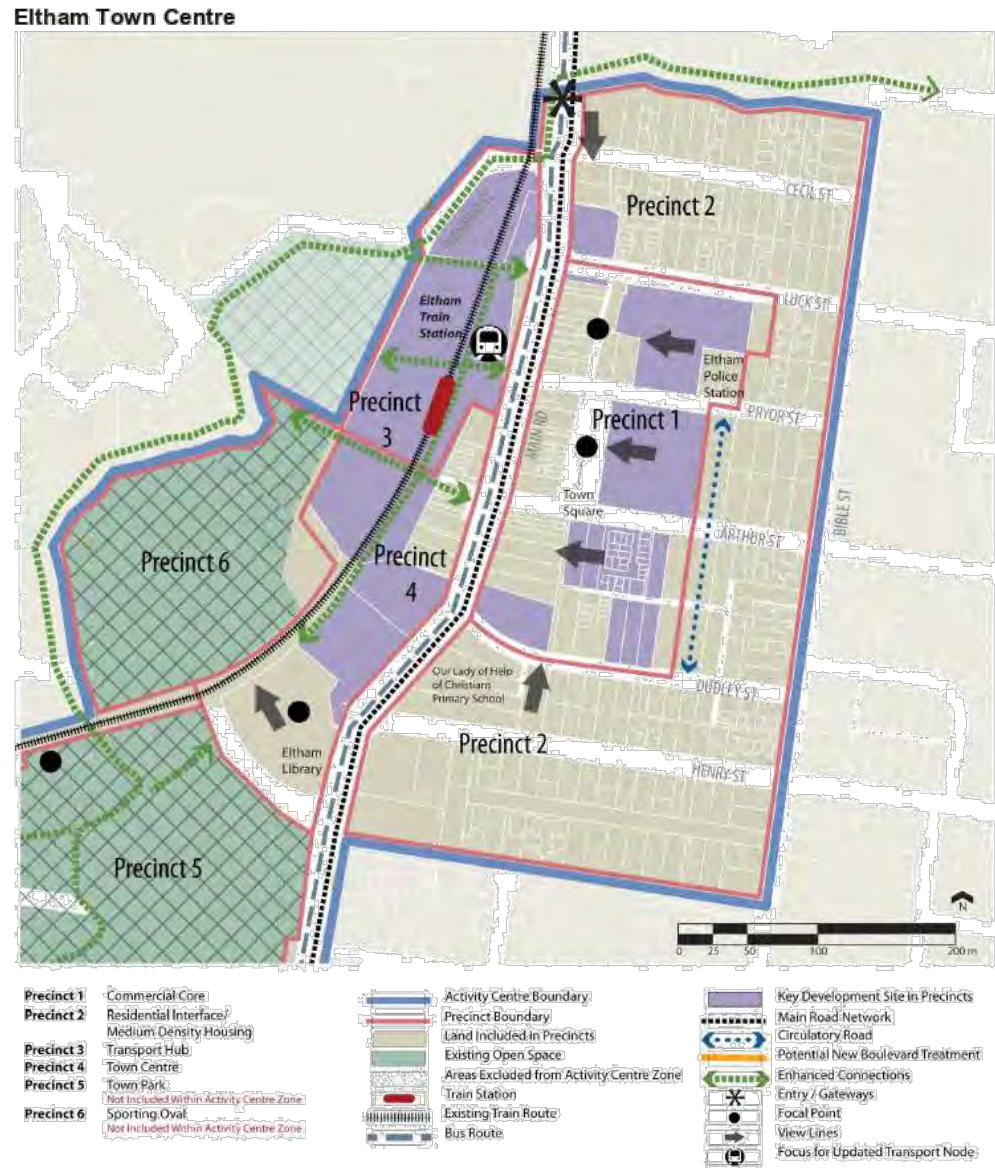
Precinct 4 (Town Centre)

- ~~Create an active, vibrant heart for the Eltham Activity Centre by providing a range of community, residential and professional services.~~ [22.07] REP ACZ1
- ~~On land within Precinct 4A encourage:~~ REP ACZ1
 - ~~Mixed use development (any combination of retail, office, medium density housing and community services)~~ [22.07] REP ACZ1
 - ~~Active frontages to Main Road and the railway line by providing either retail or office uses on the ground floor.~~ [22.07] REP ACZ1

Policy References

~~Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004)~~ [22.07] REP ACZ1

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[22.07]

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22.08 INDUSTRIAL AREAS POLICY

25/09/2014CS1 This policy applies to all land in the Industrial 3 zone. [22.08] 15.01-2L

Policy Basis

There are industrial precincts within the Shire at Eltham, Research and Diamond Creek. Each precinct is located in close proximity to residential areas and within high quality landscapes and vistas. It is important that new development and redevelopment of land in the industrial zones of the Shire enhance the amenity of the area. [22.08] 02.03 built environment

The existing industrial precincts are close to full capacity. In order for the Shire to facilitate new industrial uses these precincts should be retained for industrial uses and not be taken up by other uses. The exception to this rule is other uses recommended by the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) in Precincts 8 to 11 (Bridge Street Business Area) of the Eltham Activity Centre [22.08] 02.03 economic development

Objectives

- To ensure that development allows for functional layouts and use of land. [22.08] 02.03 built environment

To ensure that the use and development and redevelopment of sites within the industrial precincts are for industrial uses, with the exception of uses recommended by the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) in Precincts 8 to 11 (Bridge Street Business Area) of the Eltham Activity Centre as identified under Clause 22.15. [22.08] 02.03 economic development

- To ensure that new development and redevelopment within the industrial precincts positively contributes to the visual amenity of the area. [22.08] 02.03 built environment

Policy

~~It is policy that:~~

- Access to a lot should be suitable and unobstructed for all types of vehicles likely to be associated with the intended use including emergency vehicles. [22.08] 15.01-2L
- Loading/unloading facilities should not be used for external storage or long term parking of vehicles. [22.08] 15.01-2L
- Cut and fill of a site should be minimised to maintain the natural topography where possible and reduce the potential for erosion and landslip problems. [22.08] 13.04-2L merge
- ~~Stormwater disposal arrangements are considered at the planning stage of a development.~~ [22.08] REP19.03-3S
- ~~[REP21.05-4] Appropriate industrial uses will be supported in the industrial precincts.~~ [22.08] [REP33.03 PURPOSE OF INZ]

~~Non-industrial uses, such as churches, medical centres and offices (not appurtenant to an industrial use) will be strongly discouraged in the industrial precincts, with the exception of uses recommended by the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) in Precincts 8 to 11 (Bridge Street Business Area) of the Eltham Activity Centre as identified under Clause 22.15.~~ [22.08] [REP21.05-4]

- Landscaping should be provided along common property boundaries and within frontage setbacks and areas. Landscaping should use suitable native indigenous species. [15.01-2L split]
~~In designing landscaping consideration should be given to management of fire risk.~~ [REP13.02-1S] [22.08]
- ~~Buildings should be of a high quality design and construction.~~ [REP15.01-2S & 15.01-1S, ALSO RULE 9 – 'HIGH QUALITY' DOES NOT PROVIDE CLEAR POLICY GUIDANCE] ~~The use of materials and colours of muted tones that blend in with the surrounding environment is encouraged.~~ [REP21.05-1 IN 15.01-2L] [22.08]

Major building support systems requiring large components (eg. air conditioning, storage tanks) should be located in mechanical rooms completely within the building envelope and surface mounted roof equipment should not be considered unless fully screened, low profile and completely integrated with the overall architectural design of the building. [22.08] 15.01-2L split

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-
- ~~Building heights, setbacks and form should have regard to and seek to be compatible with the surrounding development and the character of the locality in which the development is situated.~~ [22.08] REP 15.01-1S & 15.01-2S

Policy Reference

-
- Research Industrial Estate Development Guidelines [22.08] 72.08s
 - ~~Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004)~~ [22.08] 72.08s

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

22.09 SIGNAGE POLICY

11/08/2016C106

~~This policy applies to all land in the Shire.~~

Policy Basis

~~The urban and rural areas of the Shire have unique characters which are an integral part of the Nillumbik community's identity.~~ Advertising signs should aim to complement the high visual quality of the urban streetscapes and rural landscapes. [22.09] 02.03 built environment

The proliferation of signs and poorly designed and located signs can significantly detract from the visual amenity and character of an area. Sign clutter can also reduce the effectiveness and visibility of individual signs. [22.09] 02.03 built environment

Inappropriately located and designed signs can also have adverse effects on road safety by obscuring or reducing the clarity of traffic control signs or signals, by being confused with such signs or by distracting motorists in areas where driver attention to road conditions may be critical. [22.09] 02.03 built environment

Objectives

- To ensure signs are compatible with the amenity [02.03 built environment] and streetscape/landscape character of the area and with the building or site on which they are to be displayed. [22.09] REP52.05
- To ensure that signs complement rather than dominate streetscapes. [22.09] 02.03 built environment merge
- To ensure that signs are well designed and well maintained to contribute to the appearance of buildings and landscapes/streetscapes. [22.09] 02.03 built environment merge
- ~~To avoid the creation of visual disorder and sign clutter.~~ [22.09] REP52.05
- To ensure that signs provide appropriate and effective identification of businesses and other land uses requiring identification. [22.09] 02.03 built environment
- To encourage the use of sign themes in commercial areas and to ensure that advertising signs are compatible with any advertising theme/pattern that has been developed for an area. [22.09] 15.01-1L

To ensure that road safety is not adversely affected. [22.09] 02.03 built environment merge

Policy

General

~~It is policy that:~~

- Signs should not detract from the appearance of a building on which they may be displayed. Signs should fit the building rather than be attached by ad hoc structures. Signs should not generally protrude above the height of the building, including any parapet. [22.09] 15.01-1L
- The size and height of signs should be compatible with the scales of the building or the sites on which they are displayed, the surrounding streetscapes and the size and scale of other signs in the area. [22.09] 15.01-1L
- The construction and design of signs should be of a high quality and there should be an ability for signs to be maintained at a high standard of presentation. [22.09] 15.01-1L
- Signs should be limited to the minimum number necessary to adequately identify a premises. [22.09] 15.01-1L
- Due to their visual prominence and likelihood to create or contribute to visual clutter, multiple freestanding signs will normally be discouraged. [22.09] 15.01-1L

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

~~Sign clutter should be avoided or reduced in order to maintain or enhance the built and natural environment. [REP52.05] Unnecessary duplication of signs should be avoided and the consolidation of signs will be encouraged. [22.09] 15.01-1Lsplit~~

- Business identification signs should provide basic identification information about the business and nature of the business on a site, however should not include details about particular goods or services sold or for hire or provided/undertaken on the site. [22.09] 15.01-1L
 - Promotion signs promoting private commercial goods or services or events for profit, sold or for hire or provided/undertaken on the site will generally be discouraged. [22.09] 15.01-1L
 - Promotion signs promoting private commercial goods or services or events for profit, not sold or for hire or provided/undertaken on the site will be strongly discouraged. [22.09] 15.01-1L
 - ~~Promotion signs promoting non-profit events will be encouraged to be sited in appropriate locations as identified by Council, and discouraged elsewhere. The signs should be of a temporary nature and accord with Council's specifications in relation to size, content, layout, installation and numbers of signs. [22.09] rule 1 – referring to policies outside of planning scheme~~
 - The use of internally illuminated signs and floodlit signs should not result in direct light or glare emission onto adjoining land or roadways. [22.09] 15.01-1L
 - ~~The use of bunting and animated signs will generally only be supported for temporary promotions while more permanent signs should be disallowed. [22.09] 15.01-1L~~
 - Reflective signs will be discouraged. [22.09] 15.01-1L
 - ~~Applications for new commercial/industrial buildings should incorporate plans showing specific locations/areas for future designated signs so that they become an integral part of the architecture. [22.09] application requirements not included in the new PPF, the intent of this policy is already covered by other strategies in 22.09~~
 - ~~An application for a sign should include the consideration of all existing signs on the site. [22.09] REP52.05~~
 - ~~A proposed sign should comply with any guidelines which may exist for the area in which it is proposed to be located. [22.09] not necessary to repeat as controlled by guideline already~~
- ~~Signs should not detract from or impede the visibility of road traffic/direction signs, especially in areas requiring high driver concentration. [22.09] REP52.05~~

Local Areas

Diamond Creek Activity Centre

- ~~In Precinct 1, new buildings should incorporate signs so that they become an integral part of the architecture. [22.09] REP 22.09 GENERAL SIGNS STRATEGIES IN 15.01-1L~~
- ~~In Precinct 3 of the activity centre, ensure a cohesive signage approach to the shopping area on both sides of Hurstbridge Road. [22.09] REP 22.09 GENERAL SIGNS STRATEGIES IN 15.01-1L~~
- ~~In Precinct 4 new industrial buildings should incorporate signs so that they become an integral part of the architecture. [22.09] REP 22.09 GENERAL SIGNS STRATEGIES IN 15.01-1L~~

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Eltham Activity Centre

- Signage should be of a size and height ~~that is complementary to the built form of the building and surrounding landscape and~~ [REP22.09 GENERAL STRATEGY ABOVE] does not detract from public view lines. [15.01-1L Eltham AC signs] [22.09]
- Signs should be consolidated in mixed use and commercial developments to avoid the visual clutter of signage and displays. [22.09] 15.01-1L Signs merge with general strategy
- The size, height and proportion of signage should be complimentary to the building and not a dominating element. [22.09] 15.01-1L signs, merge with general strategy
- Signage should not exceed 10% of the entire façade. [22.09] 15.01-1L Eltham AC signs
- Signs should not be painted or fixed on the windows of buildings. [22.09] 15.01-1L Eltham AC signs
- Signage should not be located on the roof [15.01-1L Eltham AC signs] ~~or exceed the parapet height of the host building.~~ [REP22.09 GENERAL STRATEGY ABOVE][22.09]

Animated signs or coloured neon lighting should be avoided. [22.09] 15.01-1L Eltham AC signs

In Precinct 2 of the activity centre, signage on non-residential uses should be subdued in colour, positioned below the eave line and integrated with the surroundings. [22.09] 15.01-1L Eltham AC signs

Decision guidelines

~~Before deciding on an application the responsible authority will consider, as appropriate:~~ [22.09]

- ~~The extent to which the application meets the objectives and directions of this policy;~~ [22.09]
- ~~The type of land use and its need for identification;~~ [22.09] decision guidelines not included in PPF format, the policy intent of this guideline is covered by the general strategies in the policy already
- ~~Number and scale of existing signs for the business/site; and;~~ [22.09] REP52.05

~~The need for the applicant to provide a site analysis, demonstrating a response to the objectives of this policy. This may include the proposed integration of building design, landscaping and advertising sign proposals.~~ [22.09] REP52.05

Policy References

Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Parts A & B, February 2014 [22.09] 72.08s

Eltham Gateway Design Guidelines 2013 [22.09] 72.08s

Eltham Town Centre Design Guidelines Parts A & B, February 2014 [22.09] 72.08s

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

22.10

06/06/2013
C77

ELTHAM GATEWAY POLICY

This policy applies to land in the Design and Development Overlay Schedule 1 in Eltham. ~~This area is referred to as the 'Eltham Gateway'.~~ [22.10] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway

22.10-1

06/06/2013
C77

Policy Basis

The Eltham Gateway is a precinct with cultural and landscape significance to the local community. Several factors contribute to this significance: [22.10-1] 02.03 settlement

- In the 1800s it contained the original Eltham town centre and now contains a range of historic buildings which date from this period and influence the architecture of the area. [22.10-1] 02.03 settlement

- The Eltham Gateway is typified by a high level of indigenous vegetation. The modest scale of built form is often substantially screened from public view by this vegetation. [22.10-1] 02.03 settlement

- The topography of the area allows significant vegetated views from Main Road towards the Diamond Valley. [22.10-1] 02.03 settlement

The modest scale of development along Main Road provides a transition from the urbanity of the suburbs to the semi-rural character of Eltham. [22.10-1] 02.03 settlement

While the whole of Eltham Gateway shares the above characteristics, the Gateway is divided into two parts: south of Mount Pleasant Road is predominately residential and north of Mount Pleasant Road transitions to a more vibrant, active community with a mix of residential, small-scale office and community uses. [22.10-1] 02.03 settlement

22.10-2

06/06/2013
C77To

Objectives

- encourage a predominance of residential uses south of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-2] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway strategy

- To encourage a mix of residential, small scale office and community uses north of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-2] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway strategy

To discourage the establishment of new uses or expansion of existing commercial uses which do not serve the needs of the immediate local resident or worker population and undermine the cultural and landscape significance of the Eltham Gateway. [22.10-2] split 02.03 settlement SD or 11.01-1L Eltham gateway strategy

22.10-3

06/06/2013
C77

Policy

~~It is policy that:~~

- Residential use is to be the predominant use. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway
- Large scale office uses and medium and large scale commercial uses are strongly discouraged. 11.01-1L Eltham gateway merge

- The preferred location for community, office and commercial uses is north of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway

- The preferred location for retail uses that are consistent with this policy is between Bridge Street and Dalton Street. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway

- Commercial uses are preferred where they utilise existing dwellings and primarily service local demand. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway

Industrial, commercial and other uses which undermine the cultural and landscape significance of the Eltham Gateway are strongly discouraged. Such uses include: [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway strategy merge

- Car wash [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway PG

- Service station [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway PG
- Car park[22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway PG
- Convenience restaurant [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway PG

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- 24-hour medical centres. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway
- Uses that may undermine the operation and viability of the Eltham Major Activity Centre are strongly discouraged. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway
- Hours of operation for non-residential uses are limited to protect the amenity of the area. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway
- Car parking should be provided on-site and the reduction or waiving of car spaces will not generally be supported. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway split
- Car parking spaces for non-residential uses should be provided at the rear of sites. [22.10-3] 11.01-1L Eltham gateway

22.10-4
06/06/2013
C77

Policy References

Eltham Gateway Review 2011 11.01-1L Eltham gateway

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

22.11
19/01/2006
VC37

YANAKIE FARM DOMESTIC PET POLICY

~~This policy applies to land designated as ‘Yanakie Farm’, shown on the attached plan.~~

Policy Basis

Yanakie Farm borders the environmental living area of the ‘Bend of Islands’. The Bend of Islands is in a Special Use Zone identified for its highly significant fauna and flora and the prohibition of domestic pets and erection of fences. [22.11] 02.03 biodiversity

Yanakie Farm has similar environmental characteristics and significance as the Bend of Islands, however areas have been cleared and used for grazing. There is a need to avoid or minimise any impact on the Bend of Islands by any development on this land. [22.11] 02.03 biodiversity

~~The Watsons Creek to the west of Yanakie Farm provides a significant natural boundary that could be used to delineate an area in which domestic pets are not allowed. In prohibiting domestic pets in Yanakie Farm the integrity of the protection of fauna afforded to the Bend of Islands is enhanced.~~ [22.11] additional context

Objective

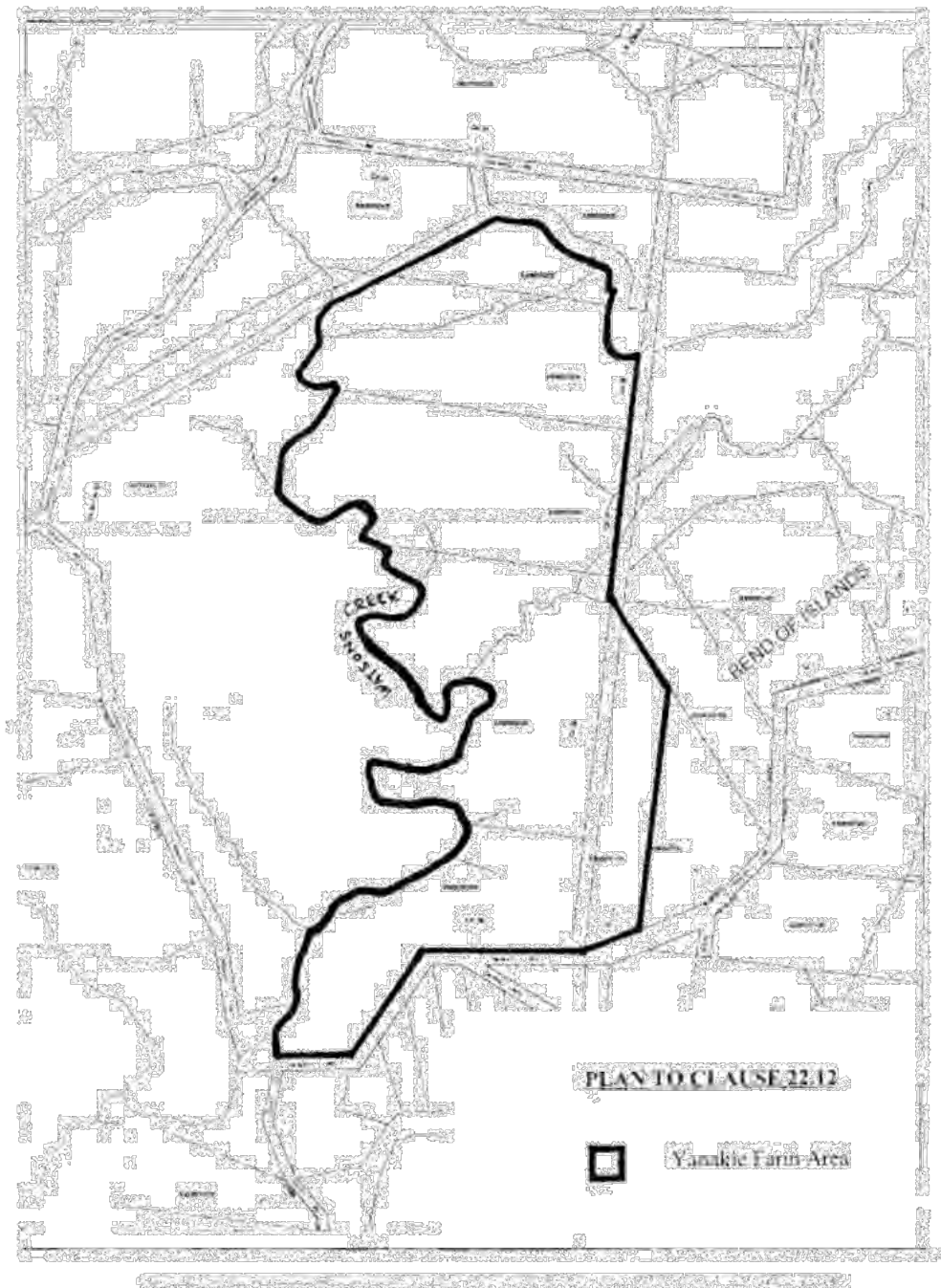
~~■ To protect native flora and fauna in the Bend of Islands (Special Use Zone).~~ [22.11] REPSUZ2
AND GENERAL SD 21.05-3 IN 02.03 ENVIRO LANDSCAPES AND VALUES

Policy

~~It is policy that:~~

- Planning permits for accommodation (including a dwelling) in Yanakie Farm include the requirement for a Section 173 Agreement which prohibits the keeping of domestic pets. [22.11] 12.01-1L

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22.13 WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT POLICY

19/01/2006VC37

This policy applies to all land affected by the provisions of the Wildfire Management Overlay (Clause 44.06).

Policy Basis

Wildfire risk is a significant issue in the Shire. ~~02.03 enviro risks and amenity Council in consultation with the Country Fire Authority has identified wildfire risk environments in the planning scheme.~~ [22.13]

~~The Country Fire Authority has prepared Bushfire Prone Area maps that identify areas in the Shire where under severe fire weather conditions, fires may occur that pose a significant threat to life and property. These maps form the basis of the Wildfire Management Overlay. Many of the identified areas have high environmental significance.~~ 02.03 enviro risks and amenity [22.13]

Particular attention to fire issues is needed in the design of subdivisions, the siting and design of buildings, and use and management of land in bushfire prone areas ~~shown on the Bushfire Prone Area maps and the Wildfire Management Overlay.~~ [22.13] 02.03 enviro risks and amenity

This policy:

- ~~Adapts the Protection from wildfire objective in clause 15.07-1 of the SPPF to local circumstances;~~ [22.13] unnecessary content
- ~~Adapts the Residential development for single dwellings and Subdivision objectives in clauses~~ [22.13] unnecessary content
- ~~16.01 and 19.01 of the SPPF to local circumstances;~~ [22.13] unnecessary content
- ~~Builds on the MSS objectives in clause 21.05-2 relating to Rural Land Use~~ [22.13] unnecessary content
- ~~Builds on the MSS objectives in clause 21.05-3 relating to Environment Conservation and Landscape;~~ [22.13] unnecessary content
- ~~Compliments the Siting and design for buildings and works in non-urban areas policy in clause~~
- ~~22.04 and the Roadside Management policy in clause 22.06;~~ [22.13] unnecessary content

~~Applies information shown on the Bushfire Prone Area maps, prepared by the Country Fire Authority.~~ [22.13] unnecessary content

~~Provides design and siting guidance to implement the Nillumbik Fire Prevention Plan and Australian Standard AS 3959: 1999, Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas.~~ [22.13] unnecessary content

Objectives

~~The objectives of this policy are:~~

- ~~To guide discretionary decision making about the use of land, the design of subdivisions, the siting and design of buildings and the management of land in bushfire prone areas~~ [22.13]
- ~~objective for RA~~

To avoid intensifying local wildfire risk to people and property through inappropriately located, designed or managed uses or developments. [22.13] 02.03 enviro risks and amenity

Policy

Exercising Discretion

~~Where a permit is required, it is policy to:~~

- ~~Strongly discourage subdivisions, including boundary realignments, that would result in additional development that would intensify wildfire risk to people and property~~ [22.13]

▪ REP13.02-1S

- Encourage safe siting and design of buildings in locations where the impact on the environment is minimal [22.13] 13.02-1L

- Encourage siting and design at the base of slopes or on gentle south or south-east facing slopes[22.13] 13.02-1L

Strongly discourage the siting of buildings on north or north-west facing slopes, particularly steeper slopes and the ridges above these slopes. [22.13] 13.02-1L

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NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Decision Guidelines

~~It is policy that the responsible authority considers:~~

- ~~The need for a Wildfire Development Plan that includes the requirements of the Wildfire Management Overlay and the category of bushfire attack in accordance with AS3953: 1999~~ [22.13] REP13.02-1S

- ~~The layout of subdivisions so as to optimise the opportunity for escape from bushfires and access by fire-fighting appliances~~ [22.13] REP13.02-1S & bushfire provisions

~~The siting and design of buildings so as to reduce fire risk and damage, including appropriate building materials, static water supply, the location of storage areas for flammable materials, the nature and location of landscaping, windbreaks and road access~~ [22.13] REP13.02-1S & bushfire provisions

- ~~The need to balance the protection of natural environmental values with fire protection objectives, including when deciding on vegetation management approaches or fuel reduction measures.~~ [22.13] REP13.02-1S

References

~~Australian Standard AS 3959: 1999 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas~~ [22.13] REP13.02-1S

~~Building Commission, Practice Note 2002-42 Building Controls for Bushfire Safety~~ [22.13] superseded/covered by State

~~Country Fire Authority, Building in a Wildfire Management Overlay. Applicants Kit~~ [22.13] SUPERSEDED

~~Country Fire Authority, Planning Conditions and Guidelines for Subdivisions~~ [22.13] superseded/covered by State

Nillumbik Fire Prevention Plan[22.13] 13.02-1L

Nillumbik Siting and Design Guidelines- Environmentally Sensitive Areas[22.13] 72.08s

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

22.14 DIAMOND CREEK ACTIVITY CENTRE POLICY

25/09/2014C53

~~This policy applies to land identified in Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Diamond Creek Activity Centre as shown in the map attached to this policy. REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Policy Basis

The Diamond Creek Activity Centre is a shopping, service and community centre for Diamond Creek and adjoining areas of the Shire. It contains a range of retail, commercial, community and leisure activities and facilities, and is serviced by public transport in the form of the Hurstbridge railway and limited bus services, and a road network dominated by Main Hurstbridge Road which forms the 'spine' of the centre. ~~Diamond Creek is designated as an Activity Centre under Plan Melbourne, for the purpose of consolidating retail, commercial and residential development in the Centre whilst meeting the needs of the community.~~ [22.14] 02.03 settlement

~~To provide greater direction and certainty for managing change, the Diamond Creek twenty20 Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006) divides the centre into six precincts:~~ [22.14] additional context

~~Precinct 1: Chute Street Retail Node~~ [22.14] additional context

~~Precinct 2: Precinct 3: Elizabeth Street and Station Street Industrial Area~~ [22.14] additional context

~~Precinct 3: Retail Core~~ [22.14] additional context

~~Precinct 4: Employment and Industrial~~ [22.14] additional context

~~Precinct 5: Mixed Use Area~~ [22.14] additional context

~~Precinct 6: Diamond Creek East Primary School and Diamond Valley College~~ [22.14] additional context

~~This policy implements those objectives and strategies in the Diamond Creek twenty20 Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006) pertaining to Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (identified in the Structure Plan as Precincts 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6), which seek to ensure that the Diamond Creek Activity Centre continues to be the focus of community life, and provides a wide range of residences, shopping and professional services, and places to meet and recreate. Residents, workers and visitors will enjoy an attractive, distinctive, indigenous, safe and highly accessible urban environment.~~ [22.14] 02.03 settlement

To this end, this policy encourages an expansion in the range of commercial and community services available within the Diamond Creek Activity Centre, as well as increasing the diversity and amount of housing available within an urban environment that is sustainable and appropriately scaled to respect the surrounding topography. [22.14] 02.03 settlement

Objectives

- ~~To achieve the vision, objectives and strategies of the Diamond Creek twenty20 Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006).~~ [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2

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- ~~To develop shopping, services, facilities, employment and meeting places which complement those available in the regional network of activity centres and facilities. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~To expand shopping floor space to meet an increased proportion of projected demand and reduce 'escape expenditure' and travel to nearby centres. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~To develop additional higher density housing in the centre to meet projected needs and increase dwelling type diversity. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~To focus retail activity in a compact core east of the railway and focused on the 'landscaped civic spine' of Main Hurstbridge Road with a retail node in Chute Street. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~To cluster community and leisure facilities in and around the centre as added attractions for the local community, to meet local needs and complement retail and commercial activity. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

~~To develop the landscape and road infrastructure along Main Hurstbridge Road to help integrate the retail core, improve access and create an attractive shopping environment and meeting place for the centre. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

- ~~To optimise the potential to reduce car dependency within the community by developing a network of local and regional shared paths for recreational and functional use to increase walking and cycling into and around the centre, and by encouraging upgrades of the Hurstbridge line to increase the frequency of public transport services. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~To develop a long term plan for car parking to ensure an adequate and sustainable supply. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

- ~~To develop improved access to and integrate retail, commercial and housing development with the railway station and its surrounds. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

~~To retain and develop the open spaces within the centre and the links to parkland along the nearby creek floodplain as a key feature of the centre. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Policy

~~It is policy to:~~

Diamond Creek twenty20 –Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006) [22.14]

- ~~Consider the vision, objectives, strategies and actions of the *Diamond Creek twenty20 –Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan, September 2006* in assessing land use and development in the Diamond Creek Activity Centre. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Land use

Precinct 1 Chute Street Retail Node

- ~~Develop the retail, office and entertainment activities in and around Chute Street for local convenience shopping, a range of food and restaurant outlets and professional and other office based services but little if any retail floor space expansion. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Direct shopping and in particular food and entertainment activities towards the creek and open space corridor. [22.14] [37.08 ACZ2]~~
- ~~Encourage food and entertainment activities at 69 Main Street. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Encourage higher density development in and around the Chute Street node. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Encourage the redevelopment of identified key redevelopment sites. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

~~Industrial uses are strongly discouraged in Precinct 1, as Precincts 2 and 4 are the preferred location in the Diamond Creek Activity Centre for industry. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Precinct 2 Elizabeth Street and Station Street Industrial Area

- ~~Maintain a range of light industrial and service industries to provide local employment and services. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Change the functions along the Main Hurstbridge Road frontage to intensify the land use and increase the amenity along this spine of the activity centre. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Minimise the impacts of development on adjoining sensitive land uses. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Precinct 3 Retail Core

- ~~Develop this precinct as the primary focus for retail activity in the centre. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Generally contain retail activity within a compact pedestrian friendly core bound by the railway, Brooks Crescent, Waigo Way and Wensley Street/George Street. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Provide new retail space through more intensive redevelopment. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Encourage mixed use residential and office buildings north of the railway. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

~~Encourage the redevelopment of identified key redevelopment sites. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

- ~~Encourage progressive upgrades of railway infrastructure and the station to meet anticipated growth in demand for public transport services. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Precinct 4 Employment and Industrial

- ~~Encourage industrial and service industry activities that minimise off site effects on adjoining sensitive land uses. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~
- ~~Support retail or semi-retail development that requires larger floor spaces, trade supplies or bulky goods. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Precinct 5 Mixed Use Area

- ~~Encourage a mix of activities including higher density housing, office development and medical services along the Main Road frontage. [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

Policy References

- ~~Diamond Creek twenty20 Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006) [22.14] REP37.08 ACZ2~~

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Diamond Creek Activity Centre Precinct Map-REP37.08 ACZ2



NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

22.15 **BRIDGE STREET BUSINESS AREA POLICY**

25/09/2014C51

This policy applies to land in the Bridge Street Business Area, which comprises land in Precincts 8 to 11 of the Eltham Activity Centre as shown in the map attached to this policy. [22.15] 11.03-1L

Bridge Street

Policy Basis

~~The central area of the Eltham township is one of the primary community and commercial focal points within the Shire of Nillumbik, providing a diverse range commercial activities, community services, recreational facilities and housing opportunities, as well as containing a substantial public transport hub. In recognition of these qualities the area is designated as an Activity Centre under Plan Melbourne. [22.15] REP22.07~~

~~To provide greater direction and certainty for managing change, the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) divides the area into eleven distinct precincts, which are grouped into three local policy areas: [22.15]~~

- ~~The Eltham Town Centre: which consists of Precincts 1 to 4 and contains the commercial and community core of the activity centre, including the public transport hub. [22.15]~~
- ~~The Eltham Town Park: which consists of Precincts 5 to 7 and includes those areas of public open space within the activity centre, as well as a number of recreational facilities. [22.15]~~
- ~~The Bridge Street Business Area: which consists of Precincts 8 to 11 and comprises those industrial and commercial areas generally bounded by the railway line and Bolton, Susan and Brougham streets. [22.15]~~

The Eltham MAC Structure Plan seeks to ensure that the Eltham Activity Centre (Precincts 1-11) continues to be the focus of community life, and provides a wide range of residences, shopping and professional services, and places to meet and recreate. ~~Further, residents, workers and visitors will enjoy an attractive, distinctive, indigenous, safe and highly accessible urban environment. [22.15] 02.03 activity centres consolidated~~

~~This policy implements those objectives and strategies in the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) pertaining to precincts 8 to 11 (The Bridge Street Business Area). To this end, this policy encourages an improvement in the visual amenity and functionality of the Bridge Street Business Area and a change in the range of land uses from being primarily industrial to include peripheral sales, light industry, commercial offices, health and fitness centres, indoor sports and recreation centres. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street split~~

Objectives

- ~~To implement the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004). [22.15] note required – the structure plan is a policy doc~~
- ~~To provide bulky goods retailing, light industry, commercial offices, health and fitness centres and indoor sports and recreation centres in the Bridge Street Business Area. [22.15] REP 22.15 ABOVE~~

To promote within the Bridge Street Business Area a transport and circulation network that enhances convenient access to destinations, encourages people to walk and cycle safely, balances the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles, assists the movement of public transport and provides convenient and accessible parking. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

- To provide the Bridge Street Business Area with quality built buildings that: [22.15] 11.03-1L

Bridge Street

- Are modest and compact in scale. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

- Are distinct in design. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street merge
- Utilise materials and styles reflecting local character and landscape. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street
- Create a sensitive transition in uses and built form scale between the Bridge Street Business Areas and surrounding land uses (e.g. park land and residential areas). [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

~~To ensure that the Bridge Street Business Area is landscaped with indigenous vegetation [REP22.15 STRATEGY BELOW] and integrated street furniture. [22.15] RULE 1~~

To optimise the development potential of sites within the Bridge Street Business Area. [22.15]
11.03-1L Bridge Street

Policy

~~It is policy to:~~ [22.15]

Land Use

Refer to precinct areas on the map attached to this policy [22.15]

Precinct 8

Support medium and small scale offices and indoor recreation/health facilities. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

Precinct 9

- Support bulky goods and showroom type retailing, including by encouraging site consolidation to enable larger stores to locate in the precinct. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

Precinct 10

- Support bulky goods retailing. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

Precinct 11

- Encourage the provision of an attractive and functional business park for small and medium scale light industrial activities, primarily servicing local community needs. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

Encourage the area to continue to be the preferred location for light industrial activities. [22.15]
11.03-1L Bridge Street

Environment and Built Form

- ~~Development should have a high standard of urban design and~~ [REP15.01-1S] provide planting of indigenous trees where possible. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street
- Development should be ~~well designed,~~ [REP15.01-2S] contemporary [11.03-1L Bridge Street] ~~and employ site responsive architecture.~~ [REP15.01-2S] [22.15]
- Consolidation of lots for well-designed integrated developments is encouraged. [22.15] [11.03-1L Bridge Street]
- New development should not present a blank facade to a pedestrian activity area or street. [22.15] [11.03-1L Bridge Street]

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

~~New developments should have a built form which respects adjacent and related developments.~~
[22.15] [REP15.01-2S]

Amenity

- Encourage improvement of visitor amenity through such facilities as open and sheltered rest areas, meeting places, crossing facilities, pedestrian links to car parks and pedestrian weather protection. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street
- Reduce conflict between vehicular traffic and major pedestrian areas through separation, design treatments and materials, traffic calming and reducing conflict points. [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

~~Ensure design provides for the needs of all users, including people with a disability.~~ [22.15]
REP21.05-5

Parking

- ~~Encourage the provision of bicycle facilities and access to support greater use of bicycles as the means of transport to and from the Eltham Activity Centre.~~ [22.15] REP18.02-1S AND 11.03-1S

~~Support car parking rates that provide for 6 car spaces per 100 square metres of gross leasable retail floor space and 3 spaces per 100 square metres of gross leasable office floor space.~~ [22.15]
[CONTRADICTS RATES PROVIDED IN CAR PARKING PROVISIONS 52.06]

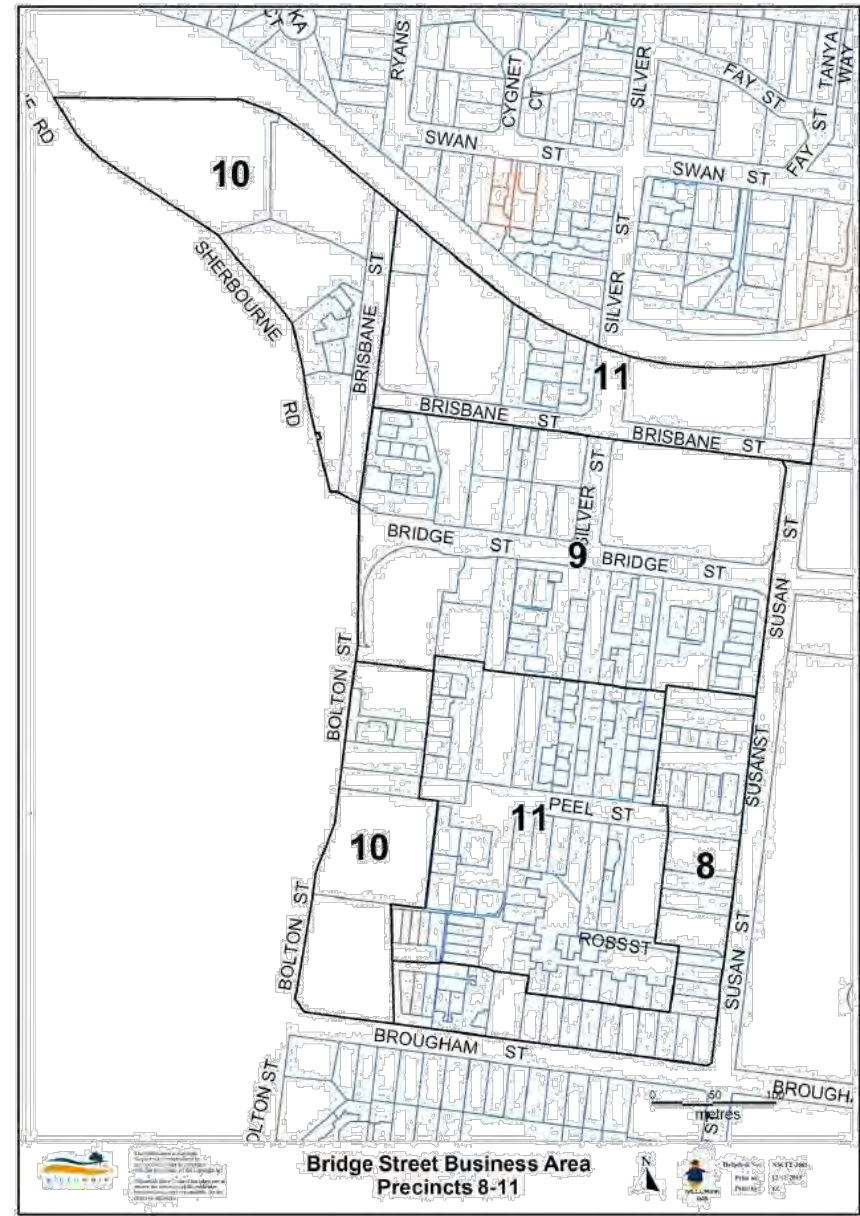
Policy References

- *Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan, August 2004.* [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street
- *Bridge Street Business Precinct Urban Design Framework, December 2003.* [22.15] 11.03-1L Bridge Street

THE BRIDGE STREET BUSINESS AREA

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

(PRECINCTS 8-11 OF the ELTHAM ACTIVITY CENTRE) 11.03-1L Bridge Street



NILLUMBRIK PLANNING SCHEME

02
-1-20-
C-

MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY



NILLUMBİK PLANNING SCHEME

02.01 CONTEXT

1-20-

Located on the north-eastern urban-rural fringe of Melbourne, the Shire of Nillumbik (Nillumbik) is approximately 25 kilometres from Melbourne's central activities area Central Business District and extends to the Kinglake Ranges, some 50 kilometres from central Melbourne. The Shire of Nillumbik has an area of 430 square kilometres and is generally bounded by the Yarra and Plenty Rivers and the Kinglake Ranges. [21.02] The Shire is generally bounded by the Plenty and Yarra Rivers and the Kinglake Ranges, which are of national and state environmental significance. [21.02] The Shire of Nillumbik is connected to the north-eastern suburbs and central Melbourne through provided with a public transport links through the Melbourne metropolitan rail network links at Hurstbridge, Wattle Glen, Diamond Creek and Eltham to the north-eastern suburbs and central Melbourne. [21.02]

The Shire of Nillumbik forms part of a metropolitan 'green wedge', providing a non-urban break between the Whittlesea urban growth corridor and the Lilydale (eastern) urban area. [21.02] These non-urban areas are the 'green wedges' and are an areas of environmental and agricultural importance to both the Shire Nillumbik and the wider Melbourne metropolitan area. [21.03-1]

The Shire of Nillumbik has an estimated population of 62,500-61,273 people (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2012). [21.02] The Shire of Nillumbik's population This is not expected to increase substantially. [21.03-1] however, an overall ageing of the population for the municipality is expected as large numbers of people move up the age structure during the projected period. [21.03-1] The greatest proportion of people aged over 70 years live in Eltham Central (9.8%), Wattle Glen (8.2%) and Eltham South (8.1%) compared with the overall average for Nillumbik of 5.6% and the MSD average of 9.2%. [21.03-1]

Much of the Shire Nillumbik is rural and is used for a combination of agriculture, rural living and conservation purposes. [21.02] Within these areas non-urban areas, there are the townships of Pantom Hill and St Andrews and the much smaller rural communities of Arthurs Creek, Christmas Hills, Cottles Bridge, Doreen, Kangaroo Ground, Nutfield, Smiths Gully, Strathewen and Watsons Creek. [21.03-1] The population, however, is concentrated in the residential areas of Diamond Creek, Eltham, Greensborough, Hurstbridge, North Warrandyte, Plenty, Research and Wattle Glen established. [21.02] The Shire of Nillumbik includes the urban areas of Diamond Creek, Eltham, Plenty, Research, Wattle Glen, Hurstbridge and parts of Greensborough. Low-density residential development exists around both Eltham and Research, effectively forming forms a buffer to the rural areas. [21.03-1]

The Shire of Nillumbik has Nillumbik's high landscape value and plays a regional role for metropolitan Melbourne as an accessible area of natural landscape beauty. [21.03-3] The natural environment of Nillumbik is a significant reason for people deciding to live and work in the Shire Nillumbik. [21.02] Much of the Shire remains heavily vegetated, particularly in the non-urban undulating regions and along the major rivers and creeks. [21.03-3]

The Shire of Nillumbik plays a pivotal role in protecting the region's biodiversity. [21.02] Strategic habitat links which that continue into surrounding municipalities connect extensive areas of native vegetation. A significant number of rare and endangered species are found in these native environments. [21.02]

The Shire of Nillumbik has a relatively small economic base, with a total of 6480 registered businesses (ABS Business Register 2012). The majority of businesses are small as 89% of Nillumbik businesses employ less than five people and the majority of local businesses are in the property and business services (27%), construction (26%) and retail (9%) sectors (Economic Development Strategy 2011). It is estimated that 60% many of the small businesses are home-based. [21.03-4] There This is a growing trend towards home-based business, especially in the service sector. [21.03-4]

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

~~Nillumbik contains several regional recreation resources, such as Kinglake National Park, Plenty Gorge Park, Sugarloaf Reservoir Park, Yarrambat Park, and the network of parks in the Yarra River system, are progressively being developed and marketed as recreational experiences (Map 2).~~ [21.02]

NILLUMBİK PLANNING SCHEME	
02.02	VISION
<div><div>1-20-</div><div>C-</div></div>	<p>The Shire of Nillumbik is and will remain a metropolitan 'green wedge,' maintaining a large natural resource in Melbourne for the benefit of all Melburnians. The forward planning objectives, strategies and policies of Nillumbik Shire Council will continue to focus on the ongoing sustainability of the Shire's 'green wedge' in physical, social and economic terms. [21.04-1]</p> <p>The Council Plan establishes the future corporate direction for the Shire and provides a framework for improving the environmental, social and economic wellbeing of the community. The Council Plan lists identifies goals and strategies to meet the expectations of the Nillumbik community. The goals are that relate to land use and development matters, as follows: [21.04-2]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To enable a better future for Nillumbik residents and encourage healthy, safe and resilient communities through the provision of quality services. [21.04-2]▪ To preserve and nurture the natural environment of the Green Wedge for future and current generations through responsible leadership and stewardship. [21.04-2]▪ To provide infrastructure and plan for a built environment which respects and preserves the unique character of the Green Wedge. [21.04-2]▪ To develop a prosperous local economy through partnerships with local business, governments and the community, consistent with our Green Wedge values. [21.04-2]

NILLUMBİK PLANNING SCHEME

02.03 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1-20-
c-

02.03-1 Settlement

~~The maintenance of~~Maintaining the existing settlement pattern ~~consisting of~~ distinct urban areas and clearly defined rural townships surrounded by non-urban areas is critical to the ongoing sustainability of ~~the Shire of~~ Nillumbik as a 'green wedge' municipality. ~~The Shire of Nillumbik is~~ located on the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne, ~~and it does not form part of a designated growth corridor. Outward metropolitan development, therefore, will not be a significant feature of the municipality.~~ [21.05-1]

~~Although there will be a small increase in accommodation for households in close proximity to the Activity Centres within the Shire, the Nillumbik's key planning issue and challenge in the future will be to provide~~ge for a diverse range of dwellings within the Urban Growth Boundary while ensuring that ~~the development~~it is in keeping with the neighbourhood character ~~of the locality.~~ [21.03-1] Areas identified as having further growth potential for residential subdivision in existing residential zones include: [21.03-1]

- ~~Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres.~~ [21.03-1]
- ~~Apollo Parkways.~~ [21.03-1]
- ~~Land in the Diamond Creek North Area A Development Plan and Diamond Creek Area B Development Plan to the north and north-east of the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre.~~ [21.03-1]
- ~~The Plenty Low Density Residential area.~~ [21.03-1]

Approximately 92% of ~~the Shire of~~ Nillumbik is rural land and lies outside the Urban Growth Boundary. Rural areas contain ~~natural resource based activities including agriculture, hobby farming, limited gold mining and forestry. Rural areas also contain sites of environmental and landscape significance, as well as, natural resource based activities and residences in rural or bushland settings. This diversity of uses raises issues of land use conflict, resource use and environmental management arising from the diversity of uses. These issues must be managed by ensuring the through sustainable land use and natural resource management of rural areas.~~ [21.05-2]

Council seeks to:

- ~~M~~maintain non-urban breaks between existing urban areas and ~~non-urban areastownships~~, and between ~~rural~~ townships. [21.05-1]
- ~~Focus Residential development focussed in the existing established township and urban areas.~~ [21.04-4 merge] ~~New development is therefore encouraged to locate in established areas to take advantage of the existing infrastructure.~~ [21.03-5 merge] ~~To consolidate and sustain maintain the viability of existing urbanthese areas.~~ [21.05-1 merge]
- ~~State Planning Policy (Clause 11.04-6) supports the P~~rotection of the green wedges ~~of metropolitan Melbourne, from inappropriate incompatible use and development.~~ [21.05-2]
- ~~Limit subdivision in rural areas to minimise fragmentation of rural land and maintain vistas.~~ [21.05-1 merge] ~~To limit the fragmentation of land in rural areas.~~ [21.05-2 merge] ~~that fragmentation of rural land by inappropriate subdivision and~~ [21.03-2 split merge]

Activity centres

~~The central area of the Eltham township~~Major Activity Centre is one of the primary community and commercial focal points within ~~the Shire of~~ Nillumbik, providing a diverse

Commented [VT1]: Only Eltham and Diamond Creek MACs are mapped out of this list. New plans will show all ACs, crosscheck when they come in. Update as appropriate

Commented [VT2R1]: Done, Apollo Parkways is not shown, however given it directs the reader to existing residential zones of this suburb, it provides enough guidance without needed to be on the plan.

Commented [VT3]: Council agreed to add this hierarchy to strategic framework plan. VT to check this is done when map updates are finalised. Update as appropriate

Commented [VT4R3]: AC hierarchy included

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

range of commercial activities, community services, recreational facilities and housing opportunities, as well as containing a substantial public transport hub. [22.07]

The Diamond Creek **Major Activity Centre** is a shopping, service and community centre for Diamond Creek and adjoining areas ~~of the Shire~~. It contains a range of retail, commercial, community and leisure activities and facilities, ~~and that are~~ serviced by ~~public transport in the form of~~ the Hurstbridge railway ~~and~~, limited bus services, and a road network dominated by Main Hurstbridge Road, which forms the 'spine' of the centre. [22.14]

~~which seek to ensure that it is envisioned that the the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Activity Centres will continue to be the focus of community life, and provide a wide range of residences, (REP 21.05-4) shopping and professional services, and places to meet and recreate. [22.14 merge] [22.15 merge] They will also activity centres have an increased role in providing for a diversity of housing and in particular, medium density housing in accordance with the adopted structure plans. [21.05-1]~~

The Neighbourhood Activity Centres ~~in the Shire, including Hurstbridge and Reservoir~~, offer a good blend of uses and the ~~availability~~ ~~existence~~ of public transport generally supports higher levels of business and other activities, resulting in lower car usage and enabling multipurpose trips. [21.03-4 split] The ~~rural~~ townships of Panton Hill and St. Andrews have a strong sense of identity and provide a focus for community life and interaction. [21.03-4 split]

Council seeks to:

- ~~To promote Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres as the main commercial and community activity areas of the Shire, [21.05-4 split merge] Hurstbridge as the main neighbourhood activity centre, supported by Neighbourhood Activity Centres, small local convenience centres, rural townships, and rural stores. [21.04-4 split merge]~~
- ~~To this end, this policy encourages Facilitate an expansion in the range of commercial and community services available within the Diamond Creek major Activity Centres, [22.14 split] The Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres should provide goods and services including those that cater for a local/regional clientele and special interest (niche) areas. [21.03-4 merge]~~
- ~~as well as Facilitate increasing increased the diversity and amount of housing available within the major activity centres an urban environment that are sustainable and appropriately scaled to respect the surrounding topography. [22.14 split]~~

Eltham Gateway

The Eltham Gateway is a precinct with cultural and landscape significance to the local community. ~~Several factors contribute to this significance. [22.10-1 merge] The Eltham Gateway (located along Main Road, from Eltham Lower Park to the Eltham Major Activity Centre) was identified in 1987 and reconfirmed in 2011 as a significant landscape area for its role as forms the entrance to the Eltham Major Activity Centre. [21.03-3 merge]~~

~~While the whole of Eltham Gateway shares the above characteristics, (The Gateway is divided into two parts: south of Mount Pleasant Road is predominately residential and north of Mount Pleasant Road transitions to a more vibrant, provides services for the local active community with a mix of residential, small-scale office and community uses, transitioning to more predominantly residential uses south of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-1]~~

~~In the 1800s The Gateway contained contains the original Eltham town centre and now contains a range of historic buildings which date from this period and that influence the architecture of the area. [22.10-1] The topography of the area allows significant vegetated views from Main Road towards the Diamond Valley. [22.10-1] The Eltham Gateway is typified by a high levels of indigenous vegetation, which The modest scale of built form is often substantially screened built form from public view by this vegetation, and. [22.10-1]~~

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The ~~its~~ modest scale of development, ~~particularly~~ along Main Road, provides a transition from the urbanity of the suburbs to the semi-rural character of Eltham. [22.10-1]

Council seeks to:

- ~~To protect and enhance encourage the establishment of new uses or expansion of existing commercial uses which and undermine the cultural and landscape significance of the Eltham Gateway. [22.10-2 split]~~

Commented [VT5]: The wording before was already repeated in the strategy in 11.01-11, so have changed this to be a more overarching direction to avoid repetition.

02.03-2 Environmental landscapes and values

Protection of biodiversity

The Shire contains extensive habitat links comprising of ~~Extensive areas of native vegetation and water courses are the main features which contribute to the extensive habitat links of the Shire (Map 3). [21.03-2 split]~~ State Planning Policy also states 'to assist the protection and conservation of biodiversity, including native vegetation retention and provision of habitats for native plants and animals and control of pest plants and animals.' Given the large number of threatened native species and threatening processes occurring in the Shire, this is a particularly relevant consideration in any planning decision needs to ~~protect and conserve biodiversity, provide habitats for native flora and fauna, and control pest plants and animals. [21.05-3]~~ These areas are located on ~~importantly, significant remnant vegetation. [21.03-3 merge]~~ conservation areas and environmentally significant areas are located on both public and private land. [21.05-3 merge] All areas supporting native flora and fauna are environmentally significant, however there are specific locations in the Shire occurring on both private and public land that have been identified as particularly important. [21.03-3 merge] ~~These areas are identified on the Faunal habitat and remnant vegetation plan in Clause 02.04. Figure 3 shows the national, state and regional environmentally significant areas and strategic habitat links within the Shire. [21.03-3]~~

The Bend of Islands is in a Special Use Zone identified for its highly significant fauna and flora and the prohibition of domestic pets and erection of fences. [22.11] It is bordered by the Yanakie Farm, borders the environmental living area of the 'Bend of Islands'. [22.11] ~~Yanakie Farm which, although has been cleared and used for grazing, has similar environmental characteristics and significance as the Bend of Islands, however areas have been cleared and used for grazing. There is a need for development on this land to avoid or minimise any impact on the Bend of Islands by any development on this land. [22.11]~~

Roadsides are an integral part of maintaining biodiversity in the Shire of Nillumbik. ~~Vegetation on Roadsides vegetation provides wildlife with movement corridors for movement between larger areas of habitat, and can be the remaining refuge for many native floral and faunal species. [22.06]~~ In many parts of the Shire, land clearing and urban expansion have left roadsides as the only areas of relatively intact habitat where ground, middle and upper storey vegetation still remain. [22.06]

Council seeks to:

- ~~To protect and enhance sites areas of environmental significance and. [21.05-3 merge] To protect and enhance conservation areas. [21.05-3 merge]~~
- ~~there is also Protect significant remnant vegetation which occurs on privately owned land. In locations where high environmental values occur on private land, there is a need to ensure appropriate planning controls apply to protect the biodiversity values. [21.03-3]~~
- ~~The Facilitate the establishment of long-term protection of native species and ecosystems requires large areas of high-quality native vegetation that are interconnected by a network of habitat corridors. [21.05-3]~~
- ~~Protect native the habitat areas of native vegetation and fauna. [21.05-3 split]~~

Commented [VT6]: Is Council updating the existing map that shows the remnant vegetation and significant conservation reserves?

The plan should label areas of enviro significance, including:
- Major park reserves (Kingleke NP, Plenty Gorge Park, Warrandyte SP, Hill Bushland Reserve
- Major watercourses and habitat links along these water courses
- Strategic habitat link between Kingleke NP and Warrandyte SP
- East west habitat links connecting Plenty River, Diamond Creek, Yarra River

Commented [VT7R6]: Council will update Map 5 in 21.03 to show this. Check once this is done. Update as appropriate

Commented [VT8R6]: Updated plan clearly shows these areas.

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- To maintain ~~Protect~~ and enhance the environmental, ~~historical and~~ landscape and habitat values of roadsides ~~vegetation~~ in the Shire, ~~through the implementation of the Nillumbik Roadside Management Plan.~~ [22.06 merge] To protect roadside vegetation for its habitat value. [22.06 merge]

Waterways and water bodies

The ~~Shire of~~ Nillumbik is situated in the Yarra Catchment and includes the sub-catchments of Arthurs Creek, Diamond Creek, Watsons Creek and the Plenty River ~~(Map 4).~~ [21.03-3] Nillumbik's environmental and social values are ascribed to areas of environmental and landscape quality in the vicinity of ~~the Yarra River, Plenty River, Diamond Creek and surrounding areas~~ its waterways. [21.05-2] The condition of rivers and tributaries in the Shire ranges from excellent in the forested northern part of the Shire to poor in the urban areas. [21.03-3] ~~In~~

The Shire ~~comprises a major part of the Plenty and Yarra River catchments, and land use and development activities in the Shire have the potential to affect stormwater quality and create adversely effects affect in areas downstream areas.~~ [21.02 merge] Development throughout the municipality ~~has the potential to affect stormwater quality.~~ [21.03-3 merge] Decline in water quality is ~~also~~ associated with unsustainable land management practices, ~~excessive~~ vegetation clearance, unrestricted stock access to streambanks and low flow rates associated with the proliferation of private dams and drought. [21.03-3] ~~As these increased compacted, paved or covered surfaces prevent rainfall from being absorbed into the ground, they result in higher volumes of stormwater run-off during rainfall events.~~ [21.03-3] ~~that The cumulative effect of these carry pollutants can result in considerable damage to the environmental quality of~~ ~~into~~ the Shire's waterways. [21.03-3]

The consideration of environmental values and the facilitation of drainage and sewerage in urban growth areas is particularly important, given their proximity to the Plenty River. [21.03-1]

Council seeks to:

- Protect ~~all~~ wetlands, floodplains [21.05-3] ~~Protect all and~~ waterways ~~within the Shire from land use and development that will cause disturbance and pollution caused by inappropriate land use, development and works.~~ [21.05-3]
- Encourage land uses ~~which that~~ improve water quality and maintain environmental flows. [21.05-3]
- ~~The Facilitate~~ ongoing and sustainable management of stormwater in ~~accordance with best practice principles is a priority for the Shire~~ development. [21.03-3]
- ~~To e~~Ensure land use and development ~~is assessed in the context of its~~ avoids adverse potential effect ~~impacts~~ on the wider ~~water~~ catchment. [21.05-3]

Landscapes

A significant element of the unique character of ~~the Shire of~~ Nillumbik is its highly attractive landscapes and picturesque views from and of the many valleys and elevated ridge lines. These landscape vistas are highly valued by the community and visitors. [22.04]

~~The Shire of Nillumbik's is a predominantly undulating landscape consists of -~~ Lowland hills and alluvial plains ~~with (ridgelines less than 200 metres in elevation) dominate in the southern portion of the Shire, (Map 4) and Further north, the country becomes steeper and is described as upland hills where (ridgelines exceed 200 metres in elevation) in the north.~~ [21.03-3]

Extensive areas of native vegetation, water courses and undulating terrain are the main features ~~which that~~ contribute to the landscape identity of the Shire ~~(Map 3).~~ [21.03-2 split] ~~to Nillumbik and~~ The rural areas provide vistas of agricultural land, treed bushland, hills and

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watercourses with minimal urban intrusion. [21.03-3] Indigenous vegetation is predominant in landscapes throughout the Shire. [21.03-3]

~~Poorly inappropriate designed and siting of buildings structures~~ (including dwellings, sheds, poles, ~~signage~~ and other structures) compromises the integrity of these features. [22.04] ~~In rural areas, Threats include locating dwellings on hill-tops and along ridge-lines to take advantage of distant views, but (together with associated out-buildings) compromise the natural landscape qualities of rural areas. (The presence of multiple buildings and other structures (such as signs, telecommunication poles and power lines) can also be to the detriment of rural landscapes, and (The use of reflective materials in buildings can be a significant detractor in the rural landscape. [21.03-3]~~

In order to maintain the high environmental and landscape values ~~that occur within the~~ Shire, threatening processes associated with the loss and degradation of the natural and built environment need to be addressed.

Council seeks to:

- ~~Ensure Minimise adverse impacts of land use changes and development do not have an adverse impact on the landscape or strategic environmental values of the land. [21.05-2]~~
- ~~To pProtect and enhance rural landscape character. [21.05-2 merge] To encourage the appropriate and through vegetation retention and respectful siting and design of dwellings and other buildings development in rural areas to minimise landscape and habitat impacts. [22.04 split merge] and vegetation retention will be critical in maintaining and enhancing these landscape values. [21.03-3 split merge]~~

02.03-3 Environmental risks and amenity

~~In rural areas, (The need to protect habitat links and minimise fire and flood risk and erosion are also important considerations in the determination of siting buildings and works in rural areas. [22.04] These and off-site considerations (such as ensuring that effluent does not enter watercourses) at the planning stage benefit future occupants of land and the environmental integrity of the area. [22.04]~~

Flooding

~~Most of these areas liable to flooding~~ are located along the Diamond Creek from Hurstbridge to Eltham, along the Yarra River from Kangaroo Ground to Eltham and the Plenty River at Plenty. [21.03-3]

Soil degradation

The Shire is not subject to significant landslide activity except where new development alters the conditions of sites on steeper slopes. ~~Soils associated with the weathering of the Silurian rocks (ie. Most of the soils in the Shire) are 'dispersive' and very susceptible to sheet or rill erosion on slopes and gully erosion in drainage lines. Soils in the vicinity of Kangaroo Ground are derived from weathering of basalt and have a high shrink-swell potential that can result in foundation movement and hence damage to structures and disruption to services. [21.03-3]~~

Low lying areas of the Shire are prone to dryland salinity particularly in areas that have been extensively cleared. The retention of vegetation and revegetation ~~of recharge areas~~ will be critical in avoiding salinity related problems. [21.03-3]

Bushfire

~~Wildfire Bushfire risk is a significant issue in the Shire. [22.13] Many bushfire prone of the identified areas have high environmental significance. [22.13] Particular attention to fire~~

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issues is needed in the design of subdivisions, the siting and design of buildings, and use and management of land in bushfire prone areas. [22.13]

Council seeks to:

- ~~Ensure that~~Discourage development, including vegetation removal, ~~takes into account the that degrades stormwater quality and increases~~ potential risk of soil erosion, ~~stormwater quality, soil expansion and landslip or other hazards.~~ [21.05-3]
- ~~Encourage the appropriate and respectful~~ Avoid siting and design of dwellings and ~~other buildings development~~ in rural areas to avoid erosion ~~(REF 21.05-3 ABOVE); areas that are liable to flooding and other off-site effects.~~ [22.04 split]
- ~~To~~ Avoid intensifying ~~local wild fire bushfire~~ risk to people and property through ~~inappropriately poorly~~ located, designed or managed uses or developments. [22.13]
- ~~Ensure development in rural areas and best prepare for~~mitigate potential fire risk. [22.04 split]

Potentially contaminated land

The Plenty/Yarrambat corridor area has ongoing pressure for low-density residential development. This area is also known for prior gold mining activity. [21.03-2] As a result some of these areas contain soil which is potentially contaminated ~~through with~~ concentrations of arsenic, ~~and possibly~~ cyanide and mercury ~~(Sinclair Knight Merz 1998).~~ [21.03-2]

Council seeks to:

- ~~Investigations and environmental audits, where appropriate, will~~ Avoid ensure ~~new sensitive use and development does not occur on land which that contains or may contain~~ unacceptable levels of soil contamination, unless ~~testing and necessary property owners undertake appropriate remedial work treatment have been undertaken.~~ [21.03-2 merge] Ensure that land which may be contaminated is ~~appropriately investigated and treated before new sensitive uses are allowed.~~ [21.05-3 merge]

02.03-4 Natural resource management

Agriculture

While much of the geographic area of ~~the Shire~~ Nillumbik is rural, there are only a handful of large scale agricultural enterprises. The majority of the ~~Shire's~~ rural areas have thin, highly dispersive soils with low fertility that are subject to erosion. ~~This makes~~ much of the Shire unsuitable for traditional agricultural use. However, the Shire ~~does~~ experiences relatively high and reliable rainfall ~~and a long growing season.~~ As a consequence, ~~such~~ areas with gentle to moderate slopes (below 20%) are generally of average agricultural quality and much of the Shire has maintained its vegetation cover and resulting environmental values. [21.03-2]

Broad-scale agricultural enterprises are mostly concentrated to the north-west of the Shire around Arthurs Creek, Doreen and parts of Strathewen where enterprises run on larger land holdings. Very high quality agricultural land exists at Kangaroo Ground and Arthurs Creek. Small agricultural enterprises are prevalent in many rural areas of the Shire. [21.03-2]

Many areas in the Shire are significant for agricultural purposes, such as grazing or viticulture, as well as contributing to the significant landscape qualities that characterise the Shire. It may ~~also~~ be possible to expand the production of 'high value' ~~agricultural horticulture and intensive livestock~~ [21.03-4] commodities already well suited to the area. [21.03-2] Increasing the productiveness of agricultural industries is important for the ~~well-~~

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being and sustainability of the green wedge areas of the Shire, providing the environmental significance is not compromised. [21.03-4]

The Shire's close proximity to Melbourne poses various problems for the region, including an increased influx of tourists and The continual pressures of tourism and urbanisation can adversely impact on the rural environment. An issue facing many farmers is the inability to achieve economies of scale, because of the high cost of land in the Shire. [21.03-2] Conflicts may occur between agricultural pursuits, rural living and other uses within rural areas of the Shire. [21.03-2] These principle pressures include the can lead to changes in the rural landscape character and increasing increased land values, and hence rising rates which impacts the ability for farmers to achieve economies of scale, as well as the changing nature of the rural community. [21.03-2] While many uses and associated developments are allowed in rural areas, new Land use and development in rural areas uses must be planned so as to maintain the quality and quantity of natural resources and support the sustainable management of natural systems and support 'best practice' agriculture. [21.03-2]

Council seeks to:

- Agricultural land should be protected and enhance agricultural land for both its productive potential and environmental value. [21.03-2]
- To Retain existing agricultural land for soil based agricultural production. [21.05-2]
- Promote land use in rural areas in accordance with the capability and productive potential of the land. [21.05-2]
- and Promote sustainable agricultural activities. [21.05-2 split merge] and encourage sustainable land management practices. [21.05-3 split merge] and be managed that to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the primary production and environmental values of surrounding land and the catchment. [21.05-2 merge]

02.03-5 Built environment

Urban and building design

The revitalisation and upgrading of attractiveness of activity centres and townships in terms of physical improvements, are important to the viability of local commercial areas. [21.03-4] The integrity of streetscapes and natural landscapes in the Shire is can be threatened by some new uses and developments which that do not respond to the local characteristics of the area or incorporate design outcomes that enhance the functionality and visual amenity of the area. [21.03-3 merge] Additionally, The Shire endeavours to meet the needs of all members of its community, and will ensure that all people, including those with a disability or impairment, are able to participate in all aspects of life with equity, dignity and have safe and efficient equality of access to places and buildings. [21.03-5]

There are industrial precincts within the Shire at Eltham, Research and Diamond Creek. Each precinct is are located in close proximity to residential areas and within high quality areas with high landscapes values and vistas. It is important that new development and redevelopment of land in the industrial zones of the Shire on industrial land enhance the amenity of the area. [22.08]

Council seeks to:

- to protect and enhance urban streetscapes, townships and landscapes in the Shire. [21.05-1]
- To Promote good urban design outcomes in all activity centres and townships and recognise the importance of that retaining the historical and individual characteristics of each area. [21.05-4] while Further, that residents, workers and visitors will enjoy an enhancing its attractiveness, distinctiveness, indigenous, safety and highly accessibility urban environment. [22.07]

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- To ensure ~~Design places and development to maximise access for all users, including pedestrians and cyclists, and cater for the mobility needs of people of all abilities, are addressed for existing public places; [21.05-5] encouraged for existing private meeting places; and considered in future use and development proposals. [21.05-5] Ensure that new development enhances accessibility for all users including pedestrian and cyclist access, improved public space, orientation to public transport and the main public transport networks. [21.05-4 merge]~~
- To ensure that ~~Encourage new development and redevelopment within the industrial precincts to positively contribute to the visual amenity of the area. [22.08 merge] while To ensure that development allows for functional layouts and use of land. [22.08 merge]~~

Signs

Advertising signs should aim to complement the high visual quality of the urban streetscapes and rural landscapes. [22.09] The proliferation of signs and poorly designed and located signs can significantly detract from the visual amenity and character of an area ~~as well as impact on road safety. Sign clutter can also reduce the effectiveness and visibility of individual signs. [22.08 merge] Inappropriately located and designed signs can also have adverse effects on road safety by obscuring or reducing the clarity of traffic control signs or signals, by being confused with such signs or by distracting motorists in areas where driver attention to road conditions may be critical. [22.09 merge]~~

Council seeks to:

- To ensure that ~~Encourage signs that provide appropriate and effective identification of businesses and other land uses without requiring identification. [22.09 merge] To ensure signs are compatible with adversely impacting on~~ the amenity of the area. [22.09 merge]
- To ensure that ~~Site and design signs to complement and enhance, rather than dominate, the streetscapes and landscapes. [22.09 merge] To ensure that signs are well designed and well maintained to contribute to the appearance of buildings and landscapes/streetscapes. [22.09 merge]~~
- To ~~Ensure that~~ road safety is not adversely affected by signs. [22.09]

Neighbourhood character

The urban and township areas ~~of the Shire~~ are characterised by a tree canopy of predominantly indigenous species. [22.01] ~~In the urban areas spacious development of buildings has allowed the retention and regeneration of tree canopies and resulting in~~ vistas that are not dominated by buildings. [21.03-3] Residential areas are generally of a lower density than ~~for in~~ metropolitan Melbourne, providing for open spaces and retention of a bushland setting. ~~In urban areas, Streetscapes generally consist of single dwellings on conventional lots with ample opportunities for canopy trees. [21.03-3 merge]~~

~~While in~~ Most existing dwellings are of weatherboard or brick construction, ~~although there is also a~~ strong tradition of adobe and mud-brick construction ~~emerged from the artisans attracted to the area from the 1950s and continued interest in the use of alternative building materials and techniques~~ Other building techniques such as rammed-earth and straw-bale construction ~~provide continuing evidence of an interest in alternative construction materials in the municipality. [21.03-1]~~

The natural and built character of residential areas contributes to a high level of amenity and a strong sense of place for the community. [21.03-3 merge]

Council seeks to:

- To ~~m~~ Maintain and enhance the character, ~~including neighbourhood character, of~~ urban and township areas. [21.05-1]

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- ~~Encourage the use of alternative construction materials where These building typesit adds character to the municipality and will be encouraged in the future, providing reflects the scale of~~ ~~[delete as talking about materials not scale]~~ ~~surroundingthe development reflects the surroundings.~~ [21.03-1]

Energy and resource efficiency

~~Wider environmental threats which need to be addressed include~~ ~~Increasinged levels of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the increased energy consumption, the use of non-renewable resources is an environmental threat that needs to be addressed.~~ [21.03-3 merge] ~~Sustainable energy usage in house siting~~ ~~[REP22.04-9D BELOW]~~, ~~irrespective of whether a dwellingthe development is situated in a rural or urban location, is also important.~~ [22.04 merge]

Council seeks to:

- ~~To p~~Promote energy efficiency in the layout of subdivisions and the siting and design of buildings. [21.05-3 merge]. ~~To ensure the promotion of energy efficiency is not restricted to and concentrated in both urban and rural areas.~~ [22.04 merge]

Heritage

Nillumbik Shire lies within land occupied by the Wurundjeri - willam clan of the Woi wurrung speaking people. A large number of existing Aboriginal archaeological sites ~~which that~~ contribute to the cultural heritage of the region have been identified within the Shire of Nillumbik. [22.05]

~~Nillumbik also has many sites that have non-indigenous cultural significance, including A range of gold mining related historic sites, as well as have survived including mines, alluvial remains, tailings and a battery.~~ [21.03-3] ~~Many historic original farm houses, bridges, and other features remain today that existed since early agricultural settlement~~ [21.03-3] ~~Many artists, architects and environmentalists attracted by the area's landscape and natural environment settled in locations such as Eltham, North Warrandyte and Kangaroo Ground. Today, The Shire is well also known for its 'environmental buildings' such as the Montsalvat Artists' Colony in Eltham and mud-brick dwellings designed and built by local identities Justus Jørgensen, John Harcourt and Alistair Knox.~~ [21.03-3]

Council seeks to:

- ~~To p~~Protect ~~and enhance~~ places of ~~natural and cultural~~ heritage ~~significance.~~ ~~[21.05-3 merge] protect including sites of Aboriginal heritage significance.~~ [21.05-3 merge] ~~Encourage new use and development to contribute to the protection and enhancement of natural and cultural heritage.~~ [21.05-3 merge]
- ~~E~~To ensure new uses ~~and~~, development ~~s and works~~ do not impede on or detract from sites and features of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological significance. [22.05]

02.03-6 Housing

~~However, it is agreed that~~ Nillumbik will experience a reduction in household size due to an ageing of the population. [21.03-1] ~~By the year 2021, it is forecast that Nillumbik Shire Council. Additionally, Nillumbik will need to accommodate an increasing additional 4,800 number of households.~~ [22.01] ~~A key planning issue arising from these trends is that Currently, there is a lack of housing diversity and that the current predominant form of housing may not be suitable for all residents in the future, particularly as household sizes is decreasing and the age of residents is increasing.~~ [21.03-1]

The ~~demonstrated~~ trend of decreasing average household size ~~in the Shire of Nillumbik~~ provides the impetus to provide for some medium density housing as an alternative housing choice. [22.01] ~~As well as Consolidation of development will providing provide for more~~

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efficient use of infrastructure, ~~consolidation of development and~~ will assist to ~~in protecting~~ the surrounding natural environment, water catchments, rural landscapes and unique settlement pattern—~~elements of the Shire which are highly valued by the community.~~
[22.01]

The locations considered most suited to medium density development are those ~~with appropriate that are close to~~ infrastructure, ~~including in close proximity to~~ public transport scheduled stops, commercial areas, public open space and other community facilities.
[22.01] The Eltham ~~and Diamond Creek Town Centre~~ Major Activity Centres and the, Hurstbridge Shopping Centre ~~and Diamond Creek Shopping Centres~~ provide such facilities.
[22.01]

Council seeks to:

- ~~To Facilitate the provision of for and diversification of a range of housing types to~~ meet the projected increase in the number and type of households ~~within the municipality,~~ while respecting the neighbourhood character, and protecting the natural and cultural heritage values of the locality. [21.05-1 merge] ~~There is a need to diversify housing stock to accommodate an ageing population and changes in household types and size. [21.03-1 merge]~~
- ~~To identify appropriate locations for the Facilitation of medium density housing development that is compatible with the character of the area in identified locations that are close to infrastructure.~~ [22.01]

Rural residential development

~~Yarrambat and~~ (The northern area of Plenty, ~~as with Yarrambat further north, has~~ have a rural residential community, while North Warrandyte forms a well treed low-density residential area on the northern side of the Yarra River ~~(the main township of Warrandyte is located within the adjoining City of Manningham).~~ [21.03-1]

~~R~~esidential settlement in ~~these rural~~ areas is usually based on an appreciation of the bush and often a willingness to revegetate previously cleared areas. With an undulating topography, there is also the attraction of distant views (including ranges, valleys and central and metropolitan Melbourne). [21.03-2] ~~However, rural areas are not provided with a full utility service provision often lack existing infrastructure and facilities.~~ [21.03-5 merge] ~~There will continue to be also ongoing land use conflict between agricultural and rural residential land uses and it is important that any potential conflict is managed a risk that further residential development will fragment rural land into unviable land parcels appropriately.~~ [21.03-4 merge] ~~due to the lack of services and facilities available and the potential for subdivision and development to fragment rural land into unviable land parcels.~~ [21.03-2 split merge]

Council seeks to:

- ~~Discourage Additional~~ residential development in the rural areas ~~is discouraged~~ [21.03-2 split merge] ~~Similarly, subdivision and the development of additional dwellings should not challenge the integrity of that disrupt the natural environment, disrupt the landscape or the productiveness of agricultural land.~~ [21.03-2 merge]

02.03-7 Economic development

Business and employment

Economic development opportunities in ~~the Shire of Nillumbik~~ are likely to be generated by small business enterprises especially home-based businesses involved in leisure services, retailing, rural industry, tourism, information technology, education and training, innovative environmental management and sustainable agriculture. ~~The principal focus with respect to Economic development should focus on is to strengthening existing~~

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enterprises and facilitating new business initiatives that respect the Shire's environmental, social and economic development priorities. [21.05-4]

The main employment locations in Nillumbik, the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres, Hurstbridge Neighbourhood Activity Centre and the industrial land at Research, need to be maintained to continue to provide opportunities for local employment. In the non-urban areas, the range of tourism and commercial activities are restricted to activity centres or purposes that can be used in conjunction with agriculture, rural industry or winery. [21.05-4] The Major Activity Centres, Hurstbridge Neighbourhood Activity Centre offer opportunities for increased tourism activities. [21.03-4 split merge] The and rural townships also provide opportunities for an expanded role in increased tourism associated activities. [21.03-4 split merge]

Council seeks to:

- Promote economic development opportunities that build on and respect the cultural and physical characteristics of the conservation and rural focus (the 'green wedge') of the Shire. [21.05-4 merge] To facilitate small scale industries and business opportunities and the retention of low impact business and industrial areas. [21.05-4 merge]
- and support the economic and employment viability and vitality of these areas Activity Centres, Town Centres and the industrial land at Research. [21.05-4 split]
- To provide for Encourage land uses that expand tourism opportunities in the Shire and realise a potential for additional generate local employment opportunities. [21.05-4]

Industry

The existing industrial precincts in Eltham, Research and Diamond Creek are close to full capacity. In order for the Shire to facilitate new industrial uses, these precincts should be retained for industrial uses and not be taken up by protected from the encroachment of other uses. This is unless Council has identified the land to be redeveloped with The exception to this rule is other uses, as is the case for the Bridge Street Business Precinct in recommended by the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) in Precincts 8 to 11 (Bridge Street Business Area) of the Eltham Major Activity Centre. [22.08]

Council seeks to:

- Protect industrial precincts from To ensure that the non-industrial use and development unless otherwise identified, and redevelopment of sites within the industrial precincts are for industrial uses, with the exception of uses recommended by the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (August 2004) in Precincts 8 to 11 (Bridge Street Business Area) of the Eltham Activity Centre as identified under Clause 22.15. [22.08]

02.03-8 Transport

The Shire of Nillumbik is a commuter area - in total, 66% of with the majority of the workforce travelling to other areas for employment. While the low level of employment opportunities in Nillumbik may not necessarily be a problem, it does have implications; notably the need for Consequently, people to travel further to their place of employment and community connectedness. Issues arise such as increased greenhouse gas emissions [21.03-3] and traffic congestion and the need for residents to have good access to their place of employment, including access to and public transport services. [21.03-4] Currently, public transport consists of the Hurstbridge railway line, and various connecting local bus routes concentrated in the urban south-west area of the Shire. [21.03-5] The further development of pedestrian and cycle trails to link the key activity centres is a priority to encourage safe pedestrian access for residents. [21.03-5]

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The concentration of a range of facilities within commercial areas, activity centres and townships increases the options for multi-purpose trips and the use of public transport. [21.03-5]

Many unsealed local roads service traditional residential, agricultural or bush uses and would be unsuitable for new uses requiring significant increases in traffic movement. [21.03-5] ~~The Shire of Nillumbik has good road access to the north and west of Melbourne, however, the recent development of the Western Ring Road has lead to increased pressure on several arterial roads within the Shire, and~~ [21.02] ~~This Whittlesea's urban growth corridor will bring urban communities adjacent to highly valued conservation, recreation and farming areas in the Shire, and already places continue to increase demands on the Shire's Nillumbik's road network and other physical and social infrastructure.~~ [21.02]

Council seeks to:

- ~~Facilitate~~~~encourage~~ increased public transport usage. [21.05-5]
- Incorporate greater links between land use planning and transport, especially in relation to activity centres and the public transport network. [21.03-5]
- ~~To provide~~~~Facilitate~~ safe and efficient roads and road links within the municipality and to the wider region ~~that cater for~~. [21.05-5 merge] ~~Recognise the broader role of roads for all users including cycling, walking and buses.~~ [21.03-5 merge]

02.03-9 Community infrastructure

~~The Shire of Nillumbik contains extensive areas of open space for the purposes of conservation. These areas are mainly connected to the major river and creek systems.~~ [21.03-3] ~~The Open space and recreation facilities plan to Clause 02.04 identifies the open space network and recreational facilities across Nillumbik~~

In urban areas, the open space ~~system network~~ needs to provide a broad range of recreational facilities and open ~~space areas which are in close proximity to~~ residential areas. [21.03-5]

~~In~~ while in rural areas there are a number of horse riding, walking and mountain-bike trails. [21.03-5 split] ~~In rural areas,~~ The emphasis is towards developing key regional and district recreational areas, enhancing and developing open space within townships and settlements, protecting native flora and fauna as well as developing a comprehensive regional based trail network. [21.03-5]

~~The services~~ Community facilities are delivered to ~~should be accessible to various all groups, such as including children, youth, and senior citizens elderly persons, and those who are also to groups with additional needs such as the disabled.~~ The dispersed population in the rural areas creates major challenges for the equitable distribution of community ~~services facilities, especially:~~ [21.03-5] ~~The achievement of these aims is constrained in dispersed areas where the population is heavily reliant on private transportation.~~ [21.03-5]

Council seeks to:

- ~~identify opportunities to~~ ~~Facilitate the provision~~ ~~create and linking areas of open space in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.~~ [21.05-3 merge] ~~To provide equitable local recreational facilities~~ [21.05-5 split & merge] ~~To provide a network of public open spaces across the Shire and similarly to form a network of recreation trails throughout across the Shire.~~ [21.05-5]
- ~~To provide equitable local recreational facilities~~ ~~Ensure open space and recreational facilities are equitable and accessible to all community members.~~ [21.05-5 split]
- ~~Facilitate the p~~ ~~Provision~~ ~~of active and passive recreational facilities as an integral part of each township.~~ [21.05-5]

Commented [VT9]: Council is updating the plans to include identification of these areas. Check once the plans are updated. Update as appropriate.

Commented [VT10R9]: updated

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME	
02.03-10	<div>Development infrastructure</div> <div>The dispersed nature of low-density residential areas creates some difficulties in the provision of<u>providing</u> a full range of infrastructure services, and rural areas invariably have only limited physical infrastructure. [21.05-5] State Planning Policy also states that "planning authorities are to consider The use of development contributions (levies) in the funding of infrastructure." This is particularly important in the Shire of Nillumbik for low-density housing in the Plenty/Yarrawbat Corridor, as well as new residential developments in Plenty and Diamond Creek, and in-fill development throughout in urban areas of the Shire. [21.05-5] In particular, eExisting drainage arrangements in the Yarrawbat area are insufficient for the further development of this area. [21.03-5] A large part of the rural areas in the Shire rely on all-purpose effluent disposal systems as sewer is unavailable. A irrespective of other considerations, a number of existing rural lots in the Shire are unsuitable for residential development as effluent generated on site cannot be contained on-site. [21.03-2] Council seeks to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">To ensure the<u>Facilitate</u> efficient provision of infrastructure to areas designated for residential and low-density residential development. [21.05-5]To m<u>Minimise</u> infrastructure servicing demand in rural areas. [21.05-2]Facilitate the consolidation of These rural lots will need to be consolidated to create larger lots capable of containing effluent on site. [21.03-2]</div>

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

02.04

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN

-1-20-

C-

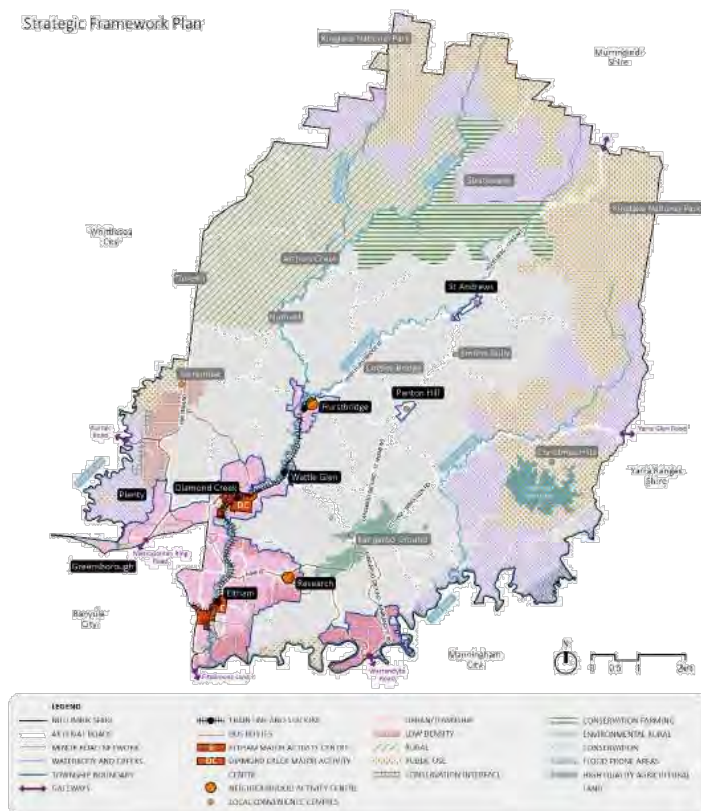
The plans contained in Clause 02.04 are to be read in conjunction with the strategic directions in Clause 02.03.

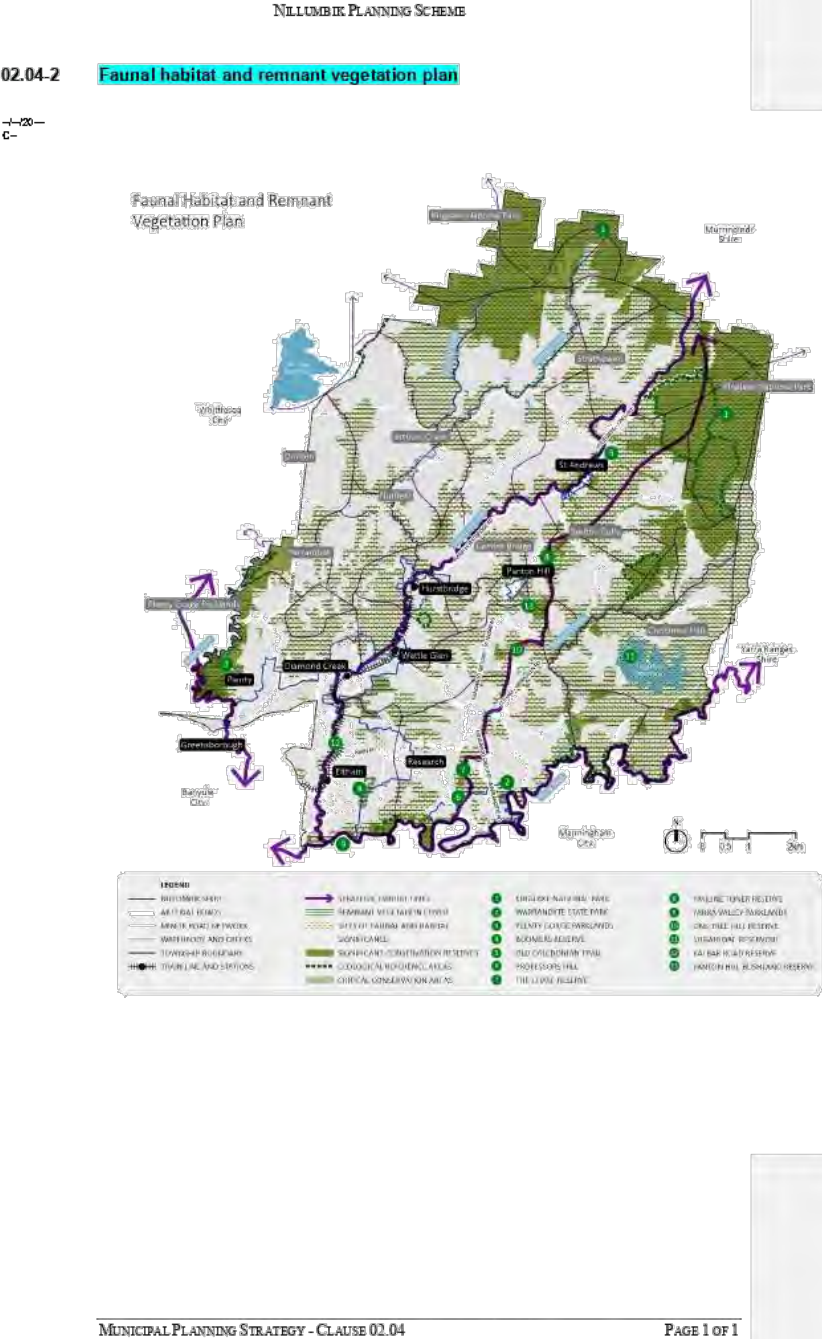
NILUMBUR PLANNING SCHEME

02.04-1 Strategic framework plan

—120—
C—

Strategic Framework Plan

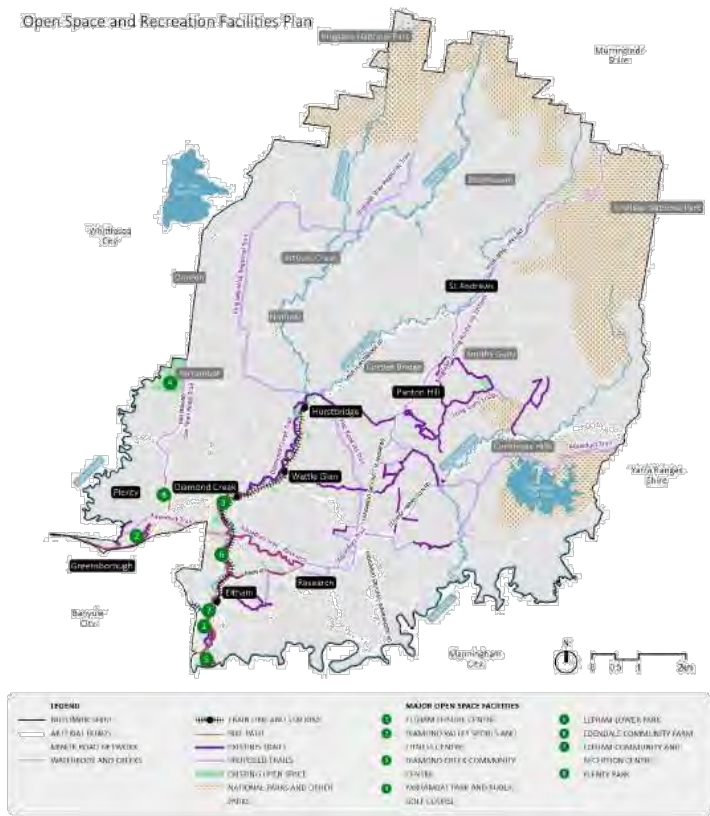




02.04-3

Open space and recreation facilities plan

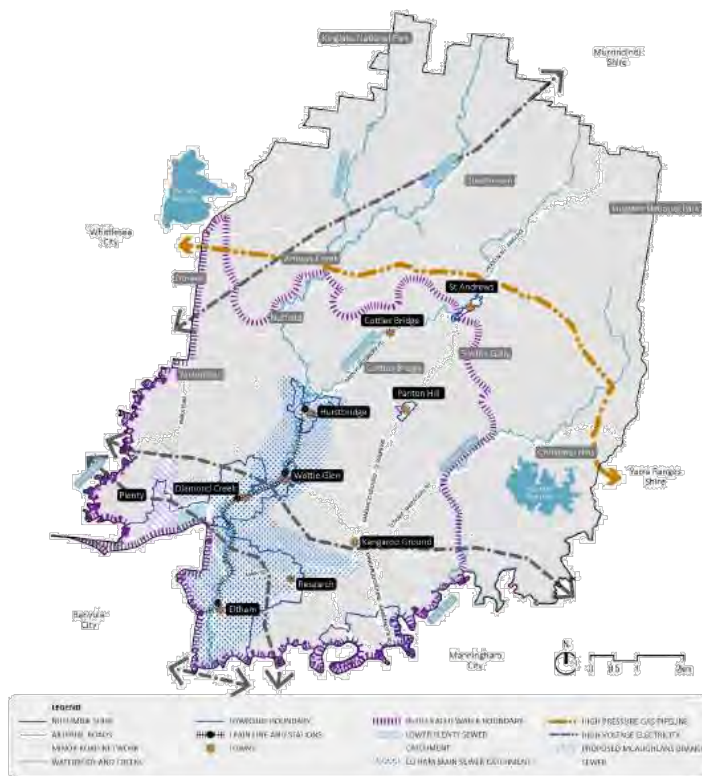
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NILUMBUR PLANNING SCHEME

02.04-4 Infrastructure assets plan

—120—
C—



11.01-1L-02 Land use and development in the Eltham gateway

11.01-1L-02

Policy application

This policy applies to land in the Design and Development Overlay Schedule 1 (Eltham Gateway) in Eltham. [22.10]

Objective

To support low scale use and development that reinforces the cultural significance of the Eltham Gateway. [created from existing content in 22.10]

Strategies

Encourage rResidential use is to be the predominant use on land south of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-3 merge] encourage a predominance of residential uses south of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-2 merge]

The preferred location forEncourage a mix of uses including residential, community, office and commercial uses is north of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-3 merge] To encourage a mix of residential, small scale office and community uses north of Mount Pleasant Road. [22.10-2 merge]

The preferred location forDirect retail uses that are consistent with this policy is between Bridge Street and Dalton Street. [22.10-3]

Encourage cCommercial uses, north of Mount Pleasant Road, are preferred where they that utilise existing dwellings and are at a scale that primarily service local demand. [22.10-3]

Avoid uUses that may undermine the operation and viability of the Eltham Major Activity Centre are strongly discouraged, such as: [22.10-3 merge] Large scale office uses and medium and large scale commercial uses are strongly discouraged. [22.10-3 merge]

To dDiscourage the establishment of new uses or expansion of existing commercial uses which that do not serve the needs of the immediate local resident or worker population. [22.10-2 split]

Encourage cCar parking should to be provided on-site. [22.10-3 split]

andDiscourage the reduction or waiving of the number of required car parking spaces as specified in Clause 52.06 will not generally be supported. [22.10-3 split]

Locate cCar parking spaces for non-residential uses should be provided at the rear of sites. [22.10-3]

Avoid uses that through their function or appearance would Industrial, commercial and other uses which undermine the cultural and landscape significance of the Eltham Gateway, are strongly discouraged. Such uses include: [22.10-3 split]

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Limiting the hHours of operation for non-residential uses are limited to protect the amenity of the area. [22.10-3]
- Avoiding the following uses due to their detrimental impacts on the significance of the Eltham Gateway:
 - Car washes. [22.10-3 split]
 - Service stations. [22.10-3 split]
 - Car parks. [22.10-3 split]
 - Convenience restaurants. [22.10-3 split]
 - 24-hour medical centres. [22.10-3 split]

Commented [VT1]: Reworded as it's better to name this according to the map number, rather than the schedule reference because it is making a spatial reference.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Eltham Gateway Review 2011* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)



11.03-1L-01 Activity centres in Nillumbik

~~11.03-1L-01~~
C—

Strategies

Concentrate ~~the Shire's~~ major retail activities in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres. [21.05-4]

~~Encourage development that~~Develop ~~facilitates a sense of place and~~opportunities for meeting and community interaction in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres. [21.05-4]

Maintain the retail nature ~~of uses of~~in core retailing areas by:

- Locating retail uses at the pedestrian thoroughfare levels
- ~~(i.e. Discouraging~~ non-retail activities, such as offices and storage, ~~should not be~~ located at the pedestrian thoroughfare levels ~~in core retailing areas, as these uses detract from the retail presence of these areas~~). [21.05-4]

11.03-1L-02 Bridge street business area

~~11.03-1L-02~~
C

Policy application

This policy applies to land in the Bridge Street Business Area, which comprises land in Precincts 8 to 11 of the Eltham Activity Centre as shown in the plan to this Clause ~~map attached to this policy.~~ [22.15]

Objective

~~and To facilitate a change in the range of land uses from being shift from a~~ primarily industrial ~~area to one that includes peripheral sales~~ restricted retail, light industry, commercial offices, health and fitness centres, indoor sports and recreation centres. [22.15 split]

~~this policy To encourages an improvement in~~ enhance the visual amenity ~~and functionality and accessibility~~ of the Bridge Street Business Area. [22.15 split merge] ~~To promote within the Bridge Street Business Area a transport and circulation network that enhances convenient access to destinations, encourages people to walk and cycle safely, balances the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles, assists the movement of public transport and provides convenient and accessible parking.~~ [22.15 merge]

To ~~optimise~~ maximise ~~the~~ the development potential of sites within the Bridge Street Business Area. [22.15]

Strategies

Support medium and small scale offices and indoor recreation ~~or~~ health facilities in Precinct 8. [22.15]

Support ~~bulky goods~~ restricted retail and showroom type retailing, including by encouraging site consolidation to enable larger stores to locate in ~~the Precinct 9.~~ [22.15]

Support ~~bulky goods~~ restricted retailing in Precinct 10. [22.15]

Encourage the provision of an attractive and functional business park for small and medium scale light industrial activities, primarily servicing local community needs in Precinct 11. [22.15]

~~Encourage Direct light industrial activities to Precinct 11 the area to continue to be the preferred location for light industrial activities.~~ [22.15]

~~Provide~~ the planting of indigenous trees ~~where possible.~~ [22.15]

~~Encourage the c~~ Consolidation of lots for ~~well designed~~ integrated developments ~~is encouraged.~~ [22.15]

~~Discourage New development should not present a blank facades that present~~ to a pedestrian activity area or street. [22.15]

~~To provide the Bridge Street Business Area with quality built~~ Encourage buildings that: [22.15]

- Are modest and compact in scale. [22.15]
- Are distinct and contemporary in design. [22.15 merge] ~~Development should be contemporary.~~ [22.15 merge]
- Utilise materials and styles reflecting local character and landscape. [22.15]
- Create a sensitive transition in uses and built form scale between the Bridge Street Business Areas and surrounding land uses (e.g. park land and residential areas). [22.15]

Reduce conflict between vehicular traffic and major pedestrian areas through separation, design treatments and materials, traffic calming and reducing conflict points. [22.15]

~~Encourage~~ improvement of visitor amenity through ~~such~~ facilities such as open and sheltered rest areas, meeting places, crossing facilities, pedestrian links to car parks and pedestrian weather protection. [22.15]

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan* (Hassell, Essential Economics & Hyder Consulting, ~~August~~ 2004). [22.15]
- *Bridge Street Business Precinct Urban Design Framework*, (KLM Gerner Consulting Group, ~~December~~ 2003). [22.15]

Bridge street business area (precinct 8-11 of the Eltham activity centre) plan



11.01-1L-01 Settlement in Nillumbik

~~11.01-1L-01~~
C--

Strategies

Contain residential ~~use and~~ development ~~within~~ existing urban ~~zones~~. [21.05-1 merge]
~~Consolidate residential uses and development in the urban~~ areas, townships and ~~designated~~
low density residential areas ~~in the Shire~~. [21.05-2 merge]

~~Focus~~ Direct new residential ~~subdivision and~~ development ~~to in~~ residentially zoned areas
land that ~~is are zoned residential and are~~ currently vacant in Greensborough, Diamond
Creek and Plenty, ~~and~~ [21.05-1]

~~Encourage~~ Direct ~~new~~ rural residential development in areas zoned for that purpose at
Yarrambat and Plenty ~~and other appropriately zoned areas~~. [21.05-2]

~~Oppose~~ Avoid the rezoning of land for urban or low-density residential purposes, unless
supported by ~~the a Council~~ framework plan or ~~a future Council~~ strategy. [21.05-1]

~~Restrict~~ Discourage subdivision and the development of buildings on rural lots ~~in rural~~
~~areas~~ to maintain landscape qualities. [21.05-2]

Encourage the provision of tree reserves where the edge of a township or urban area abuts a
main or secondary road. [21.05-1]

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Encouraging lot sizes between 1 to 2 ha in Yarrambat where the land is in the Low Density Residential Zone, (1-2 ha lots). [21.03-1]
- Encouraging lot sizes of 0.4ha in Plenty, where the land is in the Low Density Residential Zone, -generally between Kurrak Road and River Avenue (0.4 ha lots). [21.03-1]

12.01-1L Protection of biodiversity in Nillumbik

12.01-1L

General strategies

- Ensure ~~land residential use and development on land~~ to the west of the Bend of Islands ~~(identified as Yanakie farm area on the Yanakie farm plan to this Clause)~~ will not threaten the integrity of the protection of ~~conserves the flora and fauna in the Bend of Islands when residential use is introduced to this area.~~ [21.05-2]
- Encourage large lot rural land use and rural living opportunities that protect the environmental and landscape values of major conservation areas such as the Plenty Gorge Park, Kinglake National Park and the Yarra River Valley. [21.05-3]
- Conserve bushland and encourage revegetation. [21.05-2]
- Encourage the ~~protection and enhancement of sites of environmental significance with~~ planting of indigenous vegetation, rather than exotic species, particularly:- [21.05-3 merge]
- ~~Encourage planting of indigenous vegetation.~~ [21.05-1 merge]
 - ~~On sites of environmental significance.~~ [21.05-3]
 - ~~the planting of On roadside reservations only with indigenous plantings.~~ [21.05-3 split]
- ~~Retain high value conservation land that serves as habitat or a habitat link for significant flora and fauna~~ in public ownership, wherever possible. [21.05-3]
- Incorporate the retention and enhancement of strategic habitat links into subdivision plans and site management plans ~~where appropriate.~~ [21.05-3]
- Encourage the retention of vegetated areas ~~at of sufficient a size that sufficiently~~:
 - ~~Maintains~~ the viability of faunal populations and vegetation communities,
 - ~~and P~~ protects biodiversity and other significant environmental values. [21.05-3]
- ~~Site and design development (including buildings, earthworks and utility services) to~~ Encourage siting and design of dwellings that minimise avoid the need to damage to and the removal of native vegetation, especially vegetation that is part of a strategic habitat link or is environmentally significant, and [21.05-3 merge]
- ~~Buildings, earthworks (including internal roads and dams) and utility services should be located to ensure to minimal impact on native vegetation (especially vegetation identified as being part of a strategic habitat link or identified as being environmentally significant) and~~ [22.04 split merge]
- Protect and enhance roadside vegetation by through the implementation of the Nillumbik Shire Council Roadside Management Plan (2012) [21.05-3 split merge] minimising cCross-over proposals and access points to roadsides, are minimised in all areas, although especially in areas with high, medium or medium-low conservation value, identified as Category A, B and C in the Nillumbik Shire Roadside Management Plan (Nillumbik Shire Council 2012). [22.06 merge]

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Planning permits for accommodation (including a dwelling) in Yanakie Farm include the requirement for a~~ Section 173 Agreement which that prohibits the keeping of domestic pets in accommodation in the Yanakie Farm area, west of the Bend of Islands, as identified on the Yanakie farm plan to this Clause. [22.11]
- ~~Protect remnant vegetation by encouraging the use of a~~ Section 173 Agreement for the use of a Trust for Nature Conservation Covenants on private bush land to protect remnant vegetation. [21.05-3] [22.06]
- ~~the planting of A~~ allow roadside reservations only with non-indigenous plantings on roadside reserves, where indigenous plantings would otherwise result in a risk to public safety, unless there are exceptional circumstances for alternative plants. [21.05-3 split]

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Nillumbik Shire Council-Roadside Management Plan* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012)

Yanakie farm plan



Commented [VT1]: Plan to be updated with legible street names - cross check when they come in.

Commented [VT2R1]: Plan is updated.

12.05-2L Rural landscapes in Nillumbik

12.05-2L

Policy application

This policy applies to any of the following:

- All land outside the Urban Growth Boundary, except land in Schedule 2 of the Special Use Zone, the Green-Wedge Zone, Rural Conservation Zone, and the Rural Land Use Zone, and land in Schedule 2 of the MSS (e.g. 21.05-2) where the policy does not apply to the land.
- Lot 8 in PS415064K in the Special Use Zone - Schedule 1.
- Land in the and also the Low Density Residential Zone in North Warrandyte. [22.04]

Objective

To ensure encourage uses, buildings and works in rural and low density residential areas to maintain or enhance the landscape character of the locality, including any significant views to the site. [21.05-2]

Strategies

Restrict Discourage the proliferation of multiple buildings across the landscape in rural and low density residential areas, and [21.05-2 split]

Support the consolidation of buildings on a site, (especially including outbuildings). [21.05-2 split]

Buildings should be located buildings wholly below the alignment of ridgelines so that buildings to

- ensure Avoid forming a silhouette against the skyline, does not occur and to
- allow buildings to Blend into the natural landscape with the elevated ridgeline providing as the appropriate backdrop. [22.04]

Avoid The the siting of buildings (including dwellings, sheds, utility services and other structures) on hill-tops and/or ridge-lines should be avoided and will be discouraged, unless they can be Buildings on hill-tops/ridge-lines should only be considered when it can be demonstrated that a building will be sited and designed so that it will be adequately screened from other properties and roads so not to not be dominant or otherwise appear prominent in the landscape and be screened from the view of other properties and roads. [22.04]

Discourage development in highly visible locations that rely on vegetation screening Landscaping, as a means of providing a screening minimise its visual prominence in the landscape, should not be viewed as a simple solution to proposals for buildings in prominent locations, especially in areas where the use of vegetation screening is not not already supported by areas of existing characteristic of the area vegetation screening. [22.04 split]

Avoid The use of reflective building materials, such as zincalume, in areas where then proposed building would be clearly visible from other properties or roads, will not be supported. [22.04]

Encourage the use of Landscaping using with indigenous vegetation species will be encouraged as appropriate, to screen buildings. [22.04 split]

Design the building profile and form to should respond to the topography on which the building is sited and to minimise the need for cut and fill should be minimised. [22.04]

Design internal roads to should follow the contours of the land to minimise the potential for erosion and support the landscape vista of rural areas and minimise the potential for erosion and [22.04] They should also be designed to minimise the impacts of caused by run-off. [22.04 merge]

Commented [VT1]: Note: The change in policy application is policy neutral given:

- The existing 22.04 is already applied to the LDRZ in North Warrandyte and most private land outside the UGB, including the RCZ, GWZ and a single dwelling lot in the SUZ1
- In relation to other land outside the UGB, the key siting and design strategies in 22.04 are essentially replicated in the MSS and are applied through the MSS to all non-urban land (e.g. 21.05-2). In other words, applying the new proposed Clause to all land outside of the UGB is policy neutral.
- It is recommended to exclude application to the SUZ2, as this zone, which is applied to the Bend of Isles Environmental Living Zone, sets highly detailed and prescriptive requirements to support bushland living and these requirements, due to their breadth and detail, are not a clear or sufficient match with the requirements of Clause 22.04 and similar strategies in the MSS
- Council's suggested response is considered to provide the most clarity, whilst still being policy neutral.

Encourage the undergrounding of services – such as power, will be encouraged to minimise visual impact in rural areas. [22.04]

Commented [VT2]: Note: This can be conditioned where utility providers allow for such.

Consider as relevant:

Policy documents

- *Nillumbik Siting and Design Guidelines – Environmentally Sensitive Areas* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000) [22.04]

13.02-1L Bushfire management in Nillumbik

~~13.02-1L~~
C--

Policy application

~~This policy applies to land affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay or located in a Bushfire Prone Area.~~

Strategies

~~Restrict-Limit~~ sensitive uses, such as dwellings, ~~in areas of bushfire risk.~~ [21.05-3]

~~Ensure that~~~~In-considering~~ landscaping in rural areas, including vegetation ~~to screening developments, is designed and in preparing landscape designs, consideration will be given to minimising~~ fire risk. [22.04]

~~Minimise the impacts of~~ fire protection works ~~should have consideration for the protection of on~~ roadside vegetation ~~values~~ where ~~ver~~ possible. [22.06]

Encourage ~~buildings safe siting and design of buildings~~ in locations where ~~the actions necessary to mitigate bushfire risk minimises~~ the impact on the environment ~~is minimal.~~ [22.13]

~~Encourage~~ ~~S~~siting and design ~~buildings~~ at the base of slopes or on gentle south or south-east facing slopes. [22.13]

~~Strongly discourage~~~~Avoid~~ the siting of buildings on north or north-west facing slopes, particularly steeper slopes and the ridges above these slopes. [22.13]

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Municipal Fire Management Plan 2013-2016 Nillumbik Fire Prevention Plan (Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, 2013)~~ [22.13]

13.03-1L Floodplains in Nillumbik

~~13.03-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategy

~~Avoid raising the natural level of the land in flood prone areas through the importation of fill in an attempt to raise the natural level of the land is inappropriate and will not be supported.~~ [22.04]

13.04-2L Managing erosion in Nillumbik

~~13.04-2L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

~~Design and locate development, including earthworks, to~~ ~~Cut and fill of a site should be~~
~~minimised to~~ maintain the natural topography where possible and reduce the potential for
erosion and landslip problems by minimising cut and fill. [22.08 merge] ~~To minimise site~~
~~erosion, the detrimental effects of excavation~~ [22.12-3 split merge]

Retain plant ground covers and plants with substantial root systems on sloping sites. [22.12-3]

14.01-1L	
Protection of agricultural land	
Strategies	
<p>To ensure that any new Discourage dwellings built in on the non urban area land that does not will adversely impact on the primary production activities carried out on the land or on the environmental values of the land. [21.05-2 merge] Ensure that the development of any new dwelling outside of the Urban Growth Boundary does not adversely impact on the primary production activities carried out on the land or any on neighbouring land. [21.05-2 merge]</p> <p>Limit small lot subdivision and encourage the consolidation of titles of agricultural lots and in order to; [21.05-2]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ M maintain or enhance the scale of the farm scale. [21.05-2 merge] Property owners are encouraged to consolidate land into larger lots to promote for more viable agricultural pursuits and activities. [21.03-2 split merge] Farm scale, particularly in the broad-acre farming areas in the north-west of the Shire, should be strengthened and consolidation of properties to larger more viable farming lots encouraged. [21.03-2 merge]▪ r Retain the productive potential of land, and [21.05-2]▪ R etain the ability to undertake sustainable land management practices. [21.05-2] <p>Encourage the retention of large lots in single ownership for the purposes of preserving its conservation values or agricultural potential which may require a larger subdivision size. [21.05-2]</p> <p>Limit non-soil based agricultural use and development on; [21.05-2]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ R ural land. [21.05-2]▪ Land identified for conservation farming or conservation as identified on the Strategic framework plan to Clause 02.04 in the Framework Plan. [21.05-2]▪ Land identified as and land identified as high quality agricultural land in Kangaroo Ground, as identified on the Strategic framework plan to Clause 02.04. [21.05-2] <p>Avoid Strongly discourage subdivision of property boundaries that for the purpose of creating lots for rural residential or hobby farm purposes lots. [21.05-2]</p> <p>Strongly discourage Avoid the realigning of rural property boundaries of rural properties for the purpose of creating de-facto residential lots. [21.05-1]</p> <p>Generally Support realignments are of rural property boundaries only where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ It is a supported for minor boundary adjustments which▪ It responds to topography or physical man-made features, and▪ It does not provide for further development opportunities. [21.05-1] <p>Policy guidelines</p> <p>Consider as relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where small lots are allowed created via the realignment of existing property boundaries, consider restrictions limiting for the future development potential for the balance of the land with respect to future development and subdivision potential. [21.05-2]▪ Limiting the development of new dwellings and buildings on rural allotments below the minimum subdivision size, unless exceptional circumstances apply. [Discretion is already afforded to this as a policy guideline] [21.05-2]	
	<div><div>Commented [VT1]: Note: Needs to remain as soil based agriculture. Not all agriculture is soil based.</div><div>Commented [VT2]: This will be identified on the updated plans (e.g. strategic framework plan). VT to cross reference check once plans are updated. Update as appropriate</div><div>Commented [VT3R2]: Plan has been updated</div><div>Commented [VT4]: These will be identified on the updated plans. VT to cross reference check once plans are updated Update as appropriate.</div><div>Commented [VT5R4]: updated</div></div>

14.01-2L Sustainable agricultural land use

~~14.01-2L~~
~~C~~

Land management strategies

~~Support the continuance and diversification of~~ Maintain and diversify agriculture use which demonstrates that incorporates sustainable land management practices. [21.05-2]

Protect rural land from ~~subdivision and~~ development, including subdivision, that adversely impacts on the ability of the land to undertake sustainable land management practices. [21.05-3]

Dam strategies

~~Discourage the siting of d~~ Dams should not be sited in significant gullies or tributaries with significant environmental values. [22.04]

~~Dams should be l~~ located dams so that there are sufficient areas for spillways to contain overflow on-site. [22.04]

Protect ~~all biodiversity, wetlands, from including dam construction.~~ [21.05-3 merge] Protect all waterways, floodplains and their environmental functions from — including dam construction. [21.05-3 merge] The impacts which the construction of dams may have and its down-slope impacts, such as changes to the rate of water flow to flora, fauna and watercourses (natural flow) will be considered. [22.04 merge]

Ensure dams near property boundaries and culverts are designed, sited and constructed to protect and enhance roadside vegetation by minimising water overflow and its adverse impacts, through the implementation of the Nillumbik Shire Council Roadside Management Plan (2012) and [21.05-3 merge] Roadside vegetation should not be adversely affected by water diversion into dams from roadsides or overflows from dam construction near property boundaries. [22.06 merge]

15.01-1L-01 Signs

~~15.01-1L-01~~
C

Strategies

~~To Encourage~~ the use of ~~sign~~ themes or ~~pattern for signs~~ in commercial areas and to ~~ensure that advertising design signs are to be~~ compatible with any advertising theme or ~~or~~ pattern that has been developed for an area. [22.09]

~~Site and design~~ Signs ~~so they do should~~ not detract from the appearance of ~~thea~~ building on which they ~~may beare~~ displayed. [22.09 split]

~~Encourage~~ Signs ~~to should~~ fit the building, rather than be attached by ad hoc structures. [22.09 split]

~~Discourage~~ Signs ~~should not generally that~~ protrude above the height of the building, including any parapet. [22.09 split]

~~Encourage~~ The size and height of signs ~~should to~~ be compatible with the scales of:

- ~~The building or the and~~ sites on which they are displayed, [22.09 merge] ~~The size, height and proportion of signage should be complimentary to the building and so that the sign is~~ not a dominating element. [22.09 merge]
- ~~The~~ surrounding streetscapes and ~~the size and scale of~~ other signs in the area. [22.09]

~~The~~ Use materials in the construction and design of signs ~~should be of that are of~~ a high quality, such as those that are durable, low maintenance and capable of supporting the proposed sign. [22.09] split

~~Design and construct~~ signs in such a way that ~~and there should be an ability for signs to be they are able to be easily maintained to keep their original at a high~~ standard of presentation. [22.09] split.

~~Minimise visual clutter of signs by:~~

- ~~Discouraging~~ Due to their visual prominence and likelihood to create or contribute to visual clutter, multiple freestanding signs ~~will normally be discouraged.~~ [22.09]
- ~~Avoiding u~~ Unnecessary duplication of signs, ~~should be avoided and~~ [22.09 split]
- ~~Encouraging~~ the consolidation of signs ~~will be encouraged,~~ [22.09 split merge] Signs ~~should be consolidated including~~ in mixed use and commercial developments, ~~to avoid the visual clutter of signage and displays.~~ [22.09 merge]

~~Discourage b~~ Business identification signs should provide basic identification information about the business and nature of the business on a site, however ~~should not that~~ include details about particular goods or services ~~that are~~ sold, ~~or~~ for hire or provided/~~undertaken~~ on the site. [22.09]

Facilitate signage ~~that~~ advertise business undertaken on-site, while ensuring that signs ~~they will not do not~~ detract from streetscapes or landscape characters of areas, ~~and no.~~ [21.05-4]

~~Discourage p~~ Promotion signs ~~that promoting~~ promote any of the following. [22.09 merge] particularly where the promoted items are not provided on the site that the sign is located private Promotion signs promoting private commercial goods or services or events for profit, not sold or for hire or provided/~~undertaken on the site will be strongly discouraged~~ [22.09 merge]

- ~~C~~ commercial goods or services, ~~or~~
- ~~For-profit events,~~ ~~for-profit, sold or for hire or provided/undertaken on the site will generally be discouraged.~~ [22.09]

~~Support~~ The use of bunting and animated signs ~~will generally only be supported where it is for temporary promotions while more permanent signs should be disallowed.~~ [22.09]

~~Discourage the use of r~~ Reflective signs ~~will be discouraged.~~ [22.09]

~~Discourage~~ The use of internally illuminated signs and floodlit signs ~~should not that would~~ result in direct light or glare emission onto adjoining land or roadways. [22.09]

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- |
 - ~~Limiting the number of signs should be limited~~ to the minimum number necessary to adequately identify a premises. [22.09]

15.01-1L-02 Signs in Eltham major activity centre

c-

Policy application

This policy applies to land in the Activity Centre Zone 1 (Eltham Activity Centre).

Strategies

Site and design ~~Signage should to~~ be of a size and height ~~that~~ does not detract from public view lines. [22.09]

Discourage locating ~~Signage should not be located~~ on the roof. [22.09]

Discourage ~~Signs should not be~~ ~~that are~~ painted or fixed on the windows of buildings. [22.09]

Avoid ~~Animated signs or coloured neon lighting should be avoided~~. [22.09]

In Precinct 2 ~~of the activity centre, site and design~~ signage on non-residential uses to be:

- ~~should be~~ Subdued in colour.
- ~~positioned~~ Located below the eave line and integrated with the surroundings. [22.09]

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Signage should not exceed~~ Limiting signs to a maximum area of 10% of the entire façade. [22.09]

Commented [VT1]: Reworded as it's better to name this according to the map number, rather than the schedule reference because it is making a spatial reference.

15.01-2L-01 Building design in Nillumbik

~~15.01-2L-01~~
~~C--~~

Township entrances and commercial centre strategy

Encourage landscape and urban design ~~works-outcomes which that~~ retain the integrity of, and enhance the character of existing entrances to townships and commercial centres. [21.05-1]

Accessibility strategies

Encourage ~~good~~ architectural design that meets the needs of ~~our-the~~ ageing population. [21.05-1]

~~Incorporate physical mobility and access needs of people of all abilities in the D design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure to accommodate the physical mobility and access needs of people of all abilities public roads, footpaths, seating, designated parking bays for people with disabilities and other physical infrastructures, providing where the topography permits does not require excessive cut and fill to achieve this.-~~ [21.05-5]

Materials and surface finish strategies

Encourage muted tones for external surfaces and ~~strongly discourage~~ avoid bright or contrasting colours. [21.05-1]

Encourage the use of alternative building materials such as mud-brick and rammed earth construction. [21.05-1]

15.01-2L-02 Medium density housing design

~~15.01-2L-02~~
C--

Policy application

This policy applies to land in the General Residential Zone and Neighbourhood Residential Zone ~~for and more particularly to applications made under the provisions of Clauses 32.08-4 and 32.09-5 (the c~~Construction and extension of any of the following:

- ~~T~~Two or more dwellings on a lot;
- ~~D~~dwellings on common property; ~~and~~
- ~~R~~esidential buildings). [22.01]

Strategies

~~The siting and design of~~Site and design buildings and worksdevelopment ~~to~~should protect and enhance local amenity, areas of environmental significance and heritage places. [22.01]

~~Encourage m~~Medium density housing development that is designed and sited to appear of a single dwelling when viewed from the street ~~will be encouraged~~. [22.01]

~~Avoid c~~Continuous building lines and blank walls ~~should be avoided~~; [22.01 split]

~~Encourage~~ building lines and walls ~~should be~~that are articulated, contain visual features or ~~be are~~ otherwise varied. [22.01 split]

~~Design p~~Private open space areas ~~should so that they are~~be practical and useable, ~~including through having consideration for shape, of open space, continuity and or fragmentation of open space, slope of land and any other relevant factor~~. [22.01]

~~Discourage M~~medium density housing ~~should not need to that relies~~ on the visual amenity provided by road reserves or other public land to facilitate ~~the a proposed~~ development ~~(including works and screen vegetation planting)~~. [22.01]

~~Avoid the appearance of 'g~~Gunbarrel driveways' ~~will be strongly discouraged~~. [22.01 split]

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Encouraging a~~Additional visitor car spaces (above the standard requirements in Clause ~~5552.06~~) ~~will be encouraged~~ for developments:
 - ~~A~~along main roads;
 - ~~On~~where sites ~~are~~ adjacent to or near main intersections; ~~and~~
 - ~~W~~where narrow roads make on-street parking difficult or dangerous. [22.01]

15.01-2L-03 Design in industrial areas

~~15.01-2L-03~~
C--

Policy application

This policy applies to all land in the Industrial 3 zone. [22.08]

Strategies

Encourage ~~occupiers of development - industrial estates to undertake coordinated~~that enhances the industrial estate's attractiveness through beautification works, such as landscaping in the front setback. [21.05-4]

Ensure the ~~a~~Access to a lot ~~should be~~is suitable and unobstructed for all types of vehicles likely to be associated with the intended use, including emergency vehicles. [22.08]

Avoid the use of ~~l~~Loading/unloading facilities ~~should not be used~~for external storage or long term parking of vehicles. [22.08]

Provide ~~l~~Landscaping ~~should be provided~~along common property boundaries and ~~within~~frontage setbacks ~~and areas~~. [22.08 split]

Encourage the ~~Landscaping should use of suitable native~~indigenous species ~~that are~~ suitable to the area in landscaping. [22.08 split]

Locate large ~~Major~~building support systems ~~requiring large components (eg including~~ air conditioning, storage tanks ~~etc) should be located~~in mechanical rooms ~~that are~~completely within the building envelope. [22.08 split]

~~Discourage~~and surface mounted roof equipment ~~should not be considered~~unless ~~it is~~:

- ~~F~~ully screened;
- ~~N~~ot visually intrusive~~low profile~~. and
- ~~C~~ompletely integrated with the ~~overall~~architectural design of the building. [22.08 split]

15.01-3L Subdivision design

~~15.01-3L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Encourage subdivision designs to maximise solar access ~~for to~~ lots and minimise overshadowing of north facing windows. This includes careful through lot orientation and sizing of house lots to maximise free solar heating and reduce overshadowing of north facing windows [21.05-3]

~~Strongly encourage the retention of~~ Retain remnant vegetation and drainage lines as parts of open spaces. [21.05-3]

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15.01-5L Neighbourhood character - Nillumbik

Policy application

This policy applies to ~~applications for development (including subdivision) and works in the General Residential, Residential Growth, Neighbourhood Residential, Low Density Residential and Townships residential zones, except land in a Mixed Use Zone, within the Shire of Nillumbik as shown on Maps 1, 2 and 3 plans forming part of this Clause, except where Design and Development Overlay Schedule 1 applies.~~ [22.12]

All precincts objectives

To maintain the existing vegetation including canopy trees. [22.12-3]

To minimise ~~detrimental impacts on the landscape from~~ site erosion, ~~and the detrimental effects of excavation and the landscape impact of development.~~ [22.12-3]

To ensure buildings do not dominate the streetscape. [22.12-3]

To ensure that car parking areas, garages and carports do not dominate sites when viewed from the street. [22.12-3]

To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the garden settings and the openness of the front boundary treatment. [22.12-3]

Garden Court precincts objectives

To maintain the ~~appearance dominance of development that nestles into~~ the landform and surrounding vegetation. [22.12-4 split]

To maintain the existing mix of native and exotic vegetation including canopy trees and understorey. [22.12-4]

Bush Garden precincts objectives

To maintain the dominance of indigenous vegetation where development is sited to minimise disruption to ~~landforms~~ [22.12-5 merge] ~~the precinct's~~ Frequently rolling ~~and to~~ hilly topography. [22.12-5 merge]

~~To maintain the~~ Significant native and indigenous tree canopy ~~occurring at a density of one to every 150m².~~ [22.12-5]

Semi Bush precincts objectives

To maintain the appearance of development that is partly obscured from view by the topography or tree canopy. [22.12-6]

~~To maintain the precinct's rolling and hilly topography and its~~ Bushy vegetation character with significant indigenous or native canopy trees ~~occurring at a density of one to every 50-100m².~~ [22.12-6 merge] ~~Rolling to hilly topography.~~ [22.12-6 merge]

Bush precinct objectives

To maintain the appearance of development that is sited ~~and designed~~ to form part of the continuous bushland that ~~forms the character of~~ characterises the area. [22.12-7]

~~To maintain~~ Significant indigenous vegetation with substantial trees, ~~occurring at a density of 50m²-100m²~~ [22.12-7 merge] ~~and the precinct's~~ Rolling topography ~~that slopes~~ down to the Yarra River. [22.12-7 merge]

Eltham Central precinct objective

To maintain the ~~dominance of canopy trees and the~~ existing mix of native and exotic vegetation, including ~~canopy trees and the~~ understorey. [22.12-8 merge] ~~In typical~~

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~~streetscapes, substantial indigenous/native trees dominate the skyline and are common in gardens.~~ [22.12-8 merge]

Rural precinct objective

To maintain the ~~appearance dominance of development that merges into and is subsidiary to the rural landscape and its~~ [22.12-9 merge] ~~flat~~ to rolling topography. [22.12-9 merge]

Settlement precinct objective

To maintain the dominance of the ~~flat to hilly~~ landform and vegetation where buildings are sited and coloured to blend into the landscape. [22.12-10 merge] ~~Flat to hilly topography.~~ [22.12-10 merge]

~~To maintain a b~~ Bushy, rural feel, with significant indigenous canopy ~~that is~~, almost closed in parts ~~with trees at a density of one to every 50m²–100m².~~ [22.12-10 split]

All precincts strategies

~~Encourage c~~ Contemporary ~~and innovative~~ design that does not detract from the preferred character of the area ~~will be encouraged.~~ [22.01 split]

~~Retain or plant s~~ Substantial ~~native and exotic~~ trees ~~should be retained or planted as necessary to contribute to the desired future character of the area while maintaining having regard to solar access, and~~ residential amenity, and ~~minimising~~ bushfire safety issues. [22.12-4]

~~Siting Site of buildings and works~~ development ~~should so~~ it responds to existing vegetation (including drip-lines of trees) and minimises ~~the need for~~ the removal of existing trees, ~~including by:-~~

- ~~Siting o~~ Open space ~~should be sited~~ around significant vegetation. [22.01]
- ~~Allowing s~~ Sufficient space ~~should be provided for:~~
 - ~~The adequate~~ planting of ~~appropriate~~ vegetation ~~that supports the preferred character of the area.~~ [22.01 MERGE]
 - Canopy trees (preferably indigenous to the area) ~~should be provided within the a-site frontage setback of a new medium density housing the development and in other strategic locations elsewhere within on the site.~~ [22.01 merge] ~~Provide sufficient space in front of dwellings for the retention and/or planting of canopy trees.~~ [22.12-3 MERGE]

~~Buildings M~~ maintain the pattern of orientations and setbacks of adjoining properties and the streetscape. [22.12-4]

~~Site and design D~~ Driveways and car storage areas ~~should to~~ occupy the minimum functional area. [22.12-4]

General policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~For medium density housing where existing trees are to be removed. If tree removal is approved as a result of a development proposal, encouraging a minimum planting of twice the number of trees that existed on the site prior to the development will be encouraged.~~ [22.01]

Garden Court precincts strategies

~~Design and site To maintain the appearance of development that to follow the contours of and nestles into the landform and surrounding vegetation.~~ [22.12-4 split]

Retain remnant indigenous understorey vegetation where possible and replant where appropriate. [22.12-4]

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~~Design buildings to respect the character elements of~~ Low-pitched tile roofs, with wide eaves, ~~are dominant. Dwellings often incorporate and~~ a projecting front room or 'triple fronted' articulation. [22.12-4]

~~Design buildings to respect the~~ Dwellings are usually single storey ~~character of the streetscape where that is a dominant feature.~~ [22.12-4]

~~Provide~~ Driveways are usually provided to the side of the dwelling. [22.12-4]

Site ~~Car parking is provided in~~ garages adjacent to or behind the dwelling. [22.12-4]

Avoid front fencing or solid side fencing visible from the street where this is a feature of the streetscape. [22.12-4]

Garden Court precincts policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Retaining or planting~~ Occasional high canopy native trees ~~combine~~ with substantial exotic trees ~~occurring~~ at a density of one ~~tree~~ to every 200m². [22.12-4]
- ~~Front~~ Maintaining the:
 - ~~Predominant front~~ setbacks are ~~generally of~~ 7 - 8 metres.
 - ~~Varied o~~Orientation of dwellings ~~to the street that~~ is often not parallel ~~to the street and varies.~~
 - Side setbacks are ~~generally of~~ 1 - 3 metres. [22.12-4]
- ~~Allowing~~ Some development to ~~vary~~ the orientation and setbacks of adjoining properties and the streetscape, where it is ~~occurs in~~ the Diamond Creek Garden Court 3 and 4 Precincts ~~and in a location that is suitable for~~ ~~where innovative~~ higher density housing ~~has and will develop.~~ [22.12-4]

Bush Garden precincts strategies

~~Design~~ Average-sized dwellings to have ~~in earthy~~ tones; ~~Predominantly and~~ low hipped or split gabled roof forms. [22.12-5 merge]

~~Minimise the not always~~ visibility of dwellings from the street. [22.12-5]

~~Few~~ Discourage front or side fences ~~that are~~ visible from the street, ~~where fencing is not a feature of the streetscape.~~ [22.12-5]

~~Encourage~~ Gardens with native vegetation and predominantly indigenous trees that extend into the street space, with little or no delineation between public and private land. [22.12-5 merge] ~~Native gardens~~ [22.12-5 merge] ~~Residential development is set among predominantly indigenous trees, although there are some locations where native or exotic trees are present.~~ [22.12-5 merge]

Retain remnant indigenous understorey vegetation where possible and replant where appropriate. [22.12-5]

Bush Garden precincts policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Significant~~ Retaining or planting native and indigenous ~~canopy trees~~ canopy occurring at a density of one ~~tree~~ to every 150m². [22.12-5]
- ~~In some areas~~ Supporting two storey buildings are where this is characteristic of the area or where it will result in a positive contribution to the character of the precinct frequent. [22.12-5]
- ~~Some variation occurs where innovative higher density housing has and will develop~~ Allowing development to vary the existing pattern of orientation and setbacks of the adjoining properties and the streetscape, where the development is located in areas close to activity centres and transport routes and such variations are justifiable to facilitate higher density development. [22.12-5 merge]

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Semi Bush precincts strategies

~~Site and design b~~Buildings ~~should be designed to so they either:~~

- ~~S~~sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy ~~or, to~~
- ~~S~~sit within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-6]

~~Encourage~~Generally the use of:

- ~~E~~arth toned materials. [22.12-6]
- ~~U~~se ~~T~~timber and rock for retaining walls. [22.12-6]

Avoid fencing unless ~~it is~~ of post and wire construction. [22.12-6 merge]

~~Integrate the~~Site and design of carports and garages ~~so they are:~~

- ~~I~~ntegrated with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation. [22.12-6 merge]
- ~~G~~arages and carports are ~~H~~hidden from public view. [22.12-6 merge]

Design ~~and site~~ driveways and access tracks ~~to~~

- ~~T~~o follow the contours of the site to minimise gradients and the need for retaining walls.
- ~~T~~o ~~and~~ minimise the impact on existing vegetation. [22.12-6 merge]
- ~~U~~sing ~~non~~ impervious surfaces only for driveways and only seal driveways unless they are in a locations where erosion may occur ~~prone to erosion~~. [22.12-6 merge]

~~Encourage g~~Gardens ~~with planting is~~ mostly indigenous or native vegetation ~~and that~~ flows uninterrupted to the edge of the roadway. [22.12-6]

Semi Bush precincts policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Retaining and planting B~~ushy vegetation with significant indigenous or native canopy trees ~~occurring~~ at a density of one tree to every 50-100m². [22.12-6]
- ~~Replacing any~~ mature trees ~~that are being removed lost to development~~ with advanced indigenous ~~species~~ trees. [22.12-6]
- ~~Replacing any other~~ immature trees or understorey vegetation ~~that are being removed lost to development~~ with similar sized indigenous species ~~where appropriate~~. [22.12-6]

Bush precinct strategies

~~Maintain and enhance T~~he landscape appears as a natural bush setting ~~where, including a~~ dense understorey ~~merging~~ into open bush gardens around ~~the houses~~ dwellings ~~and, (The~~ grounds of properties are indistinguishable from the continuous bushland. [22.12-7] ~~that characterises the area~~

~~Discourage b~~Buildings ~~that are not~~ visible above the tree canopy ~~and are~~. [22.12-7 split]

~~a~~Articulated buildings to respond to sloping landforms. [22.12-7 split]

~~Site and design b~~Buildings ~~should be designed to so they are wholly or partly obscured from the road, by either:~~ Locate buildings within the landform and vegetation so as to be wholly or partly obscured, ~~wherever possible~~. [22.12-7 merge] ~~most dwellings not visible from the road~~. [22.12-7 merge]

- ~~S~~sitting above the ground amongst the tree canopy ~~or, to~~
- ~~S~~sitting within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-7]

~~Integrate earthy tones and mixed materials into any part of the~~visible dwellings ~~that is visible from the road, are earth tones, mixed materials~~ [22.12-7]

Avoid fencing unless ~~it is~~ of post and wire construction ~~to the frontage and rear and side boundaries~~. [22.12-7]

Site and design car storage areas ~~so they are:~~

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- ~~are H~~hidden from view. [22.12-7 split merge]
- Integrated ~~the design of carports and garages~~ with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation. [22.12-7 merge].

~~Site and d~~Design driveways and access tracks ~~to~~:

- ~~To~~ follow the contours of the site to minimise gradients and the need for retaining walls. [22.12-7]
- ~~Design driveways to~~ ~~To~~ minimise the impact on existing vegetation. [22.12-7 merge]
- Using ~~non-impervious surfaces~~ only ~~for driveways and only seal the driveways unless they are~~ in a locations where erosion may occur. [22.12-7 merge]

Bush precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Retaining or planting Significant indigenous vegetation with substantial trees occurring~~ at a density of ~~one tree to every 50m²-100m² square metres~~. [22.12-7 split]
- Replacing ~~any~~ mature trees ~~that are being removed lost to development~~ with advanced indigenous ~~species~~ trees. [22.12-7]
- Replacing ~~any other immature~~ trees or understorey vegetation ~~that are being removed lost to development~~ with similar sized indigenous species ~~where appropriate~~. [22.12-7]

Eltham Central precinct strategies

~~Encourage Front-side fences that are low and of an open style often present—side fences always present~~. [22.12-8 split]

~~Encourage f~~Front fences ~~that are low and of an open style where this is a characteristic of the streetscape often present—side fences always present~~. [22.12-8 split]

~~Encourage g~~Gardens ~~are with~~ a mix of native and exotic vegetation [22.12-8 split merge]
~~Residential development is set amongst and~~ predominantly indigenous ~~or~~ native trees. [22.12-8 merge]

Eltham Central precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Retaining or planting with~~ substantial trees ~~occurring~~ at a density of one tree to every 200m². [22.12-8 split]
- ~~Some variation occurs where innovative higher density housing has and will develop~~ Allowing development to vary the existing pattern of orientation and setbacks of the adjoining properties and the streetscape, where the development is located in areas close to activity centres and transport routes and such variations are justifiable to facilitate higher density development. [22.12-8]

Rural precinct strategies

~~Development is S~~ite and design ~~development~~ so that ~~it nestles into the landform and vegetation~~. [22.12-9 split merge] ~~and where possible are it is~~ wholly or partly obscured from view including by:- [22.12-9 split merge]

- ~~Buildings are sited well~~ Setting buildings well back from the road.
- ~~and~~ Locating buildings away from natural features such as hilltops or gullies.
- ~~Designing b~~Buildings ~~to be~~ generally low in form with strongly emphasised horizontals. [22.12-9 split]
- ~~Encouraging f~~Front boundaries ~~are often to be~~ heavily planted with vegetation.
- Limiting the delineation of ~~and the only physical evidence of~~ any property boundary is to a post and wire fence:- [22.12-9 merge] while a ~~Avoiding all other types of fencing~~.

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~~unless of post and wire construction to the frontage and rear and side boundaries.~~
[22.12-9 merge]

~~Site and design b~~Buildings ~~should be designed to so they either:~~

- ~~▪ Sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy or to~~
- ~~▪ Sit within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-9]~~

~~Site and design~~ car storage areas ~~so they are:~~

- ~~▪ Garages and carports are H~~hidden from ~~public~~ view. [22.12-9 split merge]
- ~~▪ Integrated the design of carports and garages with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation. [22.12-9 merge].~~

~~Site and d~~Design driveways and access tracks ~~to:~~

- ~~▪ Design driveways to To~~ minimise the impact on existing vegetation. [22.12-9 merge]
- ~~▪ and To have a discreet the driveway entrance is discreet. [22.12-9 split merge]~~
- ~~▪ Using non impervious surfaces only for driveways and only seal the driveways unless they are in a locations where erosion may occur. [22.12-9 merge]~~

Rural precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~▪ Retaining or planting Significant native and indigenous vegetation, with some exotics, and substantial trees occurring at a density of one tree for to every 50m²-100 square metres³. [22.12-9]~~
- ~~▪ Replacing any mature trees that are being removed lost to development with advanced indigenous species trees. [22.12-9]~~
- ~~▪ Replacing any other immature trees or understorey vegetation that are being removed lost to development with similar sized indigenous species where appropriate. [22.12-9]~~

Settlement precinct strategies

~~Encourage the use of earth tones and materials in buildings, including some mud-brick.~~
[22.12-10]

- ~~▪ Maintain the dominance of the commercial buildings in the main road township. Main road township commercial and facility buildings dominant with residential buildings development recessed in the bush setting. [22.12-10 merge]~~

~~Site and design b~~Buildings ~~should be designed to so they either:~~

- ~~▪ Sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy or to~~
- ~~▪ Sit within the topography and understorey vegetation. [22.12-10]~~

~~Site and design~~ car storage areas ~~so they are:~~

- ~~▪ Garages and carports are H~~hidden from ~~public~~ view. [22.12-10 split merge]
- ~~▪ Integrated the design of carports and garages with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation. [22.12-10 merge].~~

~~Site and d~~Design driveways and access tracks ~~to:~~

- ~~▪ Design driveways to To~~ minimise the impact on existing vegetation. [22.12-10 merge]
- ~~▪ and To have a discreet the driveway entrance is discreet. [22.12-10 split merge]~~
- ~~▪ Using non impervious surfaces only for driveways and only seal the driveways unless they are in a locations where erosion may occur. [22.12-10 merge]~~

~~Minimise the delineation of There is little or no physical evidence of the front boundary between private and public property at the front of the house, and no solid front fence.~~
[22.12-10]

~~Avoid fencing unless it is of post and wire construction to the frontage and rear and side boundaries.~~ [22.12-10]

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~~In typical streetscapes Encourage gardens with~~ substantial native ~~vegetation trees dominate~~
~~the skyline and are common in gardens. Garden planting is mostly native, and that~~ flows
uninterrupted to the edge of the roadway. [22.12-10]

Settlement precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Retaining or planting Bushy, rural feel, with significant~~ indigenous canopy ~~trees~~
~~at almost closed in parts with trees at~~ a density of one ~~tree~~ to every 50m²-100m².
[22.12-10 split]
- Replacing ~~any~~ mature trees ~~that are being removed lost to development~~ with
advanced indigenous ~~species~~ ~~trees~~. [22.12-10]
- Replacing ~~any other~~ ~~immature~~ trees or understorey vegetation ~~that are being~~
~~removed lost to development~~ with similar sized indigenous species ~~where~~
~~appropriate~~. [22.12-10]

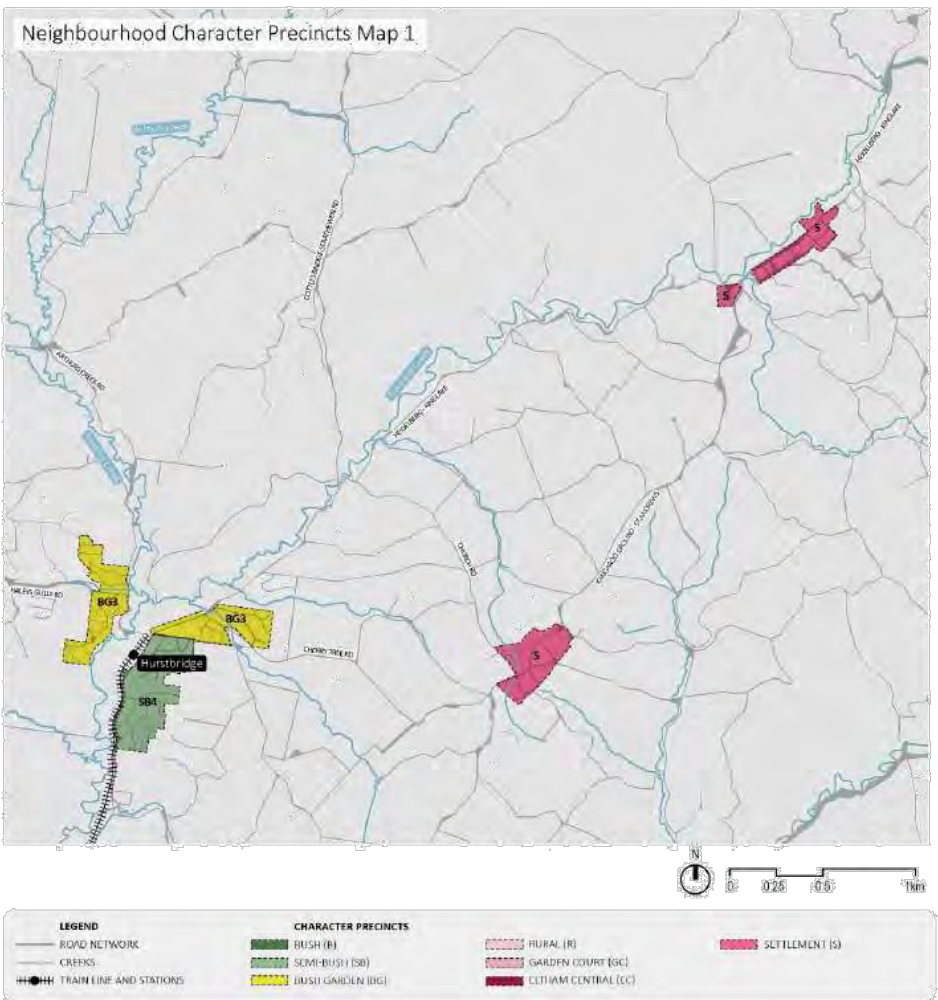
Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

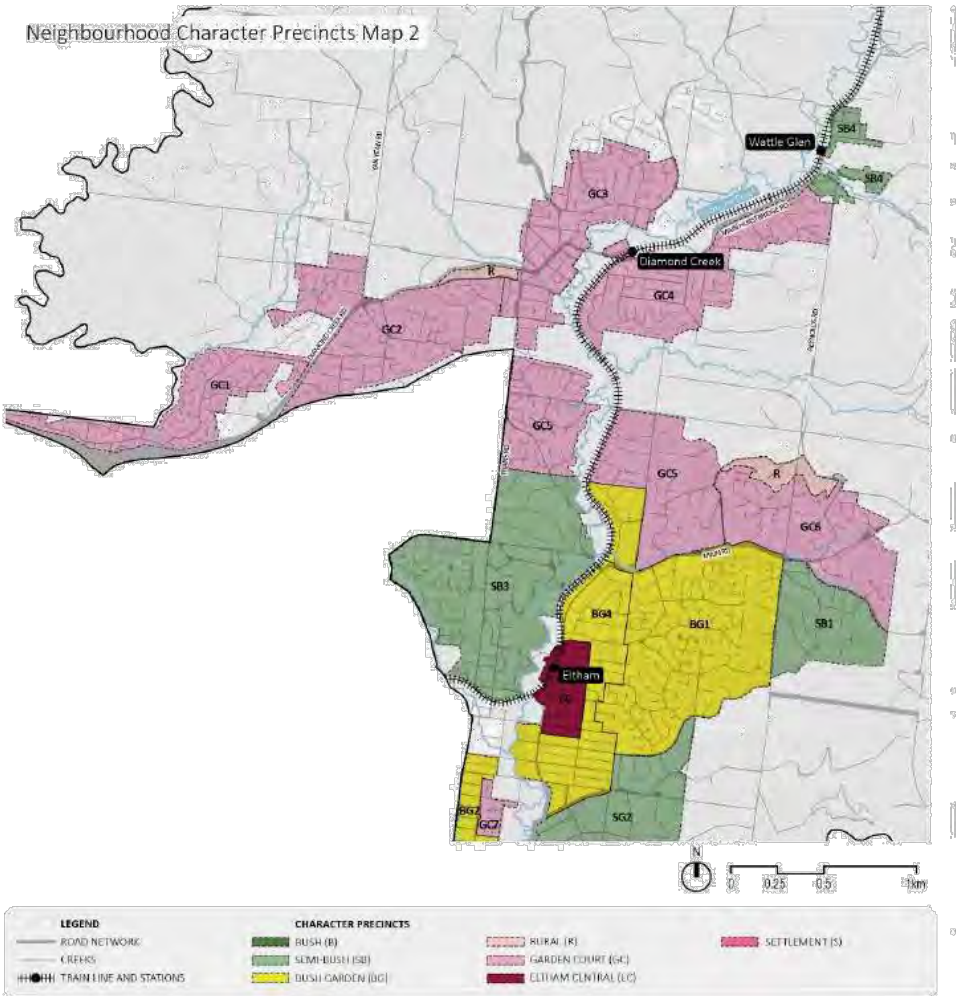
- ~~Shire of Nillumbik~~ Neighbourhood Character Study: ~~and Residential Design~~
Guidelines ~~2001~~, (Planisphere and John Curtis Pty Ltd, ~~amended 2003~~ ~~2000~~). [22.12-10]

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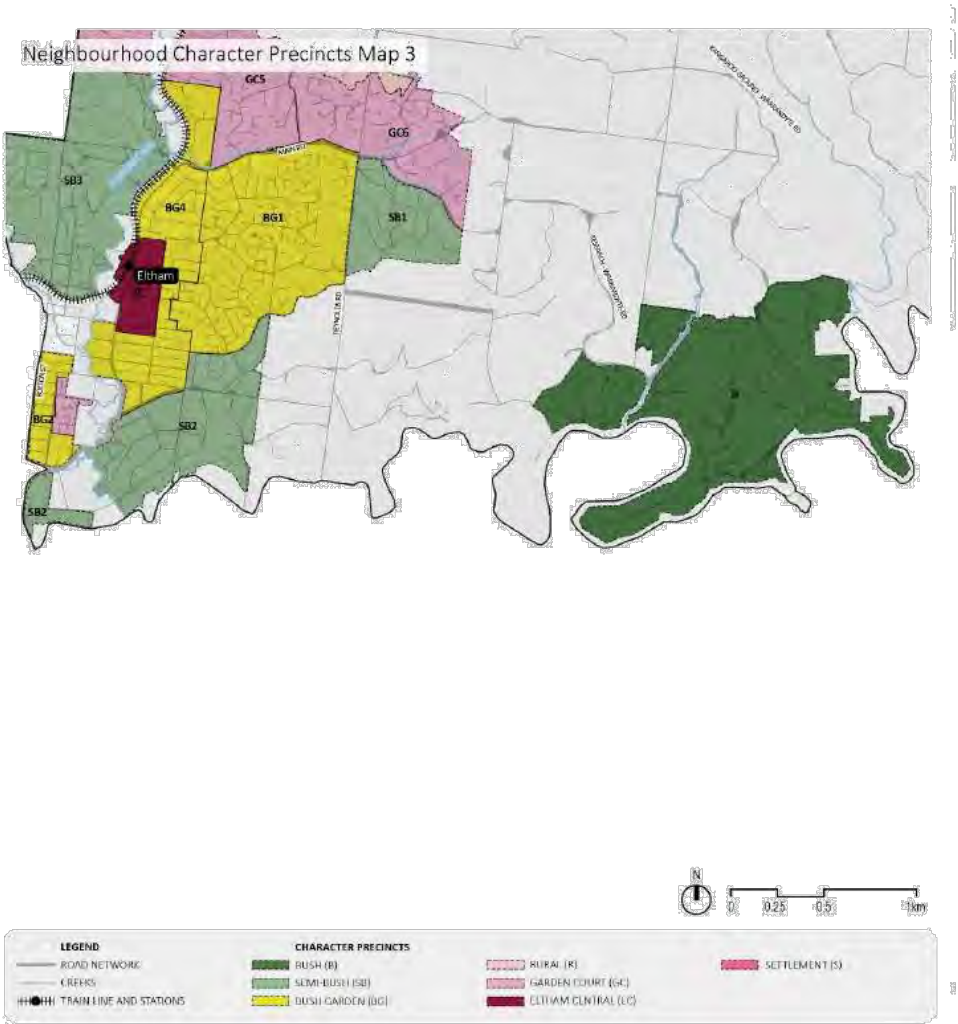
Neighbourhood character precincts plans



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15.02-1L Energy and resource efficiency in Nillumbik

~~15.02-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategy

| ~~Site and design of~~ dwellings ~~in rural areas will be encouraged to have~~ so that living areas ~~are~~
located on the north facing side to provide for a northerly aspect. [22.04]

16.01-1L Location of medium density residential development

~~16.01-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

~~Focus Direct~~ medium density housing ~~to in~~ the ~~designated areas identified on~~ the major activity centre structure plans and in areas with ~~good convenient~~ access to: ~~commercial and community services, public transport, open space~~ [21.05-1 merge] ~~because sites considered suited to medium density development are those with appropriate infrastructure in localities within walking distance (approximately 400 metres) of all of the following:-~~ [22.01 merge]

- ~~A~~ public transport ~~scheduled stop on a route with frequent services~~; [22.01]
- ~~P~~ublic open space; [22.01]
- ~~C~~ommunity facilities; ~~and~~; [22.01]
- ~~C~~ommercial centres. [22.01]

~~Strongly d~~Discourage medium density housing in areas where ~~such existing~~ services, facilities and infrastructure are inadequate ~~to support the scale of development~~; [21.05-1]

~~Locate m~~Medium density housing ~~should be located close to the:~~

- ~~Eltham Town Centre~~Major Activity Centre. [22.01]
- ~~Hurstbridge Shopping Centre~~; ~~or~~
- ~~Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre~~Shopping Centre,
- ~~and in proximity to the~~ Eltham, Hurstbridge and Diamond Creek railway stations, ~~respectively~~; [22.01]

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Convenient access to public transport, public open space and services to be within~~
~~Approximately 400m as convenient access~~. [22.01]

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Shire-wide Housing Strategy (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2001)~~; [22.01]

17.01-2L Innovation and research in Nillumbik

~~17.01-2L~~
~~C~~

Strategy

Facilitate ~~establishment and growth of use and development enterprises~~ involved in environmental and agricultural research and development. [21.05-4 split]

17.02-1L	Business in Nillumbik
<div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div>	<div>Strategies</div> <div><div>Ensure Support use and development in the Diamond Creek Road Business Area (north east corner Diamond Creek Road and McLaughlans Lane, Plenty) is only where it:</div><div><div><div>Is for limited local convenience, and</div><div>Does not detract from the retail role and function of Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre. [21.05-4]</div></div></div><div><div>Avoid Strongly discourage commercial uses and developments in rural areas with limited where vehicular access is limited by the presence of, due to unsealed roads, no-through roads or other constraints to road safety or efficiency. [21.05-2]</div><div>Facilitate the establishment of clean-green businesses that encouraging the reduction of their greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets as part of Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2010-2015 and Ecologically Sustainable Development Policy 2012. [delete- targets not yet defined, current strategic work] [21.05-4]</div><div>Encourage home-based businesses which that achieve environmental and social benefits, including through:<div><div><div>Decreasing travel time,</div><div>Use of existing structures and resources,</div><div>provision of a neighbourhood presence Enhancing the surrounding neighbourhood character. [21.05-4]</div></div></div></div></div></div>

Commented [VT1]: Will be identified on updated plans. VT to check when final plans come in and update referencing as appropriate.

Commented [VT2R1]: Identified through CZ1, as identified in 74.01s. No need to identify on plan.

17.03-1L Industrial land in Nillumbik

~~17.03-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

~~Avoid~~~~Strongly discourage~~ industrial-type uses and developments in rural areas ~~with limited where~~ vehicular access ~~is limited by the presence of - due to~~ unsealed roads, no-through roads or other constraints to road safety or efficiency. [21.05-2]

Encourage industrial uses to consolidate in industrial areas. [21.05-4]

With the exception of ~~designated-identified~~ areas in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres ~~Structure Plans~~, discourage non-industrial-type uses from establishing in ~~designated-identified~~ industrial areas. [21.05-4]

Discourage large ~~inappropriate~~ incompatible industrial uses from establishing in the Shire. [21.05-4]

17.04-1L Tourism in Nillumbik

~~17.04-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Facilitate ~~establishment and the~~ growth of tourism based on environmental and local ~~sustainable~~ interests such as agri-tourism or eco-tourism. [21.05-4 split]

~~Ensure-Encourage~~ urban and rural based tourism that can be accommodated by is compatible with the environmental capacity of the Shire and the locality. [21.05-4]

Facilitate ~~low-impact~~ tourism development opportunities that have minimal impact on the environment and build on the cultural and physical characteristics of the 'green wedge'. [21.05-4]

~~Ensure-Support~~ tourism related use and development only where:

- It is of a scale and type that~~which~~ can be adequately catered for by available infrastructure services. [21.05-4]
- ~~and which It would not be to the detriment of~~ will not adversely impact on neighbouring and surrounding land uses, and that the use will not adversely impact on neighbouring and surrounding land uses. [21.05-4 merge]

Encourage ~~the establishment of~~ tourism related uses and development in urban ~~locations~~ areas where:

- There is safe and efficient access to main roads.
- It respects from the neighbourhood and streetscape character ~~and streetscape~~. [21.05-4]

Encourage ~~the establishment of~~ tourism related uses and development in rural ~~locations~~ areas where:

- There is direct access from a major road.
- ~~and where such use and development~~ It is compatible with the environmental and landscape values of the site and surrounding area.
- ~~Ensure that A~~ access is not reliant on ~~unsuitable~~ local roads not suited to the traffic proposed to be generated by a use.

18.02-2L

Public transport in Nillumbik

~~18.02-2L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

~~Encourage~~ Facilitate improved and more the provision of flexible public transport provision and public transport linkages across the Shire ~~which~~ ~~that~~ meets the needs of ~~the~~ lower population densities on the urban fringe. [21.05-5]

18.02-3L Road system in Nillumbik

~~18.02-3L~~
C--

Strategies

Discourage ~~the introduction of~~ uses, ~~such as tourism or commercial use~~, in areas along local roads (especially unsealed, narrow ~~and/or~~ no-through roads), where ~~uses it~~ would attract ~~significant~~ additional vehicular movements ~~which would be~~ that would. [21.05-5 merge]

- ~~Encourage the location of commercial/tourism uses which have the potential to Result in attract~~ substantial numbers of daily visitors; (such as art galleries, cafes, plant nurseries, restaurants and wineries); ~~in close proximity to major roads to limit the impact of these uses on the local road network~~. [21.05-2 merge]
- ~~Be~~ inconsistent with existing vehicular traffic and the capacity of the road;
- ~~and/or which would be to the Cause~~ unacceptable detriment ~~of to~~ the condition of the road. [21.05-5 merge]

Minimise ~~and that~~ direct access to properties from Yan Yean Road ~~is minimised~~. [21.05-5 split]

~~Provide for~~ Facilitate the long term duplication of Yan Yean Road, from Diamond Creek Road to Kurrak Road. [21.05-5 split]

19.02-6L **Open space in Nillumbik**

~~19.02-6L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

~~View~~ ~~Protect the environmental resource and habitat values of open space as an environmental resource and as a means of protecting significant habitat.~~ [21.05-5]

~~Refer to the Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 and the Open Space Strategy, November 2005 to identify~~ Develop public open spaces in accordance to the recreational needs of the local communities in the development of public open spaces in the local areas. [21.05-5]

Provide public open space networks within ~~reasonable~~ walking distance of urban residential areas. [21.05-5]

Provide ~~appropriate~~ access to regional recreation ~~features~~ facilities that meets the needs of users. [21.05-5]

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 Volume One* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)
- *Open Space Strategy* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2005)

19.03-2L Infrastructure provision in Nillumbik

~~19.03-2L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Encourage the provision of utility services to ~~designated~~ residential areas. [21.05-5]
Limit ~~the residential and low-density residential~~ development ~~where existing critical infrastructure (such as sewerage, electricity, water and gas) are inadequate to facilitate the development, of residential and low-density residential services until such critical infrastructure services become~~ available. [21.05-5]

19.03-3L Integrated water management in non-urban areas

~~19.03-3L~~
C

Policy application

This policy applies to land in any of the following:

- The Green Wedge Zone.
- The Rural Conservation Zone.
- Lot 8 in PS415064K in the Special Use Zone - Schedule 1.
- The and also the Low Density Residential Zone in North Warrandyte. [22.04]

Strategies

~~In the event that~~Where there is no underground Council drainage system servicing a lot, encourage roof drainage ~~to~~should be absorbed on-site. unless:

- ~~If~~A proper drainage system is ~~later~~provided ~~to the site,~~
- A permanent sealed drain ~~should~~ replace the on-site absorption system. [22.04]

~~For~~Ensure developments ~~containing toilets, showers, washing facilities and/or the like,~~ effluent disposal envelopes ~~should be nominated to~~ provide sufficient areas for the on-site containment ~~on-site~~ of effluent ~~or~~ or sullage disposal generated on ~~the~~ site. [22.04]

~~Applications which propose~~Discourage effluent disposal fields and systems ~~which that are~~ are unlikely to ~~prevent~~ensure effluent ~~or~~ or sullage ~~from does not entering~~ watercourses ~~will not be supported or otherwise require modifications.~~ [22.04]

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- ~~Shire of Nillumbik—Drainage to of Unserviced Allotments~~ (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000) [22.04]

19.03-4L Telecommunications in Nillumbik

~~19.03-4L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

~~Encourage the screening of telecommunication facilities (especially towers and poles) which are usually proposed to be located in prominent locations rural areas, particularly in locations that are visually prominent should be screened wherever possible. [22.04]~~

~~Site telecommunication facilities so that biodiversity and the landscape and environmental values of rural areas are protected. Assessments should be undertaken of the possible effects on flora and fauna for areas which are identified for their landscape and/or environment significance. [22.04]~~

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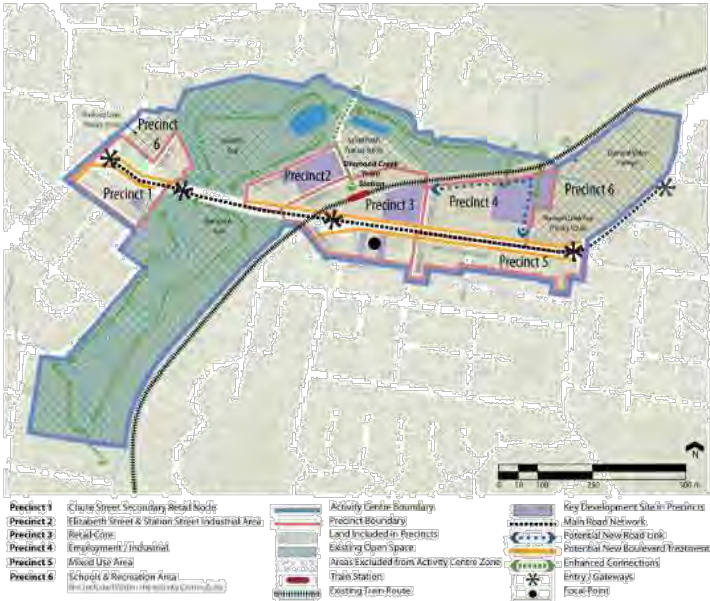
SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 37.08 ACTIVITY CENTRE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as ACZ2.

DIAMOND CREEK ACTIVITY CENTRE

1.0
11/06/2016

Diamond Creek Activity Centre framework plan



C106

2.0
11/06/2016
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Land use and development objectives to be achieved

Land use

- To achieve the vision, objectives and strategies of the Diamond Creek twenty20 Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006).
- To develop shopping, services, facilities, employment and meeting places which complement those available in the regional network of activity centres and facilities.
- To expand retail floor-space to meet an increased proportion of projected demand and reduce 'escape expenditure' and travel to nearby centres.
- To develop additional higher density housing in the centre to meet projected needs and increase dwelling type diversity.
- To focus retail activity in a compact core east of the railway, on the 'landscaped civic spine' of Main Hurstbridge Road, with a retail node in Chute Street.
- To cluster community and leisure facilities in and around the centre as added attractions for the community, to meet local needs and complement retail and commercial activity.

Commented [VT 1]: I've highlighted the things that have been added. Everything else in the schedule will remain the same. Formatting will be fixed when added into ATS

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

- To develop the landscape and road infrastructure along Main Hurstbridge Road to help integrate the retail core, improve access and create an attractive shopping environment and meeting place for the centre.
- To improve access to and integrate retail, commercial and housing development with the railway station and its surrounds.

Built form

- To retain the semi-rural township character of Diamond Creek by clustering new development and activity in existing key locations that remain visually segregated by open spaces and vegetation.
- To develop a local Diamond Creek architectural style that complements and reflects its natural landscape setting, and ensure new or redeveloped buildings are of high architectural quality appropriate to the character of the centre.
- To design new buildings with well articulated facades, roof forms, fenestration, parapet treatments and other detail and materials to provide interest at street level and reinforce the human scale of shopping areas.
- To guide development to meet the township's character with low scale buildings, roof styles that are respectful to existing buildings, materials that complement the setting and a treed landscape of predominantly local indigenous trees.
- To increase surveillance and activity in the main retail and mixed use areas with more consistent street setbacks and active retail or business frontages.
- To ensure that development sites with front, side or rear setbacks are extensively landscaped with indigenous vegetation.
- To reduce the visual dominance of car parking and ensure the design of parking and access areas is safe, practical and attractive.
- To ensure that signage, lighting and street infrastructure do not dominate the streetscape and visual clutter is minimised.

Environmental sustainability

- To improve the ecological integrity of environmental features within the centre.
- To promote sustainable development including water sensitive urban design.
- To establish energy efficient developments that are appropriate to local conditions.

Public realm

- To ensure that pedestrian routes, streets, footpaths and open spaces interact with and are overlooked by buildings.
- To develop more attractive public spaces to enhance social interaction and the image of the centre with seating, shade trees and outdoor eating.
- To incorporate references to European and indigenous heritage in the landscape and use art in public spaces.

Open space and landscaping

- To create a 'landscaped civic spine' along Main Hurstbridge Road as the connecting feature of Diamond Creek.
- To retain and develop the open spaces within the centre and the links to parkland along the nearby creek floodplain as a key feature of the centre.
-

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

To maintain the visual dominance of the well vegetated natural landscape throughout the residential, commercial and open space areas of Diamond Creek.

Movement and access

- To optimise the potential to reduce car dependency within the community by developing a network of local and regional shared paths for recreational and functional use, and by encouraging upgrades of the Hurstbridge line to increase the frequency of public transport services.
- To develop a long term plan for car-parking to ensure an adequate and sustainable supply.
- To establish the commercial and retail precincts of the township as 'pedestrian priority areas'.
- To improve access to the centre for all modes of travel, link the precincts of the town physically with clear pedestrian/cycle paths and visually with landscape treatments.
- To expand the range of public transport linking the centre and the role of the railway station as a multi-modal interchange.
- To encourage traffic development along Main Hurstbridge Road which maintains two lane/two-way traffic but provides for the potential duplication of the road after 2020 to help improve traffic flows and conditions for pedestrians and cyclists.

Land configuration and ownership

- To discourage subdivision that fragments existing land holdings and reduces development opportunities and active frontages.
- To encourage the consolidation of land to create lots of a size sufficient to accommodate the visual and amenity impacts associated with more intense development.

Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required

Use	Condition
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding)	Must be in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G or 5. Must be no more than 2 animals.
Accommodation (other than Corrective institution, Dependent person's unit, Dwelling, Residential aged care facility)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. Any frontage at ground floor level must not exceed 2 metres.
Bed and breakfast	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 no more than 10 persons may be accommodated away from their normal place of residence ▪ in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 at least 1 car parking space must be provided for each 2 persons able to be accommodated away from their normal place of residence.
Caretaker's house	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5.
Child care centre	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. Any frontage at ground floor level must not exceed 2 metres.

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NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Cinema	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Cinema based entertainment facility	
Use	Condition
Convenience shop	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. In Precinct 1D, the leasable floor area must not exceed 150 square metres.
Crop raising	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Dependent person's unit	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E any frontage at ground level must not exceed 2 m. In Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 must be the only dependent person's unit on the lot.
Dwelling (other than Caretaker's dwelling, Bed and breakfast)	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E, any frontage at ground level must not exceed 2 m.
Education centre	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Exhibition centre	
Extensive animal husbandry	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Food and drink premises	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. In Precinct 1D the leasable floor area must not exceed 150 m2.
Home occupation	
Informal outdoor recreation	
Mail centre	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Medical centre	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. In Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 the gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 m2. In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G and 5: site must adjoin or have access to a road in a Road Zone must not require permit under clause 52.06-3.
Minor utility installation	
Office (other than Medical centre)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1D 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. In Precinct 1D the leasable floor area must not exceed 250 m2.
Place of worship	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 m2. In Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G and 5 the site must adjoin or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Railway

Railway station	Must be in Precinct 3B or 3D. The total leasable floor area for the selling of food, drink and other convenience goods and services must not exceed 50 m2.
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Residential aged care facility	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5.
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Use	Condition
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In Precincts 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E, any frontage at ground level must not exceed 2 m.

Restricted retail premises	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
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Retail premises (other than Shop, Food and drink premises)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
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Service station	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4. The land must be at least 30 m from land (not in a road) which is in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5, a residential zone, or an Education centre or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a Hospital or an Education centre.
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Shop (other than Adult sex bookshop, Convenience shop, Restricted retail premises, Supermarket)	<p>Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 1D the leasable floor area must not exceed 150 m2.</p> <p>In Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ must adjoin, or be on the same lot as a supermarket when the use commences ▪ the combined leasable floor area for all shops adjoining or on the same lot as the supermarket must not exceed 500 m2 ▪ the site must adjoin or be within 30 m of a road in a Road Zone.
--	---

Supermarket	<p>Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.</p> <p>In Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ leasable floor area must not exceed 1800 m2 ▪ the site must adjoin or be within 30 m of a road in a Road Zone.
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Tramway

Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet requirements of Clause 62.01.
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Section 2 - Permit required

Use	Condition
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Accommodation (other than Caretaker's house) if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5.
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NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Adult sex bookshop	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. Must be at least 200 m (measured by the shortest route reasonably accessible on foot) from Precinct 2, a residential zone or, land used for a Hospital, Primary school or Secondary school or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a Hospital, Primary school or Secondary school.
Agriculture (other than Animal keeping, Animal training, Apiculture, Crop raising, Extensive animal husbandry, Horse stables, Intensive animal husbandry)	
Use	Condition
Amusement parlour	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Animal boarding	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding) if the Section 1 condition is not met	In Precincts 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 must be no more than 5 animals.
Animal training	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Brothel	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Car park	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 must be used in conjunction with another use in Section 1 or 2.
Car wash	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 the site must adjoin or have access to a road in a Road Zone.
Cinema based entertainment facility	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Community market – if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Convenience restaurant – if the Section 1 condition is not met	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5, the site must adjoin or have access to road in Road Zone.
Convenience shop – if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Corrective institution	Must be in Precinct 1B, 1D, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 4 or 5.
Crop raising husbandry – if the Section 1 condition is not met	

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Education centre	In Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4 must not be a Primary or Secondary school.
Food and drink premises (other than Convenience restaurant, Take away food premises) if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Horse stables	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Hospital	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Industry (other than Car wash, Materials recycling, Transfer station)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. must not be a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10
Leisure and recreation (other than Informal outdoor recreation, Major sports and recreation facility, Motor racing track)	
Mail centre	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Major sports and recreation facility	Must be in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G or 5.
Use	Condition
Materials recycling	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. must not be a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10
Medical centre - if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Office (other than Medical centre) if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E 4 or 5.
Nightclub	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Place of assembly (other than Amusement parlour, Carnival, Cinema or Circus, Exhibition centre, Nightclub, Place of worship) if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Plant nursery – If the Section 1 condition is not met	

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Restricted retail premises – if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Retail premises (other than Food and drink premises, Shop, Plant nursery) If the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Sale yard	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Service station – If the Section 1 condition is not met	<p>In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 the site must either: not meet</p> <p>adjoint land in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E adjoin or have access to road in Road Zone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 the site must not exceed either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3000 m2 3600 m2 if it adjoins on two boundaries of road in Road Zone.
Shop (other than Adult sex bookshop, Convenience shop, Restricted retail premises, Supermarket) If the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Stone extraction	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Store	<p>In Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G and 5 must be in a building, not a dwelling, and used to store equipment, goods or motor vehicles used in conjunction with the occupation of a resident of a dwelling on the lot.</p> <p>In Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E must not be for a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10.</p>
Use	Condition
Supermarket – If the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Take away food premises – if the Section 1 condition is not met	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5, the site must adjoin or have access to road in Road Zone.
Transfer station	<p>Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.</p> <p>In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E must not be a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10</p>
Transport terminal	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Utility installation (other than Minor utility installation, Telecommunications facility)

Warehouse (other than Mail centre, Store) Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
In Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E must not be for a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10.

Any other use not in Section 1 or 3

Section 3 – Prohibited

Use

Intensive animal husbandry
Motor racing track

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Centre-wide provisions

Use of land

A permit is not required to use land for the purpose of local government, recreation, education, transport, police or health providing the use is undertaken by, or on behalf of, the public land manager.

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Subdivision

An application to subdivide land, other than an application to subdivide land into lots each containing an existing dwelling or car parking space, must meet the requirements of Clause 56 and:

- Must meet all of the objectives included in the clauses specified in the following table.
- Should meet all of the objectives included in the clauses in the following table.

Class of subdivision	Objectives and standards to be met
60 or more lots	All except Clause 56.03-5.
16-59 lots	All except Clauses 56.03-1 to 56.03-3, 56.03-5, 56.06-1 and 56.06-3.
3-15 lots	All except Clauses 56.02-1, 56.03-1 to 56.03-4, 56.05-2, 56.06-1, 56.06-3, 56.06-6.
Class of subdivision	Objectives and standards to be met
2 lots	Clauses 56.03-5, 56.04-2, 56.04-3, 56.04-5, 56.08 to 56.09-2.

Buildings and works

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A permit is not required for buildings and works for railway purposes including signals (and related control buildings), new tracks, track-work and realignment, train stabling, overhead power lines, gantries, buildings and works related to railway power requirements and any work required under the Disability Discrimination Act-Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002.

In Precincts 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C and 3E a permit is not required for:

- The installation of an automatic teller machine.
-

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

An alteration to an existing building façade provided:

- the alteration does not include installation of an external security shutter or screen
 - at least 80 per cent of the building façade at ground floor level is maintained as an entry or window with clear glazing.
- An awning that projects over a road if it is authorised by the relevant public land manager.

Construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot

In Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G and 5 a permit is not required to:

Construct or extend one dwelling on a lot of more than 300 square metres and not on common property.

Construct or carry out works normal to a dwelling

Construct or extend an outbuilding (other than a garage or carport) on a lot provided the gross floor area of the out-building does not exceed 10 square metres and the maximum building height is not more than three metres above ground level.

Construct one dependent person's unit on a lot.

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 54.

Construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings

In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G and 5:

- A permit is not required to construct a front fence within three metres of a street associated with two or more dwellings on a lot or a residential building provided it does not exceed the maximum height specified in Clause 55.06-2.
- A development must meet the requirements of Clause 55. This does not apply to a development of five or more storeys, excluding a basement.

All buildings and works must be maintained in good order and appearance to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Transitional provisions

Despite the amendments made by Clause 55 by Amendment VC100, Clause 55 does not apply to an application under section 69 of the Act to extend a permit to construct or extend a development of four or more storeys granted on or before the approval date of Amendment VC100 (15 July 2013).

Buildings on lots that abut a residential zone

Any buildings or works constructed on a lot that abuts land which is in a General Residential Zone or Neighbourhood Residential Zone must meet the requirements of Clauses 55.04-1, 55.04-2, 55.04-3, 55.04-5 and 55.04-6 along that boundary.

4.4

Design and development

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All roofs should be pitched, gabled or hipped greater than 10 per cent.

New commercial buildings should be designed so that advertising signs are an integral part of the architecture.

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Building height

A permit cannot be granted to vary the 'Mandatory Height' provisions specified at Part 5.0 of this Schedule (where applicable).

Permit applications which seek to exceed any 'Discretionary Height' specified in Part 5.0 of this Schedule, should demonstrate that:

The objectives listed in Part 1.0 of this Schedule are satisfied, particularly those listed under Built Form, Public Realm and Open Space and Landscaping.

The objectives and guidelines of the relevant precinct, contained in Part 3.0 of this Schedule, are satisfied.

Increased setbacks are provided for landscaping which includes additional large/tall growing trees to assist in visually softening the development at street level and providing increased permeable surfaces.

Design principles are included which provide landscaping beyond the ground level and green facades.

The development substantially contributes to the appearance of the Diamond Creek Town Centre through high architectural quality appropriate to the character of the town centre.

For the purposes of this Schedule, building height excludes service equipment including plant rooms, lift overruns, solar collectors and other such equipment provided the following criteria are met:

- The features are no more than four metres above the maximum height of the building.
- The top floor area of the features is no more than 20 per cent of the floor area of the top building level.
- The equipment is located in a position on the roof so as to minimise additional overshadowing of neighbouring properties and public spaces.
- The equipment is designed, screened and finished in a non-reflective material and of a colour to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Building setbacks

Minor works including verandahs, architectural features, balconies, sunshades, screens and artworks may be constructed within the setback area specified at Part 5.0 of this Schedule, provided they are designed and located to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Basement levels should be setback so to not encroach into landscape areas.

Where the precinct provisions specify a front setback, that setback is measured from the roadside kerb.

Landscape design

Landscape design should:

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- NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME
- Create private and public open space areas that are accessible, safe, attractive and functional.
 - Retain established indigenous vegetation within all streets that contributes to the 'green and leafy' appearance of the area.
 - Limit the removal of vegetation to the minimum required to allow the land to satisfy its development potential.
 - A high standard landscape treatment should be provided in the front setback where buildings are setback from the street.

Precinct provisions

Precinct 1 - Chute Street Retail Node

Precinct map



5.1-2

Precinct objectives

- To enhance the historic role and character of Chute Street as the earliest part of the town centre as a distinguishing feature and of attraction to visitors.
- To encourage buildings to step down the slope providing a link and orientation to the natural settings and leisure opportunities along the creek valley.
- To encourage the redevelopment of identified key redevelopment sites.
-

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- To create a safe, accessible and attractive pedestrian environment activated through a range of shop-fronts, cafes, places to sit and stop with established trees and other attractions.
 - To develop a strong sense of identity through a coordinated approach to building design, signage and landscape treatments.
- To encourage new buildings which will be low scale, help define the street space and allow views to the surrounding tree canopy and, in places, wider views of the valley and hills.

5.1.3

Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
1A	4 storeys (14 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
1B	4 storeys (14 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
1C and 1D	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

5.1.4

Precinct guidelines

- Use and development of non residential uses in Precincts 1B and 1D should:
 - be compatible with surrounding residential use, scale and intensity
 - generally serve local community needs
 - reflect the pattern of existing building siting and massing within the precinct.
- Develop the retail, office and entertainment activities in and around Chute Street for local convenience shopping, a range of food and restaurant outlets and professional and other office based services but little if any retail floor-space expansion.
- Encourage food and entertainment activities at 69 Main Street.
- Encourage higher density development in and around the Chute Street node.
- Encourage the redevelopment of identified key redevelopment sites.
- Industrial uses are strongly discouraged in Precinct 1B. Precincts 2 and 4 are the preferred location in the Diamond Creek Activity Centre for industry.
- Direct shopping and in particular food and entertainment activities towards the creek and open space corridor. [22.14]
- In sub-precinct 1A and 1C
 - Design new buildings with well articulated facades, roof forms, fenestration, parapet treatments and other detail and materials to provide interest at street level and reinforce the human scale of Chute Street.

Commented [VT2]: Added from 22.14 - it was the only policy not already in this schedule

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- Ensure that the facades of new buildings maintain the vertical and horizontal design rhythm of buildings along Chute Street
- On sites with wide frontages, design facades to reflect the pattern of narrow shopfronts that exists in Chute Street.
- Provide continuous weather protection (such as cantilevered canopies/verandahs) over footpaths of properties that front to Chute Street.

On corner allotments, ensure the buildings address both street frontages with shopfront windows at street level.

Ensure that new buildings do not significantly overshadow or overlook the private open spaces and habitable windows of adjoining residential properties.

- Front fencing is strongly discouraged along Chute Street
- Building should respond to the topography of the site with outdoor terraces that overlook the creek corridor.

In sub-precincts 1B and 1D

- Adopt consistent setback distances to adjacent buildings and seek to retain any existing vegetation along property boundaries.
- Development should be of a high quality design. Façade proportions and building articulation should be diverse in pattern to create visual interest.
- Buildings abutting the creek should provide an attractive frontage and be designed to open out towards the creek setting.
- Driveways and fencing should not dominate the front setback of the property or the streetscape.

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Precinct 2 – Elizabeth Street and Station Street industrial Area

5.2-

1Precinct map



5.2.2

Precinct objectives

- To minimise the impacts of development on adjoining sensitive land uses.
 - To create a cohesive image for the area and encourage contemporary built form responses which provide interest to the streetscape and contribute to an attractive pedestrian environment.
- To emphasise the Main Hurstbridge Road frontage of this precinct with buildings which exemplify the overall character and image of Diamond Creek.
- To create an indigenous and exotic vegetation planting theme within front setbacks which will link this area to the character of adjoining parklands and the station environs.

5.2.3

Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
2A, 2D and 2E	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
2B	4 storeys (14 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
2C	5 storeys (17.5 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m.

Precinct guidelines

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Precinct 3 – Retail Core

5.3-1 Precinct map



5.3-2 Precinct objectives

- To promote the creation of a public space/plaza in the centre.
- To retain the township atmosphere of this precinct while allowing opportunities for increased development on key sites.
- To link the various activities of the precinct visually and physically with contemporary building forms, public spaces and an attractive pedestrian environment.
- To create a stronger presence of built form and activity along Main Hurstbridge Road.
- To create greater economic and pedestrian connectivity between both sides of Main Hurstbridge Road.
- To create public spaces at the focal point for the Activity Centre.
- To develop the role of the station as a sustainable transport hub to provide for improved pedestrian, cycle and public transport connections.

5.3-3 Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
3A	5 storeys (17.5 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m.

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Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
	The 5th storey is to be located in the roof space only.		A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
3B and 3F	4 storeys (14.0 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
3C and 3G	4 storeys (14.0 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
3D and 3E	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

5.3.4

Precinct guidelines

- Use and development of non residential uses in Precincts 3F and 3G should:
 - Be compatible with surrounding residential use, scale and intensity.
 - Generally serve local community needs.
 - Reflect the pattern of existing building siting and massing within the precinct.
- Develop this precinct as the primary focus for retail activity in the centre.
- Generally contain retail activity within a compact pedestrian friendly core bound by the railway, Brooks Crescent, Waigo Way and Wensley Street/George Street.
- Provide new retail space through more intensive redevelopment.
- Encourage mixed use residential and office buildings north of the railway.
- Encourage progressive upgrades of railway infrastructure and the station to meet anticipated growth in demand for public transport services.
- On sites with wide frontages, design facades to reflect the existing pattern of narrow shopfronts.
- Provide continuous weather protection (such as cantilevered canopies/verandahs) over footpaths along retail frontages.
- On corner allotments, ensure the buildings address both street frontages with shopfront windows at street level.
- Design new buildings with the ground floor located at ground level to promote a strong connection with the public street space.
- Plant substantial indigenous trees where appropriate to provide shade in car parks and screen car parking areas.
- Front and side fencing is strongly discouraged.
- The use of roller shutters on shopfront windows and doors at street level is strongly discouraged.

In sub-precinct 3B, 3D and 3E (north of train line, south of Station Street)

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- Investigate redeveloping at-grade car parks for mixed use development, with replacement and additional car parking (if required) integrated below ground.
- In sub-precinct 3A
- Encourage activity and surveillance oriented towards the station and railway line interface through articulated facades, habitable rooms and windows which look onto the station or railway corridor.
- In sub-precincts 3B and 3F (south of Main Hurstbridge Road), 3C and 3G
- New buildings should not significantly overshadow or overlook the private open space and habitable windows of residential properties.
 - If required, at-grade or deck car parking is encouraged behind developments with an emphasis on landscaping to minimise visual impact on adjoining residential areas.
 - New development should be built out to the Hurstbridge Road frontage with active shopfronts at ground level.
 - New development at 42 and 46 Main Hurstbridge Road should provide for the retention and improvement of the site as a local landmark building.

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Precinct 4 – Employment and industrial

5.4-1

Precinct map



5.4-2

Precinct objectives

- To encourage industrial and service industry activities to minimise off site effects on adjoining sensitive land uses.
- To maintain the 'rural periphery' setting of this section of Main Hurstbridge Road.
- To encourage an attractive and safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

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5.4.3

Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
4A	5 storeys (17.5 m). The 5th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
4B	4 storeys (14 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
4C	4 storeys (14 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

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4.4 Precinct guidelines

- Support retail or semi-retail development that requires larger floor spaces, trade supplies or bulky goods.
- Design new buildings with ground floor street frontages to provide windows with displays and doors at the street level.
- Locate habitable spaces on upper levels along the street frontage, with windows overlooking the street or parklands/railway corridor to create a sense of surveillance.
- Locate storage yards, loading docks and large car-parking areas to the side or rear of the buildings to reduce their visual prominence.
- Locate main building entrance on street frontage so it is visible and easily recognised.
- Larger scale commercial and industrial buildings to be set in well landscaped surrounds to contribute to the rural township character of the centre.
- Provide space in front setbacks for adequate landscaping including indigenous grasses, shrubs and canopy trees and sufficient permeable surface to ensure plant growth.
- Maintain a suitable landscape buffer treatment along the eastern precinct boundary to act as a buffer to adjacent sensitive land uses.
- Minimise the number of driveway cross-overs to improve footpath safety and opportunities for on-street parking.
- If a new road is provided adjacent to the railway corridor, orient industrial activities to the railway frontage and bulky goods activities to the Main Huxford Road frontage.
- All industrial sheds should include a glazed office/display component to provide an interface with the street and to assist in concealing the bulky form behind.
- Front fencing along the street boundary is strongly discouraged.

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Precinct 5 – Mixed Use Area

5.5-1

Precinct map



5.5-2

Precinct objectives

- Encouragedevelopmentthatintegrateswith the existingcharacterof the areaand takesadvantage of the main road frontage.
- Encourage more intensive development to provide increased floor-space and efficient use of land.
- Encourage new development to present a predominantly residential appearance in respect to form, heights, set-backs streetscape and landscape.
- To create a strong presence of indigenous vegetation on the main road.

5.5-3

Precinct requirements

Sub- Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height: (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
5A	4 storeys (14 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
5B	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

Landscaping

Development fronting 'landscaped setback' on the Precinct map should provide a 5.5 metre deep landscape setback to Main Hurstbridge Road.

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5.5.4 Precinct guidelines

- Encourage a mix of activities including higher density housing, office development and medical services along the Main Road frontage.
- Encourage an active street frontage at ground level.
- Upgrade streets to provide footpaths along the Hurstbridge Road edge and provide protection to pedestrians.
- Façade proportions and building articulation should be diverse in pattern, to create a visually interesting development.
- Locate car-parking areas to the side or rear of the buildings to reduce their visual prominence.
- Provide space in front setbacks for adequate landscaping including indigenous grasses, shrubs, substantial trees and sufficient permeable surface to ensure plant growth.
- Provide upper level set-backs to reduce the visual bulk of buildings when viewed from Hurstbridge Road and from adjoining residential zoned land.

Non-residential development should:

- Provide windows with displays and doors at the street level.
- Locate habitable spaces on upper levels along the street frontage, with windows overlooking the street to create a sense of surveillance.
- Locate the main building entrance on the street frontage, so that it is visible and easily recognised and provide access paths to building entrances.
- Minimise the number of driveway cross-overs to improve footpath safety and opportunities for on-street parking.
- Minimise overshadowing and overlooking of private open space and habitable windows by applying the relevant provisions of Clause 54 and Clause 55.

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Application requirements
None specified.

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Notice and review

An application to use land under Clause 37.08-2 is not exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

An application for buildings and works is not exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act if the development exceeds the 'Discretionary Height' or 'Preferred Minimum Setbacks' specified in the relevant precinct requirements contained within this schedule.

To remove any doubt, where the preferred height limit is specified in both storeys and metres, if the proposal would exceed either of those figures, then the application is not exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1) (a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65 and Clause 37.08, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

Design and built form

Whether the proposed development:

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- Provides a high standard of urban design and well designed site responsive architecture.
- Does not present a blank façade to a pedestrian activity area or street.
- Provides for appropriate setbacks which respect the siting of adjacent developments where the schedule promotes landscaped setbacks to the street frontage.
- Incorporates any signs as an integral part of the architecture. The construction and design of signs should be of a high quality and should maintain and enhance the Diamond Creek form and character.

Subdivision

Whether the subdivision is associated with a development proposal that supports the objectives promoted by this Schedule.

Access

Whether the proposed development limits the number of vehicle crossings to each development.

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Signs

Sign requirements are at Clause 52.05.

All land located within Precincts 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 4A, 4B and 4C is in Category 2.

All land located in Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G, 5A and 5B is in Category 3.

All remaining land is in Category 1.

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Other provisions of the scheme

None specified

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Reference documents

Diamond Creek twenty20 Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006)

Nilhanbik Major Activity Centres Sustainable Transport Study and Strategy, 2010

Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Car Parking Strategy, 2013

Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Design Guidelines Part A and Part B, 2014

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.08 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1.0 Background documents

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Bridge Street Business Precinct Urban Design Framework; (KLM Gerner Consulting Group, 2003)[21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Climate Change Action Plan: 2010-2015 (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2010) [21.08]</i>	C86
Diamond Creek MAC Design Guidelines, Hansen, 2009 <i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part A – General Design Guidelines (Hansen Partnership, 2014)[21.08] [22.09]</i>	C53
Diamond Creek MAC Design Guidelines, Hansen, 2009 <i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Chute Street Retail Node Design Guidelines (Hansen Partnership, 2014)[21.08] [22.09]</i>	C53
Diamond Creek MAC Design Guidelines, Hansen, 2009 <i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Elizabeth Street and Station Street Industrial Area Design Guidelines (Hansen Partnership, 2014)[21.08] [22.09]</i>	C53
Diamond Creek MAC Design Guidelines, Hansen, 2009 <i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Retail Core Design Guidelines (Hansen Partnership, 2014)[21.08] [22.09]</i>	C53
Diamond Creek MAC Design Guidelines, Hansen, 2009 <i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Employment/Industrial Area Design Guidelines (Hansen Partnership, 2014)[21.08] [22.09]</i>	C53
Diamond Creek MAC Design Guidelines, Hansen, 2009 <i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Mixed Use Area Design Guidelines (Hansen Partnership, 2014)[21.08] [22.09]</i>	C53
<i>Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Car Parking Strategy Report (GTA Consultants, 2013) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2006) [21.08]</i>	C86
Shire of Nillumbik--Drainage to-of Unserved Allotments (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000) [22.04]	NFPS
<i>Ecologically Sustainable Development (Building, Design and Works) Policy; (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011[2]) [21.08]</i>	C86
Eltham Town Activity Centre Design Guidelines Parts A – General Design Guidelines & B; (Hansen Partnership February 2014) [22.09]	C51

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
Eltham Town-Activity Centre Design Guidelines Parts A & B – Commercial Core Design Guidelines; (Hansen Partnership, February 2014) [22.09]	C51
Eltham Town-Activity Centre Design Guidelines Parts A & B – Residential Interface Design; (Hansen Partnership, February 2014) [22.09]	C51
Eltham Town-Activity Centre Design Guidelines Parts A & B – Transport Hub Design Guidelines; (Hansen Partnership, February 2014) [22.09]	C51
Eltham Town-Activity Centre Design Guidelines Parts A & B – Civic Centre Design Guidelines; (Hansen Partnership, February 2014) [22.09]	C51
Eltham Gateway Design Guidelines (Hansen Partnership, 2013) [22.09]	C77
Eltham Gateway Review (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011) [21.08]	C77
Eltham Major Activity Centre Car Parking Strategy Report (GTA Consultants, 2013) [21.08]	C86
Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (Hassell, Essential Economics & Hyder Consulting & Partners, 2004) [21.08]	C36
Growing Our Arts and Culture: A Cultural Plan for Nillumbik Shire 2011-2017 (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011) [21.08]	C86
Heritage Assessments Shire of Nillumbik (Amendment C13) (Graeme Butler & Associates, 2006) [21.08]	C86
Heritage Strategy: Identifying and Conserving Nillumbik's Cultural Heritage (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011) [21.08]	C86
Shire-wide Housing Strategy (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2001); [22.01]	C12
Hurstbridge Township Strategy (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2002) [21.08]	C86
Nillumbik's Integrated Water Management Strategy 2013 (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2013) [21.08]	C86
Lower Plenty River Concept Plan (Melbourne Parks and Waterways 1994) [21.08]	C86
The Middle Yarra Concept Plan, Burke Road to Watsons Creek (State Government of Victoria, 1991) [21.08]	C86
Municipal Fire Management Plan 2013-2016 (Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, 2013) [21.08]	C86
Neighbourhood Character Study, and Residential Design Guidelines 2001 – (Planisphere and John Curtis Pty Ltd, 2001) [21.08]	C86

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Nillumbik 2020 - A Preferred Future</i> ; (P Ellyard 1997) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Biodiversity Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016</i> (Nillumbik EDS Community Reference Group & Tim Nott Economic Analysis and Strategy and Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan 2010-2025 Part 2: Delivering the Vision</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Major Activity Centres Sustainable Transport Study and Strategy</i> (Booz & Co, 2010) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Council Aboriginal Heritage Study</i> (Du Cros & Associates, 1996) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Review</i> (Tardis Enterprises, 2006) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study - Stages One1: Vol.1 Review & Heritage Survey & 2</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1996-2001)[21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study - Stages One1: Vol.2 Environmental History & 2</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1996-2001)[21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study - Stages Two1 & 2</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1997-2001)[21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Roadside Management Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012) [21.08]	C86
<i>Nillumbik Siting and Design Guidelines – Environmentally Sensitive Areas</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000) [22.04][22.13]	NFPS
<i>Nillumbik Trails Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011) [21.08]	C86
<i>Open Space Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2005) [21.08]	C86
<i>Port Phillip and Westernport Regional Catchment Strategy 2004-2009</i> (Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority, 2004) [21.08]	C86
<i>Rabbit Action Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2009) [21.08]	C86
<i>Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 Volumes One1-3</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011) [21.08]	C86
<i>Recreation Strategy Issues and Options Paper 2011-2019 Volumes Two 1-3</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 20104) [21.08]	C86

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Recreation Strategy <u>Market Research and Consultation Summary 2011-2019 Volumes Three 1-3</u> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 20101) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Research Industrial Estate Development Guidelines (Nillumbik Shire Council, 1989) [22.08]</i>	NFPS
<i>Road Management Plan <u>Post Consultation Period</u> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2009) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i><u>Shire of Nillumbik Heritage Gap Study Framework</u> (HLCD Pty Ltd, 2009) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Site History and Contamination Assessment from Goldmining and Other Land Uses in Plenty River Corridor (Sinclair Knight Merz & <u>HTM History Services</u>, 1998) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne (Cam Beardsell for North East Regional Organisation of Councils (NEROC), 1997) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>St Andrews Township Plan (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2013) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Sustainable Water Management Plan (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2008) [21.05-3]</i>	C86
<i>Wattle Glen Township Strategy <u>Sustainable Futures</u> (Nillumbik Shire Council, <u>amended</u> 2005) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Weed Action Plan (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2008) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Yarrambat Park Masterplan <u>Volume 1 – Overall Park Plan</u>; (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Yarrambat Park Masterplan <u>Volume 2 – Golf Master Plan</u> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012) [21.08]</i>	C86
<i>Yarrambat Park Masterplan <u>Volume 3 – Consultation Findings</u>; (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012) [21.08]</i>	C86

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.01 APPLICATION OF ZONES, OVERLAYS AND PROVISIONS

1.0 Application of zones, overlays and provisions

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This planning scheme applies the following zones, overlays and provisions to implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the objectives and strategies in Clauses 11 to 19:

- ~~Apply the~~ General Residential Zone, Residential Growth Zone, or the Neighbourhood Residential Zone to residential areas. [21.05-1]
- ~~Apply the~~ Low Density Residential Zone to existing low density residential areas located in North Warrandyte, the Plenty and Yarrambat corridor and around the urban edge of Eltham and Research. [21.05-1]
- ~~Apply the~~ Township Zone to Hurstbridge, Panton Hill and St. Andrews to provide for residential development and a range of commercial, light industrial and other uses in these townships. [21.05-1]
- ~~Apply the~~ Industrial 3 Zone to the three established industrial areas in Diamond Creek, Eltham and Research. [21.05-4]
- ~~Apply the Business Commercial~~ 1 Zone to:
 - ~~E~~stablished retail areas in the Shire. [21.05-4]
 - ~~Apply the Business 1 Zone to~~ **The Diamond Creek Road Business Area**, a limited local convenience centre on the north east corner of Diamond Creek Road and McLaughlan's Lane, Plenty. [21.05-4]
- ~~Apply the Business Commercial~~ 2 Zone to two areas in the Shire at the Eltham Major Activity Centre (on the western side of Main Road) and the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre (on the northern side of Main-Hurstbridge Road east of the railway crossing). [21.05-4]
- ~~Apply the~~ Green Wedge Zone to land ~~which that~~ provides for sustainable use, ~~for~~ extensive animal husbandry and crop raising (land described as Farming in the Framework Plan). [21.05-2]
- ~~Apply the~~ Rural Conservation Zone to non-urban land with environmental significance and landscape values. [21.05-2 merge] ~~Apply the Rural Conservation Zone to most rural areas in the Shire to protect environmental these values and to promote sound management and land capability practices.~~ [21.05-3 merge]
- ~~Use the S~~chedule to the Rural Conservation and Green Wedge Zones to establish varying subdivision minimums based on land classified in the Framework Plan as Conservation, Conservation Farming, Rural Conservation and Conservation Interface. The schedule specifies the outcomes unique to each of the classifications. [21.05-2]
- ~~Apply the~~ Public Use Zone to areas of public infrastructure ~~in the Shire~~. [21.05-5]
- ~~Apply the~~ Public Park and Recreation Zone to areas used as public recreation reserves. [21.05-5]
- ~~Apply the~~ Public Conservation and Resource Zone to manage the use of major public reserves of significant environmental value. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Road Zone Category 1 to proclaimed State highways and the Road Zone Category 2 to other key roads. [21.05-5]
- ~~Apply the~~ Special Use Zone to:
 - ~~P~~rotect the unique environmental and lifestyle values of the Bend of Islands area. [21.05-2]
 - ~~Apply the Special Use Zone to~~ **T**he Heritage Golf Course at Christmas Hills. [21.05-5]
- ~~Apply the~~ Urban Floodway Zone within urban areas which have the greatest risk and frequency of being affected by flooding. [21.05-1]
- ~~Apply~~ Environmental Significance Overlays to:

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- Residential and low density residential areas identified as sites of faunal and habitat significance, Yarra River environs and Plenty River environs to protect the special environmental values of these areas. [21.05-1]
- ~~Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to~~ Identified sites of national, state and regional faunal and habitat significance, derived from the NEROC Report (Beardsell, 1997). [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to~~ Protect and enhance environmental and landscape characteristics of the Yarra River Valley environs. ~~The overlay will and~~ facilitate the objectives of the *Middle Yarra Concept Plan* (Melbourne Water, 1991). [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to~~ Protect and enhance the environmental and landscape characteristics of the Plenty River environs. ~~The overlay will and~~ facilitate the objectives of the *Lower Plenty River Concept Plan* (Melbourne Water, 1992). [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply an Environmental Significance Overlay to~~ All land within 30 metres of the Diamond, Arthurs and Watsons Creeks to protect existing vegetation, stream banks and improve water quality. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Significant Landscape Overlay to:
 - ~~T~~ownships, low-density residential areas and parts of Eltham to encourage the retention of the treed nature of these areas and ~~ensure achieve that~~ the preferred future character of the areas, as identified in the Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study 2000, ~~is achieved~~. [21.05-1]
 - ~~Apply a Significant Landscape Overlay to~~ Low density residential areas in North Warrandyte and around Eltham that will protect the environmental and landscape character of the area. [21.05-3]
 - ~~Apply a Significant Landscape Overlay to~~ Bushland residential areas that will protect the environmental and landscape character of the area. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Heritage Overlay to identify, protect and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Design and Development Overlay to:
 - ~~t~~he Eltham Gateway to encourage the retention of the treed nature of this area and guide development. [21.05-1]
 - ~~Apply the Design and Development Overlay to~~ Locations in Plenty and Yarrambat where land capability, infrastructure sequencing, environmental significance and preferred design outcomes influence future residential development. [21.05-1]
- ~~Use the s~~Schedule to the Design and Development Overlay for designated areas in Yarrambat, to incorporate considerations in the Yarrambat Local Structure Plan, May 1993 and Yarrambat Extension Area Local Structure Plan, September 1996. [21.05-1]
- ~~Use the s~~Schedule to the Design and Development Overlay for designated residential areas in Plenty, to incorporate considerations in the Plenty Valley Environmental Living Area Outline Development Plan, March 1992 (including setting minimum lot sizes) and the Plenty Valley Environmental Living Area Siting and Design Guidelines, June 1991. [21.05-1]
- ~~Apply the~~ Design and Development Overlay to the Hurstbridge and St Andrews Townships to encourage the retention of the historic and rural character of the Township and guide development. [21.05-1]
- ~~Use the s~~Schedule to the Design and Development Overlay to incorporate considerations in the Hurstbridge Design Guidelines Heidelberg-Kinglake Road (Main Road) Precinct, 2013 and the St Andrews Township Guidelines, April 2012. [21.05-1]
- ~~Apply the~~ Development Plan Overlay to:
 - ~~A~~ low density residential area in Plenty and to land along the Plenty Gorge to specify requirements over the future development of these areas, ~~including. The Development Plan Overlay will address~~ land capability, infrastructure

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sequencing, environmental significance and preferred design outcomes which encourage a coordinated approach to development. [21.05-1]

- ~~Apply the Development Plan Overlay to~~ The Kangaroo Ground commercial precinct to specify requirements over the future development of the area. [21.05-4]
- ~~Apply Development Plan Overlays in areas of~~ Yarrambat where they assist in the coordinated provision of services to new residential and low density residential areas. [21.05-5]
- ~~Land in the Diamond Creek North Area A and Diamond Creek Area B.~~ [21.03-1]
- ~~Apply the~~ Land Subject to Inundation Overlay to areas affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other flood prone area determined by Melbourne Water. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Special Building Overlay to urban areas identified by Melbourne Water that are liable to inundation by overland flows from the urban drainage system. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Bushfire Management Overlay to areas of high bushfire risk. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Public Acquisition Overlay to land identified by an authority for the purposes of acquiring public open space, notably Yarra Valley Parklands, Plenty Gorge Metropolitan Park and the Diamond Creek Linear Open Space Link. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Environmental Audit Overlay to areas identified as potentially contaminated with concentrations of arsenic, cyanide or mercury, as a result of past gold mining activity. [21.05-3]
- ~~Apply the~~ Restructure Overlay to ~~two three~~ old and inappropriate subdivisions at Rankin Street in Panton Hill, Fawkner Crescent in Hurstbridge and Smiths Gully Road in Smiths Gully. [21.05-2]
- ~~Apply the~~ Development Contributions Plan Overlay to require development contributions applying to the development of the areas known as Diamond Creek North, Areas A, and B and the Plenty Low Density Area, west of Yan Yean Road and south of Kurrak Road, Plenty. [21.05-5]
- ~~Apply the~~ Schedule to Clause 52.01 to specify:
 - ~~An~~ open space provision of 5% in Diamond Creek North Areas A and B. [21.05-5]
 - ~~Apply the Schedule to Clause 52.01 to specify a~~ An open space contribution of 7.9% of site value for the Plenty Low Density Area. [21.05-5]

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.02 FURTHER STRATEGIC WORK

1.0 Further strategic work

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Identify:

- Opportunities for medium density and more diverse housing that meet community needs particularly in the context of an ageing population. This should be undertaken through structure planning in identified activity centres. [21.05-1]
- Identify and protect significant landscapes and vistas in the rural areas as an outcome of the Green Wedge Management Plan. [21.05-3]

Review:

- The stock of vacant residential land supply and demand [21.05-1]
- Review the strategy documents for Hurstbridge and Wattle Glen. [21.05-1]
- Consider undertaking further strategic work and reviewing implementation mechanisms to identify and ensure appropriate development including signage controls in township entrances and gateways. [21.05-1]
- As part of structure planning for activity centres review the quality, extent and visual impact and effectiveness of signage in industrial, commercial and gateway precincts as part of structure planning for activity centres to allow businesses to effectively promote their presence, products and activities. [21.05-4]
- Review the Policy relating to Industrial Areas Policy (Clause 22.08) [21.05-4]
- Review Policy relating to the medium density housing Policy (Clause 22.04) [21.06]
- Review Policy relating to the setting and design Policy for building and works in non-urban areas (Clause 22.04) [21.06]
- Review Planning controls including Local Planning Policy Framework (MSS and local policies) and the application of zones and overlays as an outcome of the Green Wedge Management Plan. [21.05-2]
- Review the Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy, upon implementation of the Warrandyte to Kinglake nature conservation link. [21.05-2]
- Review the Open Space Strategy. [21.05-3]
- Review the ESO1 boundaries and schedule to improve mapping and identification of significant environmental sites, threatened vegetation communities and species and identification of habitat links. [21.05-3]
- Review the ESO1 schedule to clarify the need for information such as a flora and fauna assessment, proposed revegetation/landscaping, identification and control of weed species and ongoing management of the site. [21.05-3]
- Review the coverage of ESO4 waterways to consider inclusion of additional significant waterways such as running creek and Deep Creek in Arthurs Creek, Pigeon Bank Creek and Stony Creek in Kangaroo Ground/North Warrandyte. [21.05-3]
- Review the NEROC Report (Beardsell, 1997) as part of a regional project involving adjoining municipalities and DSE. [21.05-3]
- Review the LSIO, UFZ and SBO as new information becomes available. [21.05-3]

Commented [VT1]: Have reworded these three points given that the format and names of the policy is different in the PPF.

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02 MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY

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02.01 CONTEXT

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Located on the north-eastern urban-rural fringe of Melbourne, the Shire of Nillumbik (Nillumbik) is approximately 25 kilometres from Melbourne's Central Business District and is generally bounded by the Yarra and Plenty Rivers and the Kinglake Ranges, which are of national and state environmental significance. It is connected to the north-eastern suburbs and central Melbourne through rail links at Hurstbridge, Wattle Glen, Diamond Creek and Eltham.

Nillumbik forms part of a metropolitan 'green wedge', providing a non-urban break between the Whittlesea urban growth corridor and the Lilydale (eastern) urban area. The 'green wedge' is an area of environmental and agricultural importance to both Nillumbik and the wider metropolitan area.

Nillumbik has an estimated population of 61,273 people (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016). This is not expected to increase substantially; however, an overall ageing of the population is expected. The greatest proportion of people aged over 70 years live in Eltham Central, Wattle Glen and Eltham South.

Much of Nillumbik is rural and is used for a combination of agriculture, rural living and conservation purposes. Within these areas are the townships of Pantom Hill and St Andrews and the much smaller rural communities of Arthurs Creek, Christmas Hills, Cottles Bridge, Doreen, Kangaroo Ground, Nutfield, Smiths Gully, Strathewen and Watsons Creek. The population, however, is concentrated in the established urban areas of Diamond Creek, Eltham, Plenty, Research, Wattle Glen, Hurstbridge and parts of Greensborough. Low-density residential development effectively forms a buffer to rural areas.

Nillumbik's high landscape value plays a regional role for Melbourne as an accessible area of natural landscape beauty. The natural environment is a significant reason for people deciding to live and work in Nillumbik. Much of it remains heavily vegetated, particularly in the non-urban undulating regions and along the major rivers and creeks.

Nillumbik plays a pivotal role in protecting the region's biodiversity. Strategic habitat links that continue into surrounding municipalities connect extensive areas of native vegetation. A significant number of rare and endangered species are found in these native environments.

Nillumbik has a relatively small economic base. The majority of businesses employ less than five people and are in the property and business services, construction and retail sectors. Many of the small businesses are home-based. This is a growing trend, especially in the service sector.

Nillumbik contains several regional recreation resources, such as Kinglake National Park, Plenty Gorge Park, Sugarloaf Reservoir Park, Yarrambat Park, and the network of parks in the Yarra River system.

02.02 VISION

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Nillumbik will remain a metropolitan ‘green wedge,’ maintaining a large natural resource for the benefit of all Melburnians. The planning of Nillumbik will continue to focus on the ongoing sustainability of the ‘green wedge’ in physical, social and economic terms.

The Council Plan provides a framework for improving the environmental, social and economic wellbeing of the community. The Council Plan identifies goals that relate to land use and development matters, as follows:

- To enable a better future for Nillumbik residents and encourage healthy, safe and resilient communities through the provision of quality services.
- To preserve and nurture the natural environment of the Green Wedge for future and current generations.
- To provide infrastructure and plan for a built environment which respects and preserves the unique character of the Green Wedge.
- To develop a prosperous local economy consistent with our Green Wedge values.

02.03 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

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02.03-1 Settlement

Maintaining the existing settlement pattern of distinct urban areas and clearly defined rural townships surrounded by non-urban areas is critical to the ongoing sustainability of Nillumbik as a 'green wedge' municipality. Nillumbik, located on the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne, does not form part of a designated growth corridor. Outward metropolitan development, therefore, will not be a significant feature of the municipality.

Nillumbik's key planning issue will be providing a diverse range of dwellings within the Urban Growth Boundary while ensuring that it is in keeping with neighbourhood character. Areas identified as having further growth potential for residential subdivision in existing residential zones include:

- Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres.
- Apollo Parkways.
- Land in the Diamond Creek North Area A Development Plan and Diamond Creek Area B Development Plan to the north and north-east of the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre.
- The Plenty Low Density Residential area.

Approximately 92% of Nillumbik is rural land and lies outside the Urban Growth Boundary. Rural areas contain sites of environmental and landscape significance, natural resource based activities and residences. Issues of land use conflict, resource use and environmental management arising from the diversity of uses must be managed through sustainable land use and natural resource management.

Council seeks to:

- Maintain non-urban breaks between existing urban areas and non-urban areas, and between rural townships.
- Focus development in the established township and urban areas to take advantage of existing infrastructure and maintain the viability of these areas.
- Protect the green wedge from incompatible use and development.
- Limit subdivision in rural areas to minimise fragmentation of rural land and maintain vistas.

Activity centres

The **Eltham Major Activity Centre** is one of the primary community and commercial focal points within Nillumbik, providing a diverse range of commercial activities, community services, recreational facilities and housing opportunities, as well as containing a substantial public transport hub.

The **Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre** is a shopping, service and community centre for Diamond Creek and adjoining areas. It contains a range of retail, commercial, community and leisure activities and facilities that are serviced by the Hurstbridge railway, limited bus services and a road network dominated by Main Hurstbridge Road, which forms the 'spine' of the centre.

It is envisioned that the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres will continue to be the focus of community life, providing a wide range of shopping and professional services and places to meet and recreate. They will also have an increased role in providing for a diversity of housing and in particular, medium density housing.

Neighbourhood Activity Centres, including Hurstbridge and Research, offer a blend of uses and the availability of public transport generally supports higher levels of business and other activities, resulting in lower car usage and enabling multipurpose trips. Rural townships of Panton Hill and St. Andrews have a strong sense of identity and provide a focus for community life and interaction.

Council seeks to:

- Promote Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres as the main commercial and community activity areas of the Shire, supported by Neighbourhood Activity Centres, small local convenience centres, rural townships, and rural stores.
- Facilitate an expansion in the range of commercial and community services available in the major activity centres, including those that cater for a local/regional clientele and special interest area.
- Facilitate increased diversity and amount of housing in the major activity centres that are sustainable and scaled to respect the surrounding topography.

Eltham Gateway

The Eltham Gateway is a precinct with cultural and landscape significance to the local community and forms the entrance to the Eltham Major Activity Centre.

The Gateway provides services for the local community with a mix of residential, small-scale office and community uses, transitioning to more predominantly residential uses south of Mount Pleasant Road.

The Gateway contains a range of historic buildings that influence the architecture of the area. Its topography allows significant vegetated views from Main Road towards the Diamond Valley. Its high levels of indigenous vegetation, which often substantially screen built form from public view, and its modest scale of development, particularly along Main Road, provides a transition from the urbanity of the suburbs to the semi-rural character of Eltham.

Council seeks to:

- Protect and enhance the cultural and landscape significance of the Eltham Gateway.

02.03-2 Environmental landscapes and values

Protection of biodiversity

The Shire contains extensive habitat links comprising of native vegetation and water courses. Given the large number of threatened native species and threatening processes occurring in the Shire, planning needs to protect and conserve biodiversity, provide habitats for native flora and fauna, and control pest plants and animals. Importantly, significant remnant vegetation, conservation areas and environmentally significant areas are located on both public and private land. These areas are identified on the Faunal habitat and remnant vegetation plan in Clause 02.04.

The Bend of Islands is identified for its significant fauna and flora. It is bordered by the Yanakie Farm, which, although has been cleared and used for grazing, has similar environmental characteristics and significance as the Bend of Islands. There is a need for development on this land to avoid or minimise any impact on the Bend of Islands.

Roadsides are an integral part of maintaining biodiversity in Nilumbik. Roadside vegetation provide wildlife with movement corridors between larger areas of habitat, and can be the remaining refuge for many native floral and faunal species. In many parts of the

Shire, land clearing and urban expansion have left roadsides as the only areas of relatively intact habitat where ground, middle and upper storey vegetation still remain.

Council seeks to:

- Protect and enhance areas of environmental significance and conservation.
- Protect significant remnant vegetation.
- Facilitate the establishment of large areas of native vegetation that are interconnected by a network of habitat corridors.
- Protect the habitat areas of native vegetation and fauna.
- Protect and enhance the environmental, landscape and habitat values of roadside vegetation in the Shire.

Waterways and water bodies

Nillumbik is situated in the Yarra Catchment and includes the sub-catchments of Arthurs Creek, Diamond Creek, Watsons Creek and the Plenty River. Nillumbik's environmental and social values are ascribed to areas of environmental and landscape quality in the vicinity of its waterways. The condition of rivers and tributaries in the Shire ranges from excellent in the forested northern part of the Shire to poor in the urban areas.

Use and development have the potential to affect stormwater quality and adversely affect downstream areas. Decline in water quality is associated with unsustainable land management practices, vegetation clearance, unrestricted stock access to streambanks and low flow rates associated with the proliferation of private dams and drought. Increased compacted, paved or covered surfaces result in higher volumes of stormwater run-off that carry pollutants into the waterways.

The consideration of environmental values and the facilitation of drainage and sewerage in urban growth areas is particularly important, given their proximity to the Plenty River.

Council seeks to:

- Protect wetlands, floodplains and waterways from land use and development that will cause disturbance and pollution.
- Encourage land uses that improve water quality and maintain environmental flows.
- Facilitate ongoing and sustainable management of stormwater in development.
- Ensure land use and development avoids adverse impacts on the wider water catchment.

Landscapes

A significant element of the unique character of Nillumbik is its highly attractive landscapes and picturesque views from and of the many valleys and elevated ridge lines. These landscape vistas are highly valued by the community and visitors.

Nillumbik's undulating landscape consists of lowland hills and alluvial plains (ridgelines less than 200 metres in elevation) in the southern portion of the Shire, and steeper upland hills (ridgelines exceed 200 metres in elevation) in the north.

Extensive areas of native vegetation, water courses and undulating terrain are the main features that contribute to the landscape identity of the Shire. The rural areas provide vistas of agricultural land, treed bushland, hills and watercourses with minimal urban intrusion. Indigenous vegetation is predominant in landscapes throughout the Shire.

Poorly designed and sited structures (including dwellings, sheds, poles, signs and other structures) compromise the integrity of these features. Threats include locating dwellings

on hill-tops and along ridge-lines to take advantage of distant views, the presence of multiple buildings and the use of reflective materials.

In order to maintain the high environmental and landscape values in the Shire, threatening processes associated with the loss and degradation of the natural and built environment need to be addressed.

Council seeks to:

- Minimise adverse impacts of land use changes and development on the landscape or strategic environmental values of the land.
- Protect and enhance rural landscape character through vegetation retention and respectful siting and design of development in rural areas.

02.03-3 Environmental risks and amenity

In rural areas, the need to protect habitat links and minimise fire and flood risk and erosion are important considerations in siting buildings and works. These and off-site considerations (such as ensuring that effluent does not enter watercourses) at the planning stage benefit future occupants of land and the environmental integrity of the area.

Flooding

Most areas liable to flooding are located along the Diamond Creek from Hurstbridge to Eltham, along the Yarra River from Kangaroo Ground to Eltham and the Plenty River at Plenty.

Soil degradation

The Shire is not subject to significant landslide activity except where new development alters the conditions of sites on steeper slopes. Most of the soils in the Shire are susceptible to erosion on slopes and in drainage lines. Soils in the vicinity of Kangaroo Ground have a high shrink-swell potential that can result in foundation movement and hence damage to structures and disruption to services.

Low lying areas of the Shire are prone to dryland salinity particularly in areas that have been extensively cleared. The retention of vegetation and revegetation will be critical in avoiding salinity related problems.

Bushfire

Bushfire risk is a significant issue in the Shire. Many bushfire prone areas have high environmental significance. Particular attention to fire issues is needed in the design of subdivisions, the siting and design of buildings, and use and management of land in bushfire prone areas.

Council seeks to:

- Discourage development, including vegetation removal, that degrades stormwater quality and increases potential risk of soil erosion, expansion and landslide or other hazards.
- Avoid siting development in rural areas that are liable to flooding.
- Avoid intensifying bushfire risk to people and property through poorly located, designed or managed use or development.
- Ensure development in rural areas mitigates potential fire risk.

Potentially contaminated land

The Plenty/Yarrambat corridor area has ongoing pressure for low-density residential development. This area is also known for prior gold mining activity. As a result some of these areas contain soil which is potentially contaminated with concentrations of arsenic, cyanide and mercury.

Council seeks to:

- Avoid sensitive use and development on land that contains or may contain unacceptable levels of soil contamination, unless testing and necessary remedial treatment have been undertaken.

02.03-4 Natural resource management

Agriculture

While much of the geographic area of Nillumbik is rural, there are only a handful of large scale agricultural enterprises. The majority of the rural areas have thin, highly dispersive soils with low fertility that are subject to erosion, making much of the Shire unsuitable for traditional agricultural use. However, the Shire experiences relatively high and reliable rainfall. As such, areas with gentle to moderate slopes (below 20%) are generally of average agricultural quality and much of the Shire has maintained its vegetation cover and resulting environmental values.

Broad-scale agricultural enterprises are mostly concentrated to the north-west of the Shire around Arthurs Creek, Doreen and parts of Strathewen where enterprises run on larger land holdings. Very high quality agricultural land exists at Kangaroo Ground and Arthurs Creek. Small agricultural enterprises are prevalent in many rural areas of the Shire.

Many areas in the Shire are significant for agricultural purposes, such as grazing or viticulture, as well as contributing to the significant landscape qualities that characterise the Shire. It may be possible to expand the production of 'high value' horticulture and intensive livestock commodities already well suited to the area. Increasing the productiveness of agricultural industries is important for the sustainability of the green wedge areas, providing the environmental significance is not compromised.

The continual pressures of tourism and urbanisation can adversely impact on the rural environment. Conflicts may occur between agricultural pursuits, rural living and other uses. These pressures can lead to changes in the rural landscape character and increased land values, which impacts the ability for farmers to achieve economies of scale. Land use and development in rural areas must be planned to maintain the quality and quantity of natural resources and support the sustainable management of natural systems.

Council seeks to:

- Protect and enhance agricultural land for both its productive potential and environmental value.
- Retain existing agricultural land for soil based agricultural production.
- Promote land use in rural areas in accordance with the capability and productive potential of the land.
- Promote sustainable agricultural activities and land management practices that minimise adverse impacts on the primary production and environmental values of surrounding land and the catchment.

02.03-5 Built environment

Urban and building design

The revitalisation and attractiveness of activity centres and townships are important to the viability of local commercial areas. The integrity of streetscapes and natural landscapes can be threatened by development that does not respond to the local characteristics of the area or incorporate design outcomes that enhance the functionality and visual amenity of the area. Additionally, the Shire endeavours to ensure that all people, including those with a disability or impairment, have safe and efficient access to places and buildings.

The industrial precincts at Eltham, Research and Diamond Creek are located close to residential areas and in areas with high landscape values and vistas. It is important that development on industrial land enhance the amenity of the area.

Council seeks to:

- Protect and enhance urban streetscapes, townships and landscapes.
- Promote urban design outcomes in activity centres and townships that retain the historical and individual characteristics of each area while enhancing its attractiveness, distinctiveness, safety and accessibility.
- Design places and development to maximise access for all users, including pedestrians and cyclists, and cater for the mobility needs of people of all abilities.
- Encourage development in industrial precincts to positively contribute to the visual amenity of the area, while ensuring functional layouts and use of land.

Signs

Advertising signs should aim to complement the high visual quality of the urban streetscapes and rural landscapes. The proliferation of signs and poorly designed and located signs can significantly detract from the visual amenity and character of an area as well as impact on road safety. Sign clutter can also reduce the effectiveness and visibility of individual signs.

Council seeks to:

- Encourage signs that provide effective identification of businesses and other land uses without adversely impacting on the amenity of the area.
- Site and design signs to complement and enhance, rather than dominate, the streetscape and landscape.
- Ensure road safety is not adversely affected by signs.

Neighbourhood character

The urban and township areas are characterised by a tree canopy of predominantly indigenous species resulting in vistas that are not dominated by buildings. Residential areas are generally of a lower density than in metropolitan Melbourne, providing for open spaces and retention of a bushland setting. Streetscapes generally consist of single dwellings on conventional lots with ample opportunities for canopy trees.

While most existing dwellings are of weatherboard or brick construction, there is also a strong tradition of adobe and mud-brick construction and continued interest in the use of alternative building materials and techniques such as rammed-earth and straw-bale construction.

The natural and built character of residential areas contributes to a high level of amenity and a strong sense of place for the community.

Council seeks to:

- Maintain and enhance the character, including neighbourhood character, of urban and township areas.
- Encourage the use of alternative construction materials where it adds character to the municipality and reflects surrounding development.

Energy and resource efficiency

Increasing levels of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the increased energy consumption of non-renewable resources is an environmental threat that needs to be addressed irrespective of whether the development is situated in a rural or urban location.

Council seeks to:

- Promote energy efficiency in the layout of subdivisions and the siting and design of buildings in both urban and rural areas.

Heritage

Nillumbik lies within land occupied by the Wurundjeri - willam clan of the Woi wurrung speaking people. A large number of existing Aboriginal archaeological sites that contribute to the cultural heritage of the region have been identified within Nillumbik.

Nillumbik also has many sites that have non-indigenous cultural significance, including gold mining related historic sites, as well as original farm houses, bridges and other features that existed since early agricultural settlement. The Shire is also known for its 'environmental buildings' such as the Montsalvat Artists' Colony in Eltham and mud-brick dwellings.

Council seeks to:

- Protect and enhance places of heritage significance, including sites of Aboriginal heritage significance.
- Ensure new use and development do not impede on or detract from sites and features of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological significance.

02.03-6 Housing

Nillumbik will experience a reduction in household size due to an ageing of the population. Additionally, Nillumbik will need to accommodate an increasing number of households. Currently, there is a lack of housing diversity and the predominant form of housing may not be suitable for all residents in the future, particularly as household sizes decrease and the age of residents increase.

The trend of decreasing average household size provides the impetus to provide for some medium density housing as an alternative housing choice. Consolidation of development will provide for more efficient use of infrastructure, and will assist in protecting the surrounding natural environment, water catchments, rural landscapes and unique settlement pattern.

The locations considered most suited to medium density development are those that are close to infrastructure, including public transport scheduled stops, commercial areas, public open space and other community facilities. The Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres and the Hurstbridge Shopping Centre provide such facilities.

Council seeks to:

- Facilitate the provision and diversification of housing to meet the projected increase in the number and type of households, while respecting the

neighbourhood character, and protecting the natural and cultural heritage values of the locality.

- Facilitate medium density housing development that is compatible with the character of the area in identified locations that are close to infrastructure.

Rural residential development

Yarrambat and the northern area of Plenty have a rural residential community, while North Warrandyte forms a well treed low-density residential area on the northern side of the Yarra River.

Residential settlement in rural areas is usually based on an appreciation of the bush and often a willingness to revegetate previously cleared areas. With an undulating topography, there is also the attraction of distant views (including ranges, valleys and central and metropolitan Melbourne). However, rural areas often lack existing infrastructure and facilities. There is also ongoing land use conflict between agricultural and rural residential land uses and a risk that further residential development will fragment rural land into unviable land parcels.

Council seeks to:

- Discourage residential development in rural areas that disrupt the natural environment, landscape or the productivity of agricultural land.

02.03-7 Economic development

Business and employment

Economic development opportunities in Nillumbik are likely to be generated by small business enterprises especially home-based businesses involved in leisure services, retailing, rural industry, tourism, information technology, education and training, innovative environmental management and sustainable agriculture. Economic development should focus on strengthening existing enterprises and facilitating new business initiatives that respect the Shire's environmental, social and economic development priorities.

The main employment locations, the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres, Hurstbridge Neighbourhood Activity Centre and the industrial land at Research, need to be maintained to continue to provide opportunities for local employment. In non-urban areas, the range of tourism and commercial activities are restricted to activity centres or purposes that can be used in conjunction with agriculture, rural industry or winery. The Major Activity Centres, Hurstbridge Neighbourhood Activity Centre and rural townships offer opportunities for increased tourism activities.

Council seeks to:

- Promote economic development opportunities that build on and respect the cultural and physical characteristics and rural focus of the Shire.
- Support the economic and employment viability of Activity Centres, Town Centres and the industrial land at Research.
- Encourage land uses that expand tourism opportunities and generate local employment opportunities.

Industry

The existing industrial precincts in Eltham, Research and Diamond Creek are close to full capacity. To facilitate new industrial uses, these precincts should be retained for industrial uses and protected from the encroachment of other uses. This is unless Council has

identified the land to be redeveloped with other uses, as is the case for the Bridge Street Business Precinct in the Eltham Major Activity Centre.

Council seeks to:

- Protect industrial precincts from non-industrial use and development unless otherwise identified.

02.03-8 Transport

Nillumbik is a commuter area with the majority of the workforce travelling to other areas for employment. Consequently, issues arise such as increased greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion and the need for residents to access employment and public transport services. Currently, public transport consists of the Hurstbridge railway line and connecting local bus routes concentrated in the urban south-west area of the Shire. The further development of pedestrian and cycle trails to link the key activity centres is a priority to encourage safe pedestrian access for residents.

The concentration of a range of facilities within commercial areas, activity centres and townships increases the options for multi-purpose trips and the use of public transport.

Many unsealed local roads service traditional residential, agricultural or bush uses and would be unsuitable for new uses requiring significant increases in traffic movement. The Western Ring Road and Whittlesea's urban growth corridor will continue to increase demand on Nillumbik's road network and other infrastructure.

Council seeks to:

- Facilitate increased public transport usage.
- Incorporate greater links between land use planning and transport, especially in relation to activity centres and the public transport network.
- Facilitate safe and efficient roads and road links within the municipality and to the wider region that cater for all users.

02.03-9 Community infrastructure

Nillumbik contains extensive areas of open space for the purposes of conservation. These areas are mainly connected to the major river and creek systems. The Open space and recreation facilities plan to Clause 02.04 identifies the open space network and recreational facilities across Nillumbik.

In urban areas, the open space network needs to provide a broad range of recreational facilities and open space areas near residential areas.

In rural areas there are a number of horse riding, walking and mountain-bike trails. The emphasis is towards developing key regional and district recreational areas, enhancing and developing open space within townships and settlements, protecting native flora and fauna as well as developing a comprehensive regional based trail network.

Community facilities should be accessible to all groups, including children, youth, elderly persons and those who are disabled. The dispersed population in the rural areas creates major challenges for the equitable distribution of community facilities, especially in dispersed areas where the population is heavily reliant on private transportation.

Council seeks to:

- Facilitate the provision and linking of open space and local recreational facilities to form a network across the Shire.
- Ensure open space and recreational facilities are equitable and accessible to all community members.

- Facilitate the provision of active and passive recreational facilities as an integral part of each township.

02.03-10 Development infrastructure

The dispersed nature of low-density residential areas creates difficulties in providing a full range of infrastructure services, and rural areas invariably have only limited physical infrastructure.

The use of development contributions in the funding of infrastructure is important for low-density housing in the Plenty/Yarrrambat Corridor, new residential developments in Plenty and Diamond Creek, and in-fill development in urban areas. In particular, existing drainage arrangements in the Yarrrambat area are insufficient for the further development of this area.

A large part of the rural areas in the Shire rely on all-purpose effluent disposal systems as sewer is unavailable. A number of existing rural lots are unsuitable for residential development as effluent generated on site cannot be contained on-site.

Council seeks to:

- Facilitate efficient provision of infrastructure to areas designated for residential and low-density residential development.
- Minimise infrastructure servicing demand in rural areas.
- Facilitate the consolidation of rural lots to create larger lots capable of containing effluent on site.

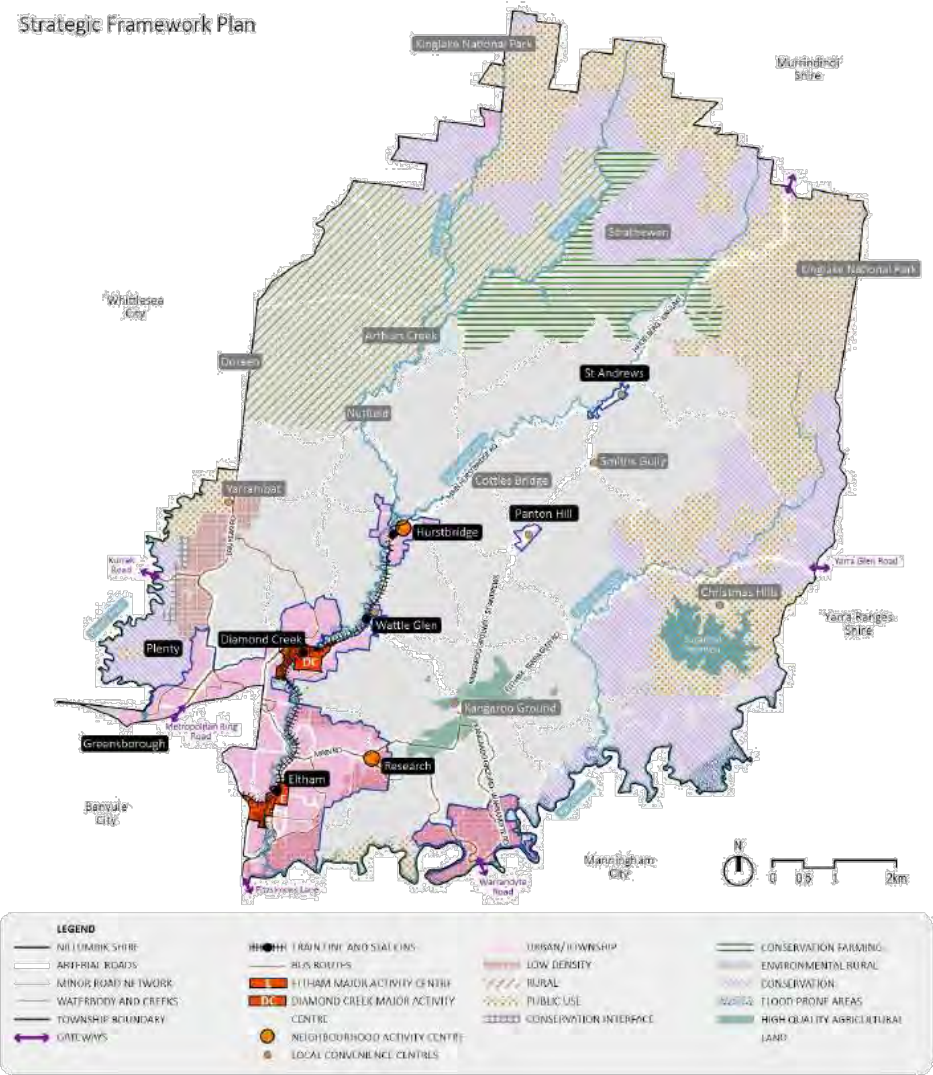
02.04 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN

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The plans contained in Clause 02.04 are to be read in conjunction with the strategic directions in Clause 02.03.

02.04-1 Strategic framework plan

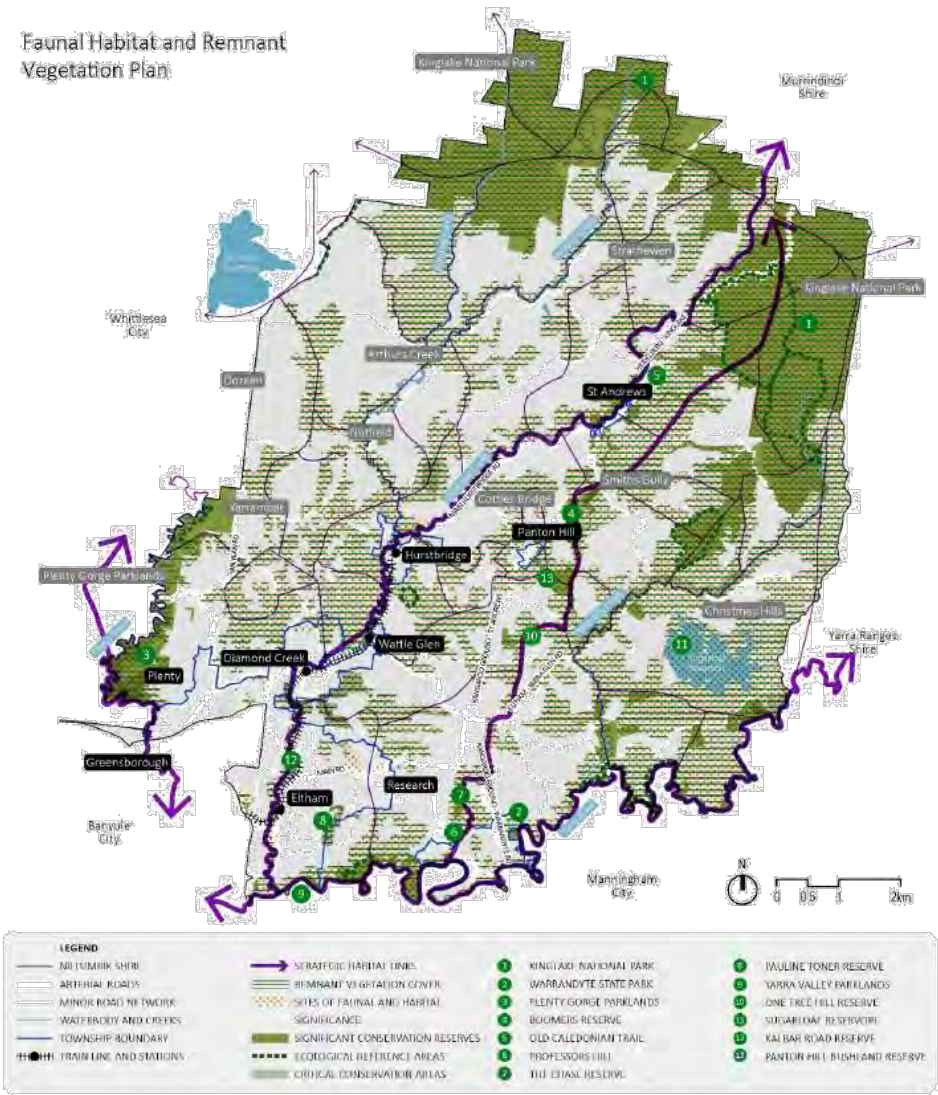
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02.04-2

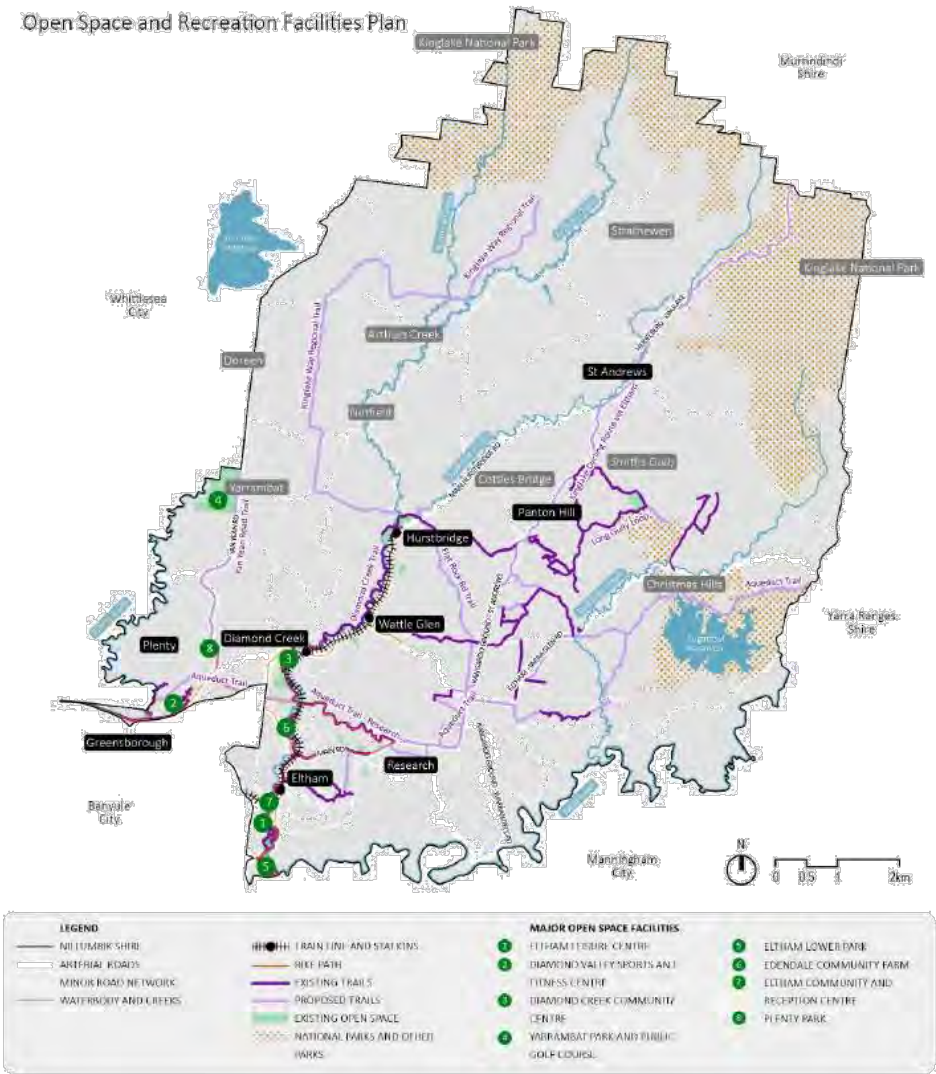
Faunal habitat and remnant vegetation plan

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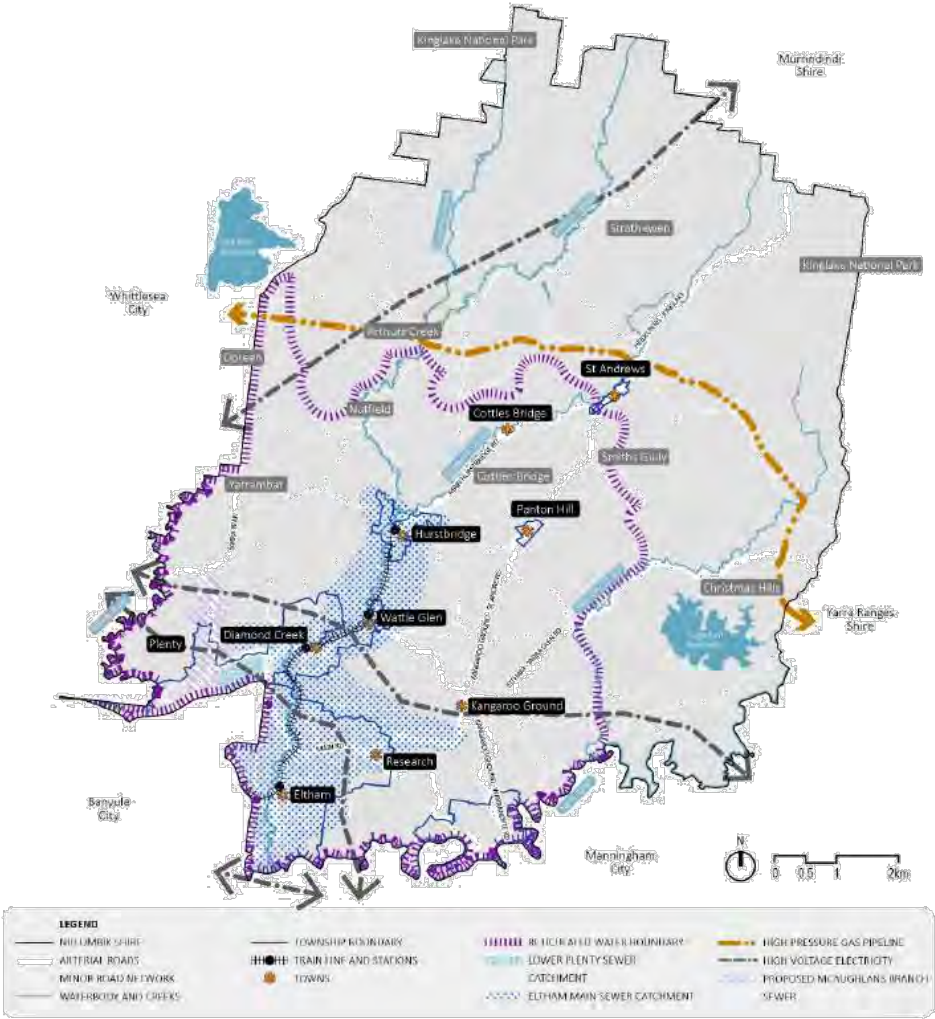
02.04-3 Open space and recreation facilities plan

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02.04-4 Infrastructure assets plan

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11.01-1L-01 Settlement in Nillumbik

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Strategies

Contain residential use and development in existing urban areas, townships and low density residential areas.

Direct new residential development to residentially zoned land that is currently vacant in Greensborough, Diamond Creek and Plenty.

Direct rural residential development in areas zoned for that purpose at Yarrambat and Plenty.

Avoid the rezoning of land for urban or low-density residential purposes, unless supported by a Council framework plan or strategy.

Discourage subdivision and the development of buildings on rural lots to maintain landscape qualities.

Encourage the provision of tree reserves where the edge of a township or urban area abuts a main or secondary road.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Encouraging lot sizes between 1 to 2 ha in Yarrambat where the land is in the Low Density Residential Zone.
- Encouraging lot sizes of 0.4ha in Plenty, where the land is in the Low Density Residential Zone.

11.01-1L-02 Land use and development in the Eltham gateway

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Policy application

This policy applies to land in the Design and Development Overlay 1 (Eltham Gateway).

Objective

To support low scale use and development that reinforces the cultural significance of the Eltham Gateway.

Strategies

Encourage residential use to be the predominant use on land south of Mount Pleasant Road.

Encourage a mix of uses including residential, community, office and commercial uses north of Mount Pleasant Road.

Direct retail uses between Bridge Street and Dalton Street.

Encourage commercial uses, north of Mount Pleasant Road, that use existing dwellings and are at a scale that primarily service local demand.

Avoid uses that may undermine the operation and viability of the Eltham Major Activity Centre, such as large scale office uses and medium and large scale commercial uses.

Discourage uses that do not serve the needs of the local population.

Encourage car parking to be provided on-site.

Discourage reducing or waiving the number of required car parking spaces as specified in Clause 52.06.

Locate car parking for non-residential uses at the rear of sites.

Avoid uses that through their function or appearance would undermine the cultural and landscape significance of the Eltham Gateway.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Limiting the hours of operation for non-residential uses to protect the amenity of the area.
- Avoiding the following uses due to their detrimental impacts on the significance of the Eltham Gateway:
 - Car washes.
 - Service stations.
 - Car parks.
 - Convenience restaurants.
 - 24-hour medical centres.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Eltham Gateway Review 2011* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)

11.03-1L-01 Activity centres in Nillumbik

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Strategies

Concentrate major retail activities in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres.

Encourage development that facilitates opportunities for meeting and community interaction in the Eltham and Diamond Creek Major Activity Centres.

Maintain the retail nature of core retailing areas by:

- Locating retail uses at the pedestrian thoroughfare level.
- Discouraging non-retail activities, such as offices and storage, at the pedestrian thoroughfare level.

11.03-1L-02 Bridge street business area

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Policy application

This policy applies to land in the Bridge Street Business Area, which comprises land in Precincts 8 to 11 of the Eltham Activity Centre as shown in the plan to this Clause.

Objective

To facilitate a shift from a primarily industrial area to one that includes restricted retail, light industry, commercial offices, health and fitness centres, indoor sports and recreation centres.

To enhance the visual amenity, functionality and accessibility of the Bridge Street Business Area.

To maximise the development potential of sites within the Bridge Street Business Area.

Strategies

Support medium and small scale offices and indoor recreation or health facilities in Precinct 8.

Support restricted retail and showroom type retailing, including by encouraging site consolidation to enable larger stores to locate in Precinct 9.

Support restricted retailing in Precinct 10.

Encourage the provision of an attractive and functional business park for small and medium scale light industrial activities, primarily servicing local community needs in Precinct 11.

Direct light industrial activities to Precinct 11.

Provide the planting of indigenous trees.

Encourage the consolidation of lots for integrated development.

Discourage blank facades that present to a pedestrian activity area or street.

Encourage buildings that:

- Are modest and compact in scale.
- Are distinct and contemporary in design.
- Utilise materials and styles reflecting local character and landscape.
- Create a sensitive transition in uses and built form scale between the Bridge Street Business Areas and surrounding land uses (e.g. park land and residential areas).

Reduce conflict between vehicular traffic and major pedestrian areas through separation, design treatments and materials, traffic calming and reducing conflict points.

Encourage improved visitor amenity through facilities such as open and sheltered rest areas, meeting places, crossing facilities, pedestrian links to car parks and pedestrian weather protection.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan* (Hassell, Essential Economics & Hyder Consulting, 2004).
- *Bridge Street Business Precinct Urban Design Framework*, (KLM Gerner Consulting Group, 2003).

Bridge street business area (precinct 8-11 of the Eltham activity centre) plan



12.01-1L Protection of biodiversity in Nillumbik

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General strategies

Ensure residential use and development on land to the west of the Bend of Islands (identified as Yanakie farm area on the Yanakie farm plan to this Clause) conserves the flora and fauna in the Bend of Islands.

Encourage large lot rural land use and rural living opportunities that protect the environmental and landscape values of major conservation areas such as the Plenty Gorge Park, Kinglake National Park and the Yarra River Valley.

Conserve bushland and encourage revegetation.

Encourage the planting of indigenous vegetation, rather than exotic species, particularly:

- On sites of environmental significance.
- On roadside reserves.

Retain conservation land that serves as habitat or a habitat link for significant flora and fauna in public ownership, wherever possible.

Incorporate the retention and enhancement of strategic habitat links into subdivision plans and site management plans.

Encourage the retention of vegetated areas at a size that sufficiently:

- Maintains the viability of faunal populations and vegetation communities.
- Protects biodiversity and other significant environmental values.

Site and design development (including buildings, earthworks and utility services) to minimise damage to and the removal of native vegetation, especially vegetation that is part of a strategic habitat link or is environmentally significant.

Protect and enhance roadside vegetation by minimising cross-over and access points to roadsides, especially in areas with high, medium or medium-low conservation value, identified as Category A, B and C in the *Nillumbik Shire Roadside Management Plan* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012).

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- A Section 173 Agreement that prohibits the keeping of domestic pets in accommodation in the Yanakie Farm area, west of the Bend of Islands, as identified on the Yanakie farm plan to this Clause.
- A Section 173 Agreement for the use of a Trust for Nature Conservation Covenant on private bush land to protect remnant vegetation.
- Allowing non-indigenous plantings on roadside reserves, where indigenous plantings would otherwise result in a risk to public safety.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Nillumbik Shire Roadside Management Plan* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012)

Yanakie farm plan



12.05-2L Rural landscapes in Nillumbik

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Policy application

This policy applies to any of the following:

- All land outside the Urban Growth Boundary, except land in Schedule 2 of the Special Use Zone.
- Lot 8 in PS415064K in the Special Use Zone - Schedule 1.
- Land in the Low Density Residential Zone in North Warrandyte.

Objective

To encourage uses, buildings and works to maintain or enhance the landscape character of the locality, including any significant views to the site.

Strategies

Discourage the proliferation of multiple buildings across the landscape.

Support the consolidation of buildings on a site, including outbuildings.

Locate buildings wholly below the alignment of ridgelines so that buildings:

- Avoid forming a silhouette against the skyline.
- Blend into the natural landscape with the elevated ridgeline as the backdrop.

Avoid the siting of buildings on hill-tops and ridge-lines, unless they can be sited and designed to not dominant or otherwise appear prominent in the landscape and be screened from the view of other properties and roads.

Discourage development in highly visible locations that rely on vegetation screening to minimise its visual prominence in the landscape, especially where the use of vegetation screening is not an existing characteristic of the area.

Avoid the use of reflective building materials, such as zincalume, where the building would be clearly visible from other properties or roads.

Encourage the use of landscaping with indigenous species to screen buildings.

Design the building profile and form to respond to the topography on which the building is sited to minimise the need for cut and fill.

Design internal roads to follow the contours of the land to support the landscape vista of rural areas and minimise the potential for erosion and the impacts of run-off.

Locate buildings, earthworks (including internal roads and dams) and utility services to ensure minimal impact on the topography of the area.

Encourage the undergrounding of services to minimise visual impact in rural areas.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Designating dwelling envelopes so that buildings are sited in locations that would minimise adverse impacts on landscape values.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Nillumbik Siting and Design Guidelines – Environmentally Sensitive Areas* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000)

13.02-1L Bushfire management in Nillumbik

~~13.02-1L~~
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Policy application

This policy applies to land affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay or located in a Bushfire Prone Area.

Strategies

Limit sensitive uses, such as dwellings.

Ensure that landscaping in rural areas, including vegetation screening, is designed to minimise fire risk.

Minimise the impacts of fire protection works on roadside vegetation where possible.

Encourage buildings in locations where the actions necessary to mitigate bushfire risk minimises the impact on the environment.

Site and design buildings at the base of slopes or on gentle south or south-east facing slopes.

Avoid the siting of buildings on north or north-west facing slopes, particularly steeper slopes and the ridges above these slopes.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Municipal Fire Management Plan 2013-2016* (Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, 2013)

13.03-1L Floodplains in Nillumbik

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Strategy

Avoid raising the natural level of the land in flood prone areas through the importation of fill.

13.04-2L Managing erosion in Nillumbik

~~13.04-2L~~
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Strategies

Design and locate development, including earthworks, to maintain the natural topography where possible and reduce the potential for erosion and landslip problems by minimising cut and fill.

Retain plant ground covers and plants with substantial root systems on sloping sites.

14.01-1L Protection of agricultural land

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Strategies

Discourage dwellings on non-urban land that will adversely impact on the primary production activities or environmental values of the land or any neighbouring land.

Limit small lot subdivision and encourage the consolidation of agricultural lots to:

- Maintain or enhance the scale of the farm for more viable agricultural pursuits and activities, particularly in the broad-acre farming areas in the north-west of the Shire.
- Retain the productive potential of land.
- Retain the ability to undertake sustainable land management practices.

Encourage the retention of large lots in single ownership to preserve its conservation values or agricultural potential.

Limit non-soil based agricultural use and development on:

- Rural land.
- Land identified for conservation farming or conservation as identified on the Strategic framework plan to Clause 02.04.
- Land identified as high quality agricultural land in Kangaroo Ground as identified on the Strategic framework plan to Clause 02.04.

Avoid subdivision that creates lots for rural residential or hobby farm purposes.

Avoid realigning rural property boundaries for the purpose of creating de-facto residential lots.

Support realignments of rural property boundaries only where:

- It is a minor boundary adjustment.
- It responds to topography or physical features.
- It does not provide for further development opportunities.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Where small lots are created via the realignment of existing property boundaries, limiting the future development potential for the balance of the land.
- Limiting the development of dwellings and buildings on rural allotments below the minimum subdivision size.

14.01-2L Sustainable agricultural land use

~~14.01-2L~~
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Land management strategies

Maintain and diversify agriculture use that incorporates sustainable land management practices.

Protect rural land from development, including subdivision, that adversely impacts the ability of the land to undertake sustainable land management practices.

Dam strategies

Discourage the siting of dams in gullies or tributaries with significant environmental values.

Locate dams so that there are sufficient areas for spillways to contain overflow on-site.

Protect biodiversity, wetlands, waterways, floodplains and their environmental functions from dam construction and its down-slope impacts, such as changes to the rate of water flow.

Ensure dams near property boundaries and culverts are designed, sited and constructed to protect roadside vegetation by minimising water overflow and its adverse impacts.

15.01-1L-01 Signs

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Strategies

Encourage the use of a theme or pattern for signs in commercial areas and design signs to be compatible with any advertising theme or pattern that has been developed for an area.

Site and design signs so they do not detract from the appearance of the building on which they are displayed.

Encourage signs to fit the building, rather than be attached by ad hoc structures.

Discourage signs that protrude above the height of the building, including any parapet.

Encourage the size and height of signs to be compatible with the scale of

- The building and site on which they are displayed so that the sign is not a dominating element.
- The surrounding streetscapes and other signs in the area.

Use materials in the construction and design of signs that are of a high quality, such as those that are durable, low maintenance and capable of supporting the proposed sign.

Design and construct signs in such a way that they are able to be easily maintained to keep their original standard of presentation.

Minimise visual clutter of signs by:

- Discouraging multiple freestanding signs.
- Avoiding unnecessary duplication of signs.
- Encouraging the consolidation of signs, including in mixed use and commercial development.

Discourage business identification signs that include details about particular goods or services that are sold, for hire or provided on the site.

Facilitate signs that advertise business undertaken on-site, while ensuring that they do not detract from streetscape or landscape character.

Discourage promotion signs that promote any of the following, particularly where the promoted items are not provided on the site that the sign is located:

- Commercial goods or services.
- For-profit events.

Support the use of bunting and animated signs only where it is for temporary promotions.

Discourage the use of reflective signs.

Discourage the use of internally illuminated signs and floodlit signs that would result in direct light or glare emission onto adjoining land or roadways.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Limiting the number of signs to the minimum number necessary to adequately identify a premises.

15.01-1L-02 Signs in Eltham major activity centre

~~15.01-1L-02~~
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Policy application

This policy applies to land in the **Activity Centre Zone 1 (Eltham Activity Centre)**.

Strategies

Site and design signs to be of a size and height that does not detract from public view lines.

Discourage locating signs on the roof.

Discourage signs that are painted or fixed on the windows of buildings.

Avoid animated signs or coloured neon lighting.

In Precinct 2, site and design signs on non-residential uses to be:

- Subdued in colour.
- Located below the eave line and integrated with the surroundings.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Limiting signs to a maximum area of 10% of the entire façade.

15.01-2L-01 Building design in Nillumbik



Township entrances and commercial centre strategy

Encourage landscape and urban design outcomes that retain and enhance the character of existing entrances to townships and commercial centres.

Accessibility strategies

Encourage architectural design that meets the needs of the ageing population.

Design infrastructure to accommodate the physical mobility and access needs of people of all abilities where the topography does not require excessive cut and fill to achieve this.

Materials and surface finish strategies

Encourage muted tones for external surfaces and avoid bright or contrasting colours.

Encourage the use of alternative building materials such as mud-brick and rammed earth construction.

15.01-2L-02 Medium density housing design

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Policy application

This policy applies to land in the General Residential Zone and Neighbourhood Residential Zone for the construction and extension of any of the following:

- Two or more dwellings on a lot.
- Dwellings on common property.
- Residential buildings.

Strategies

Site and design development to protect and enhance local amenity, areas of environmental significance and heritage places.

Encourage medium density housing development that is designed and sited to appear of a single dwelling when viewed from the street.

Avoid continuous building lines and blank walls.

Encourage building lines and walls that are articulated, contain visual features or are otherwise varied.

Design private open space areas so that they are practical and useable, including through shape, continuity and slope.

Discourage medium density housing that relies on the visual amenity provided by road reserves or other public land to facilitate the development.

Avoid the appearance of 'gunbarrel driveways'.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Encouraging additional visitor car spaces (above the standard requirements in Clause 52.06) for developments:
 - Along main roads.
 - On sites adjacent to or near main intersections.
 - Where narrow roads make on-street parking difficult or dangerous.

15.01-2L-03 Design in industrial areas

~~15.01-2L-03~~
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Policy application

This policy applies to all land in the Industrial 3 zone.

Strategies

Encourage development that enhances the industrial estate's attractiveness through beautification works, such as landscaping in the front setback.

Ensure the access to a lot is suitable and unobstructed for all types of vehicles likely to be associated with the intended use, including emergency vehicles.

Avoid the use of loading/unloading facilities for external storage or long term parking of vehicles.

Provide landscaping along common property boundaries and in front setbacks.

Encourage the use of indigenous species that are suitable to the area in landscaping.

Locate large building support systems (including air conditioning, storage tanks etc) in mechanical rooms that are completely within the building envelope.

Discourage surface mounted roof equipment unless it is:

- Fully screened.
- Not visually intrusive.
- Completely integrated with the architectural design of the building.

15.01-3L Subdivision design

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Strategies

Encourage subdivision design to maximise solar access to lots and minimise overshadowing of north facing windows through lot orientation and size.

Retain remnant vegetation and drainage lines as parts of open spaces.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

15.01-5L Neighbourhood character - Nillumbik

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Policy application

This policy applies to applications for development in a residential zone, except a Mixed Use Zone, as shown on plans forming part of this Clause.

All precincts objectives

To maintain the existing vegetation including canopy trees.

To minimise detrimental impacts on the landscape from site erosion and excavation.

To ensure buildings do not dominate the streetscape.

To ensure that car parking areas, garages and carports do not dominate sites when viewed from the street.

To maintain and enhance the continuous flow of the garden settings and the openness of the front boundary treatment.

Garden Court precincts objectives

To maintain the dominance of the landform and surrounding vegetation.

To maintain the existing mix of native and exotic vegetation including canopy trees and understorey.

Bush Garden precincts objectives

To maintain the dominance of indigenous vegetation where development is sited to minimise disruption to the precinct's rolling and hilly topography.

To maintain the significant native and indigenous tree canopy.

Semi Bush precincts objectives

To maintain the appearance of development that is partly obscured from view by the topography or tree canopy.

To maintain the precinct's rolling and hilly topography and its bushy vegetation character with significant indigenous or native canopy trees.

Bush precinct objectives

To maintain the appearance of development that is sited and designed to form part of the continuous bushland that characterises the area.

To maintain significant indigenous vegetation with substantial trees and the precinct's rolling topography that slopes down to the Yarra River.

Eltham Central precinct objective

To maintain the dominance of canopy trees and the existing mix of native and exotic vegetation, including the understorey.

Rural precinct objective

To maintain the dominance of the rural landscape and its flat to rolling topography.

Settlement precinct objective

To maintain the dominance of the flat to hilly landform and vegetation where buildings are sited and coloured to blend into the landscape.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

To maintain a bushy, rural feel, with significant indigenous canopy that is almost closed in parts.

All precincts strategies

Encourage contemporary design that does not detract from the preferred character of the area.

Retain or plant substantial trees as necessary to contribute to the desired future character of the area while maintaining solar access and residential amenity, and minimising bushfire safety issues.

Site development so it responds to existing vegetation (including drip-lines of trees) and minimises the removal of existing trees, including by:

- Siting open space around significant vegetation.
- Allowing sufficient space for:
 - The planting of vegetation that supports the preferred character of the area.
 - Canopy trees (preferably indigenous to the area) in the front setback of the development and in other strategic locations on the site.

Maintain the pattern of orientation and setbacks of adjoining properties and the streetscape.

Site and design driveways and car storage areas to occupy the minimum functional area.

General policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- For medium density housing where existing trees are to be removed, encouraging a minimum planting of twice the number of trees that existed on the site prior to the development.

Garden Court precincts strategies

Design and site development to follow the contours of and nestle into the landform.

Retain remnant indigenous understorey vegetation where possible and replant where appropriate.

Design buildings to respect the character elements of low-pitched tile roofs, with wide eaves and a projecting front room or 'triple fronted' articulation.

Design buildings to respect the single storey character of the streetscape where that is a dominant feature.

Provide driveways to the side of the dwelling.

Site garages adjacent to or behind the dwelling.

Avoid front fencing or solid side fencing visible from the street where this is a feature of the streetscape.

Garden Court precincts policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Retaining or planting high canopy native trees with substantial exotic trees at a density of one tree to every 200m².
- Maintaining the:
 - Predominant front setbacks of 7 - 8 metres.
 - Varied orientation of dwellings that is often not parallel to the street.
 - Side setbacks of 1 - 3 metres.
- Allowing development to vary the orientation and setbacks of adjoining properties and the streetscape, where it is in the Diamond Creek Garden Court 3 and 4 Precincts and in a location that is suitable for higher density housing.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Bush Garden precincts strategies

Design dwellings to have earthy tones and low hipped or split gabled roof forms.

Minimise the visibility of dwellings from the street.

Discourage front or side fences that are visible from the street, where fencing is not a feature of the streetscape.

Encourage gardens with native vegetation and predominantly indigenous trees that extend into the street space, with little or no delineation between public and private land.

Retain remnant indigenous understorey vegetation where possible and replant where appropriate.

Bush Garden precincts policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Retaining or planting native and indigenous canopy trees at a density of one tree to every 150m².
- Supporting two storey buildings where this is characteristic of the area or where it will result in a positive contribution to the character of the precinct.
- Allowing development to vary the existing pattern of orientation and setbacks of the adjoining properties and the streetscape, where the development is located in areas close to activity centres and transport routes and such variations are justifiable to facilitate higher density development.

Semi Bush precincts strategies

Site and design buildings so they either:

- Sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy.
- Sit within the topography and understorey vegetation.

Encourage the use of:

- Earth toned materials.
- Timber and rock for retaining walls.

Avoid fencing unless it is of post and wire construction.

Site and design carports and garages so they are:

- Integrated with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation.
- Hidden from public view.

Design and site driveways and access tracks:

- To follow the contours of the site to minimise gradients and the need for retaining walls.
- To minimise the impact on existing vegetation.
- Using pervious surfaces only, unless they are in a location prone to erosion.

Encourage gardens with mostly indigenous or native vegetation that flows uninterrupted to the edge of the roadway.

Semi Bush precincts policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Retaining and planting indigenous or native canopy trees at a density of one tree to every 50-100m².
- Replacing mature trees that are being removed with advanced indigenous trees.
- Replacing immature trees or understorey vegetation that are being removed with similar sized indigenous species.

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Bush precinct strategies

Maintain and enhance the bush setting where dense understorey merges into open bush gardens around dwellings and the grounds of properties are indistinguishable from the continuous bushland.

Discourage buildings that are visible above the tree canopy.

Articulate buildings to respond to sloping landforms.

Site and design buildings so they are wholly or partly obscured from the road, by either:

- Sitting above the ground amongst the tree canopy.
- Sitting within the topography and understorey vegetation.

Integrate earthy tones and mixed materials into any part of the dwelling that is visible from the road.

Avoid fencing unless it is of post and wire construction.

Site and design car storage areas so they are:

- Hidden from view.
- Integrated with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation.

Site and design driveways and access tracks:

- To follow the contours of the site to minimise gradients and the need for retaining walls.
- To minimise the impact on existing vegetation.
- Using pervious surfaces only, unless they are in a location where erosion may occur.

Bush precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Retaining or planting indigenous trees at a density of one tree to every 50-100 square metres.
- Replacing mature trees that are being removed with advanced indigenous trees.
- Replacing immature trees or understorey vegetation that are being removed with similar sized indigenous species.

Eltham Central precinct strategies

Encourage side fences that are low and of an open style.

Encourage front fences that are low and of an open style where this is a characteristic of the streetscape.

Encourage gardens with a mix of native and exotic vegetation and predominantly indigenous or native trees.

Eltham Central precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Retaining or planting substantial trees at a density of one tree to every 200m².
- Allowing development to vary the existing pattern of orientation and setbacks of the adjoining properties and the streetscape, where the development is located in areas close to activity centres and transport routes and such variations are justifiable to facilitate higher density development.

Rural precinct strategies

Site and design development so that it is wholly or partly obscured from view, including by:

- Setting buildings well back from the road.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

- Locating buildings away from natural features such as hilltops or gullies.
- Designing buildings to be generally low in form with strongly emphasised horizontals.
- Encouraging front boundaries to be heavily planted with vegetation.
- Limiting the delineation of any property boundary to a post and wire fence, while avoiding all other types of fencing.

Site and design buildings so they either:

- Sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy.
- Sit within the topography and understorey vegetation.

Site and design car storage areas so they are:

- Hidden from public view.
- Integrated with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation.

Site and design driveways and access tracks:

- To minimise the impact on existing vegetation.
- To have a discreet driveway entrance.
- Using pervious surfaces only unless they are in a location where erosion may occur.

Rural precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Retaining or planting trees at a density of one tree to every 50-100 square metres.
- Replacing mature trees that are being removed with advanced indigenous trees.
- Replacing immature trees or understorey vegetation that are being removed with similar sized indigenous species.

Settlement precinct strategies

Encourage the use of earth tones and materials in buildings, including mud-brick.

- Maintain the dominance of the commercial buildings in the main road township, with residential development recessed in the bush setting.

Site and design buildings so they either:

- Sit above the ground amongst the tree canopy.
- Sit within the topography and understorey vegetation.

Site and design car storage areas so they are:

- Hidden from public view.
- Integrated with the main dwelling unless this would require significant excavation.

Site and design driveways and access tracks:

- To minimise the impact on existing vegetation.
- To have a discreet driveway entrance.
- Using pervious surfaces only, unless they are in a location where erosion may occur.

Minimise the delineation of the front boundary between private and public property.

Avoid fencing unless it is of post and wire construction.

Encourage gardens with substantial native vegetation that flow uninterrupted to the edge of the roadway.

Settlement precinct policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Retaining or planting indigenous canopy trees at a density of one tree to every 50m²-100m².

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

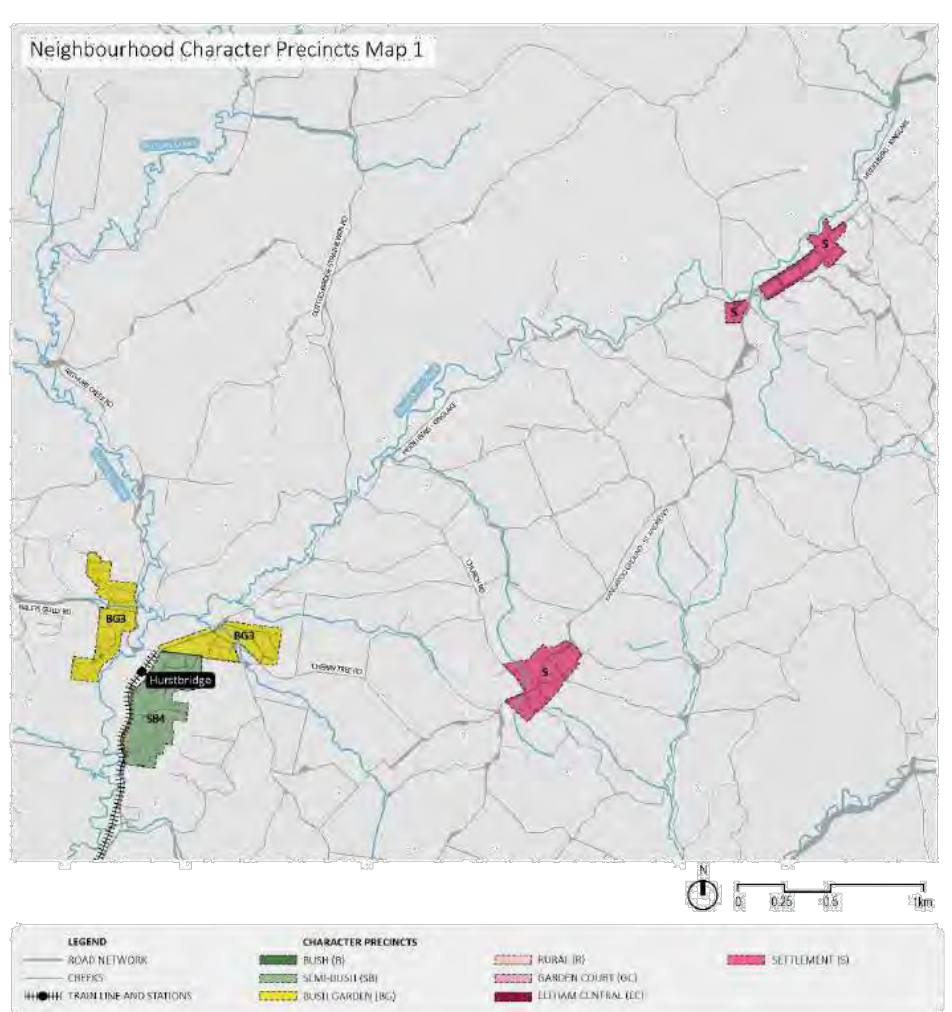
- Replacing mature trees that are being removed with advanced indigenous trees.
- Replacing immature trees or understorey vegetation that are being removed with similar sized indigenous species.

Policy documents

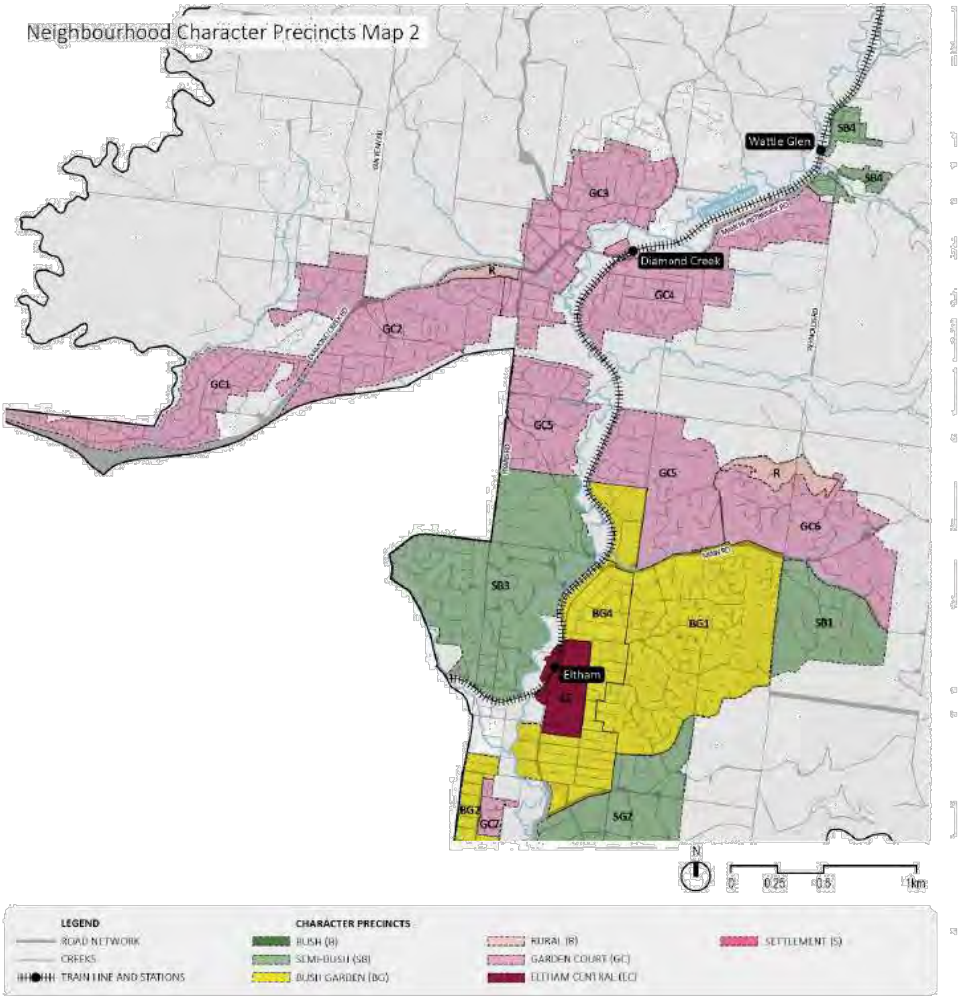
Consider as relevant:

- *Neighbourhood Character Study: Residential Design Guidelines 2001* (Planisphere and John Curtis Pty Ltd, amended 2003)

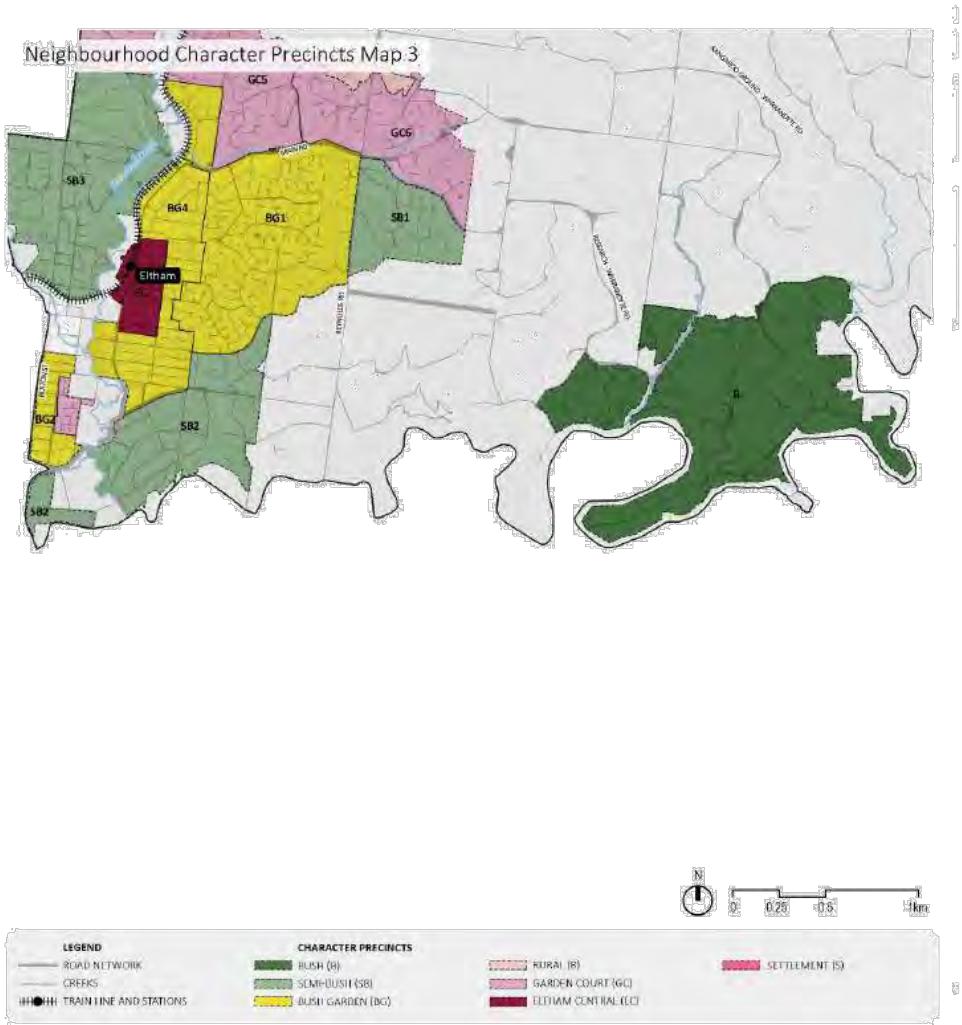
Neighbourhood character precincts plans



NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME



NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME



15.02-1L Energy and resource efficiency in Nillumbik

~~15.02-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategy

Site and design dwellings in rural areas so that living areas are located on the north facing side to provide for a northerly aspect.

16.01-1L Location of medium density residential development

— — —
C—

Strategies

Direct medium density housing to the areas identified on the major activity centre structure plans and in areas with convenient access to:

- A public transport stop on a route with frequent services.
- Public open space.
- Community facilities.
- Commercial centres.

Discourage medium density housing in areas where existing services, facilities and infrastructure are inadequate to support the scale of development.

Locate medium density housing close to the:

- Eltham Major Activity Centre.
- Hurstbridge Shopping Centre.
- Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre.
- Eltham, Hurstbridge and Diamond Creek railway stations.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Convenient access to public transport, public open space and services to be within approximately 400m.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Housing Strategy* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2001)

17.01-2L Innovation and research in Nillumbik

~~17.01-2L~~
~~C~~

Strategy

Facilitate use and development involved in environmental and agricultural research and development.

17.02-1L Business in Nillumbik

~~17.02-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Support use and development in the Diamond Creek Road Business Area (north east corner Diamond Creek Road and McLaughlans Lane, Plenty) only where it:

- Is for limited local convenience.
- Does not detract from the retail role and function of Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre.

Avoid commercial use and development in rural areas where vehicular access is limited by the presence of unsealed roads, no-through roads or other constraints to road safety or efficiency.

Facilitate the establishment of businesses that encourage the reduction of their greenhouse gas emissions.

Encourage home-based businesses that achieve environmental and social benefits, including through:

- Decreasing travel time.
- Using existing structures and resources.
- Enhancing the surrounding neighbourhood character.

17.04-1L Tourism in Nillumbik

~~17.04-1L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Facilitate the growth of tourism based on environmental and local interests such as agri-tourism or eco-tourism.

Encourage urban and rural based tourism that can be accommodated by the environmental capacity of the Shire and the locality.

Facilitate tourism development opportunities that have minimal impact on the environment and build on the cultural and physical characteristics of the green wedge.

Support tourism related use and development only where:

- It is of a scale and type that can be adequately catered for by available infrastructure services.
- It will not adversely impact on surrounding land uses.

Encourage tourism related use and development in urban areas where:

- There is safe and efficient access to main roads.
- It respects the neighbourhood and streetscape character.

Encourage tourism related use and development in rural areas where:

- There is direct access from a major road.
- It is compatible with the environmental and landscape values of the site and surrounding area.
- Access is not reliant on local roads not suited to the traffic proposed to be generated by a use.

18.02-3L Road system in Nillumbik

~~18.02-3L~~
C—

Strategies

Discourage uses, such as tourism or commercial use, in areas along local roads (especially unsealed, narrow or no-through roads), where it would attract additional vehicular movements that would:

- Result in substantial numbers of daily visitors (such as art galleries, cafes, plant nurseries, restaurants and wineries).
- Be inconsistent with existing vehicular traffic and the capacity of the road.
- Cause unacceptable detriment to the condition of the road.

Minimise direct access to properties from Yan Yean Road.

Facilitate the long term duplication of Yan Yean Road, from Diamond Creek Road to Kurrak Road.

19.02-6L Open space in Nillumbik

~~19.02-6L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Protect the environmental resource and habitat values of open space.

Develop public open spaces in accordance to the recreational needs of the local communities in the area.

Provide public open space networks within walking distance of urban residential areas.

Provide access to regional recreation facilities that meets the needs of users.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 Volume One* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)
- *Open Space Strategy* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2005)

19.03-2L Infrastructure provision in Nillumbik

~~19.03-2L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Encourage the provision of utility services to residential areas.

Limit residential and low-density residential development where existing critical infrastructure (such as sewerage, electricity, water and gas) are inadequate to facilitate the development, until such services become available.

19.03-3L Integrated water management in non-urban areas

~~19.03-3L~~
C—

Policy application

This policy applies to land in any of the following:

- The Green Wedge Zone.
- The Rural Conservation Zone.
- Lot 8 in PS415064K in the Special Use Zone - Schedule 1.
- The Low Density Residential Zone in North Warrandyte.

Strategies

Where there is no underground Council drainage system servicing a lot, encourage roof drainage to be absorbed on-site unless:

- A proper drainage system is provided.
- A permanent sealed drain replaces the on-site absorption system.

Ensure development provide sufficient areas for the on-site containment of effluent or sullage disposal generated on the site.

Discourage effluent disposal fields and systems that are unlikely to prevent effluent or sullage from entering watercourses.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Drainage of Unserviced Allotments* (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000)

19.03-4L Telecommunications in Nillumbik

~~19.03-4L~~
~~C~~

Strategies

Encourage the screening of telecommunication facilities (especially towers and poles) in rural areas, particularly in locations that are visually prominent.

Site telecommunication facilities so that biodiversity and the landscape and environmental values of rural areas are protected.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

07/02/2019
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SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 37.08 ACTIVITY CENTRE ZONE

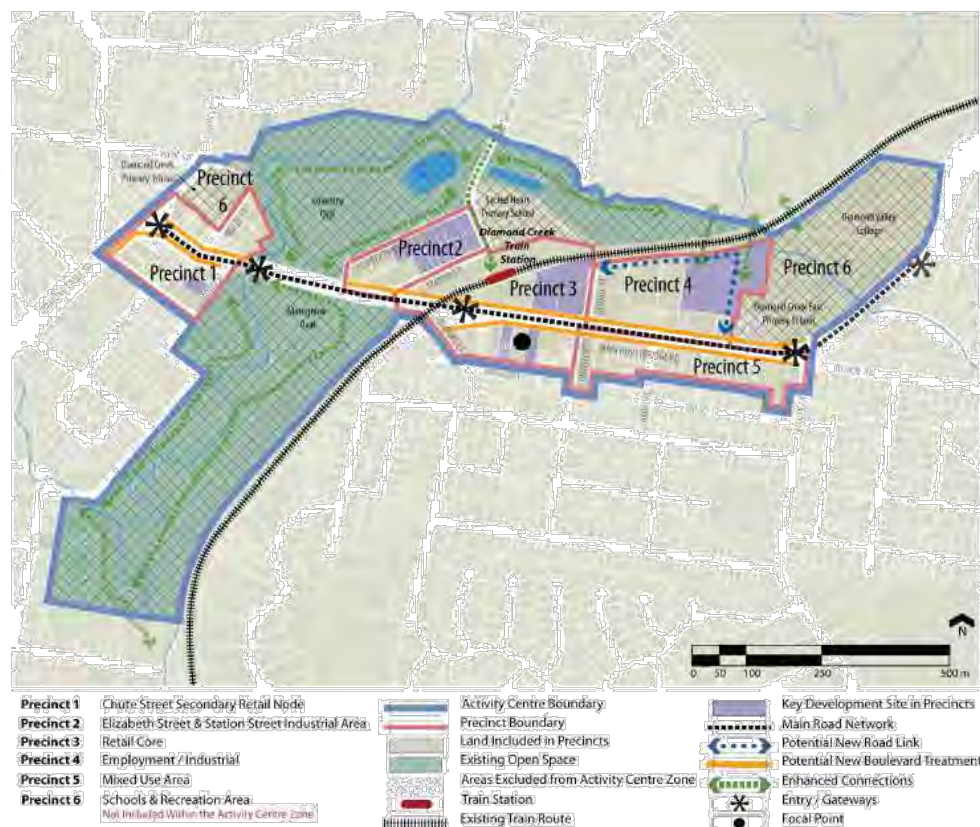
Shown on the planning scheme map as **ACZ2**.

DIAMOND CREEK ACTIVITY CENTRE

1.0

11/08/2016

Diamond Creek Activity Centre framework plan



C106

2.0

11/08/2016
C106

Land use and development objectives to be achieved

Land use

- To achieve the vision, objectives and strategies of the Diamond Creek twenty20 Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006).
- To develop shopping, services, facilities, employment and meeting places which complement those available in the regional network of activity centres and facilities.
- To expand retail floor-space to meet an increased proportion of projected demand and reduce 'escape expenditure' and travel to nearby centres.
- To develop additional higher density housing in the centre to meet projected needs and increase dwelling type diversity.
- To focus retail activity in a compact core east of the railway, on the 'landscaped civic spine' of Main Hurstbridge Road, with a retail node in Chute Street.
- To cluster community and leisure facilities in and around the centre as added attractions for the community, to meet local needs and complement retail and commercial activity.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

- To develop the landscape and road infrastructure along Main Hurstbridge Road to help integrate the retail core, improve access and create an attractive shopping environment and meeting place for the centre.
- To improve access to and integrate retail, commercial and housing development with the railway station and its surrounds.

Built form

- To retain the semi-rural township character of Diamond Creek by clustering new development and activity in existing key locations that remain visually segregated by open spaces and vegetation.
- To develop a local Diamond Creek architectural style that complements and reflects its natural landscape setting, and ensure new or redeveloped buildings are of high architectural quality appropriate to the character of the centre.
- To design new buildings with well articulated facades, roof forms, fenestration, parapet treatments and other detail and materials to provide interest at street level and reinforce the human scale of shopping areas.
- To guide development to meet the township's character with low scale buildings, roof styles that are respectful to existing buildings, materials that complement the setting and a treed landscape of predominantly local indigenous trees.
- To increase surveillance and activity in the main retail and mixed use areas with more consistent street setbacks and active retail or business frontages.
- To ensure that development sites with front, side or rear setbacks are extensively landscaped with indigenous vegetation.
- To reduce the visual dominance of car parking and ensure the design of parking and access areas is safe, practical and attractive.
- To ensure that signage, lighting and street infrastructure do not dominate the streetscape and visual clutter is minimised.

Environmental sustainability

- To improve the ecological integrity of environmental features within the centre.
- To promote sustainable development including water sensitive urban design.
- To establish energy efficient developments that are appropriate to local conditions.

Public realm

- To ensure that pedestrian routes, streets, footpaths and open spaces interact with and are overlooked by buildings.
- To develop more attractive public spaces to enhance social interaction and the image of the centre with seating, shade trees and outdoor eating.
- To incorporate references to European and indigenous heritage in the landscape and use art in public spaces.

Open space and landscaping

- To create a 'landscaped civic spine' along Main Hurstbridge Road as the connecting feature of Diamond Creek.
- To retain and develop the open spaces within the centre and the links to parkland along the nearby creek floodplain as a key feature of the centre.
-

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

To maintain the visual dominance of the well vegetated natural landscape throughout the residential, commercial and open space areas of Diamond Creek.

Movement and access

- To optimise the potential to reduce car dependency within the community by developing a network of local and regional shared paths for recreational and functional use, and by encouraging upgrades of the Hurstbridge line to increase the frequency of public transport services.
- To develop a long term plan for car-parking to ensure an adequate and sustainable supply.
- To establish the commercial and retail precincts of the township as 'pedestrian priority areas'.
- To improve access to the centre for all modes of travel, link the precincts of the town physically with clear pedestrian/cycle paths and visually with landscape treatments.
- To expand the range of public transport linking the centre and the role of the railway station as a multi-modal interchange.
- To encourage traffic development along Main Hurstbridge Road which maintains two lane/two-way traffic but provides for the potential duplication of the road after 2020 to help improve traffic flows and conditions for pedestrians and cyclists.

Land configuration and ownership

- To discourage subdivision that fragments existing land holdings and reduces development opportunities and active frontages.
- To encourage the consolidation of land to create lots of a size sufficient to accommodate the visual and amenity impacts associated with more intense development.

3.0
07/02/2019
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Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required

Use	Condition
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding)	Must be in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G or 5. Must be no more than 2 animals.
Accommodation (other than Corrective institution, Dependent person's unit, Dwelling, Residential aged care facility)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. Any frontage at ground floor level must not exceed 2 metres.
Bed and breakfast	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 no more than 10 persons may be accommodated away from their normal place of residence ▪ in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 at least 1 car parking space must be provided for each 2 persons able to be accommodated away from their normal place of residence.
Caretaker's house	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5.
Child care centre	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. Any frontage at ground floor level must not exceed 2 metres.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Cinema	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Cinema based entertainment facility	
Use	Condition
Convenience shop	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. In Precinct 1D, the leasable floor area must not exceed 150 square metres.
Crop raising	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Dependent person's unit	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E any frontage at ground level must not exceed 2 m. In Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 must be the only dependent person's unit on the lot.
Dwelling (other than Caretaker's dwelling, Bed and breakfast)	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E, any frontage at ground level must not exceed 2 m.
Education centre	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Exhibition centre	
Extensive animal husbandry	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Food and drink premises	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. In Precinct 1D the leasable floor area must not exceed 150 m2.
Home occupation	
Informal outdoor recreation	
Mail centre	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Medical centre	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. In Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 the gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 m2. In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G and 5: site must adjoin or have access to a road in a Road Zone must not require permit under clause 52.06-3.
Minor utility installation	
Office (other than Medical centre)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1D 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. In Precinct 1D the leasable floor area must not exceed 250 m2.
Place of worship	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5. The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 m2. In Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G and 5 the site must adjoin or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Railway	
Railway station	Must be in Precinct 3B or 3D. The total leasable floor area for the selling of food, drink and other convenience goods and services must not exceed 50 m2.
Residential aged care facility	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5.
Use	Condition
	In Precincts 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E, any frontage at ground level must not exceed 2 m.
Restricted retail premises	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Retail premises (other than Shop, Food and drink premises)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Service station	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4. The land must be at least 30 m from land (not in a road) which is in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5, a residential zone, or an Education centre or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a Hospital or an Education centre.
Shop (other than Adult sex bookshop, Convenience shop, Restricted retail premises, Supermarket)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 1D the leasable floor area must not exceed 150 m2. In Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> must adjoin, or be on the same lot as a supermarket when the use commences the combined leasable floor area for all shops adjoining or on the same lot as the supermarket must not exceed 500 m2 thesitemustadjoinorbewithin30mofaroadinaRoadZone.
Supermarket	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> leasablefloorareamustnotexceed1800m2 thesitemustadjoinorbewithin30mofaroadinaRoadZone.
Tramway	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet requirements of Clause 62.01.

Section 2 - Permit required

Use	Condition
Accommodation (other than Caretaker's house) if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1, 2A, 3 or 5.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Adult sex bookshop	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. Must be at least 200 m (measured by the shortest route reasonably accessible on foot) from Precinct 2, a residential zone or, land used for a Hospital, Primary school or Secondary school or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a Hospital, Primary school or Secondary school.
Agriculture (other than Animal keeping, Animal training, Apiculture, Crop raising, Extensive animal husbandry, Horse stables, Intensive animal husbandry)	
Use	Condition
Amusement parlour	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Animal boarding	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding) if the Section 1 condition is not met	In Precincts 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G and 5 must be no more than 5 animals.
Animal training	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Brothel	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Car park	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 must be used in conjunction with another use in Section 1 or 2.
Car wash	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 the site must adjoin or have access to a road in a Road Zone.
Cinema based entertainment facility	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Community market – if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Convenience restaurant – if the Section 1 condition is not met	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5, the site must adjoin or have access to road in Road Zone.
Convenience shop – if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Corrective institution	Must be in Precinct 1B, 1D, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 4 or 5.
Crop raising husbandry – if the Section 1 condition is not met	

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Education centre	In Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4 must not be a Primary or Secondary school.
Food and drink premises (other than Convenience restaurant, Take away food premises) if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Horse stables	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Hospital	Must be in Precinct 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E or 4.
Industry (other than Car wash, Materials recycling, Transfer station)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. must not be a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10
Leisure and recreation (other than Informal outdoor recreation, Major sports and recreation facility, Motor racing track)	
Mail centre	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Major sports and recreation facility	Must be in Precinct 1B, 1D, 3F, 3G or 5.
Use	Condition
Materials recycling	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E. must not be a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10
Medical centre - if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Office (other than Medical centre) if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 5.
Nightclub	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Place of assembly (other than Amusement parlour, Carnival, Cinema or Circus, Exhibition centre, Nightclub, Place of worship) if the Section 1 condition is not met	
Plant nursery – If the Section 1 condition is not met	

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Restricted retail premises – if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Retail premises (other than Food and drink premises, Shop, Plant nursery) If the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Saleyard	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Service station – If the Section 1 condition is not met	<p>In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 the site must either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5 the site must not exceed either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3000 m² ▪ 3600 m² if it adjoins on two boundaries of road in Road Zone.
Shop (other than Adult sex bookshop, Convenience shop, Restricted retail premises, Supermarket) If the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Stone extraction	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.
Store	<p>In Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G and 5 must be in a building, not a dwelling, and used to store equipment, goods or motor vehicles used in conjunction with the occupation of a resident of a dwelling on the lot.</p> <p>In Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E must not be for a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10.</p>
Use	Condition
Supermarket – If the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E.
Take away food premises – if the Section 1 condition is not met	In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G or 5, the site must adjoin or have access to road in Road Zone.
Transfer station	<p>Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.</p> <p>In Precinct 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E must not be a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10</p>
Transport terminal	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4.

NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME

Utility installation (other than Minor utility installation, Telecommunications facility)

Warehouse (other than Mail centre, Store)	Must be in Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E or 4. In Precinct 1A, 1C, 1D 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C or 3E must not be for a purpose listed in the table to Clause 53.10.
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Any other use not in Section 1 or 3

Section 3 – Prohibited

Use

Intensive animal husbandry

Motor racing track

4.0

11/08/2016
C106

Centre-wide provisions

4.1

11/08/2016
C106

Use of land

A permit is not required to use land for the purpose of local government, recreation, education, transport, police or health providing the use is undertaken by, or on behalf of, the public land manager.

4.2

11/08/2016
C106

Subdivision

An application to subdivide land, other than an application to subdivide land into lots each containing an existing dwelling or car parking space, must meet the requirements of Clause 56 and:

- Must meet all of the objectives included in the clauses specified in the following table.
- Should meet all of the objectives included in the clauses in the following table.

Class of subdivision	Objectives and standards to be met
60 or more lots	All except Clause 56.03-5.
16-59 lots	All except Clauses 56.03-1 to 56.03-3, 56.03-5, 56.06-1 and 56.06-3.
3-15 lots	All except Clauses 56.02-1, 56.03-1 to 56.03-4, 56.05-2, 56.06-1, 56.06-3, 56.06-6.

Class of subdivision	Objectives and standards to be met
2 lots	Clauses 56.03-5, 56.04-2, 56.04-3, 56.04-5, 56.08 to 56.09-2.

4.3

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C106 A permit is not required for buildings and works for railway purposes including signals (and related control buildings), new tracks, track-work and realignment, train stabling, overhead power lines, gantries, buildings and works related to railway power requirements and any work required under the Disability Discrimination Act-Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002.

In Precincts 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, 3C and 3E a permit is not required for:

- The installation of an automatic teller machine.
-

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An alteration to an existing building façade provided:

- the alteration does not include installation of an external security shutter or screen
- at least 80 per cent of the building façade at ground floor level is maintained as an entry or window with clear glazing.

- An awning that projects over a road if it is authorised by the relevant public land manager.

Construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot

In Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G and 5 a permit is not required to:

Construct or extend one dwelling on a lot of more than 300 square metres and not on common property.

Construct or carry out works normal to a dwelling

Construct or extend an outbuilding (other than a garage or carport) on a lot provided the gross floor area of the out-building does not exceed 10 square metres and the maximum building height is not more than three metres above ground level.

Construct one dependent person's unit on a lot.

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 54.

Construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings

In Precinct 1B, 3F, 3G and 5:

- A permit is not required to construct a front fence within three metres of a street associated with two or more dwellings on a lot or a residential building provided it does not exceed the maximum height specified in Clause 55.06-2.
- A development must meet the requirements of Clause 55. This does not apply to a development of five or more storeys, excluding a basement.

All buildings and works must be maintained in good order and appearance to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Transitional provisions

Despite the amendments made by Clause 55 by Amendment VC100, Clause 55 does not apply to an application under section 69 of the Act to extend a permit to construct or extend a development of four or more storeys granted on or before the approval date of Amendment VC100 (15 July 2013).

Buildings on lots that abut a residential zone

Any buildings or works constructed on a lot that abuts land which is in a General Residential Zone or Neighbourhood Residential Zone must meet the requirements of Clauses 55.04 – 1, 55.04 – 2, 55.04-3, 55.04-5 and 55.04-6 along that boundary.

4.4 Design and development

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All roofs should be pitched, gabled or hipped greater than 10 per cent.

New commercial buildings should be designed so that advertising signs are an integral part of the architecture.

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Building height

A permit cannot be granted to vary the 'Mandatory Height' provisions specified at Part 5.0 of this Schedule (where applicable).

Permit applications which seek to exceed any 'Discretionary Height' specified in Part 5.0 of this Schedule, should demonstrate that:

The objectives listed in Part 1.0 of this Schedule are satisfied, particularly those listed under Built Form, Public Realm and Open Space and Landscaping.

The objectives and guidelines of the relevant precinct, contained in Part 3.0 of this Schedule, are satisfied.

Increased setbacks are provided for landscaping which includes additional large/tall growing trees to assist in visually softening the development at street level and providing increased permeable surfaces.

Design principles are included which provide landscaping beyond the ground level and green facades.

The development substantially contributes to the appearance of the Diamond Creek Town Centre through high architectural quality appropriate to the character of the town centre.

For the purposes of this Schedule, building height excludes service equipment including plant rooms, lift overruns, solar collectors and other such equipment provided the following criteria are met:

- The features are no more than four metres above the maximum height of the building.
- The top floor area of the features is no more than 20 per cent of the floor area of the top building level.
- The equipment is located in a position on the roof so as to minimise additional overshadowing of neighbouring properties and public spaces.
- The equipment is designed, screened and finished in a non-reflective material and of a colour to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Building setbacks

Minor works including verandahs, architectural features, balconies, sunshades, screens and artworks may be constructed within the setback area specified at Part 5.0 of this Schedule, provided they are designed and located to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Basement levels should be setback so to not encroach into landscape areas.

Where the precinct provisions specify a front setback, that setback is measured from the roadside kerb.

Landscape design

Landscape design should:

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- Create private and public open space areas that are accessible, safe, attractive and functional.
- Retain established indigenous vegetation within all streets that contributes to the 'green and leafy' appearance of the area.
- Limit the removal of vegetation to the minimum required to allow the land to satisfy its development potential.
- A high standard landscape treatment should be provided in the front setback where buildings are setback from the street.

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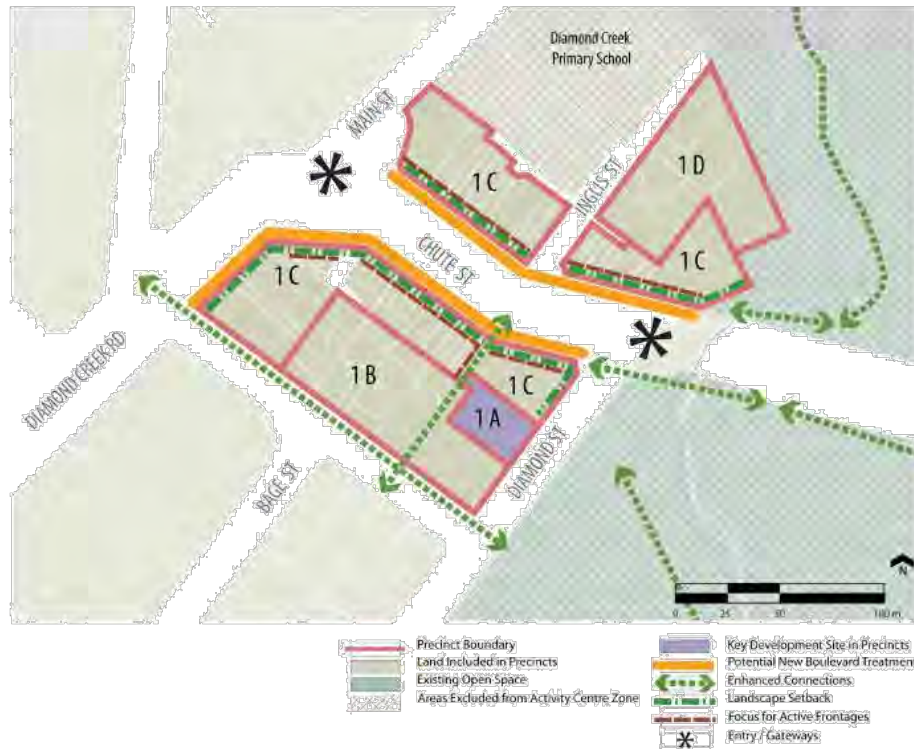
Precinct provisions

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Precinct 1 - Chute Street Retail Node

5.1-1

Precinct map



5.1-2

Precinct objectives

- To enhance the historic role and character of Chute Street as the earliest part of the town centre as a distinguishing feature and of attraction to visitors.
- To encourage buildings to step down the slope providing a link and orientation to the natural settings and leisure opportunities along the creek valley.
- To encourage the redevelopment of identified key redevelopment sites.
-

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- To create a safe, accessible and attractive pedestrian environment activated through a range of shop-fronts, cafes, places to sit and stop with established trees and other attractions.
 - To develop a strong sense of identity through a coordinated approach to building design, signage and landscape treatments.
- To encourage new buildings which will be low scale, help define the street space and allow views to the surrounding tree canopy and, in places, wider views of the valley and hills.

5.1-3

Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
1A	4 storeys (14 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
1B	4 storeys (14 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
1C and 1D	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

5.1-4

Precinct guidelines

- Use and development of non residential uses in Precincts 1B and 1D should:
 - be compatible with surrounding residential use, scale and intensity
 - generally serve local community needs
 - reflect the pattern of existing building siting and massing within the precinct.
- Develop the retail, office and entertainment activities in and around Chute Street for local convenience shopping, a range of food and restaurant outlets and professional and other office based services but little if any retail floor-space expansion.
- Encourage food and entertainment activities at 69 Main Street.
- Encourage higher density development in and around the Chute Street node.
- Encourage the redevelopment of identified key redevelopment sites.
- Industrial uses are strongly discouraged in Precinct 1B. Precincts 2 and 4 are the preferred location in the Diamond Creek Activity Centre for industry.
- Direct shopping and in particular food and entertainment activities towards the creek and open space corridor. [22 14]
- In sub-precinct 1A and 1C
 - Design new buildings with well articulated facades, roof forms, fenestration, parapet treatments and other detail and materials to provide interest at street level and reinforce the human scale of Chute Street.

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- Ensure that the facades of new buildings maintain the vertical and horizontal design rhythm of buildings along Chute Street.
- On sites with wide frontages, design facades to reflect the pattern of narrow shopfronts that exists in Chute Street.
- Provide continuous weather protection (such as cantilevered canopies/verandahs) over footpaths of properties that front to Chute Street.

On corner allotments, ensure the buildings address both street frontages with shopfront windows at street level.

Ensure that new buildings do not significantly overshadow or overlook the private open spaces and habitable windows of adjoining residential properties.

- Front fencing is strongly discouraged along Chute Street.
- Building should respond to the topography of the site with outdoor terraces that overlook the creek corridor.

In sub-precincts 1B and 1D

- Adopt consistent setback distances to adjacent buildings and seek to retain any existing vegetation along property boundaries.
- Development should be of a high quality design. Façade proportions and building articulation should be diverse in pattern to create visual interest.
- Buildings abutting the creek should provide an attractive frontage and be designed to open out towards the creek setting.
- Driveways and fencing should not dominate the front setback of the property or the streetscape.

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Precinct 2 – Elizabeth Street and Station Street industrial Area

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5.2- 1Precinct map



5.2-2 Precinct objectives

- To minimise the impacts of development on adjoining sensitive land uses.
- To create a cohesive image for the area and encourage contemporary built form responses which provide interest to the streetscape and contribute to an attractive pedestrian environment.

To emphasise the Main Hurstbridge Road frontage of this precinct with buildings which exemplify the overall character and image of Diamond Creek.

To create an indigenous and exotic vegetation planting theme within front setbacks which will link this area to the character of adjoining parklands and the station environs.

5.2-3 Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
2A, 2D and 2E	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
2B	4 storeys (14 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
2C	5 storeys (17.5 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m.

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-
- The 5th storey is to be located in the roof space only.

A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

5.2-4

Precinct guidelines

- Maintain a range of light industrial and service industries to provide local employment and services.
- Change the functions along the Main Hurstbridge Road frontage to intensify the land use and increase the amenity along this spine of the activity centre.
- Minimise the impacts of development on adjoining sensitive land uses.
- Limit convenience parking areas to front setbacks landscaped to screen parking areas.
- Developments should not provide storage areas within the frontage.
- Front fencing along the street boundary is highly discouraged.
- New developments should provide no side setbacks.
- Design office/display areas of industrial shed developments to provide an interface to the street.
- Offices should present an attractive and articulated façade to provide visual interest to the overall development and offset bulky forms to the rear.
- Offices fronting the street should be highly glazed to create a sense of surveillance.

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Precinct 3 – Retail Core

5.3-1 Precinct map



5.3-2 Precinct objectives

- To promote the creation of a public space/plaza in the centre.
- To retain the township atmosphere of this precinct while allowing opportunities for increased development on key sites.
- To link the various activities of the precinct visually and physically with contemporary building forms, public spaces and an attractive pedestrian environment.
- To create a stronger presence of built form and activity along Main Hurstbridge Road.
- To create greater economic and pedestrian connectivity between both sides of Main Hurstbridge Road.
- To create public spaces at the focal point for the Activity Centre.
- To develop the role of the station as a sustainable transport hub to provide for improved pedestrian, cycle and public transport connections.

5.3-3 Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
3A	5 storeys (17.5 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m.

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Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
	The 5th storey is to be located in the roof space only.		A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
3B and 3F	4 storeys (14.0 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
3C and 3G	4 storeys (14.0 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
3D and 3E	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

5.3-4

Precinct guidelines

- Use and development of non residential uses in Precincts 3F and 3G should:
 - Be compatible with surrounding residential use, scale and intensity.
 - Generally serve local community needs.
 - Reflect the pattern of existing building siting and massing within the precinct.
- Develop this precinct as the primary focus for retail activity in the centre.
- Generally contain retail activity within a compact pedestrian friendly core bound by the railway, Brooks Crescent, Waigo Way and Wensley Street/George Street.
- Provide new retail space through more intensive redevelopment.
- Encourage mixed use residential and office buildings north of the railway.
- Encourage progressive upgrades of railway infrastructure and the station to meet anticipated growth in demand for public transport services.
- On sites with wide frontages, design facades to reflect the existing pattern of narrow shopfronts.
- Provide continuous weather protection (such as cantilevered canopies/verandahs) over footpaths along retail frontages.
- On corner allotments, ensure the buildings address both street frontages with shopfront windows at street level.
- Design new buildings with the ground floor located at ground level to promote a strong connection with the public street space.
- Plant substantial indigenous trees where appropriate to provide shade in car parks and screen car parking areas.
- Front and side fencing is strongly discouraged.
- The use of roller shutters on shopfront windows and doors at street level is strongly discouraged.

In sub-precinct 3B, 3D and 3E (north of train line, south of Station Street)

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- Investigate redeveloping at-grade car parks for mixed use development, with replacement and additional car parking (if required) integrated below ground.

In sub-precinct 3A

- Encourage activity and surveillance oriented towards the station and railway line interface through articulated facades, habitable rooms and windows which look onto the station or railway corridor.

In sub-precincts 3B and 3F (south of Main Hurstbridge Road), 3C and 3G

- New buildings should not significantly overshadow or overlook the private open space and habitable windows of residential properties.
- If required, at-grade or deck car parking is encouraged behind developments with an emphasis on landscaping to minimise visual impact on adjoining residential areas.
- New development should be built out to the Hurstbridge Road frontage with active shopfronts at ground level.
- New development at 42 and 46 Main Hurstbridge Road should provide for the retention and improvement of the site as a local landmark building.

5.4

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Precinct 4 – Employment and industrial

5.4-1

Precinct map



5.4-2

Precinct objectives

- To encourage industrial and service industry activities to minimise off site effects on adjoining sensitive land uses.
- To maintain the 'rural periphery' setting of this section of Main Hurstbridge Road.
- To encourage an attractive and safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

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5.4-3

Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
4A	5 storeys (17.5 m). The 5th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
4B	4 storeys (14 m).	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
4C	4 storeys (14 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

5.

4-4 Precinct guidelines

- Support retail or semi-retail development that requires larger floor spaces, trade supplies or bulky goods.
- Design new buildings with ground floor street frontages to provide windows with displays and doors at the street level.
- Locate habitable spaces on upper levels along the street frontage, with windows overlooking the street or parklands/railway corridor to create a sense of surveillance.
- Locate storage yards, loading docks and large car-parking areas to the side or rear of the buildings to reduce their visual prominence.
- Locate main building entrance on street frontage so it is visible and easily recognised.
- Larger scale commercial and industrial buildings to be set in well landscaped surrounds to contribute to the rural township character of the centre.
- Provide space in front setbacks for adequate landscaping including indigenous grasses, shrubs and canopy trees and sufficient permeable surface to ensure plant growth.
- Maintain a suitable landscape buffer treatment along the eastern precinct boundary to act as a buffer to adjacent sensitive land uses.
- Minimise the number of driveway cross-overs to improve footpath safety and opportunities for on-street parking.
- If a new road is provided adjacent to the railway corridor, orient industrial activities to the railway frontage and bulky goods activities to the Main Hurstbridge Road frontage.
- All industrial sheds should include a glazed office/display component to provide an interface with the street and to assist in concealing the bulky form behind.
- Front fencing along the street boundary is strongly discouraged.

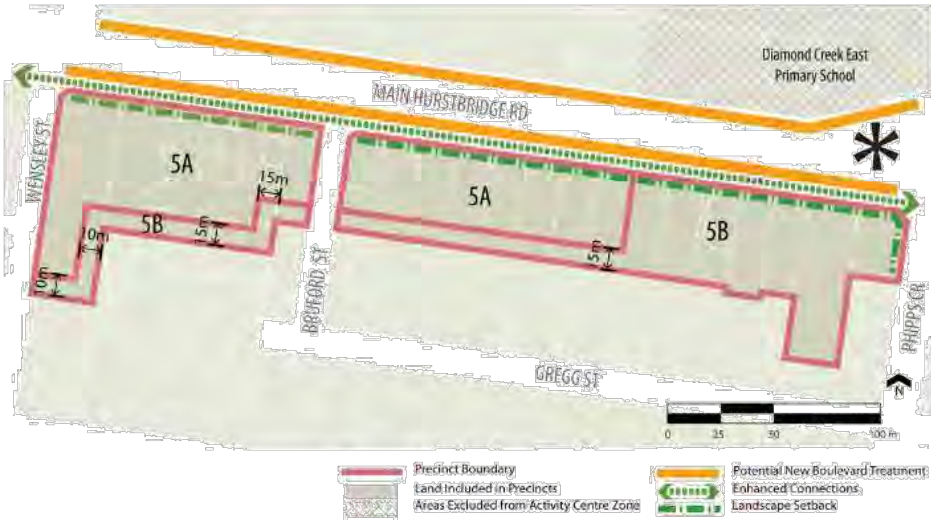
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Precinct 5 – Mixed Use Area

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5.5-1 Precinct map



5.5-2 Precinct objectives

- Encouragedevelopmentthatintegrateswith the existingcharacterof the areaand takesadvantage of the main road frontage.
- Encourage more intensive development to provide increased floor-space and efficient use of land.
- Encourage new development to present a predominantly residential appearance in respect to form, heights, set-backs streetscape and landscape.
- To create a strong presence of indigenous vegetation on the main road.

5.5-3 Precinct requirements

Sub-Precinct	Discretionary height (Excluding basement)	Mandatory height (Excluding basement)	Preferred minimum setbacks
5A	4 storeys (14 m). The 4th storey is to be located in the roof space only.	None specified.	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey (and above) setback 3 m from the first floor frontage
5B	None specified.	3 storeys (10.5 m).	Front setback 5.5 m. A 3rd storey setback 3 m from the first floor frontage

Landscaping

Development fronting ‘landscaped setback’ on the Precinct map should provide a 5.5 metre deep landscape setback to Main Hurstbridge Road.

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5.5-4 Precinct guidelines

- Encourage a mix of activities including higher density housing, office development and medical services along the Main Road frontage.
- Encourage an active street frontage at ground level.
- Upgrade streets to provide footpaths along the Hurstbridge Road edge and provide protection to pedestrians.
- Façade proportions and building articulation should be diverse in pattern, to create a visually interesting development.
- Locate car-parking areas to the side or rear of the buildings to reduce their visual prominence.
- Provide space in front setbacks for adequate landscaping including indigenous grasses, shrubs, substantial trees and sufficient permeable surface to ensure plant growth.
- Provide upper level set-backs to reduce the visual bulk of buildings when viewed from Hurstbridge Road and from adjoining residential zoned land.

Non-residential development should:

- Provide windows with displays and doors at the street level.
- Locate habitable spaces on upper levels along the street frontage, with windows overlooking the street to create a sense of surveillance.
- Locate the main building entrance on the street frontage, so that it is visible and easily recognised and provide access paths to building entrances.
- Minimise the number of driveway cross-overs to improve footpath safety and opportunities for on-street parking.
- Minimise overshadowing and overlooking of private open space and habitable windows by applying the relevant provisions of Clause 54 and Clause 55.

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Application requirements

None specified.

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Notice and review

An application to use land under Clause 37.08-2 is not exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

An application for buildings and works is not exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act if the development exceeds the 'Discretionary Height' or 'Preferred Minimum Setbacks' specified in the relevant precinct requirements contained within this schedule.

To remove any doubt, where the preferred height limit is specified in both storeys and metres, if the proposal would exceed either of those figures, then the application is not exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1) (a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65 and Clause 37.08, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

Design and built form

Whether the proposed development:

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- Provides a high standard of urban design and well designed site responsive architecture.
- Does not present a blank façade to a pedestrian activity area or street.
- Provides for appropriate setbacks which respect the siting of adjacent developments where the schedule promotes landscaped setbacks to the street frontage.
- Incorporates any signs as an integral part of the architecture. The construction and design of signs should be of a high quality and should maintain and enhance the Diamond Creek form and character.

Subdivision

Whether the subdivision is associated with a development proposal that supports the objectives promoted by this Schedule.

Access

Whether the proposed development limits the number of vehicle crossings to each development.

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Signs

Sign requirements are at Clause 52.05.

All land located within Precincts 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 4A, 4B and 4C is in Category 2.

All land located in Precincts 1B, 3F, 3G, 5A and 5B is in Category 3.

All remaining land is in Category 1.

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Other provisions of the scheme

None specified

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Reference documents

Diamond Creek twenty20 Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan (September 2006)

Nillumbik Major Activity Centres Sustainable Transport Study and Strategy, 2010

Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Car Parking Strategy, 2013

Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Design Guidelines Part A and Part B, 2014

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.08 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1.0 Background documents

—1—20—
C—

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Bridge Street Business Precinct Urban Design Framework</i> (KLM Gerner Consulting Group, 2003)	C86
<i>Climate Change Action Plan: 2010-2015</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2010)	C86
<i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part A – General Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C53
<i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Chute Street Retail Node Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C53
<i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Elizabeth Street and Station Street Industrial Area Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C53
<i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Retail Core Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C53
<i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Employment/Industrial Area Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C53
<i>Diamond Creek Town Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Mixed Use Area Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C53
<i>Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Car Parking Strategy Report</i> (GTA Consultants, 2013)	C86
<i>Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2006)	C86
<i>Drainage of Unserved Allotments</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000)	NFPS
<i>Ecologically Sustainable Development (Building, Design and Works) Policy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)	C86
<i>Eltham Activity Centre Design Guidelines Part A – General Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C51
<i>Eltham Activity Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Commercial Core Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C51
<i>Eltham Activity Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Residential Interface Design</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C51
<i>Eltham Activity Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Transport Hub Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C51
<i>Eltham Activity Centre Design Guidelines Part B – Civic Centre Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2014)	C51

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Eltham Gateway Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2013)	C77
<i>Eltham Gateway Review</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)	C77
<i>Eltham Major Activity Centre Car Parking Strategy Report</i> (GTA Consultants, 2013)	C86
<i>Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan</i> (Hassell, Essential Economics & Hyder Consulting, 2004)	C36
<i>Growing Our Arts and Culture: A Cultural Plan for Nillumbik Shire 2011-2017</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)	C86
<i>Heritage Assessments Shire of Nillumbik (Amendment C13)</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 2006)	C86
<i>Heritage Strategy: Identifying and Conserving Nillumbik's Cultural Heritage</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)	C86
<i>Housing Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2001)	C12
<i>Hurstbridge Township Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2002)	C86
<i>Integrated Water Management Strategy 2013</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2013)	C86
<i>Lower Plenty River Concept Plan</i> (Melbourne Parks and Waterways 1994)	C86
<i>The Middle Yarra Concept Plan, Burke Road to Watsons Creek</i> (State Government of Victoria, 1991)	C86
<i>Municipal Fire Management Plan 2013-2016</i> (Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, 2013)	C86
<i>Neighbourhood Character Study: Residential Design Guidelines 2001</i> (Planisphere and John Curtis Pty Ltd, amended 2003)	C86
<i>Nillumbik 2020 - A Preferred Future</i> (P Ellyard 1997)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Biodiversity Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016</i> (Nillumbik EDS Community Reference Group & Tim Nott Economic Analysis and Strategy, 2011)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan 2010-2025 Part 2: Delivering the Vision</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Major Activity Centres Sustainable Transport Study and Strategy</i> (Booz & Co, 2010)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Council Aboriginal Heritage Study</i> (Du Cros & Associates, 1996)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Review</i> (Tardis Enterprises, 2006)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study - Stage One: Vol.1 Review & Heritage Survey</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1996)	C86

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study - Stage One: Vol.2 Environmental History</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1996)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study - Stage Two</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1997)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Shire Roadside Management Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012)	C86
<i>Nillumbik Siting and Design Guidelines – Environmentally Sensitive Areas</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2000)	NFPS
<i>Nillumbik Trails Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)	C86
<i>Open Space Strategy</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2005)	C86
<i>Port Phillip and Westernport Regional Catchment Strategy 2004-2009</i> (Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority, 2004)	C86
<i>Rabbit Action Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2009)	C86
<i>Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 Volume One</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2011)	C86
<i>Recreation Strategy Issues and Options Paper Volume Two</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2010)	C86
<i>Recreation Strategy Market Research and Consultation Summary Volume Three</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2010)	C86
<i>Research Industrial Estate Development Guidelines</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 1989)	NFPS
<i>Road Management Plan Post Consultation Period</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2009)	C86
<i>Shire of Nillumbik Heritage Gap Study Framework</i> (HLCD Pty Ltd, 2009)	C86
<i>Site History and Contamination Assessment from Goldmining and Other Land Uses in Plenty River Corridor</i> (Sinclair Knight Merz & HTM History Services, 1998)	C86
<i>Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne</i> (Cam Beardsell, 1997)	C86
<i>St Andrews Township Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2013)	C86
<i>Sustainable Water Management Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2008)	C86
<i>Wattle Glen Township Strategy Sustainable Futures</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, amended 2005)	C86
<i>Weed Action Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2008)	C86
<i>Yarrambat Park Masterplan Volume 1 – Overall Park Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012)	C86
<i>Yarrambat Park Masterplan Volume 2 – Golf Master Plan</i> (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012)	C86

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Name of background document		Amendment number - clause reference
Yarrambat Park Masterplan Volume 3 – Consultation Findings (Nillumbik Shire Council, 2012)		C86

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.01 APPLICATION OF ZONES, OVERLAYS AND PROVISIONS

1.0 Application of zones, overlays and provisions

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This planning scheme applies the following zones, overlays and provisions to implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the objectives and strategies in Clauses 11 to 19:

- General Residential Zone, Residential Growth Zone or the Neighbourhood Residential Zone to residential areas.
- Low Density Residential Zone to existing low density residential areas located in North Warrandyte, the Plenty and Yarrambat corridor and around the urban edge of Eltham and Research.
- Township Zone to Hurstbridge, Pantom Hill and St. Andrews to provide for residential development and a range of commercial, light industrial and other uses in these townships.
- Industrial 3 Zone to the three established industrial areas in Diamond Creek, Eltham and Research.
- Commercial 1 Zone to:
 - Established retail areas in the Shire.
 - **The Diamond Creek Road Business Area**, a limited local convenience centre on the north east corner of Diamond Creek Road and McLaughlan's Lane, Plenty.
- Commercial 2 Zone to two areas in the Shire at the Eltham Major Activity Centre (on the western side of Main Road) and the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre (on the northern side of Main-Hurstbridge Road east of the railway crossing).
- Green Wedge Zone to land that provides for sustainable use, extensive animal husbandry and crop raising (land described as Farming in the Framework Plan).
- Rural Conservation Zone to non-urban land with environmental significance and landscape values to protect these values and promote sound management and land capability practices.
- Schedule to the Rural Conservation and Green Wedge Zones to establish varying subdivision minimums based on land classified in the Framework Plan as Conservation, Conservation Farming, Rural Conservation and Conservation Interface. The schedule specifies the outcomes unique to each of the classifications.
- Public Use Zone to areas of public infrastructure.
- Public Park and Recreation Zone to areas used as public recreation reserves.
- Public Conservation and Resource Zone to manage the use of major public reserves of significant environmental value.
- Road Zone Category 1 to proclaimed State highways and the Road Zone Category 2 to other key roads.
- Special Use Zone to:
 - Protect the unique environmental and lifestyle values of the Bend of Islands area.
 - The Heritage Golf Course at Christmas Hills.
- Urban Floodway Zone within urban areas which have the greatest risk and frequency of being affected by flooding.
- Environmental Significance Overlays to:
 - Residential and low density residential areas identified as sites of faunal and habitat significance, Yarra River environs and Plenty River environs to protect the special environmental values of these areas.

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- Identified sites of national, state and regional faunal and habitat significance, derived from the NEROC Report (Beardsell, 1997).
- Protect and enhance environmental and landscape characteristics of the Yarra River Valley environs and facilitate the objectives of the *Middle Yarra Concept Plan* (Melbourne Water, 1991).
- Protect and enhance the environmental and landscape characteristics of the Plenty River environs and facilitate the objectives of the *Lower Plenty River Concept Plan* (Melbourne Water, 1992).
- All land within 30 metres of the Diamond, Arthurs and Watsons Creeks to protect existing vegetation, stream banks and improve water quality.
- Significant Landscape Overlay to:
 - Townships, low-density residential areas and parts of Eltham to encourage the retention of the treed nature of these areas and achieve the preferred future character of the areas, as identified in the Shire of Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Study 2000.
 - Low density residential areas in North Warrandyte and around Eltham that will protect the environmental and landscape character of the area.
 - Bushland residential areas that will protect the environmental and landscape character of the area.
- Heritage Overlay to identify, protect and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance.
- Design and Development Overlay to:
 - the Eltham Gateway to encourage the retention of the treed nature of this area and guide development.
 - Locations in Plenty and Yarrambat where land capability, infrastructure sequencing, environmental significance and preferred design outcomes influence future residential development.
- Schedule to the Design and Development Overlay for designated areas in Yarrambat, to incorporate considerations in the Yarrambat Local Structure Plan, May 1993 and Yarrambat Extension Area Local Structure Plan, September 1996.
- Schedule to the Design and Development Overlay for designated residential areas in Plenty, to incorporate considerations in the Plenty Valley Environmental Living Area Outline Development Plan, March 1992 (including setting minimum lot sizes) and the Plenty Valley Environmental Living Area Siting and Design Guidelines, June 1991.
- Design and Development Overlay to the Hurstbridge and St Andrews Townships to encourage the retention of the historic and rural character of the Township and guide development.
- Schedule to the Design and Development Overlay to incorporate considerations in the Hurstbridge Design Guidelines Heidelberg-Kinglake Road (Main Road) Precinct, 2013 and the St Andrews Township Guidelines, April 2012.
- Development Plan Overlay to:
 - A low density residential area in Plenty and to land along the Plenty Gorge to specify requirements over the future development of these areas, including land capability, infrastructure sequencing, environmental significance and preferred design outcomes which encourage a coordinated approach to development.
 - The Kangaroo Ground commercial precinct to specify requirements over the future development of the area.
 - Yarrambat where they assist in the coordinated provision of services to new residential and low density residential areas.
 - Land in the Diamond Creek North Area A and Diamond Creek Area B
- Land Subject to Inundation Overlay to areas affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other flood prone area determined by Melbourne Water.

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- Special Building Overlay to urban areas identified by Melbourne Water that are liable to inundation by overland flows from the urban drainage system.
- Bushfire Management Overlay to areas of high bushfire risk.
- Public Acquisition Overlay to land identified by an authority for the purposes of acquiring public open space, notably Yarra Valley Parklands, Plenty Gorge Metropolitan Park and the Diamond Creek Linear Open Space Link.
- Environmental Audit Overlay to areas identified as potentially contaminated with concentrations of arsenic, cyanide or mercury, as a result of past gold mining activity.
- Restructure Overlay to three old and inappropriate subdivisions at Rankin Street in Panton Hill, Fawkner Crescent in Hurstbridge and Smiths Gully Road in Smiths Gully.
- Development Contributions Plan Overlay to require development contributions applying to the development of the areas known as Diamond Creek North, Areas A, and B and the Plenty Low Density Area, west of Yan Yean Road and south of Kurrak Road, Plenty.
- Schedule to Clause 52.01 to specify:
 - An open space provision of 5% in Diamond Creek North Areas A and B.
 - An open space contribution of 7.9% of site value for the Plenty Low Density Area.

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.02 FURTHER STRATEGIC WORK

1.0 Further strategic work

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- Identify:
 - Opportunities for medium density and more diverse housing that meet community needs particularly in the context of an ageing population. This should be undertaken through structure planning in identified activity centres.
 - And protect significant landscapes and vistas in the rural areas as an outcome of the Green Wedge Management Plan.
- Review:
 - The stock of vacant residential land supply and demand.
 - The strategy documents for Hurstbridge and Wattle Glen.
 - Implementation mechanisms to identify and ensure appropriate development including signage controls in township entrances and gateways.
 - The quality, extent and visual impact and effectiveness of signage in industrial, commercial and gateway precincts as part of structure planning for activity centres, to allow businesses to effectively promote their presence, products and activities.
 - Policy relating to industrial areas.
 - Policy relating to medium density housing.
 - Policy relating to the siting and design for building and works in non-urban areas
 - Planning controls including Planning Policy Framework and the application of zones and overlays as an outcome of the Green Wedge Management Plan.
 - The Yanakie Farm Domestic Pet Policy, upon implementation of the Warrandyte to Kinglake nature conservation link.
 - The Open Space Strategy.
 - The ESO1 boundaries and schedule to improve mapping and identification of significant environmental sites, threatened vegetation communities and species and habitat links.
 - The ESO1 schedule to clarify the need for information such as a flora and fauna assessment, proposed revegetation/landscaping, identification and control of weed species and ongoing management of the site.
 - The coverage of ESO4 waterways to consider inclusion of additional significant waterways such as running creek and Deep Creek in Arthurs Creek, Pigeon Bank Creek and Stony Creek in Kangaroo Ground/North Warrandyte.
 - The *NEROC Report* (Beardsell, 1997).
 - The LSIO, UFZ and SBO as new information becomes available.
 - Planning Policy to incorporate bushfire considerations into the Planning Scheme.
 - The Environmental Audit Overlay in relation to identification of sites of potential contamination.
- Complete:
 - The Heritage study review.
 - The Industrial Areas Audit.

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- Revise objectives relating to energy efficiency rating in accordance with State Government legislation.
- Investigate application of energy rating systems to alternative building materials such as mud brick.
- Finalise a disability access policy and develop and implement a disability access action plan.
- Undertake further strategic work on township entrances and gateways.
- Prepare and implement a Green Wedge Management Plan.
- Develop strategies to link subdivision design and the development of activity centres that encourage walking, cycling, public transport and reduce car dependency.

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2020 Local government elections

Nillumbik Shire Council

Election Report





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(Victorian Electoral Commission)
April 2021

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Acknowledgement of Country

The Victorian Electoral Commission pays respect to Victoria's traditional owners and their elders past and present who have been custodians of this country for many thousands of years. Their living culture and their role in the life of Victoria is acknowledged by the VEC.

Letter of Transmittal

19 April 2021

Mr Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer
Nillumbik Shire Council
PO Box 476
GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

Dear Mr Cowie

Pursuant to Regulation 83 of the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020, I submit this report to the Chief Executive Officer of Nillumbik Shire Council on the general election held in October 2020.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Warwick Gately', with a stylized, cursive script.

Warwick Gately AM
Electoral Commissioner

Nillumbik Shire Council

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Nillumbik Shire Council

Introduction

The Victorian local government general elections are held every four years as defined by the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) (**LG Act**). In 2020, general elections were held for 76 of the 79 Victorian councils¹ with Saturday 24 October marking election day. In accordance with section 263(1) of the LG Act, the Victorian Electoral Commission (**VEC**) is the statutory election service provider for the conduct of local government elections in Victoria.

This report provides information on the 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election including details of the end-to-end service delivery of electoral activities throughout the election timeline. This report also provides details of post-election items including compulsory voting enforcement.

About the Victorian Electoral Commission

The VEC is an independent statutory authority established under the *Electoral Act 2002* (Vic) (**the Electoral Act**). The VEC's principal functions are to conduct State elections, local government elections, certain statutory elections and polls, commercial and community elections, and to support electoral representation processes for local councils and the Electoral Boundaries Commission for State electoral boundaries. The VEC is also responsible for maintaining the Victorian register of electors and administering political funding and donation disclosure laws. The VEC has a mandated role to conduct electoral research, provide communication and education services, and inform and engage Victorians in the democratic process.

Warwick Gately AM is the appointed Electoral Commissioner and Liz Williams is the appointed Deputy Electoral Commissioner. The Electoral Commissioner and Deputy Electoral Commissioner report to the Victorian Parliament in relation to the VEC's operations and activities.

The Electoral Commissioner heads the VEC's Executive Management Group that comprises the Deputy Electoral Commissioner, the Executive Director, Corporate Services and seven Directors, each leading the main functional areas of the VEC. Each Director acts as subject matter experts within their legislative responsibilities under the LG Act and the Electoral Act.

The VEC has a dedicated local government election program which is managed by Katrina Collins and incorporates a range of programs, projects and activities that are supported through strategic planning, project management, and process mapping. The program is overseen by the VEC's Planning Group and has sponsorship from the Executive Management Group.

¹ The South Gippsland Shire Council was placed into administration in mid-2019. The Council's general election has been postponed until October 2021. Casey City Council and Whittlesea City Council were placed into

administration in early 2020. The Councils' general elections have been postponed until October 2024.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Key changes

Changes in legislation

The new LG Act received royal assent on 24 March 2020 and introduced a number of changes, some requiring immediate implementation and others to be implemented progressively. Those requiring immediate implementation had a significant impact on the 2020 local government election program.

Following the LG Act completing its passage through Parliament, the VEC implemented the necessary changes to the 2020 local government election program in response to the reforms as they applied to the elections.

The key changes from the LG Act are as follows:

Local government electoral structures	<p>The default electoral structure for all local councils is single-councillor wards, although some regional and rural local councils may be unsubdivided or divided into wards with equal numbers of councillors in each ward.</p> <p>The VEC is no longer responsible for conducting electoral representation reviews of all local councils in Victoria.</p> <p>An independent Local Government Electoral Representation Advisory Panel will review council electoral structures. The panel includes the Electoral Commissioner and other members appointed by the Minister for Local Government.</p>
Voting system	<p>The voting system (attendance or postal) is set by the Minister for Local Government.</p> <p>All local council elections are conducted according to the same voting system.</p>
Enrolment and voters' rolls	<p>Non-resident property owners need to apply to be enrolled (this change will be implemented in stages leading up to the 2024 local government elections).</p> <p>Amendments to the voters' roll are completed by the VEC only (excluding Melbourne City Council).</p>
Candidate qualifications	<p>It is compulsory for local government candidates to complete mandatory training prior to nominating for local government elections.</p>
Nominations/candidate statements	<p>When nominating, candidates are required to declare they have completed the mandatory Local Government Candidate Training.</p> <p>The maximum number of words for a candidate statement was increased to 300 (350 for the Melbourne City Council Leadership Team and Councillor Groups).</p>
Election staff	<p>The term 'Election Manager' replaced 'Returning Officer' making the term consistent with the <i>Electoral Act 2002</i>.</p>
Extraordinary vacancies	<p>The VEC will fix the timeline for local council by-elections (previously fixed by the Minister).</p> <p>Changes to the countback process which now draws on a broader pool of ballot papers to determine the successful candidate at a countback.</p>
Compulsory voting	<p>From the 2024 local government general elections onwards, it will be compulsory for everyone enrolled on a voters' roll to vote.</p>

Nillumbik Shire Council

The LG Act made other changes to the local government electoral landscape, including:

- operational and technical provisions for electoral matters are now prescribed in the Regulations rather than being contained in the LG Act.
- disputed election results are now heard by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

On 8 May 2020, the Minister determined² all of the 2020 general elections would be held by postal voting. As such, the VEC adjusted preparations in response to the Minister's determination.

In addition, new Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020 (**the Regulations**) came into operation on 13 July 2020.

Response to public health crisis: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

In response to the coronavirus (**COVID-19**) global pandemic, a State of Emergency was declared in Victoria on 16 March 2020. While the VEC was well advanced in planning for the elections, some uncertainty arose due to speculation that the elections could be rescheduled.

Following the Local Government Minister's confirmation on 15 May 2020 that the 2020 local government elections would proceed, the VEC's operating model was adjusted to deliver a compliant election while meeting health, safety, social distancing and hygiene obligations to voters, election staff, councils, candidates and all other stakeholders.

On Wednesday 1 September 2020, the Governor in Council made amendments to the regulations to allow certain provisions to be varied in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the amendments allowed the VEC to determine an appropriate method for eligible candidates to lodge their nomination form and pay their nomination fee electronically; and to allow the Election Manager to determine the maximum number of scrutineers that may be present for any activity at any one time. The amended regulations commenced the day after

they were made and remain in place until 26 April 2021.

On 29 September 2020, the Governor in Council made further changes to the Regulations to provide greater clarity of mitigation options for any disruptions to the voting timeline, including delays across the postal network that could threaten the integrity of the elections. The changes allowed the Electoral Commissioner to alter the last day of voting and/or the extended postal vote receipt deadline if necessary, to maintain and protect election integrity.

The VEC developed a COVIDSafe Election Plan³ in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services which complemented the VEC's Service Plan. The COVIDSafe Election Plan outlined the VEC's actions and strategies to deliver safe and compliant local government elections.

The plan considered all electoral operations and activities and included changes such as (but not limited to):

- acquiring larger election office spaces to accommodate social distancing practices
- moving operations from face-to-face to online (when legislation permitted), for example:
 - the VEC's briefing meetings with individual councils
 - the candidate information sessions
- modifying the timeline for ballot paper extraction and counting activities
- modifying scrutineer practices.

The VEC acknowledges the collaboration and contributions of council officers in navigating the changes required to the program due to COVID-19.

² The Minister published this decision in the Government Gazette on 18 May 2020

³ 'VEC COVIDSafe election plan' - <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/about-us/publications/local-council-election-reports-and-plans>

Nillumbik Shire Council

Election dates

The key timelines that applied to the 2020 local government elections were as follows.

Deadline fixed by the VEC for council primary enrolment data	Monday 13 July 2020
Close of roll	4 pm Friday 28 August 2020
Opening of the election office to the public	Wednesday 16 September 2020
Certification of the voters' roll and opening of nominations	Thursday 17 September 2020
Close of nominations	12 noon Tuesday 22 September 2020
*Ballot draw	From 1 pm on Tuesday 22 September 2020
*Deadline for lodging candidate statements, photographs and questionnaires	12 noon Wednesday 23 September 2020
*General mail out of ballot packs to voters	Tuesday 6 October to Thursday 8 October 2020
*Close of voting	6 pm Friday 23 October 2020
Day prescribed as Election Day	Saturday 24 October 2020
*Close of extended postal vote receipt period	12 noon Friday 30 October 2020
Declaration of election results	No later than Friday 13 November 2020

*Dates with asterisks relate to contested elections only.

Nillumbik Shire Council

About Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council is comprised of seven councillors elected from single-councillor wards.

The electoral structure was last reviewed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* through an electoral representation review in 2019. The VEC recommended that Nillumbik Shire Council continue to consist of seven single-councillor wards.

The recommended structure was accepted by the Minister in April 2020.

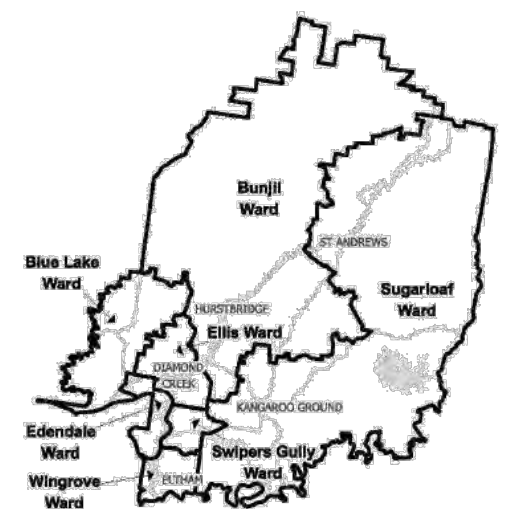


Figure 1: The electoral structure of Nillumbik Shire Council at the general election held on 24 October 2020.

Voters' roll

The VEC prepared the voters' roll for the election under section 8(2)(c) of the Electoral Act and in accordance with section 249 of the LG Act. The close of roll for the election was 4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020. Pursuant to section 249(4) of the LG Act, the VEC certified the voters' roll on Thursday 17 September 2020.

At certification, the voters' roll for the 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election included 48,101 enrolled voters.

Composition of the voters' roll

The LG Act specifies that the voters' roll for a local government election is formed by combining two separate lists of voters.

1. The Electoral Commissioner's list (EC list) – List of State electors that are enrolled within that local government area.
2. The Chief Executive Officer's list (CEO list) – List of council-entitled voters.

Refer to **Appendix 1** for a breakdown of the Nillumbik Shire Council general election voters' roll.

Amendments to the voters' roll

In accordance with section 250 of the LG Act, the VEC is able to amend any error or omission in the preparation, printing or copying of the voters' roll, or correct any misnomer or inaccurate description of any person, place or thing on the voters' roll. Following the passage of the LG Act, amendments to the voters' roll are to be certified by the VEC. All voters added to the roll were issued with a ballot pack. Where a voter was deleted from the roll after the mail-out of ballot material, the VEC had systems in place to ensure that returned ballot papers from the deleted voters could be identified and excluded from the extraction and count. Where roll amendments were required, the total number of voters on the roll was updated.

Following the close of roll, the VEC made two amendments to the voters' roll, both deletions.

Advertising and communication campaign

State-wide advertising

The VEC delivered a state-wide advertising campaign to maximise public awareness and participation amongst all eligible voters. Campaign activities and consistent messaging were delivered across two phases – enrolment and voting – and through multiple traditional and emerging mediums, including radio, digital and social media, and offline/outdoor advertising.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Statutory advertising

The VEC published a series of statutory notices throughout the election as required by the LG Act. The notices included critical information relevant to each milestone of the election timeline.

For the 2020 general election, Nillumbik Shire Council did not nominate newspapers for the statutory notices.

In 2020, the VEC established a new policy position for statutory advertising in alignment with the updated definition of 'publish' in the LG Act. The policy position included the following:

- all statutory and non-statutory election advertising would be published on the VEC website, and
- where available, all statutory and non-statutory election advertising would be published in local newspapers and/or other selected newspapers identified following consultation with the council.

Refer to **Appendix 2** for further information in relation to the statutory advertising.

VEC website

The VEC provided council specific information regarding the election on its website under the '2020 local council election' page. The VEC website went live for the local government elections in early August 2020. Whilst some council specific data remained static during the election, the website was regularly updated with content relevant to the election and at each key milestone such as close of roll, nominations, voting and results.

Media liaison

An online media webinar was held on Friday 21 August 2020. The webinar could be downloaded or accessed at a later time for those who were unable to participate live. The media briefing summarised the planning and timeline for the 2020 local government elections, and also provided a specific update in relation to the availability of election results in light of COVID-19.

Media outlets were provided with a media information booklet that outlined the election timeline and key messages, and provided the VEC's head office media contacts. The VEC's

communication team supported each Election Manager as the primary media spokesperson in relation to each election.

The VEC's media liaison program principally featured staged media releases aimed to highlight key milestones during the election timeline, and capitalise on existing general news coverage. More information on the VEC's media release schedule is available at **Appendix 3**.

Social media campaign

As part of its state-wide advertising campaign, the VEC used paid promotions on social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat and WeChat, targeting voters through audience segmentation.

This advertising was supported by a defined timeline of organic social media posts on the VEC's channels, designed to cover each of the key messages of the communication campaign to further extend the reach to the community and promote conversation about the democratic process.

VEC VoterAlert advisories

Electors on the State enrolment register are able to sign up to the VEC's free SMS or email alert service VoterAlert, to receive reminder messages pertinent to elections that affect them. They can subscribe to receive SMS messages only, email only, or both SMS and email.

During the general election, the VEC used its VoterAlert service to send the following direct messages to those State-enrolled voters on the roll for the election.

The messages were rolled out in the following schedule:

Wednesday 19 August to Wednesday 26 August 2020 – 34,717 VoterAlert messages were sent by SMS and email reminding voters to enrol or update their details by the close of roll.

Friday 9 October to Friday 13 October 2020 – 35,280 VoterAlert messages were sent by SMS and email advising that the VEC had commenced posting ballot packs.

In mid-October, the VEC commenced sending its final VoterAlert – a reminder to post ballot packs by the voting deadline. Whilst approximately 900,000 of the 1.8 million voters scheduled to

Nillumbik Shire Council

receive an alert were contacted it was identified that an unanticipated high volume of calls was received by both the VEC and councils as a result of the alert. Therefore, the VEC suspended the VoterAlert messages scheduled for the remaining 900,000 voters.

More information on the VEC's VoterAlert advisories is available at **Appendix 4**.

Voter engagement

The VEC delivered an extensive voter engagement program. The program sessions were implemented throughout Victoria and were specific to local demographics. Please refer to **Appendix 5** to view the full list of initiatives for the 2020 local government elections. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the VEC's programs traditionally offered through face-to-face education and engagement were redesigned to comply with health, safety, social distancing and hygiene obligations.

Blind and low vision services

Braille and large print ballot material was available to blind and low vision voters who had registered for these products by 5 pm on Tuesday 15 September 2020.

The VEC received and processed requests for one large print ballot material for Nillumbik Shire Council.

The Election Manager did not receive any requests for braille ballot material for the election.

Interpreting services

The VEC engaged the Victorian Interpreting and Language Services' Language Link to provide a telephone interpreting service for telephone enquiries from voters who had a first language other than English. The VEC advertised direct lines for 20 languages other than English and a general line for all other languages.

Telephone enquiry service

A local telephone enquiry service was provided at the election office from Wednesday 16 September 2020 until the close of voting, for enquiries regarding the election.

The local telephone enquiry service was supplemented by an overflow call centre at the

VEC's head office. The overflow call centre received calls made directly to the VEC's head office line (131 VEC, 131 832 or +61 3 8620 1100 for callers outside of Australia) and diverted calls from the election office when the election office lines were at capacity. Additionally, email enquiries were received and processed through info@vec.vic.gov.au.

The types of calls that are typical during an election relate to:

- voting entitlements and compulsory voting obligations
- enrolment questions
- ballot pack had not been received
- ballot material was spoilt or destroyed, so replacement ballot material was required
- a voter advising that they were overseas or interstate
- queries regarding the content of the ballot pack.

A breakdown of the daily number of calls received by the telephone enquiry service and the overflow call centre in respect to the election is available at **Appendix 6**.

Election Manager

The VEC maintains a pool of trained senior election officials located across the state to fill election management roles for State and local government elections. Election-specific training is provided to senior election officials prior to each election management appointment.

The size of the election management team appointed for the conduct of an election is based on the size of the council. As required under the LG Act an Election Manager is appointed to conduct the election and is supported by one or more Assistant Election Managers for larger councils, or a senior election official for smaller councils.

In accordance with section 3 of the LG Act, the Electoral Commissioner appointed Doug Hocking as the Election Manager for the 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election.

Nillumbik Shire Council

The appointed Assistant Election Managers were Kerrie Laing and Michael Delahunt.

Election office

The Election Manager was responsible for the establishment and management of the election office located at Unit 7/256 Bolton Street, Eltham. The election office premises were provided by the VEC.

In accordance with the VEC's COVIDSafe election plan, the election office was open to the public by appointment only. The election office was available for appointments from Wednesday 16 September until Friday 23 October 2020 between 9 am and 5 pm. Opening hours were extended on Thursday 22 October (9 am to 8 pm) and Friday 23 October (9 am to 6 pm) to allow for final enquiries and the hand-delivery of ballots prior to the close of voting. Enquiries regarding the election were also managed by phone.

Candidates

Nominations for the election opened at 9 am on Thursday 17 September and closed at 12 noon on Tuesday 22 September 2020. Candidates were required to lodge their nomination forms in person at the election office. A \$250 nomination fee applied.

On Wednesday 9 September 2020, the Electoral Commissioner published a determination⁴ establishing a framework for prospective candidates who were prevented from attending the election office due to health directions regarding COVID-19 under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. The determination outlined provisions for electronic lodgement of the nomination form and nomination fee for affected candidates.

Candidate information

The VEC developed a suite of resources that were accessible to prospective candidates prior to the nomination period. From early September, candidates were able to access the VEC's information about the process of nominating and becoming a candidate for the election. The VEC's online *Candidate Helper*, accessible via the VEC

website, went live on Thursday 3 September 2020. The *Candidate Helper* enabled candidates to pre-complete their nomination form and other forms online before lodging them with the Election Manager.

For the 2020 elections, the VEC's candidate information session was recorded and available for online streaming from the VEC website. The session was complemented by three state-wide interactive seminars consisting of a panel from the VEC's leadership and executive teams.

Nominations

At the close of nominations, 79 candidates had nominated for election to council.

The following is a breakdown of candidate nominations per ward:

- Blue Lake Ward – eight nominations
- Bunjil Ward – 13 nominations
- Edendale Ward – 10 nominations
- Ellis Ward – three nominations
- Sugarloaf Ward – 16 nominations
- Swipers Gully Ward – 11 nominations
- Wingrove Ward – 18 nominations

Ballot draws to determine the order in which the names would appear on the ballot paper were held at the election office following the close of nominations using the VEC's computerised ballot draw application.

See **Appendix 7** for the list of candidates in ballot draw order.

Candidate statements and photos

In accordance with Regulation 39 of the Regulations, candidates were able to lodge a 300 word statement and submit a recent photograph for inclusion in the ballot packs sent to voters. The deadline for the submission of candidate statements and photographs was 12 noon on Wednesday 23 September 2020.

⁴ VEC 2020 Determination No.1 - Nominations from candidates impacted by COVID-19 Public Health Directions in respect to local government elections -

<https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/about-us/legislation/determinations>

Nillumbik Shire Council

See **Appendix 7.1** for a breakdown of submitted statements and photos, and **7.2** for the sample website version product.

Candidate questionnaires

In accordance with Regulation 43 of the Regulations, candidates were able to complete and lodge their answers to a set of prescribed questions in addition to a statement and photograph. The Election Manager accepted questionnaire submissions lodged by 56 of the 79 candidates at the election.

The completed questionnaires were accessible to voters on the VEC website or by contacting the election office.

Voting

Redirection of ballot packs

The Regulations provide that a voter may – no later than the day the roll is certified (or a later date if specified by the Election Manager under Regulation 22(2)(f) of the Regulations) – make a request in writing to the Election Manager to have their postal ballot envelope redirected to another address. For the 2020 elections voters had until Thursday 17 September to submit requests for redirection.

The Election Manager received six requests for redirection of ballot packs for the election.

Early votes

A voter may request an early postal ballot envelope (early vote) prior to the general mail out of ballot packs. The Election Manager processes the request and issues the early vote if the request is assessed as reasonable. Requests for early votes could be processed from Wednesday 23 September 2020, the day after nominations closed, until the commencement of the general mail out of ballot packs on Tuesday 6 October 2020. Due to the timing of early votes, some early voters may not have had access to the candidate statements, photographs or questionnaires.

Due to the impact that COVID-19 restrictions had on election services for the 2020 elections, requests for early votes were managed by appointment.

The Election Manager did not receive any early vote requests for the election.

Mail-out of ballot packs

The VEC mailed 48,100 ballot packs between Tuesday 6 October and Thursday 8 October 2020. See **Appendix 8** for a breakdown of the packs mailed out on each day during the general mail-out, noting that ballot packs were not mailed to any voters that had passed away between the close of the roll and generation of the mail-out file.

In accordance with Regulation 49(3) of the Regulations, no more than 35% of ballot packs were mailed or delivered to voters on any one day during the mail out period. All ballot packs were lodged with Australia Post under the priority paid delivery timetable.

The VEC liaised closely with Australia Post during the mail out period to confirm that ballot packs had been delivered to voters. The VEC received confirmation that all ballot packs had been delivered to delivery addresses by Wednesday 14 October 2020.

During the voting period, 546 ballot packs were returned to the election office by Australia Post as return-to-sender mail. Most of this mail was due to the addressee not residing at the address.

Election office counter services

In order to safeguard the health and wellbeing of voters and VEC personnel in the COVID-19 environment, the VEC did not provide an over-the-counter replacement or unenrolled vote service at election offices in the Metropolitan Melbourne region (including Mitchell Shire Council) for the elections. Similar restrictions were initially imposed on election offices in Regional Victoria and were relaxed in the final weeks of voting. Voters were advised to request replacement or unenrolled ballot material by phone, which was sent to them by post.

Unenrolled votes

Unenrolled votes are issued to people whose name cannot be found on the voters' roll but who claim they are entitled to vote at the election. The unenrolled ballot pack includes a declaration that is signed by the applicant and assessed by the Election Manager prior to either admitting or disallowing the vote.

Nillumbik Shire Council

The Election Manager issued six unenrolled votes and following relevant checks, four were admitted to the count.

Replacement ballot packs

Following the general mail-out of ballot packs, a voter who claimed that their ballot pack had not been received, or had been lost, spoilt or destroyed, could apply to the Election Manager for a replacement ballot pack. Requests for replacement ballot packs within metropolitan councils were processed and fulfilled at the election office then lodged at the local postal facility. In order to assist in the mail turnaround time for regional councils, the VEC established a centralised postal vote issuing service at head office. Replacement vote requests were processed at the election office and fulfilled and lodged with Australia Post from the VEC in Melbourne.

The Election Manager issued 494 replacement ballot packs across all wards during the voting period. Please refer to **Schedule 1** for further information on replacement ballot packs issued.

Return of ballot paper envelopes

Voters were provided with a priority reply-paid envelope for the return of their ballot paper envelope containing their completed ballot paper. The return mail was delivered to the election office from local postal facilities or mail distribution centres. Voters who chose to hand-deliver their vote to the election office were able to do so by placing their ballot paper envelope containing their completed ballot paper into ballot boxes located at the election office. The ballot boxes allowed voters to drop off their ballot envelopes without interaction with staff, therefore remaining compliant with a COVIDSafe election⁵.

As ballot paper envelopes were returned, they were progressively checked by the election management team to ensure they had been signed by the voter. Additionally, processes were in place to ensure that only one returned ballot from any one voter could proceed to the extraction and count.

The Election Manager received a total of 33,769 returned ballot paper envelopes across all wards

by the close of voting at 6 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.

The Regulations provide that the Election Manager can accept returned ballot paper envelopes up until 12 noon on the Friday following the close of voting, if satisfied that the ballot paper envelope was completed by the voter prior to the close of voting. The Election Manager accepted 9,577 ballot paper envelopes across all wards during the extended postal vote receipt period.

The total returned ballot paper envelopes for Nillumbik Shire Council was 43,346.

The Election Manager set aside 849 returned ballot paper envelopes that were not admitted to the extraction and counting process due to the voter not having signed the declaration envelope or, in the case of unenrolled declaration votes, an entitlement was not found for the person, or the declaration envelope was not returned with the vote.

Refer to **Schedule 1** for the total certified record of ballot papers and declaration envelopes across all wards.

Results

Extraction

A total of 42,497 ballot paper envelopes were admitted to the extraction process.

The extraction of ballot papers occurred at the election office commencing on Monday 26 October. The extraction of all admitted ballot paper envelopes was completed on Wednesday 4 November, following the close of the extended postal vote receipt period.

The extraction process involved separating the declaration flaps containing voters' details from each admitted ballot paper envelope, and then extracting the ballot papers from the envelopes. This two-stage process maintains anonymity and ensures the number of envelopes is tracked for ongoing reconciliation.

Any returned ballot paper envelopes found not to contain a ballot paper, or that contained more

⁵ 'VEC COVIDSafe election plan' - <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/about-us/publications/local-council-election-reports-and-plans>

Nillumbik Shire Council

than one ballot paper, were required to be rejected and could not be counted. There were 90 returned ballot paper envelopes rejected during the extraction activity.

Following the extraction of ballot papers from the ballot paper envelopes, a total of 42,407 ballot papers proceeded to the count.

Manual count

Ballot papers for all wards were counted manually using the preferential method of counting at the Election Office following the extraction of ballot papers.

The provisional results were published to the VEC website as they became available. Results were updated as finalised⁶ once declarations had taken place.

For a breakdown of the first preference results by ward, refer to **Appendix 9**.

Recounts

At any time before a candidate is declared as elected, a recount may be initiated by the Election Manager or requested in writing by a candidate stating the reasons for their request. Such requests are assessed by the Election Manager supported by the VEC and either accepted or declined.

The Election Manager received one request for a recount for Blue Lake Ward, and one request for a recount for Bunjil Ward. Neither proceeded to the recount process as there was no critical margin and all operational processes were followed.

Declaration of results

The declaration of results was scheduled later than at previous elections, due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on extraction and counting timelines. As per the Service Plan, the latest date for all results declarations to have been completed was Friday 13 November 2020.

The results of the 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election were declared at 3.30 pm on Friday 6 November 2020 at the Election Office, Unit 7/256 Bolton Street, Eltham.

The VEC website was updated following the declaration to reflect the elected candidates from the election.

Election statistics

Participation

Participation is measured by the number of marks on the roll as a percentage of the total enrolment and can vary from turnout. The overall participation rate in the Nillumbik Shire Council election was 89.86%, which is higher than the State average of 84.12% (excluding Melbourne City Council) and higher than the 82.95% rate at the 2016 Nillumbik Shire Council general election.

Analysis of voter participation for the different enrolment categories shows that participation is higher for voters who are enrolled on the EC's List (90.68%) compared to voters enrolled on the CEO's List (57.97%).

Refer to **Appendix 10** for further information on participation, including a breakdown by enrolment category.

Turnout

Voter turnout is measured by the number of formal and informal ballot papers counted in the election as a percentage of voters on the voters' roll for the election.

The overall voter turnout for the 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election was 88.16%. This is compared to the State average turnout of 81.47% (excluding Melbourne City Council). The voter turnout at the 2016 general election for council was 80.97%.

Informality

The overall informal voting rate recorded at the 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election was 3.59%, compared with the State average of 4.76%. An informality rate of 3.67% was recorded at the Nillumbik Shire Council general election held in October 2016.

⁶ A preference distribution report can be found at [2020 council election results | Victorian Electoral Commission \(vec.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.VEC.vic.gov.au/council-election-results).

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Complaints

Type of complaints

At local government elections, complaints generally fall into two broad categories:

1. The conduct of participants in the election.

Complaints about the conduct of candidates and other participants in the election, at times alleging a breach of the LG Act or local laws.

2. The administration of the election.

Complaints about the conduct of the election and services to voters.

The majority of complaints at the 2020 local government elections related to category one, often where the complainant alleged inappropriate or illegal action by another person or group associated with the election.

Complaints process

The VEC operates a streamlined complaints process during elections, developed in consultation with local councils and enforcement agencies. The process requires complaints to be lodged in writing, and they are then processed through the VEC's head office. For the 2020 local government elections, customers were able to provide feedback and complaints through an online submission form on the VEC's website.

Each complaint is evaluated, and an appropriate course of action is determined. Complaints alleging a breach of the LG Act, for example, are forwarded to the Local Government Inspectorate (LGI). Complaints relating to local laws are referred to council. Complaints about the VEC's services or the behaviour or actions of VEC staff and election officials are the responsibility of the VEC. In these cases, the VEC investigates the matter and determines the most appropriate response. The VEC committed to responding to each complaint within five working days, however due to the unanticipated high volume of complaints received this extended in some instances.

Complaints received

The VEC received 43 written complaints relating to the election for Nillumbik Shire Council. Please see **Appendix 11** for a description of complaints received by the VEC.

Post-election activities

Storage of election material

All records from the election will be kept by the VEC safely and secretly in accordance with Regulation 79 of the Regulations.

Refund of nomination fees

Nomination fees were refunded to eligible candidates on Thursday 10 December 2020. Eligible candidates included elected candidates or those who received at least 4% of the first preference vote. Any forfeited nomination fees were remitted to Council on 10 December 2020.

Courts and tribunals

The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) is responsible for hearing disputes on the validity of an election under section 311 of the LG Act.

Applications for a review of the declaration of the results of an election must be lodged within 14 days of the election and can be made by a candidate in the election, 10 persons who were entitled to vote at the election, or the VEC.

There were no applications to the VCAT disputing the result of the Nillumbik Shire Council general election.

Non-voter follow up

In accordance with section 267 of the LG Act, the VEC has commenced its compulsory voting enforcement program. Any person who was required to vote at the election and failed to vote will be issued with an Apparent Failure to Vote Notice. Apparent non-voters have 28 days in which to respond.

People who do not respond to that notice, or do not provide a satisfactory response to the notice, may be issued with an Infringement Notice that will incur a penalty. Further follow-up by way of a Penalty Reminder Notice may also take place – this stage includes the original penalty and a Penalty Reminder Notice fee. Penalties collected on behalf of council will be reimbursed at the end of the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notice stages.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Additionally, during the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notice stages, non-voters may request for their matter to proceed directly to the Magistrates' Court.

Any such requests will be actioned at the conclusion of the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notice stages. The VEC will lodge the file of any remaining non-voters with Fines Victoria at the conclusion of the Penalty Reminder Notice stage.

Evaluating the VEC's services

The VEC is committed to providing high quality election services to its local government clients. Through the VEC's formal feedback and debriefing program, the VEC is able to gauge its performance and seek advice for future local government election projects.

Feedback from councils

The VEC invited feedback from councils on its services in December 2020 and acknowledges the receipt of feedback provided by Nillumbik Shire Council. Additional feedback can be provided to the Program Manager for Local Government elections by emailing LGProgram2020@vec.vic.gov.au.

Internal debriefing program

After every electoral event, the VEC conducts an internal debriefing program which includes input from all areas across the VEC's workforce. Internal debriefing following the local government elections commenced in December 2020. In due course, the VEC will publish a consolidated report on its performance and key statistics from the elections. This report will be tabled in Parliament and available on the VEC website.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Schedule 1: Record of ballot papers and declaration envelopes

Nillumbik Shire Council Blue Lake Ward election

BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED

Victorian Electoral Commission	8,250
Election Manager	0
Total	8,250

BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED

General mail out	7,254
Early and replacement votes	58
Unenrolled declaration votes	2
Spoilt	0
Sub total	7,314
Unused	936
Total	8,250

DECLARATIONS RETURNED

General mail out admitted to the extraction	6,302
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	26
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	1
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	148
Declarations returned to sender	64
Sub total	6,541
Declarations not returned	773
Total	7,314

Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council Bunjil Ward election

BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED

Victorian Electoral Commission	8,250
Election Manager	0
Total	8,250

BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED

General mail out	6,574
Early and replacement votes	88
Unenrolled declaration votes	0
Spoilt	0
Sub total	6,662
Unused	1,588
Total	8,250

DECLARATIONS RETURNED

General mail out admitted to the extraction	5,751
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	49
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	0
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	100
Declarations returned to sender	88
Sub total	5,988
Declarations not returned	674
Total	6,662

Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council Edendale Ward election

BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED

Victorian Electoral Commission	8,250
Election Manager	0
Total	8,250

BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED

General mail out	7,270
Early and replacement votes	82
Unenrolled declaration votes	0
Spoilt	0
Sub total	7,352
Unused	898
Total	8,250

DECLARATIONS RETURNED

General mail out admitted to the extraction	6,450
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	28
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	0
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	138
Declarations returned to sender	72
Sub total	6,697
Declarations not returned	655
Total	7,352

Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council Ellis Ward election

BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED

Victorian Electoral Commission	8,250
Election Manager	0
Total	8,250

BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED

General mail out	6,804
Early and replacement votes	71
Unenrolled declaration votes	0
Spoilt	0
Sub total	6,875
Unused	1,375
Total	8,250

DECLARATIONS RETURNED

General mail out admitted to the extraction	5,904
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	32
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	0
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	127
Declarations returned to sender	92
Sub total	6,155
Declarations not returned	720
Total	6,875

Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council Sugarloaf Ward election

BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED

Victorian Electoral Commission	8,250
Election Manager	0
Total	8,250

BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED

General mail out	6,391
Early and replacement votes	75
Unenrolled declaration votes	1
Spoilt	0
Sub total	6,467
Unused	1,783
Total	8,250

DECLARATIONS RETURNED

General mail out admitted to the extraction	5,610
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	32
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	0
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	98
Declarations returned to sender	73
Sub total	5,813
Declarations not returned	654
Total	6,467

Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council Swipers Gully Ward election

BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED

Victorian Electoral Commission	9,250
Election Manager	0
Total	9,250

BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED

General mail out	7,297
Early and replacement votes	66
Unenrolled declaration votes	1
Spoilt	0
Sub total	7,364
Unused	1,886
Total	9,250

DECLARATIONS RETURNED

General mail out admitted to the extraction	6,458
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	35
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	1
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	116
Declarations returned to sender	95
Sub total	6,705
Declarations not returned	659
Total	7,364

Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council Wingrove Ward election

BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED

Victorian Electoral Commission	8,250
Election Manager	0
Total	8,250

BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED

General mail out	6,510
Early and replacement votes	54
Unenrolled declaration votes	2
Spoilt	0
Sub total	6,566
Unused	1,684
Total	8,250

DECLARATIONS RETURNED

General mail out admitted to the extraction	5,776
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	31
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	2
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	122
Declarations returned to sender	62
Sub total	5,993
Declarations not returned	573
Total	6,566

Nillumbik Shire Council

Schedule 2: Certification statement

In accordance with Regulation 77, I certify that Schedule 1 of this report on the conduct of the 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council local government election is a true and correct account of the number of ballot papers issued, returned and not used in this election and declarations not returned.



Warwick Gately AM
Electoral Commissioner

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 1: Breakdown of the voters' roll

Nillumbik Shire Council	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	46,895
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	1,206
Total	48,101
Blue Lake Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	7,104
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	150
Blue Lake Ward election total	7,254
Bunjil Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	6,422
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	152
Bunjil Ward election total	6,574
Edendale Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	7,168
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	102
Edendale Ward election total	7,270
Ellis Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	6,586
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	218
Ellis Ward election total	6,804
Sugarloaf Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	6,208
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	183
Sugarloaf Ward election total	6,391

Nillumbik Shire Council

Swipers Gully Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	7,157
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	141
Swipers Gully Ward election total	7,298
Wingrove Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	6,250
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	260
Wingrove Ward election total	6,510

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 2: Statutory advertising

Nillumbik Shire Council election schedule of public notices

Close of roll notice (see Appendix 2.1 for example)

VEC Website

8 August 2020

Notice of election (see Appendix 2.2 for example)

VEC Website

31 August 2020

Voting details notice (see Appendix 2.3 for example)

VEC Website

28 September 2020

Reminder notice (see Appendix 2.4 for example)

VEC Website

12 October 2020

Notice of result (see Appendix 2.5 for example)

VEC Website


23 November 2020

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 2.1: Close of roll notice for Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council postal election

Your council, your vote



Nillumbik
The Green Wedge Shire

You must be enrolled to vote

A general election will be held for Nillumbik Shire Council in October 2020. To be able to vote in the election, you must be enrolled by the close of roll at 4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020. Two categories of voters can be enrolled to vote in the Nillumbik Shire Council election: State-enrolled voters and Council-enrolled voters.

State-enrolled voters

Am I enrolled to vote?

You are automatically enrolled for this election if:

- you will be 18 years of age or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 AND
- you live in Nillumbik Shire AND
- you are on the State electoral roll for your current address.

You need to enrol if:

- you are an Australian citizen aged 18 or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 AND
- you live in Nillumbik Shire and you are not on the State electoral roll OR
- you have lived at your current residential address within Nillumbik Shire for at least a month and have not yet updated your enrolment details, including any changes to your postal address.

How do I enrol?

You can enrol online at vec.vic.gov.au

You can also download an enrolment form from the website. All enrolment applications must be received by the Victorian Electoral Commission by the close of roll at 4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020.

How can I check my State enrolment?

You can check your enrolment details online at vec.vic.gov.au at any time, or call 1800 801 478.

Council-enrolled voters

Am I enrolled to vote?

To be a Council-enrolled voter, you must be:

- 18 years of age or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 AND
- not a State-enrolled voter within Nillumbik Shire.

You are automatically enrolled for this election if you were enrolled as a non-resident owner at the most recent election for your local area. This includes any by-elections held since the last general election.

If your circumstances have changed since the most recent election and you are no longer a non-resident owner of that property, you will not be automatically enrolled for this election. Depending on your circumstances, you may still be eligible to apply to be enrolled as a Council-enrolled voter.

Who else can enrol & vote?

You may also apply to enrol if:

- you have purchased a rateable property in Nillumbik Shire since the last election or by-election and you are not automatically enrolled OR
- you are not an Australian citizen and you live in, and pay rates for, a property within Nillumbik Shire OR
- you pay rates on a property you occupy in Nillumbik Shire, for example you are a shop tenant and pay rates to the Council for the tenancy, and you have no other voting entitlement within Nillumbik Shire OR
- you are a director or company secretary of a corporation that pays rates to Nillumbik Shire Council and you have no other voting entitlement within Nillumbik Shire.

How do I apply to be a Council-enrolled voter?

If you meet any of the mentioned criteria and wish to enrol, contact Nillumbik Shire Council on (03) 9433 3296 for a council enrolment form. Council enrolment forms must be received by the Council by the close of roll at 4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020.

How can I check if I am Council-enrolled?

You can check your enrolment details by contacting the Council on (03) 9433 3296.

Thinking about standing for election?

Candidate requirements have recently changed. To nominate as a candidate for Nillumbik Shire Council, you must:

- be an Australian citizen and enrolled on the voters' roll for Nillumbik Shire Council AND
- be eligible to become a councillor should you be elected AND
- have completed the mandatory candidate training before lodging your nomination with the Election Manager.

For further information, visit vec.vic.gov.au

Enrolment closes
4 pm Friday 28 August




State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at vec.vic.gov.au


vec.vic.gov.au | 131 832

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• Arabic 1800 0111 Arabic • Bengali 0800 0111 Bhojpuri • Chinese 0800 0111 Cantonese • Hindi 0800 0111 Croatian • Gujarati 0800 0111 English • Farsi 0800 0111 French • German 0800 0111 Greek • Hebrew 0800 0111 Italian • Japanese 0800 0111 Korean • Malayalam 0800 0111 Marathi • Nepali 0800 0111 Persian • Polish 0800 0111 Punjabi • Romanian 0800 0111 Russian • Serbian 0800 0111 Slovenian • Spanish 0800 0111 Tagalog • Thai 0800 0111 Turkish • Urdu • Vietnamese • All other non-English languages 0800 0111

Authorised Rep. W. Corrig, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 930 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.



Victorian Electoral Commission

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 2.4: Reminder notice for Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council postal election

Your council, your vote



Check the mail for your ballot pack

Ballot packs containing voting material were mailed to enrolled voters from Tuesday 6 October 2020.

This is a postal election only.

If you do not receive your ballot pack by **Friday 16 October 2020**, please call (03) 8619 1457 during office hours to arrange a replacement.

How to vote correctly

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number 1 in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number **ALL** the other boxes in order of your choice. You must number **EVERY BOX** and only use each number once.

How to return your completed ballot paper

Follow the instructions on your ballot paper to complete your vote. To return your completed ballot paper, put it in the ballot paper envelope then use the reply-paid envelope provided or hand-deliver it during office hours to:

Unit 7/256 Bolton Street, Elkhart

Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for all voters who were on the State roll at 4 pm on **Friday 28 August 2020**.

You may be fined if you do not vote — this includes homeowners and tenants. You are encouraged to vote, but you will not be fined if you don't vote, if:

- you live outside this local council area OR
- you are enrolled directly with the Council to be on the voters' roll for this election.

Your completed ballot pack must be in the mail or hand-delivered by 6 pm* Friday 23 October

*Local mail clearance times vary. Ballot packs must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Don't risk a fine.

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at vec.vic.gov.au

vec.vic.gov.au | (03) 8619 1457

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• Arabic 0200 0118 Arabic • Bengali 0200 0118 Bengali • Cantonese 0200 0118 Cantonese • Croatian 0200 0118 Croatian • Dari 0200 0118 Dari • English 0200 0118 English • Farsi 0200 0118 Farsi • French 0200 0118 French • German 0200 0118 German • Greek 0200 0118 Greek • Hindi 0200 0118 Hindi • Indonesian 0200 0118 Indonesian • Italian 0200 0118 Italian • Japanese 0200 0118 Japanese • Korean 0200 0118 Korean • Macedonian 0200 0118 Macedonian • Malay 0200 0118 Malay • Marathi 0200 0118 Marathi • Nepali 0200 0118 Nepali • Persian 0200 0118 Persian • Polish 0200 0118 Polish • Portuguese 0200 0118 Portuguese • Punjabi 0200 0118 Punjabi • Romanian 0200 0118 Romanian • Russian 0200 0118 Russian • Serbian 0200 0118 Serbian • Sinhala 0200 0118 Sinhala • Spanish 0200 0118 Spanish • Tagalog 0200 0118 Tagalog • Thai 0200 0118 Thai • Turkish 0200 0118 Turkish • Vietnamese 0200 0118 Vietnamese • All other non-English languages 0200 0118

Authorised by VEC, Chief, AEC, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

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Facebook Twitter Instagram

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix 2.5: Notice of results for Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council election

Declaration of results



The following candidates were elected to the Nillumbik Shire Council at the general election held in October 2020:

Blue Lake Ward	Sugarloaf Ward
STOCKMAN, Richard	RAMCHARAN, Ben
Bunjil Ward	Swipers Gully Ward
EGAN, Karen Jane	EYRE, Frances
Edendale Ward	Wingrove Ward
DUFFY, Natalie	PAINE, Geoff
Ellis Ward	
PERKINS, Peter	

Further details about the results are available at vec.vic.gov.au

Doug Hocking
Election Manager
Friday 6 November 2020

vec.vic.gov.au | 131 832

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Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 3: Schedule of media releases and advisories

Nillumbik Shire Council Council-specific media releases and advisories

Enrol now for the Nillumbik Shire Council election	7 August 2020
Call for candidates for the upcoming Nillumbik Shire Council election	24 August 2020
Candidates announced for the Nillumbik Shire Council election	23 September 2020
Ballot packs mailed this week for Nillumbik Shire Council election	5 October 2020
Voting closes soon for the Nillumbik Shire Council election	12 October 2020
New councillors for Nillumbik Shire Council	6 November 2020

Statewide media releases and advisories

Victorians urged to enrol for upcoming council elections	7 August 2020
October local council elections to proceed under COVIDSafe election plan	19 August 2020
Last chance to enrol for Victorian council elections	21 August 2020
Enrolment closes tomorrow for October's council elections	26 August 2020
Nominations open soon for Victorian local council elections	31 August 2020
Council election information one click away on VEC website	4 September 2020
Accessing candidate information for the 2020 Victorian local council elections	14 September 2020
Victorian voters encouraged to sign up for free election reminders	16 September 2020
Nominations are in for the October council elections	23 September 2020
Authority granted for postal vote contingency	30 September 2020
Voting underway for Victoria's local council elections	5 October 2020
Mobile numbers not from VEC	12 October 2020
Local council elections voting deadline looms	19 October 2020
Strong voter response to local council elections	20 October 2020
Results timeline for Victorian local council elections (media advisory, not for publication)	21 October 2020
Final day of voting shows high voter turnout for council elections	23 October 2020
VEC won't risk public health for quick results in record turnout	28 October 2020
A win for democracy in a challenging year	13 November 2020
Didn't vote in the election? Please explain.	8 February 2021

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 4: VoterAlert advisories

Appendix 4.1: SMS alerts

4.1.1 close of roll – sent from Wednesday 19 August to Wednesday 26 August 2020



Council elections will be held by post in October. Make sure you are correctly enrolled by 4pm 28 Aug. More info or unsubscribe at: <https://voteralert.vec.vic.gov.au/s/tohMhA5I>

4.1.2 mail out of ballot pack Friday 9 October to Friday 13 October 2020



VEC has posted a ballot pack to your enrolled address. Voting in council elections is compulsory. More info or unsubscribe at: <https://voteralert.vec.vic.gov.au/s/ufDvSR07>

4.1.3 reminder close of voting - Monday 19 October 2020

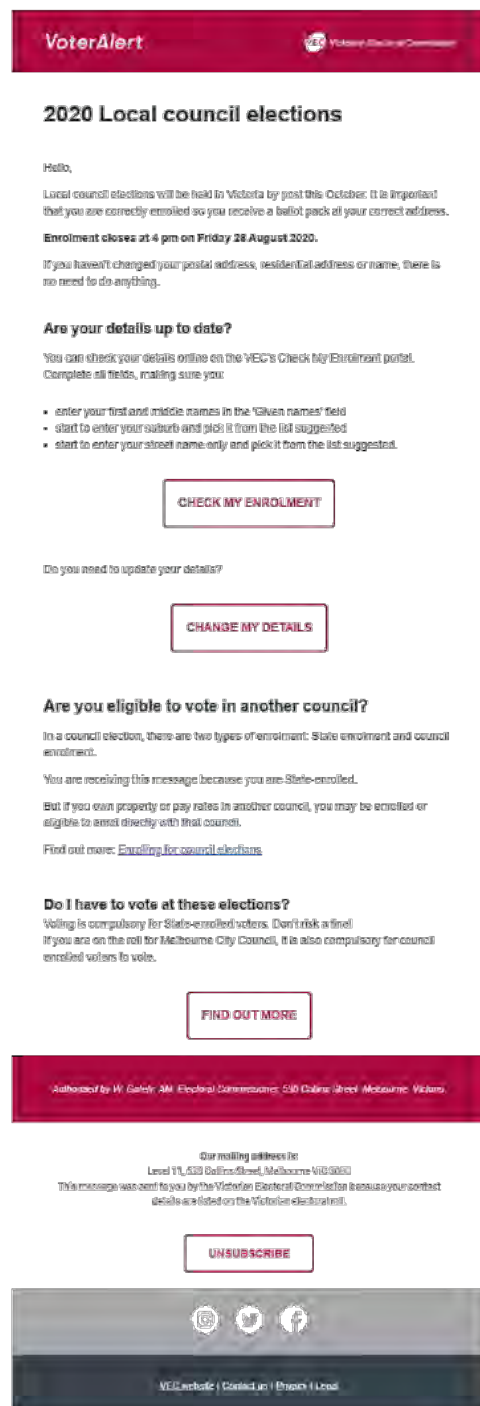


Council elections: voting closes 6pm Friday. Post your vote or return it to your election office ASAP. More info or unsubscribe: <https://voteralert.vec.vic.gov.au/s/usSUBkIM>

Nillumbik Shire Council

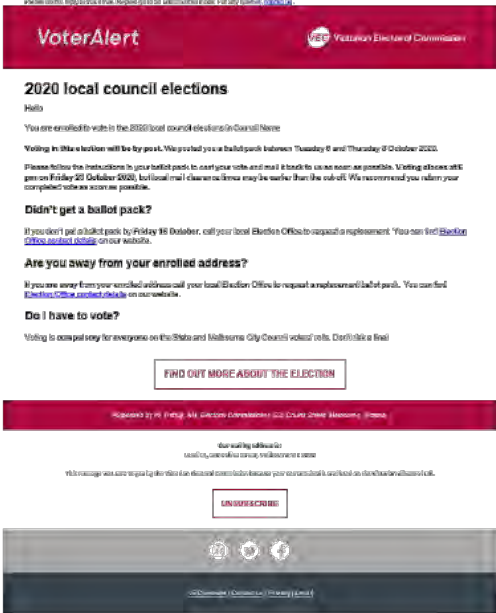
Appendix 4.2: Email alerts

4.2.1 Close of roll email



Nillumbik Shire Council


4.2.2 Ballot Pack mailout email



Nillumbik Shire Council

4.2.3 Last week to vote email

Please do not reply to this email. Replies go to an unmonitored inbox. For any queries, [contact us](#).

VoterAlert Victorian Electoral Commission

2020 local council elections

Disregard this email if you have already voted.

Hello

You are enrolled to vote in the 2020 local council elections in Council Name Council.

Voting closes 6 pm this Friday 23 October.

How to vote

As soon as possible, make sure you:

mail your completed ballot paper in the reply-paid envelope provided

OR

drop your completed ballot paper off at [your local Election Office](#).

Please note: voting closes at 6 pm on Friday 23 October. However, local mail clearance times vary and we recommend you return your completed vote as soon as possible.

Didn't get a ballot pack?

If you haven't received a ballot pack, [check our website to understand your options](#).

Do I have to vote?

Voting is compulsory for everyone on the State and Melbourne City Council voters' rolls. Don't risk a fine!




[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ELECTION](#)

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 630 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Our mailing address is:
Level 14, 630 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3008

This message was sent to you by the Victorian Electoral Commission because your contact details are listed on the Victorian electoral roll.

[UNSUBSCRIBE](#)



[VEC website](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Legal](#)

Nillumbik Shire Council

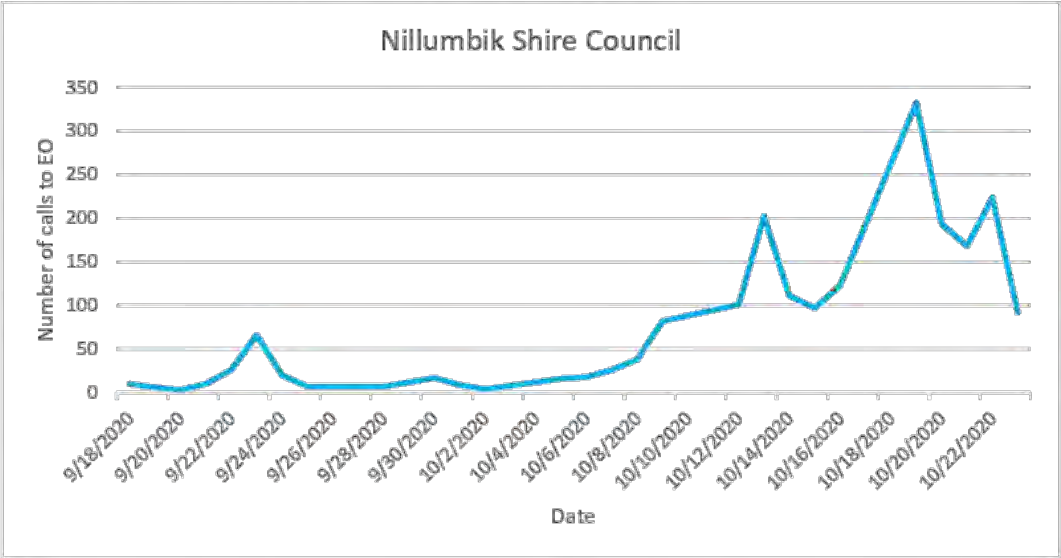
Appendix 5: Voter engagement program and initiatives

Program	Program Details
Be Heard Democracy Ambassador program	This program normally provides face-to-face electoral education sessions and was adapted to an online delivery model, providing peer-led electoral education to residents in specialist disability services and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. A total of 47 sessions were provided to people with disabilities and a total of 80 sessions were provided to CALD communities through councils and community organisations hosting online sessions.
Myth busting campaign.	This offline campaign addressed myths around enrolling and voting for those experiencing homelessness or with unstable housing. Four myths were dispelled and displayed on billboards and street posters, in metropolitan Melbourne areas with high populations of people experiencing homelessness. During the enrolment period, no-fixed-address enrolment forms were distributed with 4,500 meals to those suffering financial hardship, through a sponsorship with StreetSmart. This partnership included social media and Electronic Direct Mail distribution to StreetSmart's database of homeless services and community partners. A 1800 freecall number was also established to support those with financial hardship to provide support for enrolling and voting. This phone number was advertised on posters distributed through homelessness agencies, drug and alcohol services and services providing COVID-19 testing in hotels.
CALD in-language social media videos.	This project produced a series of three videos in 10-12 different languages which provided electoral information on how to enrol, how to vote by post, and how to respond to an Apparent Failure to Vote Notice. These were widely distributed and shared through the VEC's social media platforms and community networks.
Aboriginal short videos.	This project produced five videos in collaboration with Reconciliation Victoria. Two videos featured Aboriginal Elders and other leading Aboriginal community members discussing the value and ways to engage with local council elections. A further three videos, using culturally relevant animation, explained what services councils are responsible for, how to vote and the role of a councillor. These were shared through Aboriginal community channels and organisations.
DemGraphics young people co-designed social media project.	This project involved conducting research to identify barriers to enrolling and voting with a diverse group of young people. This information was then used to pilot a social media campaign in selected councils to encourage engagement in the elections for those aged 18-29.
Easy English tutor guide and worksheets.	These were produced for people with low English proficiency and designed as a co-read product where a person supports the learner through the worksheets. The tutor guide and worksheets were based on the VEC's Easy English guides for local council elections and were available for download from the VEC's website in PDF and Word formats.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 6: Daily telephone enquiries

The following graph shows the number of telephone calls recorded by the election office telephone enquiry service including those received by the VEC's overflow call centre and tagged as relating to Nillumbik Shire Council during the 2020 local government elections.



Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7: Final list of candidates in ballot paper order

Nillumbik Shire Council election

The candidates, in ballot paper order, were as follows:

Blue Lake Ward election

FARLEY, Susan

BULLOCK, Jennifer

GUY, Pamela

HENDERSON, Anna

GRIFFITHS, Peter

STOCKMAN, Richard

BROOKER, Grant

WOODHOUSE, Bruce

Bunjil Ward election

GRAHAM, Hannah

SIMPSON, Sue

EGAN, Karen Jane

PENROSE, Bill

VAN HULSEN, Anika

ROSENHAIN, Sue

MULLINS, Steve

WALLACE, James

HUNTER, Sarah

TIBBETTS, Carol

VEERMAN, Brian

NELSON, Melanie

DOVILE, Tania

Nillumbik Shire Council

Edendale Ward election

SINCLAIR, Stuart

HALL, Colin

O'SHANNASSY, Michael

McCLINTOCK, Jason

DUMARESQ, John

DUFFY, Natalie

KLEIN, Meralyn

SEWELL-STAPLES, Keith

SWEENEY, David

DAGHASH, Wassim

Ellis Ward election

PERKINS, Peter

FRIEDE, Naomi Yvette

METLA, Venu

Sugarloaf Ward election

CROCK, Damian

RAMCHARAN, Ben

RUTTEN, Cath

COPE, Kim

JORGENSEN, Rhiannon

HOLMES, Janet

VINCENT, Don

CLARK, Mary

STERRETT, Charlotte

CAMPBELL, Narelle

SCATURCHIO, Vincent Edward Robert

THROSSELL, Karen

RUCHEL, Virginia

CAROLYN-NOEL

MILNER, Meg

CLARK, Graham

Nillumbik Shire Council

Swipers Gully Ward election

FECONDO, John

EYRE, Frances

CUSACK, Simone

MELOCCO, John

HASZLER, Henry Charles

GERALI, Biljana

KIROV, Nerida

LOMBARDO, Zac

PETERSON, Michelle

MUSTAFA, Jerry

WORONIUK, Mick

Wingrove Ward election

McCARTHY, Sigrid

ALEXANDER, Wayne

SENESE, Brad

DINSDALE, Adrian

BONGA, Sharon

KOTTEK, Juanita

NALATO, Isabel

DJORDJEVIC, Peter

KINRADE, Wayne

STUTCHBURY, Charlie

COLEMAN, Helen

GALTRY, Peter

DIXON, Lou

PAINE, Geoff

MUSTAFA, Florie

GRIMES, Alex

MULHOLLAND, David

GREGORY, Chris

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.1: Candidate statements and photographs

Nillumbik Shire Council election

Blue Lake Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.1 for candidate statement leaflet)

Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
8	8	8

Bunjil Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.2 for candidate statement leaflet)

Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
13	13	13

Edendale Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.3 for candidate statement leaflet)

Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
10	10	8

Ellis Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.4 for candidate statement leaflet)

Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
3	3	3

Sugarloaf Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.5 for candidate statement leaflet)

Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
16	16	16

Swipers Gully Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.6 for candidate statement leaflet)

Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
11	9	9

Wingrove Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.7 for candidate statement leaflet)

Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
18	16	16

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.2: Candidate statement leaflets

Appendix 7.2.1: Candidate statement leaflet for Blue Lake Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before **6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020**.


Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:
Unit 7/218 Bolton Street
Egham

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES
Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 28 August 2020.

Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

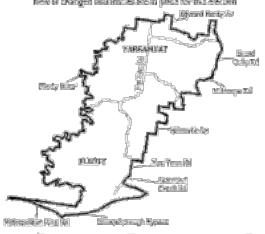
You may receive an Assessed Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.



Nillumbik
The Green Wedge Shire

2020 Council Election

VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020



Blue Lake Ward

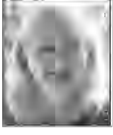
THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1457 during business hours.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any replication of candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.




FARLEY, Susan

As a resident of Blue Lake ward, I am genuinely local. I am standing for election as I believe that the people of Blue Lake have been under-represented for many years and we need a stronger voice on council. I strongly believe that our local, business and the Community Reference Group for the Yarra Road Upgrade which I chaired closely with other community members and various organisations which directly included Major Roads Projects, it was an honour to serve on this committee and to have input into decisions which affected our local residents, but also those people who use the road on a daily basis. As the fourth generation of my family to have lived in Plenty, and have seen some significant changes in Plenty and surrounding areas over the years. Happily, our local area is still the best that Melbourne has to offer. Although we live within a very short distance to the city and all its amenities, we still live in a quiet rural area where we can enjoy all the benefits that go with that lifestyle. My vision for Blue Lake, and the wider Nillumbik, is to preserve the beloved Plenty and Yarra, while building a great future for the region. I would work with council to ensure the best outcome for residents, without that active leading to unbridled over-development. However, I also want to hear the opinions of other residents, so welcome your feedback about what you want from your Council for Blue to my varied life experience (parent, employee, retiree, small business owner). I would bring a wealth of skills to a position as a Councilor. I am able to multi-task, problem solve, understand systems. I look forward to serving as your representative.

1

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BULLOCK, Jennifer

I am running for Blue Lake because when I heard that some Councilors voted to increase rates during the COVID pandemic I was shocked and angry. They obviously have no regard for ratepayers or working families. They need to go. My Council career lasted 12 years and added time to get our home ready to live for families, small business people, the elderly and the self-employed. I have lived in this area now for over 20 years running my commercial business and I run a family-run holiday farm where we give much of our own food – we love where we live. Our kids went to local schools and played sport at local clubs. I understand the aspirations of working families and the pressures they are under. I also understand that in the current environment we need more than ever for our representatives to look after us first and not their political machines. Blue Lake is the forgotten section of the shire. As a person who wants to think out and make a difference without protecting what we have. As a landowner, I value the need to respect and protect nature and the environment, but I can also see the desire for open space that is nothing more than a cover attempt to gain political capital over easy access of our lives we must push back against this. I am also confident that I can play a great importance in supporting our artistic and cultural heritage we need to continue to foster that artistic culture that Nillumbik is renowned for. It must remain a priority area of focus. So in essence I want the Shire of Nillumbik to prosper economically, culturally and environmentally. On the Blue Lake Electoral Roll: 31574228

2

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any replication of candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



GUY, Pamela

Having lived and worked in Plenty and the wider area for the past 30 years, I know my community very well. I have worked in a management level within the higher education sector and, also worked with various vendors supplying equipment to the sector. I have been a small business owner, supplying better talents consulting staff to organisations undertaking major system implementations. Therefore, I understand the pain points of small business owners, and what it takes to work in the current climate and still keep the lights on. I have been involved in business expansion. I studied Business Administration, Economics and Human Resource Management at La Trobe University and completed a MSc. I want to bring common sense, integrity and openness to the council. I want to see council decisions being made exposed to the wider community, so people have a better understanding of where their money is being spent and ensuring they are satisfied with the spending commitments being made. I believe climate change is a global phenomenon. I understand the many times we have heard predictions from the world experts, only to have them proved incorrect time and again. Water and land management are areas I see as very important, helping to prevent major bushfires, flooding and contamination of our waterways. Each year these bushfires, floods and water contamination in that order put on many Australians and our wildlife, without any realised danger being implemented regardless of how many people and local Councils we have. With your support I can bring climate change and responsible management to Nillumbik Shire. I am running for Blue Lake 1 – Pamela Guy and Blue 2 – Richard (Staple) as number the ranking because you wish to do so.

3

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.2.2: Candidate statement leaflet for Bunjil Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.

Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count.


Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:
Unit 2/250 Bolton Street
Russhurst

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES
Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 26 August 2020.


Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au.

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.



2020 Council Election
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Other or changed boundaries are in place for this election




Bunjil Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.
Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1457 during business hours.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission
© Victorian Electoral Commission 2020


NOTE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any copyright or other intellectual property should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



GRAHAM, Hannah

I'm Hannah, I live and live in Hurstbridge with my partner. We love this community, and are active community volunteers. I'm running for Bunjil because I want to see better representation of younger people in local politics. Change is happening at an ever accelerating rate. We need a forward thinking council that is protecting our community for long term resilience. As your representative on Council, I would prioritise 5 things to prepare for the future: 1) Stronger climate action - Let's make climate change seriously by mitigating emissions at the local level, and adapting to an already hotter and drier climate. Our fire brigades and CFA deserve more support as bushfire becomes more severe and frequent. 2) Stronger protection and planning for the Green Wedge - We must prioritise the health of our Green Wedge so that it can be enjoyed by future generations. I know that actions taken now are vital to the survival of our Green Wedge for many decades to come. 3) Future-proofing our community - The pandemic has caused rapid technological innovation, and the virtualisation of our lives. Things like high-speed global satellite internet will improve things for those living remotely, whilst automation and AI will disrupt our economy. Council must be on the cutting edge. As a digital professional I hope to make strides in this direction. I ask for your vote as your Bunjil Ward representative. Let's get ready for the future, because the best is yet to come. To vote for me, number from top to bottom: 1, 12, 12, 5, 6, 8, 2, 11, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10.


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SIMPSON, Sue

I have lived in Nillumbik at my life, growing up in Epping and moving to Hurstbridge in 1996. I'm married with 2 adult children and have a passion for the area we live in. I have kept an active member in the community, being on many committees including both Hurstbridge Football & Netball Clubs and the Hurstbridge Cricket Club, of which I am a life member. I currently coordinate the 4 senior netball teams of HNTC. I was involved in the project reference group for Lot 1 & 2 Hurstbridge Road Planning plan. My main goals are to advocate for new and updated sporting facilities in Hurstbridge while maintaining the open space of Lot 1. Having recently been part of the team successful in receiving funding for the expansion of the Hurstbridge football and cricket clubrooms, I plan to continue to lobby for more funds to resurface the outdoor netball courts as well as expanding the current Hurstbridge basketball stadium so it can be utilized by more of our budding young sports stars. Our current facilities are out of date and do not meet the needs of the community. I have been looking at the delivery of complaint courts available for competition, particularly for women in sport. I will support local small business as we emerge from stage 4 Covid lock down, working to gain as much funding as possible to rebuild this future. In completing your ballot paper, I recommend the following order 9, 1, 2, 12, 11, 5, 10, 4, 7, 8, 3, 10, 3

NOTE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any copyright or other intellectual property should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



EGAN, Karen Jane

I am seeking re-election as your Bunjil Ward Councillor. My commitment to you in 2016, to listen, engage with, and actively represent your interests. I have fulfilled this commitment. The Graythorns Road development proposed by the previous council did not occur, is now a community open space, with the Master Plan complete. Nillumbik now has a Dunfire Mitigation Strategy. Nillumbik now has an Equine Strategy, a first, ready for implementation. Bunjil Nillumbik now has a vision, but there is still much to do. Re-elect me and I will continue to listen to you, to work with you, and with council to advocate your interests. I will continue to oversee the implementation of the Fire Mitigation Plan, which will make our green wedges safer for residents, horses, livestock, infrastructure, and our nation's flora and fauna. I will continue to advocate to manage road congestion and promote safer roads, by completing the solar farm we will achieve meaningful emission reductions, complete the Hurstbridge Main Street, and Community Multi-use facility at Bon Riley Oval as well as the Hurstbridge to Diamond Creek Trail. I will continue my policy position of low rates, and continue to support the Arts, active ageing and youth programs. I will continue to champion and promote economic development, small and home business, agri-business and innovation to support local business and local jobs. In a time of coronavirus pandemic, and economic recession, strong local government leadership is vital. Please vote 6, 2, 1, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 4, 4, 7, 9

Nillumbik Shire Council

NOTE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any opinion that candidate statements should be included in the election results, candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



PENROSE, Bill

Action speaks louder than words. Real Action means tackling the financial problems this council has created with the urgent need for long term environmental planning. I have lived here for 35 years with 18 years on your council. I am gravely concerned about 2 years of negative economic (More Expense than Income). My past actions have shown the passion and experience that our community needs to maintain and care for our Green Wedge home. We have been governed by a council that has enabled us with who they did not spend the community. The replacement of a costly independently selected 40 person Community Panel added to reduce our Green Wedge Management Plan, was ignored. I am a supporter of the Green Wedge and have been helping to build a solid foundation. My intention is to 1. work with the community 2. create financial plans to repair the damage done by this council, 3. establish secure and consistent plans for the protection of the Wedge, and 4. ensure community services thrive. Sport, the Arts, community health, farming and diverse local businesses, effective waste management, and the integrity of small towns through good management and effective fire prevention, these things matter. Our environment needs protecting. Our finances need managing. Our home requires Real Action. To help please vote in the order 3, 12, 13, 1, 6, 7, 4, 8, 3, 5, 10, 2, 11

6

NOTE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any opinion that candidate statements should be included in the election results, candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



VAN HULSEN, Anika

Vote 1 Anika of Waite Glen for a Greenie. Please, Jennifer Patena - especially for the sake of our children. When your Council has, rather than applying business as usual, I propose you move toward a healthier, fairer and more sustainable way of life. How? By investing in sustainable solutions. By creating many secure jobs. By collectively developing a climate-resilient Green Transition Plan, and by investigating actions such as: instruments: Cut the Nillumbik community's carbon emissions and climate impacts away and reach 100% clean energy by 2030. Stop biodiversity decline. Better protect our environment and biosphere of animals. Undertake effective environmental repair. Build regional expertise, new local businesses, and educational opportunities in conservation, bushfire risk management, and climate-smart agriculture. Economic: Promote a green economy. Support people transitioning to sustainable economic development and agriculture. Expand the network of interconnecting on-road cycle lanes and recreational trails. Promote art and eco-tourism. Social: Promote sustainable living and mental and physical health. Support community groups. Keep rates within the cap set by the State Government. Nillumbik is the perfect place to lead the way to a greener, fairer, smarter future. For many years I have been active in community groups, and I was the Rural Ward Councillor in 2012-2016. The total of these experiences has given me good knowledge of community and Council and its many policies and strategies, and has put me in good stead to help Nillumbik's transition to a fairer and more sustainable future. I have a proven track record of political honesty and financial prudence. I will genuinely listen, and make fair judgments based on facts and for the larger community good. For queries, contact me via: AnikaForHulsen@gmail.com. My voting recommendation, from top to bottom: 3, 8, 13, 6, 1, 4, 7, 10, 2, 5, 12, 9, 11.

5

NOTE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any opinion that candidate statements should be included in the election results, candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



ROSENHAIN, Sue

I have lived in Nillumbik for 15 years and appreciate the many benefits of living in Waite Glen. I enjoy volunteering with the Wildlife and District Landcare, Friends of Waite Glen Country Association and the local council. I am grateful for the many things that the council has done for the community. I acknowledge the many people who have worked hard to make the council what it is today. The pandemic has made obvious what I know from a 35-year career in public health: we are not the kind of the fair ground equality we like to think. Things need to change. Since this last year has reinforced the overwhelming need to address climate change and to protect and enhance the ecosystems that sustain us and enrich our lives. I will work to ensure Nillumbik Council respects diverse values in public debate, creates conditions for an inclusive and fair society, has appropriate environmental protections in place and uphold, and enables local opportunities for sporting and cultural activities. All so important for good physical and mental health. A good Council does inappreciable development. I will work to keep Waite Glen a semi-rural setting and not an extension of suburban sprawl. I am running for Council as an independent, ordinary community member. I seek a responsibility to act as well as to lead. With a science-based research degree, I would contribute to Council taking an evidence-based approach to policy and program development. To support my values, please vote in the order: 3, 12, 13, 2, 8, 7, 6, 1, 2, 9, 3, 4, 10, 5, 11.

8

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MULLINS, Steve

Live and work in Burgh. I encourage all to know that local democracy is about our community. That means a community-led council who listens, advocates for and cares about the whole community, and offers the greater transparency and accountability to our community. I was shocked to learn Council spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on an unnecessary review of the Green Wedge Management Plan. I witnessed the excessive way Council spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on the review. Too many Council resolutions have been closed to the public. This undermines community trust in Council. Respect, accountability and transparency are fundamental to rebuilding trust. Three years of governance and management experience, overseeing millions of dollars in projects, and will plan for good financial management and governance, but the most of a good councillor is their preparedness to listen to our community. As your local councillor, I will foster community through sporting clubs and volunteer groups and by supporting local producers, artists, small businesses, the brigade and the vulnerable and elderly. I will strive to protect township character, the natural environment and agriculture in our Green Wedge Shire and to create secure, local jobs. These four years are crucial for our Shire. The pressure of environmental development is increasing. I hope you will join me in building and bringing community back to our council. For more information, email: steve.mullins@gmail.com. Facebook: @SteveMullins or phone: 0481 897 911. To Vote 1 for Steve Mullins, please follow this number sequence from top to bottom on the ballot paper: 3, 10, 13, 6, 7, 5, 1, 12, 2, 3, 10, 4, 11.

7

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WALLACE, James

As a lifelong resident, born and raised in Nillumbik, I have always enjoyed the lifestyle and surroundings the shire provides. With the upcoming election I see it as an opportunity to use my hand to represent the landscape. I work in the Construction Industry, raising a young family, paying a mortgage. I appreciate our local flora and fauna and am passionate about the preservation of our local history and culture. I feel I have a responsibility to find a balance between maintaining our neighbourhood character and future growth. In the wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic, I feel it is important to focus on job creation to encourage economic growth to help our community get back on track. This can be achieved by encouraging community projects that will contribute to public amenity and promote local businesses. With so many recently being confined to the shire, I feel it has emphasised the lack of social infrastructure when we have so many natural resources that we should cherish. I stand for fairness and integrity. I believe that as a councillor we have a duty to represent the entire community. When making decisions a sustainable approach should be taken, considering social, economic and environmental impacts. I come from a project and engineering background, with a sound knowledge of how to systematically plan, budget and deliver. I see myself as a voice for the silent majority of ordinary working families, dedicated to raising their families, to their jobs and businesses and to making a positive contribution to our Nillumbik lifestyle and community. I stand to represent and speak for the Nillumbik community as a whole. Please vote 3, 2, 13, 12, 11, 10, 1, 8, 9, 5, 7, 4.

2

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HUNTER, Sarah

My family and I live based in rural Dandenong where we are establishing a small enterprise 32 hectares organic farm and building an off grid home. I live in rural Burgh, my children are at school and live in Hurstbridge, and I am committed to representing all parts of the Council ward. My background is in landscape architecture and urban design. I have worked with council clients in Australia and the UK across a diverse range of open space projects. I understand the planning process and the need for council policy & projects to reflect community needs. I have a strong history of volunteer involvement and community leadership. I have been President of Arthur Creek District Landcare Group since 2014, and a committee member prior to this. I was on the Nillumbik Environment Advisory Committee from 2013-2019. I have positive working relationships and will work with the community, other councillors, other politicians, and other agencies for the benefit of our ward and the broader community. I support community & volunteer groups including OSA, Landcare, sporting groups, more sheds and more. I was drawn into the council elections as a landholder directly affected by the Chapel Lane Landfill. As a result of my experience I am focused on the return of transparency & good governance to Nillumbik council, as well as the restoration of a strong and impartial body of professional staff. I will protect the green wedge as a long-term asset for the next generation, and aim to strengthen policy and practice to protect water quality, biodiversity, and climate. I will retain and protect open space and seek improved recreation opportunities for Burgh residents. To support my vision please vote in the order: 3, 12, 13, 2, 10, 4, 5, 11, 1 (HUNTER, Sarah), 6, 7, 8, 9.

9

Nillumbik Shire Council

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TIBBETTS, Carol

I never thought I would run for council. I have a full and fortunate life as a Hurdbridge mum and public servant. Unfortunately you do not have to look very hard to see problems Council displays are resolved in a way that is inconsistent with community values and expectations. I am an independent candidate standing because we should be able to have meaningful, respectful dialogue between community and council on every issue. Retaining this election is about respect. Respect for the people of Nillumbik and our right to be heard without judgement or intimidation. Respect for the unique heritage and special spaces of our shire that contribute to wellbeing. Respect for ways of working and engaging that protect our democratic rights. I have lived in both Egham and Hurdbridge and enjoyed the strong sense of community that comes from involvement with schools and children's activities. Nillumbik is special and even in Hurdbridge we should be wary of Council's intent to change the fundamental character of the shire through long-term development. Consider the challenges of the still unresolved issue of L&L 1 (old high school site). Respect and ethics drive me. I run on values that are ethical and sustainable products made by local businesses. More recently, my public sector career is one of service delivery supporting what areas including teacher quality, safe and welcome and support for women and children experiencing domestic violence. Governments and public agencies at all levels need to serve the public. The day we forget that, we forget our right to do so. Vote 1 Carol Tibbetts. To bring back respect for people and place to Nillumbik, number your ballot top to bottom 4, 10, 13, 5, 6, 6, 2, 10, 7, 1, 11, 8, 6.

10

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VEERMAN, Brian

I have lived in Nillumbik since my childhood and now with my wife and 2 sons on our small acreage hobby farm. I have been involved with several sporting clubs including Football, basketball, horse riding and also was involved with the Porton Hill CEM for a while. I really believe we have a great community and environment and if elected I will endeavour to maintain landowners rights to continue to enjoy their land and properties. I will also continue to improve walking trails, parks and sports areas while keeping rates affordable. Please vote in order 2, 5, 6, 12, 11, 8, 13, 4, 7, 6, 1, 10, 3.

11

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NELSON, Melanie

I have lived in Cottes Bridge for 10 years and have participated in many Nillumbik Shire Council consultations. I decided to run for Council after I lost confidence that the Council were taking residents' opinions seriously. As a professional with a Masters degree in Business I believe we need to reduce spending on external consultants and improve our revenue streams if we are to keep rates low. If elected, I will start with an audit of the financial position for a more financially stable future for Nillumbik. I am also a passionate advocate for animals and those that find it hard to make their voices heard in this busy world. I will always question the assumption that money is all that matters, because that is only part of what makes our Shire a special, beautiful and caring place and our cultural environment are key to a happy and safe community. I am fully supportive of building local jobs. I have a specific interest in local food production and believe Nillumbik could be a leader of new and innovative techniques for plant-based, healthy, nutritious food. This could bring training and job opportunities to our Shire, grow fresh, locally grown produce for all to enjoy. I am a local, independent candidate who wants a safe and kinder shire, for all kinds. We are all stakeholders in the success of Nillumbik and should all feel we have a voice to protect our individual values and freedoms. To support the please vote down the ballot paper as follows 6, 5, 15, 5, 5, 4, 2, 10, 7, 8, 11, 1, 12.

12

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DOVILE, Tanja

My name is Tanja Dovile and I have lived with my family in Hurdbridge for over 13 years. The Hurdbridge Community is unique to Melbourne and it is for this reason I have decided to run for Council in 2020. Through this year of COVID, the importance of community and small business working together has been reinforced to me. I have long advocated for small and home businesses to be supported by Council in our region, so our community can thrive. I would also like to help create employment opportunities between our local youth and local businesses, so they don't have to leave Nillumbik to find growth and success. Please vote (in order to appear on ballot paper): 6, 5, 2, 12, 11, 8, 13, 4, 7, 6, 5, 10, 3.

13

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.2.3: Candidate statement leaflet for Edendale Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before **9.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020**.
Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count.
Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:
Unit 7/230 Batten Street
Eltham

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES
Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 28 August 2020.
Further information on voting arrangements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au.

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.



2020 Council Election
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

View or change boundaries with place for this election



Edendale Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.
Voting is compulsory for residents.
For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1457 during business hours.
VEC Victorian Electoral Commission
Electoral 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council

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SINCLAIR, Stuart

My name is Stuart Sinclair and I am standing for Nillumbik Council in the Edendale Ward. I live in Eltham and am a carpenter working locally building residential and sustainable houses. I am proud of the built heritage of the area and believe it is a living asset. I am involved in the Nillumbik Bushbirds Association, Eltham Leagues Club, Eltham Tennis Club and the Friends of Aspin Warbler Habitat Reserve, and attended Eltham High School. Eltham is where I grew up, and Eltham became a family base for three generations before me. My great grandfather was a driver in the district, my grandfather actively volunteered and operated the Eltham General Store and Tobacconist on Main Road in the heart of Eltham. In Nillumbik, we are fortunate to have a community that is passionate about protecting and enhancing our local environment, and contributing to making Nillumbik a great community to live, work and play in. We can, however, do better with council practices for the community. As your local Edendale Ward Councillor, my focus would be: listening to and engaging with the community about their aspirations for Nillumbik; improving Council's public consultation practices; enhancing consistency of Council policies; supporting community infrastructure development; maintaining and enhancing our unique environmental values and neighbourhood character; and also, importantly, ensuring that the interests and attributes of Nillumbik as a Green Wedge Shire are protected and enhanced for future generations. It would be an honour to represent this community. You can contact me via stuartsinclair@nillumbik.vic.gov.au 0412 839 601 or www.stuartsinclair.com.au. Ward 1 (Edendale) I recommend numbering your voting ballot paper in the following order: 1, 9, 4, 8, 2, 3, 10, 5, 6, 7.

1

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HALL, Colin

I have lived in Nillumbik for over 33 years having moved here for the clean fresh air and rural lifestyle, we raised our kids on our hobby farm the place we love. Our kids went to local schools and played sport at local sporting clubs. I love this area and I understand the pressures facing young families, particularly during a pandemic. I will fight for lower rates. In 2019 I represented the community on the Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan Community Panel which came up with the current Green Wedge Management Plan. Through this process I learnt much about the dysfunctional and adversarial political leadership of our community, about the historical vested interests, and the need to influence positive change. There are too many vested interest groups with too much sway in Nillumbik. I will stand up to them. The reason I am running for Council is to represent those Edendale residents who, like me are frustrated with the dysfunctional and over bearing administration of all levels of government in Australia so for the short term, I am running with two realistic term objectives and one long term ambition, the medium term objectives are: 1. Slash the Red Tape, by standing up to the bureaucrats and others who seek to burden us with rules and regulations - they impede small business and get in the way of progress, and, 2. Slash the Green Tape, by standing up to the eco-bullies and others who seek to stifle every aspect of our lives under the guise of environmentalism. The long term ambition is to advocate for Council amalgamations in Victoria. For Nillumbik's amalgamation with neighbouring councils to create more homogeneous and harmonious communities. Vote 1 Colin Hall and Vote 9 Michael O'Shawnassy, then number all other boxes in order of your preferences.

2

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O'SHAWNASSY, Michael

As Edendale Ward residents, Gabriel and myself chose to raise our family here. We are actively involved in our community including our children's education through local infant, primary, secondary and tertiary education as well as many sporting clubs. We have forged wonderful relationships. Nillumbik is our home. I have been involved in several decision making for some time. The recent challenge for me to run was Council's decision to borrow approximately \$3,000,000 to cover general running costs. To borrow money to fund routine expenses is irresponsible. I have been employed as a financial controller with a successful private business for over 30 years. It is my responsibility to ensure the company operates within a tight and structured framework, effectively achieving goals in an environment that encourages best personal and business outcomes. Not raising rates marginally to give rise to residents in an election year is financially irresponsible and will only pass a financial burden onto future councils and taxpayers. As your Councillor, I would ensure that all councillors work together to achieve great results for the community. I support cutting rates of CPI and believe that we can achieve significant results within this framework. Protection of our neighbourhood character and the Green Wedge are essential. The Financially Green Festival has been run down over the last three years. I will ensure this is revitalised and returned as a standalone festival as it should be. Council requires strong representation in maximising state and federal funding to improve main roads, sporting facilities, recycling and other community assets. I will commit to improving internal efficiencies and reducing waste. I would be honoured to represent you and your families. Please Vote 1 Michael O'Shawnassy and number your ballot, top to bottom, 4, 9, 1, 8, 2, 3, 10, 5, 6, 7.

3

Nillumbik Shire Council

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McCLINTOCK, Jason

The next few years are going to be critical for our area and the recovery and redevelopment of local businesses foster new jobs. I will advocate for resources to improve the mental health and wellbeing of our children. I know the positive benefits sport has after decades of playing and coaching basketball and that's why I will support local clubs and associations. I will bring balance on a wide range of issues from the environment, planning, parking, roads and rubbish. I believe the role of a Nillumbik Councillor is to keep rates low and ensure we deliver the basic services we need. The next two years need to have an increased focus on the people that live in Nillumbik. Many in the hospitality industry are suffering. Finding a job, finding local businesses with our children being happy and well-adjusted need to be at the forefront of our minds as we recover from COVID. I have decades of extensive business experience across a number of companies and have also held roles such as Chair of the Victoria Executive Partner Council. I have been an ambassador with Council (Eldem North) for over a decade and understand the importance of early intervention in child wellbeing and mental health issues. I have more than a decade of involvement in local sports and recreation. I am the member of the Greenhill Basketball club. I have never seen a business that doesn't have difficulties and local Council is no exception. I will make sure every dollar is returning at least an equal value if not more. Vote 1 Jason McClintock for a better Nillumbik. Voting order on ballot paper 4, 10, 7, 2, 8, 6, 5, 3, 9, 1.

4

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DUMARESQ, John

It has been an honour to represent our community on Nillumbik Council for the past four years as your independent and local voice. With my experience as a councillor, my many years of involvement in the local area and a long career in sports and facilities management, I believe I am the best person to continue to represent you and the diverse needs of our community. I live here in Edendale Ward with my partner Tracy and our daughter. We value and support our thriving schools, local sporting clubs, vibrant café culture, businesses and community groups. If elected, I will continue to protect our natural environment and will work hard to ensure any future developments respect our special neighbourhood character. Nillumbik's unique environment, heritage and traditions reflect the outstanding expectations of our community. As your voice on Council, I have consistently voted to support the protection of the Green Wedge and will continue to do so. Prudent financial management is necessary to steer our community through the effects of the pandemic. I will continue to ensure we support residents and local businesses, and keep rates low. Council must live within its means. In the last four years I have helped deliver projects across our community including the new Eldem North Adventure Playground, Eldem North and Eldem Central Revisions and the Diamond Creek Regional Playground. There are a number of projects that I want to see through to completion including the much-needed upgrade to the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre, the long-awaited extension of the Diamond Creek Trail to Huxtable, and the vision for the Aqueduct Trail. Vote 1 John Dumaresq and 2 Natalie Duffy and number your ballot, top to bottom: 3, 9, 4, 5, 1, 2, 10, 6, 8, 7.

5

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DUFFY, Natalie

Hi, I'm Natalie Duffy. I believe community needs to be put back at the heart of Council and I am running to do just that. I am an active local who has contributed to our community since 2016 when my husband and I moved here to raise our two children. You might know me through Eldem North Primary School, Eldem North Junior Basketball Club, Nillumbik Reconciliation Group or Silver Community Reserves group. I think it is really important to be back in the community where I live. Council's role is to harness community skills to benefit from it. As a passionate advocate I have helped generate almost \$1M in grants and fundraising for our community. I fought to save our community reserves from sale, and I've fought to keep community assets like Edendale Farm, Eldem Pines and Eldem War Memorial Youth Community Centre. I have worked hard to help rebuild the Eldem North Adventure Playground after a devastating fire. I have spoken out about Council's poor decision making and wasted spending decisions. My priorities include sustainable economic development, protecting the Green Wedge and implementing practical solutions to make life more enjoyable for all of us. You can find out more from my Facebook page Natalie Duffy for Edendale Ward. Meeting people with respect and empathy is what I believe is Nillumbik Council, along with a background in business. We can achieve progress through making local jobs, making sure our local landscape is protected and keeping our parks rubbish-free. I encourage you to vote 1 Natalie Duffy, and then preference John Dumaresq. To support community candidates, I encourage you to fill out your ballot accordingly from top, down: 3, 9, 4, 5, 1, 2, 10, 6, 8, 7.

6

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KLEIN, Moralyne

The role of any Councillor must be to be available to represent the views of all residents. In my previous term on Council 2012 to 2016, I upheld the rights of residents, meeting with local groups and supporting any community and Council based projects. I'm changing again as a full time Councillor with no personal agenda. I have extensive experience in active, engaged residents for residents. My commitment, honest representation, openness and approachability, not just doing a seat on Council. As a Councillor, I've led on the increase, staff and CEO wage increases, (debit for end of year) no solution based community consultation, draining Council's largest community consultation process undertaken in Nillumbik. I've led on the Council's ongoing planning scheme regulations that would have imposed harsh restrictions and reduced land values of property owners. I supported diverse aging in place housing options. Worked on Council's Fire and Emergency Management Committee recognising the need for proper emergency management on council and Council land. As a Councillor I lobbied strongly for a tree planting policy for Nillumbik. Worked closely with sporting clubs achieving upgrades to our sporting grounds. United Council's Memorials Committee overseeing upgrades to Nillumbik's War Memorials. I put a proposal forward and received State Government funding for Eldem North of Huxtable recognition. I will work closely with both Council and community leaders to support you to make your fair share of community funding. Under Covid I have been a new challenge, "we are all in this together". Local Government must also play its part by easing residents financial burden with rate relief, not just deferral. This can be achieved by efficient financial restraint, cost cutting measures without cuts in services. Please consider - Voting 1. Moralyne Klein 2. Waseem Hageeh 3. Colin Hall 4. Jason McClintock. Other candidates as per your choice.

7

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SEWELL-STAPLES, Keith

My name is Keith and I'm delighted to see a Nillumbik Council that puts people first. Over 40 years ago, I moved to Nillumbik with a very young family. It was a great place to raise a family, but I fear that too much about our area is changing and not always for the better. What I would like to ensure is that it stays that I'm proud to pass on to my kids and grandkids. I believe the current council has forgotten who they work for, who's money they are spending and what is great about our area. Let's talk about development. Some development is necessary, but it's a matter that affects us all. My experience as a company and government leader has enabled me to develop outside to south the proposals and to put who benefits from this, down to the character of Nillumbik's development. It's not how does it help me as in the direction we want to go. Does this proposal increase the number of people participating, or does it limit the number of people involved? Edendale residents deserve a voice in planning decisions. Edendale is in many ways the heart of our community. I want it to continue to be a place where people come first, a place not afraid of its future, but aware of its uniqueness and values to retain and value a community in harmony with environmental values. A place where local responsibility is not just a catch phrase, and where over-development is avoided. Make your vote count. Vote 1 Keith Sewell-Staples & 2 Natalie Duffy. To support community candidates, I encourage you to fill out your ballot accordingly from top down: 3, 9, 4, 5, 1, 2, 10, 6, 8, 7.

8

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SWEENEY, David

Hi, I am David Sweeney, a local resident living in Edendale. I would like to represent you as your local and independent candidate and to offer an alternative to the current development-led council. The current council has had a distressing approach to governance, the Green Wedge, the environment, community engagement and planning. Examples are the attempt to sell 12 community reserves; a not required \$345,000 community consultation into the Green Wedge Management Plan; the majority view of which was ignored by council; council being run like a big business and now even outsourcing of rubbish collection. There are those in Nillumbik that seem unhappy with the idea of protecting the Green Wedge. But if we will not down that business-led train and build that sustainable Nillumbik, our area will not be responsible to those of us who love where we live. In this new COVID-19 era we need a council that brings the community together and does more for the people who live here. Council needs to engage meaningfully with the community. Council needs to listen to experts in fields such as climate change, aging, jobs creation, transport, and then work with the community for the best outcome for all. We need councillors who will do more for our older citizens, more for our young people including local jobs and public transport, more on mental health. And much more on climate change. I'm tired of Council spending money on new dogs and kangaroos and not enough on public facilities, senior citizens' spaces. Please see I'll join me in supporting more time being spent. Vote 1 David Sweeney & 2 Natalie Duffy. To support Edendale community candidates, please fill out your ballot: 3, 9, 4, 5, 1, 2, 10, 6, 8, 7.

9

Nillumbik Shire Council

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No Photo Submitted

DAGHASH, Wassim

My name is Wassim Daghash, I am standing in this role because I am passionate about the area where I live and its people. I have called this area home for the last 6 years. My partner and I moved to Nillumbik Shire to build a family. As an Information Security Consultant, I believe I can bring my experience of working with international and local enterprises and government agencies to help my community. Such experience will help me to make informed decisions when presented with complex situations and with multiple stakeholders from varying interest groups. One of the things that we love as a family is nature surrounding our community and protection of the bush was a major factor for us wanting to live in Nillumbik. I would also like to see an upgrade to our footpaths that old and young alike can enjoy them, more walking tracks and playgrounds for families to enjoy and explore the beautiful nature around us. Another important aspect that is very close to my heart is education, I anticipate that this will be a huge challenge in post Covid years, and I would like to help our community by working with schools and child care agencies with Council support to build local educational programs, similar to what I built in my birth country during my university studies years. If elected in Nillumbik I will support local business and households with hardship grants through Council financial recovery. Please consider voting "1. Wassim Daghash & Mazhar Klein and preference of other candidates in the order of your choice.

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Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.2.4: Candidate statement leaflet for Ellis Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before **6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020**.


Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:
Unit 7/256 Bolton Street
Elliott

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES
Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 28 August 2020.

Further information on voting arrangements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

You may receive an Apparent Failure to Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.



2020 Council Election
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020




Ellis Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.
Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1457 during business hours.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission
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PERKINS, Peter

Life member of Diamond Creek Park Brigade, I served as Captain / VIC for 10 years from 2001 after joining in 1998. First elected to Council in 2010, it's been my honour to represent you as the Ward Councillor and chair our Emergency Management Committee ever since. (2018-2020) I've diligently spent my job in life improving Diamond Creek services and strengthening community links you rely on and need - all whilst absolutely loving it. I delivered on Community Black Shire, Mangrove Oval Pavilion and lights, basketball facilities, Rotary Park Playground and toilet, skateparks, parking, the dog park and new pedestrian paths and bridges. Works underway include the Regional Playspace celebrating our gold mining past including toilets and infrastructure supporting the Rotary Town Café, new Regional Market Complex, Diamond Creek Shire Trail to Hurstbridge and Elizabeth Street industrial carparks. I committed to a library facility adjacent on upgraded Outdoor Pool via a Library and complementary community centre can enjoy the Community Centre to better support youth, senior citizens, occasional child care and our RSL. We will provide enhanced Maternal and Child Health Services from a new facility and upgrade our 3 kindergartens. We'll send and immediate access to expanding spaces at the Merit Street, RSL College and both coasts. Traffic will become one-way in Station Street to enhance pedestrian safety and improve traffic flow. Iyent Reserve will get toilets, 3 on 3 basketball, expanded playground and a soccer loop. I'll continue to protect and enhance neighbourhood character and ensure future developments are appropriate for our area. I'll maintain my accessibility to you and help you navigate any issues you may have with Council. I pledge to continue to actively engage, listen and act on your views. Support a candidate that has demonstrated commitment to our town for nearly 30 years. 0422 347 793 peterperkinsdiamond@gmail.com

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FRIEDE, Naomi Yvette

Victorian Green Party. I am an independent candidate. Your voice is important to me. Minimising costs to taxpayers is my main focus for this term. Another focus is helping our Shire recover from the impact of Covid on businesses, personal finances and family health. As many of us are doing it tough now, I suggest a new rise on council rates for at least 1 year. I will listen. Council needs to be told about the traffic congestion, road maintenance, waste management and bushfire prevention need improving. I will advocate these things for you. Maintaining the beautiful reserves and environment that makes up our Green Wedge, and the unique Malvern East field, is important to me. I love where we live. I want to make sure our reserves are retained and managed for everyone to enjoy. I will stop the dumping of fill on properties in the Shire which has previously been allowed by council, like Chapel Lane. This will preserve the quality of land in our Green Wedge. Encouraging all interested residents to have a say in the management of reserves and parks in the Green Wedge is important, to ensure the diverse ways they are enjoyed by residents and visitors. I am a married mother of 2 daughters living in Nillumbik. We frequently play in the parks and playgrounds, and walk in the reserves. My experience in policy development, project management, grant applications and stakeholder consultation provides me with necessary skills to be a proactive, accountable councillor, able to make a difference. I believe in value for your council dollar. Your voice is important to me. Vote Naomi Friede. Number your voting card, top to bottom, 3, 1, 2.

2

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METLA, Venu

Venu Metla brings Economical and Emotional support for Ellis ward. 1. No rate increases 2. Reliable Internet 3. New revenue streams 4. Infrastructure upgrades 5. Youth support and safety 6. Accountability and transparency My name is Venu, I migrated to Australia, from the rural community of Vemala in Southern India, almost 30 years ago. Coming from 4 generations of farmers, an appreciation of land and agriculture is in my blood. Continuing in the family tradition, we care for and break new and heritage coming from our home in Karnataka, India. My day job is in technology, consulting to medium-level business on hardware, software and telecommunications networks, for Cloud Systems with 20 years. Like many, COVID has taken a toll on our family, compounding when our home-business, an online recruitment and technology start-up was disrupted. My wife, Joy is true to her name, she works as a business analyst for an online provider and we have two children, six and three years old. Ellis Ward and, in particular, the Diamond Creek area, is the heart of my community. In the heart of business and integral to our emotional and emotional wellbeing. As a member of Nillumbik Economic Development Advisory Committee, we have delivered digital awareness education, guides and networking programs. I am committed to working with local business to help growth and harness the online environment. It is vital to the future of our region to embrace strong financial and technological management together with a proactive approach to long-term upgrades of the existing pool, new library, facilities together with a new community hub. I assure you my intention to run for council is underpinned by accountability, responsiveness and transparency. Please complete your ballot paper as follows: 3, 2, Metla 1. Venu Metla Venu Metla Email: venumetla@nillumbik.com.au Mobile: 0409330537 Facebook: www.facebook.com/VenuMetlaWard

3

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.2.5: Candidate statement leaflet for Sugarloaf Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine
VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted on or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.

Local mail delivery times may vary. Ballot material sent by regular post may be delayed. Please do not post your ballot material by regular post. It is not to be posted by the post. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours.

Electoral Services
100-102 Station Street
Melbourne

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS
Completed candidate questionnaires are available at the Electoral Services office or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll by the deadline Friday 27 August 2020.

Further information regarding the provisions that apply to you is available at www.elections.vic.gov.au

WARNING: Failure to comply with the provisions that apply to you is an offence under the Electoral Act 2002.



Nillumbik
The Green Wedge Shire

2020 Council Election

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020



Sugarloaf Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit www.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1457 during business hours.

 Victorian Electoral Commission
Victorian Electoral Commission ACT

CROCK, Damian

After 35 years of public service, I have been elected to the Nillumbik Shire Council. I am proud to represent the residents of the Sugarloaf Ward. I have been a member of the Council for 10 years and have been involved in many projects and initiatives. I am committed to the community and will continue to work hard to improve the lives of the residents of the Sugarloaf Ward.

RAMCHARAN, Ben

I have been elected to the Nillumbik Shire Council. I am proud to represent the residents of the Sugarloaf Ward. I have been a member of the Council for 10 years and have been involved in many projects and initiatives. I am committed to the community and will continue to work hard to improve the lives of the residents of the Sugarloaf Ward.

RUTTEN, Gail

I have been elected to the Nillumbik Shire Council. I am proud to represent the residents of the Sugarloaf Ward. I have been a member of the Council for 10 years and have been involved in many projects and initiatives. I am committed to the community and will continue to work hard to improve the lives of the residents of the Sugarloaf Ward.

Nillumbik Shire Council

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COPE, Kim

I've lived in Kangerua District for 26 years with my family. My children have attended local schools and I've participated with my wife in various school and community groups. I have been a representative member of many community groups including Scouts, USA, Women's Community Association and Surf Life Saving. My qualifications as a Professional Engineer will be valuable as a community representative on Council. I've professional engineering skills with smaller local national and international businesses. My work has involved facility design and management of road, railway, major engineering projects, budgeting and finances. In 2018, my family was impacted by a poor council decision. Council failed to allow my neighbour to build a house right next to our property, requiring the removal of over 700 trees. We fought it and the developer took the matter to the Victorian Supreme Court. My family and I identified our right to object to the development. The Council tried to sue us, setting a landmark precedent confirming your right to object if a development infringes on your lifestyle or the community. Our council needs to make better decisions and I advise my skills to review and improve better value-for-money facility projects and services. I will protect and enhance Nillumbik's credentials as the Green Wedge Shire and support your right to object to developments that infringe on your lifestyle. I believe my professional and local experience will help the council Council in general, balanced decision making for our community, colleagues, residents, businesses, development and businesses. Vote for Kim Cope this election so I can promote the interests of our community. Please number candidate names from top to bottom: 14, 2, 6, 1, 4, 12, 3, 8, 10, 16, 15, 7, 6, 6, 11, 13.

6

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JORGENSEN, Rhiannon

Hi, I'm Rhiannon Jorgensen. I'm running as an independent candidate. I've lived in this area my whole life, having grown up at Methodist with a strong belief in community and stewardship. I've studied and worked in business and finance. I value family, the arts and the environment. I'm a strong advocate for sustainability, equity, wildlife and the Green Wedge. The Melbourne Waterland sales in Christmas Hills threaten what we love about our peaceful landscape and will cause issues for the environment and local wildlife. Landcare's suggestions to Melbourne Water on this issue will be a good resolution for all. If elected, I will support community-run solar energy initiatives for local homes to create cheaper and cleaner electricity. Supporting Indigenous reconciliation, I support the protection and recognition of sacred lands in Nillumbik, including at Kangerua Grand House. I will also encourage council to work with environmental groups and the Wurundjeri community to help maintain Country through activities such as seed burning and deer management. I support the arts, as an essential element in any society's overall mental health and wellbeing, not to mention its economic benefit. I will look at further ways to promote the already established Artists Trail, and support emerging artists. I will continue to push for a general membership of Nillumbik to further enhance the community engagement and connection through the arts. I stand with the LGBTQ+ community and will push for programs to improve mental health and encourage diversity in our community. On your ballot paper, please number the boxes from top to bottom as follows: 14, 2, 6, 1, 12, 3, 8, 10, 16, 15, 7, 6, 6, 11, 13.

5

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HOLMES, Janet

Four years ago my family was fortunate enough to move to Kangerua Grand. We've been on a strong learning curve (never buy again) related to the Green Wedge, especially in the days of the natural beauty of the Green Wedge makes every day a joyous time. Making this part of the world home. Shortly after, I joined the Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan Community Panel in the hope of doing whatever I could to maintain the natural beauty of the region and connect with the wonderful community. Through this panel, I was able to help produce reliable, strong and comprehensive plans for managing and preserving the Green Wedge. I am firmly supportive of sensible regulation to maintain the character of the Green Wedge and to safeguard from inappropriate development and natural disaster, particularly fire, which with the threat of global warming making themselves ever more apparent is an increasing threat. Without thoughtful economic management, Nillumbik risks the deterioration of having the most expensive real estate in the state, not a price most of us are happy to win. We matter too high our rates pay, it does not seem to change the fact that we are not adequately providing the services that our residents have the right to expect: or is our ability to care for the Green Wedge, and the rest of the shire, endangered? I have previously served the community as Secretary for the Shire Community Group, as well as sitting on the boards of various organisations, including community colleges. I bring the values of honesty, respect, diversity and responsibility to every role I take on and I will bring these values to Council if elected. My Voting Card is 14, 16, 10, 12, 11, 1, 15, 8, 3, 2, 5, 14, 7, 13, 8, 4.

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VINCENT, Don

As an independent candidate, I am excited to have the new Council address four urgent issues. I have the time, energy and qualifications to back up my suggestions. 1. Urgent improved financial management. The current Council has squandered money, increased debt and left the new Council with a significant financial repair job. 2. Restore morale and rebuild expertise within the Council's professional staff. The current Council presided over shocking staff turnover which was costly in colleagues' talents and more importantly, the loss of responsible memory and experience. Responsibilities need a stable, professional and confident organisation to ensure we get best value from our rates. 3. The new Council must take seriously its job as the custodian of the Nillumbik Green Wedge. Too often the current Council has undermined the Green Wedge and failed to protect against inappropriate development. The current Council headlessly threw out the existing Green Wedge Management Plan, wasted half a million dollars on a consultation process it then ignored. Protecting the Green Wedge, supporting agriculture and our own amenity and lifestyle needs to be woven into the way the Nillumbik Council does business. 4. We need to adapt to climate change, and in particular the Council needs to more vigorously address the increasing risk of bushfire. As a resident in the Rural Conservation Zone my commitment to addressing these issues is backed by decades of professional and practical experience in managing both public and private businesses, and advising on infrastructure in Australia and internationally. Nillumbik has great places to live. We need to work hard and smart to keep it that way. Vote Don Vincent. Don has suggested voting order down the ballot: 12, 2, 3, 4, 6, 15, 1, 8, 14, 15, 16, 7, 6, 6, 10, 11.

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CLARK, Mary

I have lived at Grainsbury for the last forty five years and am running for council at this time to ensure a secure future for our Nillumbik Green Wedge from the creeping away and attack it is subject to. It is not just a social habitat for our native animal and plant world, it is a priceless asset for both ourselves and all Melbourneans. It is a refuge from noise and air, and as a financial asset to our business, an asset that will only increase with the expansion of the surrounding suburbs. I am an independent candidate not aligned with any political party. I stand for sensible and responsible governance which is able to respond to the needs of the responsible rather than lobbyists. I want to encourage the global goals to reduce group and individual groups working in the environment or in our social life especially groups involved with the arts and with the goals of the year of our care. We must acknowledge the change in climate which naturally calls our word Superfund in a precarious position and look for ways to protect our forests and assets without shipping them off their long-term positions. My husband and our three sons have a deep love of the lifestyle offered by living on a bush block. By choosing running as a career I was able to fulfil my love of social and being relationships with people. I value my friendship with our community of young families, the Melbourne of our village, and for them we must protect what we have - if not now, when? And if not for us by whom? Please vote 1. Clark, Mary. 2. Vincent, Don. 3. Rumbold, Ben. Then number all other boxes in the order of your preference.

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STERRETT, Charlotte

I am proud to call Nillumbik my home and for the last 15 years I have enjoyed living in this beautiful and peaceful part of the world. My day job is working in international development, supporting poor and marginalised communities move out of poverty, but in my spare time, I am a volunteer and ally on local care about including climate change and environment, animal rights, and social justice. The climate changes of 2010-19 and climate change are affecting Nillumbik and require the Council to take action to protect people's lives and livelihoods. Already bushfires are a reality for Nillumbik and climate change is supercharging them to an extent that is affecting the long-term viability of living safely in the Green Wedge. I stand for taking urgent action on climate change to prevent bushfires from destroying communities. I stand for preventing inappropriate development, by ensuring that higher density is limited to our designated areas. I stand for thriving communities and access to decent jobs for all. I believe in responsible representation, community participation, and inclusive decision-making. As you vote on Council, I will listen to you and value your concerns that you can be heard and be part of the decisions affecting you and your loved ones. I believe that Nillumbik can provide a better and prosperous future for its residents in the way that we society just, support thriving economies, and preserve our unique environment. I will bring a fresh, honest approach to my work if elected and will be proud to serve my community as your voice for Kangerua Grand. Number ballot paper boxes from top to bottom: 14, 2, 3, 7, 4, 12, 3, 8, 1, 15, 16, 6, 8, 11, 13, 10.

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Nillumbik Shire Council

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CAMPBELL, Narelle

Yvonne Narelle Campbell, I am an independent candidate. I want strong advocacy for you. It's about you. The real term of council will focus on the economic pandemic and recession supporting it. Looking to the COVID-19 and recovering from its effects. Resilience for health and wellbeing. Recovering businesses and our economy and supporting local business. Recovering our social and community networks. For our local areas we have additional pressures of high council rates, high fuel costs, and housing insecurity in rural areas. These pressures place us, our families, our homes, properties, lives and future at increased risk. I have spent most of 2020 working on disaster responses, firstly for bushfires, and then the coronavirus pandemic. I am employed as a senior project manager and strategic planner. My experience includes policy, strategy, planning reviews, preparing funding submissions, budgeting, risk, using evidence to inform action, and implementing funded initiatives. I have experience achieving business performance improvement and budget cost savings. These are relevant skills for a Council. My family live on acreage in Christmas Hills in the green wedge with our dog, chickens and horses. Our property is mixed grazing and husbandry. We maintain and manage this to improve the quality of grazing areas, preserve the indigenous biodiversity of bushland areas, and for our safety, family and lifestyle. Maintenance and management support local small business. I am a long term volunteer, currently serving my second term on the Nillumbik Council Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee, and my fifth year with Woodland Bush Line Sewing Club. I believe governments are to support resilient and self-determination, safety, health and wellbeing. It should support useful engagement and strong communities. I believe in integrity, transparency and value for money, particularly government money which is your money. It's about you. Vote for Narelle Campbell.

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SCATURCHIO, Vincent Edward Robert

My family has been in this community for nearly 60 years. My parents owned the bakery in William Street, as a teenager, I worked at my uncle's business then Ross' Wine Liquor & Meats. I was very into community growth. Our family property is in the Sugarloaf Ward and I am passionate about sustainable self-sufficiency, we grow organic produce and also a small organic vineyard which sustains our family and reduces our carbon usage. I have owned companies in Australia, London and Singapore that provide experience in standards for infrastructure in design teams, primarily databases for testing applications on mission-critical systems. This involvement in major projects, executive level management, platform development, client engagement, governance, financial accountability and developing projects on time and budget before has given me a well-rounded experience to fulfil the duties and responsibilities of a councillor in supporting this community in light of current economic events. I will vote to reduce or keep council rates as held to help the most vulnerable in this community. I am request any subdivision of land in the Sugarloaf Ward. I am passionate about keeping the elderly constituents on their properties, and propose a right for a second dwelling on their property and their well-being can be maintained by family members on their land. The largest threat to the community and environment in this ward is fire, I am committed to implementing a Bushfire Mitigation Strategy. This council is being largely by people with an agenda behind a glass mask, in that I want to keep Nillumbik out of this council and not direct council funds to them. To support my candidacy please vote down the incumbent in this order: 3, 10, 12, 11, 4, 16, 8, 2, 1, 14, 7, 13, 6, 5, Neil Regatta Vincent.

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THROSSSELL, Karen

Thirty years ago I moved from Hurley in North Warrandyte because I wanted my daughters to grow up in a close community surrounded by bush. I was lured by the idea of a Green Wedge and the notion of government designating green areas around the city to prevent the onset of exurban development, with a protected area of bushland spreading as far as the eye could see. While my girls attended local schools I took advantage of being in such a connected and diverse community. I managed the local (Warrandyte) Neighbourhood house for 18 years, becoming involved in the local paper (so The Daily press), being a member of FOWAP and later a member of Warrandyte CMA (Climate Action Now). As a writer I also found the fact that most info on such a vibrant and community which was then strongly supported by our council. Sadly I have watched the deterioration of all these priorities at the hands of the current Council, which is a shame. I have little interest in bushland or community education, the arts, or in protecting our precious environment. Council is now dominated by narrow electoral interests and has taken the unfortunate step of challenging the very basis of the Green Wedge. Ignoring the results of a constructive community consultation. This has prompted me to run for Council. I am not aligned to any political party, and as well as broad ranging and long-term community involvement, I believe I have the skills to be effective. I have worked in the public sector for 30 years, I know how to regulate and manage conflict, and as a Manager of Human Resources in several large public organisations I was responsible for developing policy and ensuring its implementation. Please vote 1 Throssell, Karen; 2 Vincent, Don; and preference the other candidates in the order of your choice.

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RUCHEL, Virginia

I live in Research and I love our local community. I'm running for Council because Research residents deserve a voice. Research is too often forgotten by Nillumbik Council. So much money is spent on the Green Wedge and not enough in Research. The residents of Research deserve better. Research needs a politician who is willing to oppose the EPA in Research-Warrandyte Road. Research's shopping centre needs a face lift with better toilets, a parking space, improved landscaping, more vegetation and community artwork such as a mural. We need more exercise equipment, playgrounds and BMX tracks in Research's community centres. I will protect neighbourhood character in Research by ensuring new developments are appropriate. I will make sure Nillumbik Council services are kept on top of the agenda and that the residents of Research and the residents of the other wards are kept on top of the agenda. I will push for more money to be spent on making Research a unique local environment and supporting community events in Research. Vote for me, Virginia Ruchel, for a voice for Research. Please vote from top to bottom, maintaining the focus in the following order: 12, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 3, 0, 4, 10, 16, 10, 1, 7, 11, 14.

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CAROLYN-NOEL

Local council issues are a priority for: town planning, social planning, public libraries, waste collection, child care and local roads. I intend to keep it about local issues. Regarding town planning in Nillumbik I stand for the Green Wedge, in other words responsible development in appropriate places. Environmental Officers with the funding and power to do their job. If it is in the Rural Conservation Zone to ability for rural use. Social planning our formerly once cohesive community has become divided because of poor management. We need to rebuild through community consultation and engagement, as well as bringing people together through festivals, art programmes and well-funded community hubs. Public libraries they get my support to continue to grow their innovative programs. Waste collection I will ensure the green waste recycling scheme and provide incentives to assist local business to move to zero waste. Waste can be dealt with better on a local level. As time we stopped changing the problem away. Child care: this is high on my agenda, as a grandmother I am aware of parents and children needs: open spaces, playgrounds, musical free child minding on parents can have a break, and opportunities for parents to meet other parents. Local roads: we need more all abilities footpaths and connected bike trails that so sometimes overgrown trails inhibiting the natural feel of our community they should be built sensitively and well thought through with houses and significant sites. Large trucks have no place on unsealed or single lane urban roads. Help me to help councils and improve our beautiful community. Please fill in all the boxes in this order starting from the top: 12, 3, 4, 5, 6, 16, 2, 7, 14, 10, 8, 9, 1, 10, 11. Thanks, Carolyn Noel

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MILNER, Meg

Hi, I'm Meg Milner. I've expressed that Warrandyte has some of the most expensive real estate in Victoria and that we're not getting enough houses. I'd be happy to play my part if they were being spent in this area, but they are not. The rates we pay are wasted and funnelled into other parts of the city. I want to see four things: 1. More council investment in North Warrandyte, Research, Rangeside, St Andrews, Bend of Islands, Christmas Hills, Watsons Creek and Smiths Gully. 2. Increased State Government funding to reduce the rates burden on your hip pocket. 3. No more wasting of money. Money must be spent on what residents want, not some councillor's personal agenda. 4. Tell what if you had your house during the pandemic. Please vote 1 Meg Milner. I suggest voting in the following order from top to bottom of the ballot paper: 14, 3, 5, 4, 4, 12, 3, 10, 11, 10, 16, 7, 8, 6, 1, 12.

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Nillumbik Shire Council

NOTES: The electoral roll is publicly accessible by the community. Any person who is not on the electoral roll should contact the Electoral Commission to be added to the electoral roll. Electoral roll information is not to be used for any other purpose.



CLARK, Graham

I'm Graham Clark, and a candidate for Supermarket Ward, where I have lived with my wife Kaylene and family since 1978. I have worked in the bridge, Diamond Creek and Karingra Ward. We live in this area, we live on a small plot, with some sheep and a balance of bush. It is very disturbing for us in summer due to the risk, it is vital to keep up the maintenance to try and reduce the consequences, I am not sure if we will ever reduce our fire threat, our seasons can be so hot and of course we don't want to clear too many trees and vegetation, it is a delicate balance. I think the defeat of GPT and GPT was a great victory. It taught us to think that we can defeat these threats to our quality of life and the quality of our properties. There are places here in the great regions where people live in the bush and that's their passion and there's no reason to try and change anything. People are free to live where they want without interference. The main focus in the next term will be about supporting our community to move forward to recover from the COVID-19 restrictions. Our community businesses will recover, our children will get back to school safely and many others back to work. Our focus will be on health and inclusion support as our community re-adjusts to normality. I'm very keen to see our sporting clubs with strong attendance and safe community spirit everywhere, from the very young to the elderly. Finally if you would like to support Graham Clark, please vote up ballot papers 8, 16, 18, 19, 11, 4, 10, 5, 8, 2, 5, 14, 7, 13, 6, 1.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.2.6: Candidate statement leaflet for Swipers Gully Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.

Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be posted before local clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:


Unit 7/555 Station Street
Eliham

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES
Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.


COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
You have received this ballot pack because you are registered for this election. Voting is compulsory. If you work on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 23 August 2020.

Further information on voting arrangements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au.

You may receive an Appointment Notice to Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.



2020 Council Election
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020




Swipers Gully Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.
Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone 033 8619 1497 during business hours.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission
Victorian Electoral Commission

NOTICE: The content of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.




FECUNDO, John

I'm a retired university lecturer and research scientist. I've lived with my wife and daughters in Eliham for 27 years. Our beautiful community is under threat, the current Council tried to sell off our reserves and old site office site to developers. My questions at Council reveal that it's worth over \$4,000,000 of taxpayer dollars on failed projects. I want to change this. I've stood up for our community's character and the Green Wedge. It's why I was actively involved in the Save Community Reserves and Site Office site campaign, and why I'm a member of the Eliham Community Action Group. I also know how to deliver. I've been President of St Helena SC Council for the past 9 years. I initiated and led a project that has secured \$19.7 million from the State Government for a school rebuild and world-class sporting facilities for local community use. I know how to bring people together to get results. I was a member of the consultative committee for the re-opening of the RAFE campus and the Barvale Nillumbik Tech School at Greenborough, a member of the committee to establish the Eliham post Community Hospital and secretary of the ERLSEN Board. As an experienced Board member and Chair, I know how to consult widely and effectively, ensure well-informed decision-making and protect independent interests. I'm not a member of a political party and never have been. I won't spend time selfishly playing party politics like many of Nillumbik's current councillors do. Instead of fighting for our community. With your support, we can restore the focus on our community and protect our neighbourhood character. We deserve much better! Contact me at johnfecundo@gmail.com. I encourage you to fill in your ballot in this order: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11.

1

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EYRE, Frances

I first decided to stand for election in Swipers Gully and was outaged that Council tried to sell our community reserves. I believe we need a councillor that lives in our community who is focused on getting things done. I have lived in Swipers Gully with my family for 11 years. I'm a Community Development Officer with 25 years work in our community, including mental health education, youth work, bushfire recovery, and supporting groups such as the Eliham Men's Shed. I am determined to advocate for a Nillumbik Council that consults with community genuinely. I will re-activate Swipers Gully Ward meetings. My local priorities to connect our community include: a safe pedestrian crossing through the Koorbaidge railway line to connect Swipers Gully with the Eliham North Community Precinct, the immediate delivery of the Leana Drive traffic lights and improving the links between local parks. I support a zero increase in council rates. Good financial management of the budget is essential. This year with the difficulties we have faced during the pandemic, many businesses and families will need long-term support. I am passionate about giving youth a seat at the table. I elected I will create a Nillumbik Youth Strategy and work with the community to improve youth facilities. Another focus for me is the renewal of Nillumbik's Climate Change Action Plan, including investigation of community-based solar and energy generation to reduce our local carbon footprint and electricity bills. I will ensure Council supports a thriving and healthy Green Wedge. From my extensive community work with Council, I have the skills, knowledge and experience to know how Council operates and how to get things done. Vote 1. Frances Eyre and please number your ballot in the following order: 2, 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11.

2

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No Photo Submitted

CUSACK, Simone

No Statement Submitted

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Nillumbik Shire Council

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MELOCCO, John

My name is John Meleocco and I moved to Nillumbik 10 years ago. I live with my wife Caroline and two children. We have always been active in the local community as members of school council, volunteering as a soccer coach and I was the Nat. Pres. During the Save Our Community Reserves. Professionally, I work in corporate finance and provide funding solutions to small businesses across Australia. Being responsible for making million-dollar decisions is a daily reality. Politically, I was a Liberal Party member many years ago but felt disappointed given the change in direction. I actually care for the environment and look to a contemporary future. Plus, you cannot be a career member of a political party or employed by a political party and call yourself independent, then ridiculous. And treats the voters as tools. I chose this area based on many factors and I am now standing for council as I'm disappointed in seeing our neighbourhood slowly eroded by this council under the disguise of development. In not against development as long as its sustainable and appropriate. The current council practices fiscal responsibility which has not appeared. Then again, our previous councillor, sold up and moved before his term expired. How committed is his appointed successor? It's easy to call for lower rates as a cheap slogan. But to be responsible? We forget, a significant reason for our higher rates is due to a former Liberal Premier, re-drawing council boundaries and having Enquire the Industrial zone of Melbourne. Reducing our tax base. Regardless of the outcome, I'll continue to fight for Nillumbik residents. In completing your ballot paper, I recommend the numbering the ballot from top to bottom 4, 3, 2, 1, 6, 7, 5, 11, 10, 9, 8 (Keep Nillumbik Beautiful), John Meleocco.

4

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HASZLER, Henry Charles

I promise to stand up for Swanton Gully. The 2017-2020 Council neglected Swanton and even tried to "resurface" our local parks, all while passing the Shire budget. Lower rates are good, but serious increased changes or lower power services. And guess what? Budgeted over time in 2020-21 was 60% higher than in 2016-17. I estimate Council's grandstanding rate decisions since 2017 will strip around \$25m out of our funds over the next decade. To save money Council asked our garden but, I estimate, accepted a 10% increase in the salary costs of the top management for 2020-21. I will work with the community on the difficult job of repairing Nillumbik's budget. I bring logical thinking, a career in economic research and public policy and a commitment to good governance via informed financially sustainable policies responsive to community needs and aspirations. I have lived in Swanton for 29 years and our kids have grown up here being attended Egham North Primary and Egham High where I was on School Council for seven years. We chose to live in Egham because of the Green Heritage Shire's leafy environment. I am not and have never been a member of any political party. I have been increasingly involved in local issues since 2018. I am a member of Friends of Egham Lower Park and I have been friends of Nillumbik's Treasurer since 2016. My vision for Nillumbik is of a community living in harmony where its needs are met through a budgetary process that protects the Shire's unique biodiversity, environmental and physical assets and where people have the chance to achieve their personal goals. Please vote 1 Henry Haszler and number the ballot from top to bottom 3, 2, 8, 5, 1, 7, 4, 11, 10, 9, 6. Thank you.

5

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GERALI, Bijana

Our environment is everything in Nillumbik, and Council needs to take environmental protection and climate change seriously. We must care for our incredible environment, local wildlife and native species and keep the Green Wedge green. I want Council to become carbon neutral as soon as possible. Bipartisan in needed on climate change and there is more to be done across the Shire to support businesses and residents to make this transition. I will develop both Council-funded and community-led environmental programs to clean up our parks and stop litter killing birds and other animals. Nillumbik should be a leader in land management and environmental protection. I have lived in Egham for 25 years and seen how overdevelopment is ruining our suburbs. Planning decisions are out of step with community expectations, and townhouses were approved in a street near my house with no footpath. We have not been listened to. I will be your independent and local voice on Council and stop greedy developers and overdevelopment. We need more public transport lanes in the area, especially around Research, in being our community together and protect our environment. I want Council to bid a regular stipend from our underdeveloped areas to help older and mobility-impaired residents to stay independent and to their weekly shop. The less cars off the roads, the better for our planet and climate. I work in the disability sector and understand the support that people with disabilities and caring need. I will work to include everyone in our Nillumbik community everyone has an important contribution to make. I would ensure that our parks, public transport, and community facilities are available and accessible to everyone in Nillumbik. Support me and our environment by voting top to bottom 10 11 7 8 9 1 3 2 4 6.

8

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KIROV, Nerida

Egham townswomen for its natural beauty, its history with the arts and strong community spirit. I am a person who cannot sit back and do nothing when we are beautiful area under threat. Tired of my involvement with the Save Community Reserves campaign and organising the rally that saw over 3,000 people marching in protest. This Council's written focus on selling off public assets and wasting millions of dollars on reviews that they have no intention of acting on has to be stopped. Trying to keep rates low by selling assets and borrowing money is irresponsible. We need councillors that are in touch with all of our community and are not just using us as a stepping stone to a career in State or Federal politics. I grew up and have lived in the area for over 65 years. One of the children from the Kirov family, our next to school of Egham East and Egham High. Our family have been heavily involved in local sport: the Wildcats, Panthers, Redskins and the Lower Egham Cricket club. My youth was spent at Mordialloc performing in plays and music performances with Sebastian Jorgensen. Having studied Music and Community Development, I worked for Egham Council as a Youth Worker and also organised many music concerts and programs. I was a member of an advisory group to the Council that led to the Egham John Ainslie (now Nillumbik) and the Alan Marshall Street Stage Theatre. Protecting our natural environment has always been important to me leading to my involvement with campaigns such as saving the Egham Copper bushy, Wintonia Park beautiful Manna Gums, and trying to save the Old Shire offices. Please number your ballot in the following order 3, 2, 8, 5, 4, 7, 1, 11, 10, 9, 6.

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LOMBARDO, Zac

I want future generations in Nillumbik to enjoy the same opportunities and lifestyle that I had growing up in our Green Wedge. I was born and raised in the Nillumbik Shire. Our unique lifestyle is the main reason we live there in Egham and Research but overdevelopment is deteriorating our way of life. I will initiate a Neighbourhood Character Strategy and a Tree Canopy Plan to ensure planning outcomes respect the leafy amenity of our town. I live in Egham, attended local schools and have lived in Nillumbik for over 25 years. Traffic management has not kept up with population growth. I will streamline bus and bike access to upgrade traffic flow in Egham, and will not accept any further changes for the greenfield. Leaky Drain traffic lights. I will make it easier to get around our community with improved street lighting, footpath quality, and street tree management, and upgraded facilities and maintenance for our beautiful trails to make walking a safe and accessible option for getting about. Protecting your household budget is more important to me than growing the Nillumbik Council Budget. This year I successfully petitioned Council to freeze rates to keep more money in our pockets and protect local jobs. We cannot risk unaffordable rate rises in the current recession. I will implement an innovative eco-tourism and sustainable business plan to revive our local economy. I want what it means to be responsible for business decisions over my career working for large tech companies and Government. Nillumbik needs to listen more and be user-friendly. I am approachable, engaged, and will actively consult with you. I am passionate about our home and am asking for your support so we can move Nillumbik forward together. Vote top down 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 1 2 3 4.

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PETERSON, Michelle

No Statement Submitted

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Nillumbik Shire Council


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MUSTAFA, Jerry

Family means everything to me, and I want Egham and Berrimah to be the best place in Melbourne to raise a family. I have two teenage kids of my own and I understand just how much pressure local families are facing right now. Council needs to support our family-friendly lifestyle in Nillumbik by investing in parks, paths and sporting clubs to encourage our kids to stay active, healthy and connected with our community. I'm standing as a candidate for you and your family this election. Being able to keep active and healthy is more important now than ever enjoying local parks and trails, and keeping active in the community is essential for all of our health. Egham should be a big open space with areas to move around, and we need to get out of the house more than ever these days in lockdown. I've been a part of the Nillumbik Shire for over 25 years running local family businesses including Chicken on Baton St and Bridge Kids Early Learning Centre. Many Councilors are elected without any understanding of budgeting and financial accountability. As an established business owner I will bring a fiscal, business-minded approach to Council which respects your household budget and ensures that rates are set at a fair and reasonable level. Council should put the ratepayers of Nillumbik first just like any good business puts their customers first. Planning applications, inspections and maintenance works should be undertaken diligently and without undue delay. I will work to lift customer service standards on Council to deliver the same professional service that you would expect from any business. To suggest me and my plan for local families vote top in Egham 11 19 8 8 7 6 5 2 4 1 3.

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WORONIUK, Mick

Nillumbik Council needs to stick to local issues. In running for Council to keep us focused on roads, rubbish, local sporting clubs and graffiti removal is the sign of paradise we live in here. Local government is not the place for national debates about Australia Day, climate change and other big social issues. Our Council is too important to justify a taxpayer for career politicians. Spraying graffiti around our town is unacceptable and poisonous paint makes its way into our local parks. I am sick of about crashing down on antisocial behaviour and punishing the offenders. Clearing graffiti up costs a fortune and these kids never learn because they get away with it again and again. I want more constructive activities for young people in Nillumbik through community and sporting clubs. The next fire season is coming up. We are not ready. I take fire management seriously and will clean up Council reserves and sort out rural properties that are not maintained. The fire risk threatens all of our homes. Egham traffic is getting worse. We are stuck along with potholes but nothing gets done. Some days it takes 30 minutes to get out of Egham. I will take action and sort it out. My kids attended local schools and sporting clubs, and they still live and work in the area. I hope that they can raise their kids here in Egham one day. I have been a part of the community for nearly 20 years and have been a carpenter all my life. We need an honest battler on Council. Vote 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 to keep them fair dinkum.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 7.2.7: Candidate statement leaflet for Wingrove Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020
 Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
 Complete and return as soon as possible.
 See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.


VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.
 Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count.
 Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:
 Unit 27/28 Bolton Street
 Epping

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES
 Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
 You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 26 August 2020.
 Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au


You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.



Nillumbik
The Green Wedge Shire

2020 Council Election
VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Wingrove Ward boundaries are in place for this election




Wingrove Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.
Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1457 during business hours.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission


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MCCARTHY, Sigrid

Based in St Andrews, the Green Wedge is home. After years away, I have returned to Nillumbik with my partner to start a family. We want our children to enjoy the wildlife and natural landscapes that are quintessential to this Shire. This is not an easy task, but it is a critical moment in history. A younger generation should be involved in all decision making that will affect our future. We will have to work with the uncertain situations that challenge us – the economy, the environment, the values we hold as a community. More than ever, we need to work together to protect what matters. I offer my time to work towards a future where kids can enjoy their childhoods knowing those at the helm of decision making have their best interests at heart. Climate science is real and needs to inform local action. The council needs to not only prepare for climate change but actively mitigate emissions. We need to manage local risks whilst also ensuring our natural systems can thrive. Yes, we are a local shire, but we should still work towards reducing global warming and mitigate its real effects to our local, air we can breathe, nature and global decisions. Preserving what is unique to our area gives people a reason to visit our special town. We have always valued the environment, music, and the arts; these not only support tourism but give us a strengthened sense of community and optimism. And we could all do with more of that right now! If my statement resonates with you, please your ballot numbers in the following order starting from the top: 1, 12, 13, 6, 7, 14, 15, 16, 8, 10, 5, 11, 4, 2, 17, 3, 18, 9


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ALEXANDER, Wayne

Fight for a new direction. Hi I'm Wayne. I am a long-term local resident, married with three adult children, having lived for the past 10 years in Epping. Over the years I have been an active member of Ages and Rotary service clubs and the CRA. I have owned a local business for the past 25 years so I know what it takes to run a business and how difficult that is in this COVID environment, so I support putting Council's focus into the economic development of our Shire. With little to no covid cases we need to reopen retail and cafes; we can do this in a covid-safe way. We need to get a planning system that works for our residents that's simple and clear. We need sensible development which remains faithful to the unique character of Epping. Epping must be the centre of our local government, not Greensborough. Council should sell our current Shire offices and build a new one on the empty bomb-site on Main Road. This will be a huge boost to our local economy in Epping. We can boost tourism by creating a business friendly Council which will cut red-tape in this Shire. If elected I will look to develop events that utilise the strengths of our shire, for example holding weekend music and other events at the Epping Town Square, and hold an annual fishing competition along the Yarra River. I support lowering rates and ensuring best value for money for ratepayers. Vote 1 Wayne Alexander and number all the other candidates in order of preference.

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SENESE, Brad

Independent Labour voter. At the last election I voted Labour and I'm a Labour supporter but I'm standing as an Independent. I will listen and fight for the unheard Nillumbik residents. You matter and I will fight for you. I support Labour values. I will care and listen to people. I will ensure we have the services we need. I support the investment into a community hospital and it should be located in the centre of Epping. I support the Labour policy of more car parks at the station. I believe Council should fund libraries a bit more. This is our residents most loved service. I will promote kids being active that's why I support a full size skate park in Epping. Older Australians have helped families, paid taxes and contributed to our society. They deserve support from the Council especially when their needs are unique. I will fight for the elderly. People living with disability do not deserve to feel having no access to care. In Nillumbik Council I will support local disability care and better footpaths around our area. Many people I have spoken to have concerns about childcare, early learning and schooling through the pandemic. Whether you are a provider, worker or parent this has been a hugely challenging and stressful time. If elected I will support you and the sector. Vote 1 Brad Senese – a candidate who puts people first. I recommend voting in the following order from top to bottom of the ballot paper: 8, 7, 1, 6, 5, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 4, 18, 2, 9, with a number in every square.

Nillumbik Shire Council

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DINSDALE, Adrian

My main priority if elected to Eilham council is simple, a return to the basic principles of good governance, which means consultation, community engagement, accountability, transparency and evidence-based decision making. I have been actively concerned with the way this council has operated, leading to my decision to stand for Weyrow Ward. I have lived in Eilham with my wife and children for 10 years, having grown up in St Andrews and Kingslake. I have a deep and personal passion for the Nillumbik shire; my family were early pioneers of the St Andrews area and still have a road named after them in St Andrews (Dinsdale Road). Professionally I am a PhD qualified scientist working in biosecurity. I lead a team of research scientists based at the national quarantine facility to improve biosecurity outcomes for Australia. I understand working in collaboration with others and within budgets. Our community, especially now, needs to be supported by a Local Council that makes considered decisions following the Good Governance principles listed above. I will also use my scientific skills and knowledge to ensure council decisions and operations are safe and informed. In this time of crisis, the council needs a voice who can speak with authority on issues relating to the current pandemic, both social and technical, now more than ever. I recommend voting in the following order from top to bottom: 10, 11, 13, 1, 6, 13, 14, 15, 5, 4, 3, 16, 7, 2, 17, 8, 12, 9 with a number in every square.

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BONGA, Sharon

Hello, my name is Sharon, I have lived in central Eilham with my husband Jason for 17 years. We have two children 10 and 12 who go to the local Primary school and a dog baby. I have 20 years experience in Finance, working collaboratively with people to deliver successful outcomes. I was an active, passionate member of the 'Save Community Reserves' group that successfully stopped the sale of 14 community reserves that the Council proposed to sell in 2018. I have volunteered for roles in many local groups such as Eilham Child-care Cooperative, Eilham Pre School, Eilham Junior Football Club, Diamond Creek Netball Club and Eilham Tennis Club. Away from Eilham I volunteer as a water ripper coordinator with the Bachelors Victoria, and I am a trustee member of the Eilham Community which should mean easy open community consultation to me. I love Eilham, the community, the natural environment, it is our home and I would be proud to represent Weyrow. If you would like to vote for me please number, from top to bottom, like this 10, 13, 14, 15, 1, 15, 7, 10, 11, 3, 5, 4, 2, 17, 6, 18, 9.

5

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KOTTEK, Juanita

Carbon Free Nillumbik. I'm standing as a lifelong resident with a local beauty therapy business, Juanita Beauty Service. I enjoyed a beautiful lifestyle growing up. My main concern as your councillor will be caring for our local environment and reducing our carbon footprint so future generations can continue to enjoy Eilham as we know it. Council policies need to support women in business and support tourism. Our lifestyle is what makes Nillumbik great. Councillors need to understand the pain of high rates and need to be sympathetic to our plight. I support our Green Wedge and maintaining our tree canopy. The State Government must defend and preserve the Green Wedge. We need to increase our street trees and improve our footpaths. We must reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and help our community members make a difference. I support a major team for Nillumbik Shire. Nillumbik Shire can be carbon free! Vote 1 Juanita Kottek. On your ballot, vote top to bottom in this order: 2, 7, 6, 5, 4, 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 3, 18, 2, 3, include a number in every square.

5

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NALATO, Isabel

Together, as a community, we shape our neighbourhoods; together we will guide the future of Eilham - Nillumbik, for generations to come. Vote 1 Isabel Nalato - your positive advocate for Eilham and all Nillumbik citizens and your only genuinely independent Weyrow Ward representative. Integrity, honesty and compassion are my hallmarks. I will listen, be proactive, and work to keep rates below CPI with sound financial management. We faced many recent challenges, including attempts to sell off our community buildings, reserves and public open spaces; major weather and fire events; and the pandemic. We need a Council that engages appropriately. I have first-hand how Councils operate, improve consultation, and achieve efficiency. My career includes working in Councils, the financial sector, not-for-profits, and subsidised manufacturing. I am passionate about our community: our people - young, old, families, singles, and the marginalised. I am concerned about our environment and its impact on our health and wellbeing. I am dedicated to our local businesses operating in financially difficult times. A proud, long-term local, I'm excited about the opportunities we have to shape and plan for the ongoing enjoyment and protection of this wonderful and significant area, including developing Nillumbik's Community Vision - to guide Council for the longer-term. I serve the community in many ways. More information is available on my Facebook page: @isabelnalogrouse. You can email me: isabelnalogrouse@gmail.com or call me: 0492 660 956. Vote 1 Isabel Nalato. I recommend voting in the following order from top to bottom of the ballot paper: 6, 17, 16, 11, 3, 14, 1, 15, 10, 12, 2, 4, 8, 9, 13, 5, 18, 7 with a number in every square.

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DJORDJEVIC, Peter

Genuine independent. We've lost control of what we love about Eilham. I love the environment, the local shopping centre, the cafes, the uniqueness and culture that characterises Nillumbik Shire. We have projects that don't make sense because there has been no consultation. If elected I will consult with the community on all issues that matter to you. Money is being wasted at a time we need it more than ever. I am a father and I want to see our council provide support to the community groups and businesses in our Shire to make it a place where our children will not only grow up in, but be empowered to become intelligent and well-rounded people. As your councillor, I will not sell off our assets. I want to build on what makes this Shire special and enhance it to help our community reach its full potential. I believe after decades in retail business, I have the qualifications to help lead our neighbourhood into the future. I'm running for Council so we can focus Council on community outcomes, not act as a business. The best services are only possible with the best staff. I'm a genuine independent. I'm neither left nor right. I will lead in the best interests of local. Vote 1 Peter Djordjevic - Genuine Independent. From top to bottom please vote in the order: 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 1, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 3, 18, 2, 11, and number in every square.

7

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KINRADE, Wayne

I've had enough. As an economist, management consultant, and employer I've used to making hard, financially responsible decisions. I expect the same fiscal discipline from our Council. As a long-term resident of 33 years in the Shire, I've heard all the rhetoric before. Our last Council promised a lot but only delivered underlying structural financial problems. Yes, the last Council capped rates, but they don't publicise the impact of their other decisions. Between 2017 and 2020, Council expenses rose 7 times faster than rates; Council cash reserves decreased by 64%; and Council working capital reduced by 50%. Council's last three budgets have delivered deficits. Over the same period charges increased at levels substantially higher than inflation: parking fines - +21%; building permits - +81%; Council noise fee - +23%; sports field ground hire - +44%. This means Council attempted to sell off public reserves to cover their revenue shortfall. Fortunately, our community blocked that strategy and those assets are still on the balance sheet. But then the Council tried to outsource Eskdale Farm. Things need to change. Stop avoid a repeat performance of these fiscal problems. Side-step candidates who do not align to our community values. Vote 1 for competent fiscal management with purpose. Vote 1 for an independent, objective voice with attention to the financial detail. Vote 1 Wayne Kinrade. How you allocate your preferences in your call, but I suggest the following order: 10 11 12 5 6 13 14 15 1 4 3 16 7 2 17 8 18.

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Nillumbik Shire Council

<p>NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any irregularities or omissions should be directed to the Electoral Commission. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Electoral Commission.</p>  <p>STUTCHBURY, Charlie</p> <p>No Statement Submitted</p> <p>10</p>	<p>NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any irregularities or omissions should be directed to the Electoral Commission. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Electoral Commission.</p>  <p>COLEMAN, Helen</p> <p>I have lived in Eltham for 37 years with my husband and raised our two children in this special place we call home with its lovely environment and heritage, making Eltham a wonderful place. I had the privilege of representing the community for 12 of those years (2004-2016) as a former Councillor and served twice as Mayor. I have experience and knowledge and I will always commit, listen and respond promptly to your concerns and strongly represent your views to Council. Working with the community I was proud to have delivered many major infrastructure facilities such as the redeveloped Eltham Leisure Centre along with many more neighbourhood renewal improvements we enjoy today; emergency preparedness and response being a priority. This is an important election for us all as it has been a tumultuous 4 years for our Council and more particularly with the challenges of 2020. I will work for you to bring stability and confidence back to Council so we can have improved core services, to enjoy our natural and built environment, our community shared facilities such as libraries, sports infrastructure, parks, walking trails and the arts. I will protect and preserve our unique neighbourhood character, environment and Green Wedge from overdevelopment and address the impact of climate change at a local level. I will keep rates below CPI, continuing sound financial management practices. I am passionate about our community and if elected I have the experience, energy, and enthusiasm to make Eltham an even better place to live. I seek your support for election Vote 1 Helen Coleman and I encourage voting in the following order from top to bottom of the ballot paper 8, 17, 16, 11, 6, 14, 3, 15, 10, 12, 2, 1, 7, 4, 13, 5, 9, with a number in every square.</p> <p>11</p>	<p>NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any irregularities or omissions should be directed to the Electoral Commission. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Electoral Commission.</p>  <p>GALTRY, Peter</p> <p>Hello fellow Green Wedgers. I am proud to acknowledge the wonderful people as the traditional owners of the land on which I live and the values that should guide it. My wife and I have lived in Eltham for just over 50 years now and we have raised two amazing, empowered young women with a good moral base and an ear and eye for community, natural justice and the environment. I think my broader community for helping with that. It reflects where we live. What's important to me about Nillumbik and Wingeo Ward. A sense of community, the trees, the birds, housing and landscapes. Community - I don't just want to be informed by council about what is proposed. I want myself and my community to be consulted. The Trees, Birds, Housing and Landscapes are not separate development as such. I do appreciate the dichotomy that exists in trying to curb the urban sprawl, making appropriate use of the land that exists for redevelopment and not adversely affecting neighbourhood character. Neighbourhood character is why we choose to live where we do. It's not against some redevelopment, it just needs to be appropriate to, and complement the surrounds. That is possible. I thank all the previous Wingeo Ward councillors for all their hard work. I have been a bit happier with some than others in terms of putting the community first and engaging in consultation. Council isn't just a business. If you're not happy with how you have been represented politically, change who you vote for. I recommend voting in the following order from top to bottom of the ballot paper 8, 17, 16, 11, 6, 14, 3, 15, 10, 12, 2, 1, 7, 4, 13, 5, 9 with a number in every square.</p> <p>12</p>
<p>NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any irregularities or omissions should be directed to the Electoral Commission. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Electoral Commission.</p>  <p>DIXON, Lou</p> <p>Hi, my Lou Dixon. You won't have heard from me before now because I came about waste, recycling and resource recovery. I didn't want to waste paper thinking that you could read about my local I have lived in Eltham for almost 20 years and will probably never leave. I love the strong community vibe, the neighbourhood character and beautiful tree canopy. I am passionate about the environment, equality and making a positive contribution to the world. I have an honours Business degree and have significant experience in managing the administration and marketing functions of corporate, government and not for profit sectors. I have worked in many industries, from food and agriculture to disability services and currently, with an organisation that enables employment opportunities for autistic jobseekers. I volunteer on several local committees, one promoting smart brick house building (a beautiful and environmentally friendly way to build), one fundraising Committee making real and lasting health changes in Africa and also the local footy club (a fun one). I have kids in the local primary and high schools. I have enjoyed a broad life experience and have the enthusiasm and drive to serve our community on Council. For more information email me at lou@louisdixon.com.au or visit our website at www.louisdixon.com.au. I encourage voting in the following order from top to bottom: 8, 12, 16, 7, 4, 14, 6, 15, 5, 9, 3, 16, 1, 2, 17, 10, 13, 11</p> <p>13</p>	<p>NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any irregularities or omissions should be directed to the Electoral Commission. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Electoral Commission.</p>  <p>PAINE, Geoff</p> <p>No Statement Submitted</p> <p>14</p>	<p>NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidate. Any irregularities or omissions should be directed to the Electoral Commission. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Electoral Commission.</p>  <p>MUSTAFA, Florie</p> <p>Family Focused here. I have been a part of the Nillumbik Shire for over 25 years, married with two teenage kids and I run a local Eltham childcare centre and Opies on Bolton St. During these COVID19 circumstances it has certainly proved to be very challenging. We need to keep rates low for residents and businesses alike. Council needs to provide greater support for our Preschools and Kindergartens. This will be a focus of mine together with improvements to our roads. Access around our footpaths or roads is important for those with a disability, the elderly and parents with a pram. We need to focus on this. Council should subsidise swim classes for kids under three at our swim centres. It's critical for kids to learn to swim early and become water safe. Parents appreciate Council services, particularly our library and our playgrounds. I will support more programs for young families. With a business and resident-focused approach to Council I will respect your household budget and ensure that rates are set at a fair and reasonable level. Council needs to support our family-friendly lifestyle in Nillumbik by investing in events, parks and sporting clubs to encourage our kids to stay healthy and active and to promote the community feel in Eltham. I am standing as a candidate for you and your family this election. To elect me, from top to bottom on the ballot paper, vote in this order 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 1, 18, 2, 9, please number in every square.</p> <p>15</p>

Nillumbik Shire Council

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GRIMES, Alex

I have lived in Eitham almost my entire life and have worked in a small local family business for the past 12 years. I love Eitham, and as a member of the Greens, I am extremely concerned about biodiversity loss and bush clearing in Eitham. Our region has a distinct architectural, environmental and artistic heritage and my goal is to protect it from large-scale developments that would be the antithesis of the Eitham character. The current council is determined to fill Eitham with massive ugly apartment blocks, sell off our public reserves, privatise our assets and squander money garnered from our rates. However if I am elected, my top priorities will be to: 1) Protect and strengthen the Green Wedge Scheme and to encourage only developments that fit within the character of Eitham. 2) Value and support local businesses to recover post-COVID and to conduct sustainable business practices. 3) Work with other young people to have their ideas and concerns heard in Council. I also want to help our community adapt to global warming through appropriate environmental initiatives. The after-effects of COVID-19 mean Council, businesses and the community will need to work closely together to ensure a viable future for us all. I will be that link and a strong voice for the community. Contact me at alex.grimes@thegreens.org.au. Please vote from top to bottom: 3, 15, 16, 7, 8, 17, 4, 9, 10, 11, 3, 6, 12, 2, 13, 1, 18, 14.

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MULHOLLAND, David

My wife Bernie and my young daughter Isabella live in Eitham for its beautiful environment and strong community spirit. Despite and I understand the need for quality services for all ages. Our spectacular and bush setting and why we love Eitham and it must be protected. Living in the Green Wedge is special, it must be protected for future generations. The Council could consult better, keeping you informed on planning and major projects. We need to protect against overdevelopment by setting a Neighbourhood Character Strategy which sets in stone how we want Eitham to be. Nillumbik had a reputation for spiralling high Council rates. Whilst this trend has reversed in recent times, I will ensure the stays on track and I will maintain the policy of lower rates. I will focus on getting the basic services right: water, waste, law enforcement, drainage, footpaths, support for sporting and community groups, assisting business. I am a Senior Manager at Deloitte Digital, one of the most prominent IT companies in Australia. I have worked with major businesses and government departments throughout Australia making the IT experience of their customers user-friendly. We should be able to interact with our Council in a user-friendly manner with online messaging in addition to the option of a quick response on the phone. I chair the Eitham & Nillumbik Neighbourhood Watch, Eitham Rotarians Eitham Group, and am a member of Eitham Historical Society and Morley-Eitham RSA. I love Eitham and will ensure we get back to basics. We can do better. Vote 1 David Mulholland. Please vote from top to bottom of the ballot paper in the following order: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 3, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 2, 17, 1, 18, with a number in every square. davidmulholland.net.au

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GREGORY, Chris

I am Chris Gregory, long-time resident of Nillumbik, an traditional Warrnambool Warrnambool local. My family have lived here since the 1960s. I am a self-employed small business owner and a disappointed ratepayer. I'd like to tell you what value I hold dear, so you can measure them against your own when you vote. I believe that economic wellbeing starts with human wellbeing, not the reverse. I believe that the Nillumbik "brand" is of social and economic value only if it remains true to its Green Wedge legacy. I believe that facilities used by the community are best owned and managed by the community. This creates jobs and self-determination within the community. I believe that our involvement in sport, the arts, outdoor life, community gatherings, volunteering, spiritual pursuits, work, trade, politics and problem solving is what makes us strong. I passionately believe that an ancient tree is more important than a car, but that safe, efficient and environmentally sound solutions must be found for those who have to, and through, our community. I believe that every effort must be made to support, enable and nurture the children, refugees, the vulnerable, otherwise able, the elderly and all a typical members of our community; they are our neighbors and we stand together to thrive. I believe in supporting our locally owned businesses, lest we lose them. We have a duty to look to the future wellbeing of the community. Individuals and involvement of our citizens without exploiting our traditions of respect, enterprise, autonomy and generosity. I do not believe that party politics belong in local council. If this resonates with you, please cast your vote by numbering the squares from top to bottom as follows: 3, 12, 13, 14, 4, 15, 6, 16, 10, 11, 3, 8, 6, 2, 17, 7, 18, 1.

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Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 8: Daily breakdown of the general mail-out

Nillumbik Shire Council election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
16,353	16,353	15,394	48,100

Blue Lake Ward election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
2,466	2,466	2,322	7,254

Bunjil Ward election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
2,235	2,235	2,104	6,574

Edendale Ward election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
2,472	2,472	2,326	7,270

Ellis Ward election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
2,313	2,313	2,178	6,804

Sugarloaf Ward election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
2,173	2,173	2,045	6,391

Swipers Gully Ward election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
2,481	2,481	2,335	7,297

Wingrove Ward election			
6 October 2020	7 October 2020	8 October 2020	Total
2,213	2,213	2,084	6,510

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 9: Result information

Nillumbik Shire Council election

Blue Lake Ward Count summary		
Enrolment:	7,254	
Formal votes:	6,091	
Informal votes:	213 (3.38% of the total votes)	
Voter turnout:	6,304 (86.90% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
FARLEY, Susan	479	7.86%
BULLOCK, Jennifer	770	12.64%
GUY, Pamela	208	3.41%
HENDERSON, Anna	962	15.79%
GRIFFITHS, Peter	406	6.67%
STOCKMAN, Richard	1,070	17.57%
BROOKER, Grant	1,876	30.80%
WOODHOUSE, Bruce	320	5.25%
Successful candidate		
STOCKMAN, Richard		

Nillumbik Shire Council

Bunjil Ward Count summary		
Enrolment:	6,574	
Formal votes:	5,575	
Informal votes:	212 (3.66% of the total votes)	
Voter turnout:	5,787 (88.03% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
GRAHAM, Hannah	452	8.11%
SIMPSON, Sue	311	5.58%
EGAN, Karen Jane	1,726	30.96%
PENROSE, Bill	280	5.02%
VAN HULSEN, Anika	277	4.97%
ROSENHAIN, Sue	182	3.26%
MULLINS, Steve	1,126	20.20%
WALLACE, James	250	4.48%
HUNTER, Sarah	337	6.04%
TIBBETTS, Carol	82	1.47%
VEERMAN, Brian	289	5.18%
NELSON, Melanie	160	2.87%
DOVILE, Tania	103	1.85%
Successful candidate		
EGAN, Karen Jane		

Nillumbik Shire Council

Edendale Ward Count summary		
Enrolment:	7,270	
Formal votes:	6,274	
Informal votes:	198 (3.06% of the total votes)	
Voter turnout:	6,472 (89.02% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
SINCLAIR, Stuart	539	8.59%
HALL, Colin	552	8.80%
O'SHANNASSY, Michael	301	4.80%
McCLINTOCK, Jason	348	5.55%
DUMARESQ, John	1,439	22.94%
DUFFY, Natalie	1,935	30.84%
KLEIN, Meralyn	482	7.68%
SEWELL-STAPLES, Keith	125	1.99%
SWEENEY, David	488	7.78%
DAGHASH, Wassim	65	1.04%
Successful candidate		
DUFFY, Natalie		

Ellis Ward Count summary		
Enrolment:	6,804	
Formal votes:	5,802	
Informal votes:	129 (2.18% of the total votes)	
Voter turnout:	5,931 (87.17% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
PERKINS, Peter	3,692	63.63%
FRIEDE, Naomi Yvette	1,410	24.30%
METLA, Venu	700	12.06%
Successful candidate		
PERKINS, Peter		

Nillumbik Shire Council

Sugarloaf Ward Count summary		
Enrolment:	6,389	
Formal votes:	5,353	
Informal votes:	282 (5.00% of the total votes)	
Voter turnout:	5,635 (88.20% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
CROCK, Damian	321	6.00%
RAMCHARAN, Ben	1,541	28.79%
RUTTEN, Cath	208	3.89%
COPE, Kim	204	3.81%
JORGENSEN, Rhannon	243	4.54%
HOLMES, Janet	64	1.20%
VINCENT, Don	603	11.26%
CLARK, Mary	84	1.57%
STERRETT, Charlotte	169	3.16%
CAMPBELL, Narelle	774	14.46%
SCATURCHIO, Vincent Edward Robert	193	3.61%
THROSSELL, Karen	99	1.85%
RUCHEL, Virginia	153	2.86%
CAROLYN-NOEL	56	1.05%
MILNER, Meg	238	4.45%
CLARK, Graham	403	7.53%
Successful candidate		
RAMCHARAN, Ben		

Nillumbik Shire Council

Swipers Gully Ward Count summary		
Enrolment:	7,298	
Formal votes:	6,296	
Informal votes:	182 (2.81% of the total votes)	
Voter turnout:	6,478 (88.76% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
FECONDO, John	1,225	19.46%
EYRE, Frances	1,849	29.37%
CUSACK, Simone	52	0.83%
MELOCCO, John	172	2.73%
HASZLER, Henry Charles	238	3.78%
GERALI, Biljana	401	6.37%
KIROV, Nerida	189	3.00%
LOMBARDO, Zac	1,362	21.63%
PETERSON, Michelle	49	0.78%
MUSTAFA, Jerry	299	4.75%
WORONIUK, Mick	460	7.31%
Successful candidate		
EYRE, Frances		

Nillumbik Shire Council

Wingrove Ward Count summary		
Enrolment:	6,510	
Formal votes:	5,495	
Informal votes:	305 (5.26% of the total votes)	
Voter turnout:	5,800 (89.09% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
McCARTHY, Sigrid	195	3.55%
ALEXANDER, Wayne	196	3.57%
SENESE, Brad	45	0.82%
DINSDALE, Adrian	243	4.42%
BONGA, Sharon	302	5.50%
KOTTEK, Juanita	82	1.49%
NALATO, Isabel	58	1.06%
DJORDJEVIC, Peter	83	1.51%
KINRADE, Wayne	329	5.99%
STUTCHBURY, Charlie	43	0.78%
COLEMAN, Helen	849	15.45%
GALTRY, Peter	61	1.11%
DIXON, Lou	168	3.06%
PAINE, Geoff	1,197	21.78%
MUSTAFA, Florie	251	4.57%
GRIMES, Alex	328	5.97%
MULHOLLAND, David	934	17.00%
GREGORY, Chris	131	2.38%
Successful candidate		
PAINE, Geoff		

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 10: Election participation statistics

Note: Participation is measured by the number of marks on the roll as a percentage of total enrolment and can vary from turnout (total ballot papers counted as a percentage of total enrolment).

Nillumbik Shire Council election			
Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Comparator for 2016 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	90.68%	84.38%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	90.49%	84.42%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	91.92%	83.98%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	57.97%	52.26%	60.96%
Council total	89.86%	82.95%	84.12%

Blue Lake Ward election		
Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	89.74%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	89.76%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	89.58%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	58.00%	60.96%
Ward total	89.08%	84.12%

Nillumbik Shire Council

Bunjil Ward election

Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	90.47%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	90.24%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	91.93%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	52.63%	60.96%
Ward total	89.60%	84.12%

Edendale Ward election

Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	91.35%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	91.60%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	89.38%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	57.84%	60.96%
Ward total	90.88%	84.12%

Nillumbik Shire Council

Ellis Ward election

Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	89.95%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	89.66%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	92.30%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	56.42%	60.96%
Ward total	88.87%	84.12%

Sugarloaf Ward election

Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	90.48%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	90.37%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	91.18%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	58.56%	60.96%
Ward total	89.58%	84.12%

Nillumbik Shire Council

Swipers Gully Ward election

Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	90.90%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	90.35%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	94.91%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	56.74%	60.96%
Ward total	90.24%	84.12%

Wingrove Ward election

Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Nillumbik Shire Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	91.90%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	91.49%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	93.88%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	62.69%	60.96%
Ward total	90.74%	84.12%

Nillumbik Shire Council

Appendix 11: Complaints

Written complaints received by the VEC

Date	Nature of the complaint	Action taken by the VEC
7 September 2020	Complex Complaint - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Response provided
8 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Early Campaigning)	Response provided
14 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Referred to LGI
16 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Referred to LGI
18 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Alleged intimidation, harassment or assault)	Referred to LGI
21 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Response provided
21 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Location of Signs)	Response provided
23 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Alleged intimidation, harassment or assault)	Response provided
23 September 2020	Clarification of Process, Procedure or Legislation - Candidates and Parties (Candidate Statement or Questionnaire)	Action taken and responded
24 September 2020	Criticism - VEC Administration (VEC Procedures)	Action taken and responded
25 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Response provided
28 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Action taken and responded
28 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (False or Defamatory Information)	Action taken and responded
30 September 2020	General Question - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Response provided
1 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Referred to LGI

Nillumbik Shire Council

4 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Referred to LGI
5 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Action taken and responded
6 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Response provided
7 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Response provided
7 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Candidate Statement or Questionnaire)	Action taken and responded
8 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Conduct of Candidate or Party)	Action taken and responded
8 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Referred to LGI
8 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Response provided
8 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Referred to LGI
9 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (False or Defamatory Information)	Referred to LGI
10 October 2020	Clarification of Process, Procedure or Legislation - Advertising or Election Material (Early Campaigning)	Referred to LGI
10 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Alleged intimidation, harassment or assault)	Response provided
12 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Referred to LGI
12 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Offensive Material)	Referred to LGI
12 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - VEC as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Other)	Response provided
13 October 2020	Criticism - A Voting Centre or Election Office (Lack of information)	Response provided
13 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Enrolment (Incorrect or not updated enrolment details)	Response provided
15 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Response provided

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17 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Advertising or Election Material (How To Vote Cards)	Response provided
19 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Ballot Papers)	Action taken and responded
27 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Postal Vote Arrived Late)	Response provided
28 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Postal Vote Never Received)	Response provided
29 October 2020	Complex Complaint - A Voting Centre or Election Office (Scrutineers)	Response provided
2 November 2020	Criticism - Voting (Results)	Response provided
2 November 2020	Clarification of Process, Procedure or Legislation - Voting (Results)	Response provided
5 November 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Misleading or Deceptive Information)	Referred to LGI
6 November 2020	Clarification of Process, Procedure or Legislation - Voting (Results)	Action taken and responded
11 November 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Postal Vote Never Received)	Response provided

Enquiries: Mayor Perkins
Telephone: 9433 3111

12 May 2021

Building Review Secretariat
Better Regulation Victoria
GPO Box 4379,
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Secretariat,

I write on behalf of the Nillumbik Shire Council. The Nillumbik Shire Council welcomes the release of the Expert Panel's Review of Victoria's Building System and thank you for the extended opportunity to make representations in response.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting dated 25 May 2021, Council resolved to provide the following opportunities for improvements for the Expert Panel's consideration.

These opportunities highlight the concerns of the Municipal Building Surveyor (MBS) and shortfalls of the current building regulatory system that requires urgent reform:

1. Municipal Building Control Plans to be mandatory and approved by the State Building Surveyor(SBS);
2. Clear lines of responsibility for the various duties, functions and responsibilities of the authorities involved in the scheme to avoid buck passing;
3. The system needs to provide clear lines of funding for Councils and MBS to carry out their building control functions;
4. Establish the office of the SBS as a statutory technical peak building authority for the State of Victoria;
5. Independence and the current conflicts of interest of the Private Building Surveyor to be addressed;
6. The issue of orphaned Building Permits (these are building permits that have been issued by the private building surveyors who are no longer in the business of issuing building permits and remain unresolved) and who is responsible to complete the Relevant Building Surveyor functions on those;
7. Transparency in the process and separation of the certification and mandatory inspections functions – independence and auditing;
8. Enforcement should be a function of local government MBS – or SBS depending on the jurisdiction;
9. Any given building should only have one Occupancy Permit at any given time – issued and updated by MBS;

**CM.076/21 Expert Panel's Comprehensive Review of Victoria's Building System
- Framework for Reform
Attachment 1. Victorian Building Review Submission**

10. Skills and workforce planning, quality education courses and training opportunities in Local Government, private and SBS sectors to grow Building Surveyor numbers;
11. Increased accountability for Builders and trades generally – licensing and registration should be mandated;
12. Building Practitioner and Architect registrations and licensing of building trades to be centralised in Consumer Affairs Victoria (with the Engineers) – Consumer Protection Authority;
13. Consumer protection in the form of a robust Builders Warranty for all building work (currently only required for work over \$16,000 and limited compensation to consumer);
14. The plumbing functions of the VBA should sit with the same authority that is responsible for gas plumbing safety – currently Energy Safe Victoria.

Should you require further information or have any queries, please contact Rosa Zouzoulas Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety.

Kind Regards,

Mayor Peter Perkins
Nillumbik Shire Council

Inclusion Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

Classification: Advisory Committee of Council

To receive the Terms of Reference for the Inclusion Advisory Committee in an alternative format or for assistance, please phone 0438 277 428, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or email inclusion@nillumbik.vic.gov.au .

Purpose

To provide a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation in the implementation of the Disability Action Plan, as well as current and future planning to promote inclusion, including people with disability.

Objectives

- Assist and advise Council regarding key issues in relation to access and inclusion of people with disability, their families and carers.
- Assist Council in the review and identification of Council's current and future disability access and equity issues, including the provision of information and resources to the public.
- Advise Council on the implementation of the Disability Action Plan by discussing strategies to reduce barriers, increase economic participation, social participation and local connectedness.



- Provide a forum for the discussion of issues or barriers which may impact health, safety, wellbeing and resilience.
- Support opportunities to raise awareness and create a platform for leadership to promote inclusive communities.

Membership and chairperson

- Appointed Councillor to act as chairperson, with second Councillor to act as alternate chair
- Thirteen representatives selected; local people with disability, local carers of people with disability, inclusion advocates and local disability service providers (minimum of 4 disability service providers) who are also committed to the promotion of inclusion more broadly (e.g. to include LGBTI, cultural and linguistic diverse backgrounds).
- Volunteer community representatives to be inducted as Nillumbik Shire Council Volunteers.
- All members must represent the broad needs of the community and not individual needs or interests.
- Council's appointed Councillor will be the chairperson. In the event of the chairperson being unable to attend a meeting, the alternative chair will act in their place. Where no Councillor is present, the Committee will appoint a Temporary Chairperson for that meeting.

Selection and term of appointment

Members will be determined by a selection panel consisting of the chairperson and the Disability Inclusion Unit. Council will then endorse new members of the Inclusion Advisory Committee and (if updated) the Terms of Reference.

Members will be appointed for a two year term or until otherwise resolved by Council.

Members completing their term may re-apply.

Should a member wish to resign prior to their term of appointment finishing, written notification (via email and/or mail) must be given to the Council Officer of their intent.

A members' term of appointment may also cease if they fail to attend three consecutive meetings without notice of an apology.

Where a member resigns before the end of their term, a replacement committee member may be appointed by the remaining Advisory Committee members, Disability Inclusion Unit and chairperson.

Co-opted members

The Advisory Committee may invite suitable people to join in an advisory capacity, for a specified purpose and period of time. A co-opted member joins the Committee in an advisory capacity and does not form part of the quorum.

Where appropriate, working groups may be established as required to provide an opportunity for members to work collaboratively on specific issues and projects. Membership of the working groups will be open to members and non-members. A working group member will be nominated to provide feedback at meetings.

Quorum

A meeting can only take place with a quorum of:

- Four members.
- One Council officer must be present for administrative purposes.

Member responsibilities

In order to fulfill the Committee's objectives, members are expected to:

- Undertake induction as a volunteer of Nillumbik Shire Council.
- Demonstrate an understanding of inclusion within a local government structure.
- Be familiar with relevant Council plans and policies, particularly those related to inclusion.
- Prepare for and actively participate in regular meetings, with an ability to attend at least three of the bimonthly meetings held each year.
- Be aware of best practice principles relating to inclusion.
- Be aware of the activities, interests and concerns of stakeholder organisations and groups in the Shire.
- Declare conflicts of interest prior to the consideration of an agenda item.
- Be respectful of other members and open to new ideas and ways of thinking.

Nillumbik Shire Council is committed to providing a safe workplace for employees, councillors and volunteers.

Members of Council Advisory Committees must:

- Adhere to the Equal Opportunity Act 1995, and refrain from discriminating, harassing or bullying other people and using offensive language in their capacity as a member of the Committee.
- Adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 and have regard to the principles of health and safety. Committee members must ensure that they contribute to the notion of a healthy and safe workplace.
- The Council Officer with the responsibility for convening the Committee will provide an overview of the relevant legislative requirements and Council's Equal Opportunity and Anti-Bullying and Violence Policy as part of the Committee induction process.

Meeting frequency

Meetings are held bi-monthly at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough and at various community based locations (agreed upon by members). Extra-ordinary meetings may be convened as required.

Management of the Committee

- The Disability Inclusion Unit or nominated delegate will resource the Committee and attend all meetings, provide information, support and technical advice.
- The Disability Inclusion Unit or nominated delegate is responsible for the preparation of meeting agendas, minutes, reports and other administrative functions.



Reporting procedure

- The Committee is not a decision-making body and does not require voting protocols or other decision making mechanisms.
- Any advice provided by the Committee will be reached by consensus. Where differing views may be expressed by the Committee, these views will be reflected in any reports and statements issued.
- Minutes of the meetings are presented to Council at the next scheduled Council Meeting.
- Recommendations made by the Advisory Committee require consideration and approval by Council before being fully endorsed and acted upon.

Public statements

Members of the Committee cannot make public statements on behalf of Council.

References

- Disability Action Plan 2020-2024
- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Disability Act 2006

Contact details for the Inclusion Advisory Committee

Coordinator, Disability Inclusion and Volunteering: Angela Lampard

Disability Inclusion Officer: Angela Clare

Email: inclusion@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or call 0438 277 428

Endorsement date: May 2021

Review date: May 2023

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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 10.00am

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Health & Wellbeing Advisory Committee
	Date:	Thursday 8 April, 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber, Civic Centre Skype meeting for virtual attendees
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Richard Stockman, Cr. Geoff Payne
	Council Staff:	Corrienne Nichols, Nichole Johnson, Katie Camilleri, Melissa Ensink, Kirsten Reedy, Laura Nix.
	Other:	Committee Members: Rosie Haszler (Aligned Leisure), Jacinta Geary (Relationships Victoria), Robyn Ellard (YPRL), Petra Begnell (NEHC), Olive Aumann (healthAbility), Rebecca Tipper (WHiN), Tina Robinson (Vic Pol), Sarah Lausberg (healthAbility), Lachlan McKenzie (Gamblers Help/Banyule Community Health). Guests: Grant McNeil (Community Housing Limited).
APOLOGIES:		Deputy Mayor Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Ben Ramcharan, Cr Natalie Duffy.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Social and affordable housing	No disclosures were made.
2	Highlights of Community Consultation: Our People Our Place Our Future	No disclosures were made.
3	Climate Action Plan	No disclosures were made.
4	Phase 2 Consultation - Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan	No disclosures were made.
5	Member Updates	No disclosures were made.

The Meeting concluded at 11.38am

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name/Officer Title:	Melissa Ensink Social Planning and Policy Officer
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 12:00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Positive Ageing Advisory Committee
	Date:	Friday 9 th April 2021
	Location:	Eltham Library Multipurpose Room
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Rebecca Burton, Narelle Hart, Melissa Ensink, Stephanie Orive
	Other:	Committee Members: David Nicholls, Max Lee, Anne Fitzpatrick, Deanna Finn, Sandra Verdam, Pamela Johnson, Ray Carroll, Philip Green, Tianjian Shen, Jan Taylor, Gertraud McDonald, Sue Riley
APOLOGIES:		Cr Karen Egan, Cr Natalie Duffy

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Health and Wellbeing plan development	No disclosures made.
2	Supporting ageing farmers in Nillumbik project	No disclosures made.
3	Text	Text
4		
5		

The Meeting concluded at 2:15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Fiona Vuong Positive Ageing Officer
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 4:00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Youth Council Formal Advisory
	Date:	Monday 12 April 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber, Civic Drive
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Ben Ramcharan
	Council Staff:	Vince Lombardi Corrienne Nichols Nichole Johnson Nicola Clutton Molly Jessop Licardo Prince
	Other:	Youth Council Members: Brianne Keogh, Fieke van der Kamp, Indiana Sandwell, Jack Linehan, Joseph Bowman , Katie O'Brien, Kirra Imbriano, Lachlan Wadsworth, Maali Kerta-Rice, Maverick Knight, Orianna Edmonds, Taj Andreetta
APOLOGIES:		Cr Natalie Duffy

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Election of Youth Council Mayor and Deputy Mayor	No disclosures were made
2	Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025 presentation	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 6:15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Nicola Clutton
	Officer Title:	Acting Team Leader Youth Development



Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 3.00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Climate Action Plan Development Meeting
	Date:	Tuesday 20 April 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber, Civic Centre
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Frances Eyre Cr Karen Egan Cr Geoff Paine Cr Peter Perkins Cr Ben Ramcharan
	Council Staff:	Hjalmar Philipp, Lisa Pittle, Jon Miller, Kirsten Reedy, Ian Culbard
	Other:	Not applicable
APOLOGIES:		Cr Natalie Duffy

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Development of the Climate Action Plan including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of declaring a climate emergency Targets and measures for the plan 	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 4:15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Lisa Pittle Manager Environment
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 4.30pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	Tuesday 20 April 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Peter Perkins, Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Geoff Paine Cr Ben Ramcharan and Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Vince Lombardi, Hjalmar Philipp, Corrienne Nichols, Jeremy Livingston, Rosa Zouzoulas, Katie Camilleri, Melissa Ensink, Joseph Emmanuel, Nicole Johnson, Jon Miller
	Other:	Cameron McKenna
APOLOGIES:		Cr Natalie Duffy,

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Laughing Waters Update	No disclosures were made
1a	MRPV – Fitzsimons lane gateway	No disclosures
2	Attentis – Nillumbik Information	No disclosures were made
3	Chapel Lane Update	No disclosures were made
4	Nillumbik Pandemic Recovery Plan 2021	No disclosures were made
5	Road Management Plan Review – Proposed Amended Plan	No disclosures were made
6	Acting CEO Update	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 9.20pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Vince Lombardi Acting Chief Executive Officer
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5:03 pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Council Meeting Pre-Meet
	Date:	Tuesday 27 April 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Peter Perkins, Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Geoff Paine Cr Ben Ramcharan and Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Carl Cowie (virtually), Vince Lombardi, Hjalmar Philipp, Corrienne Nichols, Jeremy Livingston, Rosa Zouzoulas, Katia Croce, Emma Christensen, Lance Clark, Heath Gillett, Enrique Gutierrez, Melika Sukunda, Jonathan McNally, Jonathon Miller (arrived 5:15), Natalie Campion (arrived 5:15)
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Council Meeting Pre-meet	No disclosures were made
	Jonathan McNally left after discussion of Local Law Review Jonathon Miller and Natalie Campion left after discussion of Market Lease	

The Meeting concluded at 6:15 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Katia Croce Acting Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5:00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	Tuesday 4 May 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Peter Perkins, Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Geoff Paine Cr Ben Ramcharan and Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Carl Cowie (virtually), Vince Lombardi, Hjalmar Philipp, Narelle Hart, Jeremy Livingston, Rosa Zouzoulas, Melika Sukunda, Nichole Johnson, Lawrence Seyers, Ayman, Jonathan Miller, Angela S, Heath Gillet, Angela C, Angela L, Colin W, Yasmin G, Enrique G
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	2021 Property Revaluation	No disclosures were made
2	Our People, Our Place, Our Future – Community Engagement Findings Summary Report	No disclosures were made
3	Eltham Town Centre Local Area Traffic Management and Pedestrian / Cycling Improvements – Congestion Busting	No disclosures were made
4	Amendment C35nil – Planning Policy Framework (PPF) Translation	No disclosures were made
5	Inclusion Advisory Committee Membership and Draft Term of Reference	No disclosures were made
6	Buildings Essential Safety Measures	No disclosures were made
7	Capital Works Update (concluded)	No disclosures were made
8	CEO Briefing	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 10.50pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Vince Lombardi Chief Financial Officer
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 12:00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Positive Ageing Advisory Committee
	Date:	7 May 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber Civic Centre
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Eyre (Chairperson), Cr Stockman
	Council Staff:	Rebecca Burton, Fiona Vuong, Julie Alexander, Licardo Prince, Janet Taylor
	Other:	Tianjian Shen, Philip Green, Ray Carroll, Anne Fitzpatrick, Gertraud McDonald, Sabi Buehler, Sandra Verdam, Janice Crosswhite, Jan Taylor, Sue Riley, Richard Kottek, Joy Ferguson, Deanna Finn, Pamela Johnson
APOLOGIES:		Cr Duffy, Cr Egan

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Communication With Older People	No disclosures made
2	Subcommittee Organisation	No disclosures made

The Meeting concluded at 2:00pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Fiona Vuong
	Officer Title:	Positive Ageing Officer



Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5:04 pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting Pre-Meet
	Date:	Tuesday 11 May 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Peter Perkins, Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Geoff Paine, Cr Ben Ramcharan and Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Carl Cowie, Vince Lombardi, Hjalmar Philipp, Jeremy Livingston, Rosa Zouzoulas, Katia Croce, Emma Christensen, Melika Sukunda, Simon Doyle, Nichole Johnson, Renae Ahern
	Other:	Sean McArdle, Barrister
APOLOGIES:		Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Karen Egan

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Planning legal advice	No disclosures were made
2.	Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting Pre-meet	Cr Ben Ramcharan indicated that he has a conflict of interest with Agenda item PCC.006/21

The Meeting concluded at 5:54 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Katia Croce Acting Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
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